

his Cleveland associates, Oceanic Iron Ores of Canada, controlled by Rio Tinto Mining Company of Canada Limited, and Consolidated Fenimore Iron Mines Limited have outlined huge reserves of low grade iron-bearing material, ranging from 28 to 36 percent iron, consisting of magnetite, hematite, and siderite at various locations. Considerable expenditure will be required to bring any of these holdings into production and large assured markets for the output will be required before development can be undertaken.

In Ontario, there are a number of areas containing iron-bearing deposits of possible commercial importance that have been under investigation the past year or two. The areas of interest are widely scattered throughout the province from the southeast, northward to include Temagami, Kirkland Lake, and Kapuskasing areas, and thence westward to the Manitoba boundary to include properties near Sioux Lookout, Bruce Lake south of Red Lake, Shebandowan area west of Port Arthur, Atikokan, and others.

Jalore Mining Company Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation of Pittsburgh, exercised its option on an iron property in Boston Township, six miles southeast of Kirkland Lake. The property had been examined by Jalore under lease from Dominion Gulf Company. Mattagami Mining Company was formed by Steel Company of Canada and Interlake Iron Corporation to acquire an iron property 30 miles northeast of Kapuskasing for the \$1 million option price. Iron Bay Mines Limited, holding 90 claims at Bruce Lake south of Red Lake, has outlined a substantial tonnage of magnetite concentrating ore. El Sol Gold Mines Limited, Monpre Mining Company Limited, North American Rare Metals Limited, and Canada Iron Mining Company Limited (subsidiary of Frobisher Ltd.) all met with encouragement in 1956 work on iron ore properties in the Sioux Lookout, Shebandowan, Temagami, and the Southeastern part of Ontario respectively. Other companies were also active in iron ore exploration in Ontario during 1956.

On the coast of British Columbia, on Vancouver Island, and on the offshore islands, many occurrences of beneficiating grade magnetite deposits are on record. In general, these deposits all have limited reserves in comparison with those of Ontario and Quebec but detailed examination, coupled with magnetic surveys and followed by diamond drilling, could prove up further deposits of economic value. Diamond drilling was conducted by Wesfrob Mines Limited (subsidiary of Frobisher Ltd.) on iron holdings on Moresby Island, one of the Queen Charlotte Islands group, in 1956. The Argonaut Mine Division of Utah Co. of the Americas drilled, in 1956, a magnetite property on Porcher Island which is about 20 miles southeast of Prince Rupert. Several other properties are held, following exploration and diamond drilling, by various mining interests.

In Alberta, West Canadian Collieries carried out further investigations of its deposits of titaniferous magnetite north of Burmis nine miles east of Blairmore, in the south-eastern part of the province. In the Clear Hills area of the Peace River district of north west Alberta, about 40 miles east of Fort St. John, British Columbia, large low grade (34 percent iron) deposits of loosely consolidated oolitic goethite carrying siderite have been outlined over the past several years.

In Saskatchewan, Triana Explorations carried out surface examination and sampling of what appears to be a large hematite-magnetite deposit about 15 miles northeast of Stony Rapids. Irex Mining Syndicate are investigating a magnetite deposit, averaging perhaps 30 percent iron, 40 miles east of Prince Albert. Capping the Precambrian basement rocks, in which the iron formation lies, is about 2,000 feet of sedimentary formations.

OUTLETS FOR OUTPUT

Most of Ontario's output of iron ore is exported to the United States where demand for it is good because of its high grade and good furnace qualities. In turn, most of the ore used in Ontario blast furnaces is imported from the Lake Superior region of the United States. The interchange of ores results from company affiliations, geography, and the necessity of blending ores for blast furnace feed.

Most of the ore from Labrador-New Quebec is exported to the United States, some is exported to the United Kingdom and Western Europe, and some is retained for the domestic market. This pattern of shipments by Iron Ore Company of Canada, and those companies yet to bring their properties into production in Quebec, will be maintained with probably even a higher percentage of output finding its way to markets in the United States.

About twenty percent of the ore shipped from Wabana is used in the iron and steel plant of the parent company (Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation) at Sydney, Nova Scotia. The remainder is sold principally in the United Kingdom and West Germany, each of which took over one million tons in 1956, and to other Western European countries. Ore from Wabana does not find ready acceptance in the United States on account of its relatively high phosphorus and silica content.

British Columbia's output of magnetite concentrates in 1956 was entirely sold to Japanese iron and steel interests. In previous years minor tonnages were sold to Europe, but there never has been a domestic market for it as there is no iron smelter in existence on the west coast of Canada.

Indicated consumption of iron ore in blast furnaces in 1956 amounted to 6.5 million long tons compared to 5.6 million long tons in 1955.