

are owned and mined by United States interests and are bought on the open market by the Ontario smelters.

At present, all the Canadian ore produced is the output of two mines, the Magpie and the Helen. Both are situated in the Michipicoten district, in Ontario, and both are owned and operated by the Algoma Steel Corporation of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

In any consideration of Canada's iron ore resources, a point that should not be lost sight of, is that the total area comprised in the Dominion is very large, and that much of it is practically unexplored so far as its iron ore possibilities are concerned. By reference to the general map at the end of the volume, it will be seen that, with very few exceptions, all the known occurrences are situated in the older and more or less settled and known districts. In the comparatively unexplored regions of the north, large areas of iron bearing rocks occur at a number of points, but, on account of their inaccessible location, there is, at the present time, little to induce a thorough exploration of them in a search for ore bodies.

SUMMARY.

A summary review of the iron ore situation in the different provinces follows.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Up to the present the production of iron ore in British Columbia has been an almost negligible quantity. The total recorded from 1886 to 1903, both years inclusive, was only 62,578 tons; since 1903 the only production recorded was in 1907 when 2,500 tons were shipped.

Most of the ore—practically all magnetite—was sent to Irondale, Washington, U.S.A., where it was used in the production of pig-iron in a small charcoal blast furnace. The balance went to lead smelters to be used as flux.

The small production of British Columbia has been due, not so much to the lack of iron ore deposits, as to the lack of a market for the ore. In the absence of a local iron smelting industry, there has been no particular incentive either to develop the known ore-bodies, or to search for new ones.

The different varieties of iron ore found in British Columbia, include magnetites, hematites, limonite or bog ores, and clay ironstones.

Magnetite.—The most important of the known ore bodies are a series of magnetite deposits which occur on the islands along the coast in the western part of the Province. Among the better known localities in which these are found may be mentioned: Gordon river, Head bay, Klaanch river, and Quinsam river, in Vancouver island; Louise and Moresby islands, in the Queen Charlotte group; Texada island; and Redonda island. Promising deposits are also reported as occurring on other islands, and at various points on the coast, but little definite information is available regarding