there is a coalfield which is stated by geological experts to contain large quantities of coal. The Nicola Valley coalfield, south of Nicola lake, in the Kamloops district, is conveniently located to supply the central part of southern British Columbia, but is less extensive than the Crowsnest. At Princeton, in the Similkameen valley, a good quality of lignitic coal is being mined. There are a number of other coal fields in the southern interior of British Columbia awaiting development. In the Telkwa valley, in the northern part of British Columbia, near the Grand Trunk Pacific railway line, coal of good quality varying from bituminous to semi-anthracite has been discovered. Near the west fork of the Skeena river, in latitude N. 56° 45′, there are deposits of anthracite or semi-anthracite coal which are believed to be extensive. In the British Columbia section of the Peace river valley coal has been discovered, and the field is reported to be very extensive. The first coal mines developed in British Columbia were those of Vancouver island, in the Nanaimo and Comox districts, on the east coast. More recently a number of mines have been opened in Suquash district, about 125 miles north of the Comox field. Coal of good quality is also found in the Queen Charlotte islands.

Iron Ores.—In considering the iron ore deposits of Canada it must be said that, in the older sections, the optimistic predictions made by geologists many years ago have not been realized. In many cases what they supposed to be numerous outcroppings of a great ore bed proved to be pockets. So far no great bodies of high-grade ores have been found, but it must be noted that the supplies of high-grade iron ores within convenient reach of the blast furnaces of the great iron and steel making countries are now almost exhausted, and the low-grade ores of Canada will not have to compete with them very long. In a paper read before the American Institute of Mining Engineers, Mr. James Gayley said:

> There are vast deposits of magnetic iron-ores in the United States and Canada that are too low in iron for use at the present time, but which can be economically concentrated into very rich material; in many cases the fineness of crushing necessary to secure proper concentration has prevented their use except in extremely limited quantities. The reclamation of these ore-bodies will add tremendously to the ore-reserves of Canada and the United States, and this can best be done by a simple and efficient method of sintering.

He proceeded to explain a process of sintering that has proved successful at a number of iron and steel plants in the United States. The product is ideal for use in the blast furnace owing to the fact that it has a cellular structure like a popcorn. It is claimed that these sintered concentrates from low-grade ores are superior to the natural high-grade ores, and that the expense of treatment is not great.

There are indications of iron in almost every part of Nova Scotia, and at one time it was commonly supposed that the province had almost inexhaustible supplies of this mineral. Investigation showed that most of the deposits were merely pockets, and the impression became general that Nova Scotia iron ores were of little value. If all the iron ore deposits in Nova Scotia were concentrated at one point there would be enough to supply very extensive works. No section of the province is far from