

The most serious efforts to develop the iron industry on this portion of the Coast and utilize British Columbia ore were made by the late Homer Swaney, who was unfortunately drowned about 1904 in the wreck of the steamship "Clallam" when he had practically carried his negotiations to the point where he was promised the necessary financial assistance to attempt to place the industry of iron and steel making on a commercial basis.

After the death of Mr. Swaney other attempts were made to establish the industry by using iron ore from Vancouver Island and smelting it in the State of Washington; the most notable by the Irondale Iron and Steel Company, which resulted in failure principally owing to commercial reasons.

No blastfurnace has yet been built in British Columbia, although the advisability of doing so has been very freely discussed.

TONNAGE.—From the writer's observations and examinations of the surface showings and the development work on the various mineral claims examined by him for iron ore during 1916, he concludes that, so far as quantity of ore available for mining is concerned, it is only possible to make a very rough estimate. Under the present conditions even that estimate can only be made on theory, and much more development must be done to prove the figures, which may be considerably increased, given in the following report. The development work is not sufficient in any instance to determine the conditions beyond a shallow depth, as regards the continuity of the magnetite deposits to deep levels. The same statement applies to the question of the superficial extent, because, except in a few cases, the boundaries of the deposits are not exposed. It is evident that in several instances the workings underground show that the ore-body is still strong at the lowest level reached, but that is only a shallow depth.

The writer has attempted to make an estimate of tonnage of ore available by dividing it into three classes as follows:

(1) **ACTUAL ORE**, meaning thereby such quantity as development has exposed sufficiently to be considered as measurable and immediately available.