

All of the output came from the Dominion Magnesium plant at Haleys, Ont., near Renfrew, and most of it was exported to the United Kingdom. It was recovered from dolomite, large deposits of which occur in the area, by use of a thermal reduction process.

Canada is abundantly supplied with dolomite and it also has large resources of magnesite, brucite and serpentines, which, if the need arises, can be used as source minerals in the production of magnesium.

**Iron Ore.**—Canada's potentialities as a producer of iron ore have been greatly enhanced as a result of the discovery a few years prior to the War of large deposits of hæmatite in the Steep Rock Lake area, 140 miles west of Port Arthur in Ontario, and of the more recent discoveries of large deposits of that ore in the Quebec-Labrador boundary region. Regular shipments from the Steep Rock deposits were commenced early in 1945 and from then until the close of navigation production was at a rate of about 4,000 tons of ore a day. The ore is shipped via Superior, Wisconsin and Port Arthur, mostly to Lower Lake American ports for use in the United States. Part of the output is high-grade lump ore suitable for open hearth use, but much the greater portion is blast furnace ore. Shipments from the deposits in 1945 amounted to approximately 504,000 tons.

In the Labrador-Quebec area the deposits of hæmatite so far discovered lie astride the boundary about 350 miles north of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The iron-bearing rocks are several hundred miles in length and the known length of the deposits in the midst of this area is more than 100 miles. Although exploration even of a preliminary kind is far from complete, it is evident from this work that the area is a major potential source of high-grade iron ore. It seems possible that, with further exploration, the iron range will prove to be comparable in importance to the Mesabi Range of Minnesota, the output from which is 60,000,000 tons a year. As disclosed by exploratory work to date, the grade of the ore ranges from 59.3 to 69.4 p.c. iron. Less work has been done on the known deposits northward across the boundary in Quebec, but their grade and dimensions are similar to those in Labrador. Much of the ore is of Bessemer grade.

From 1924 to 1939 no iron ore was produced in Canada, and from then until 1945 practically all of the production came from the New Helen Mine in the Michipicoten area of Ontario. It is a siderite ore which is sintered to bring it up to commercial grade. Production in 1945 amounted to about 450,000 tons. The Company has opened up a pit at the east end of its property and most of the production for a time will come from this pit. In the same area the Josephine Mine is producing a lump ore which is shipped by rail to Sault Ste. Marie and a hæmatite ore high in silica which, after removal of the silica, will be mixed with ore from the New Helen Mine for sintering.

It seems likely that Canada's production of iron ore will long continue to show a general upward trend, the main reason for this view being that ore high in iron and low in silica and other impurities is becoming increasingly scarce in the United States and in Europe. It will probably be a matter of several years before production from the Labrador-Quebec deposits commences, but a ready market for this ore can be anticipated. Much of it will be lump ore which is the highest priced of all iron ores. The indications are that the deposits can be mined at low cost and that the ore can be transported to the St. Lawrence at moderate cost. There is a large potential market for the ore along the Atlantic seaboard of Canada and the United States where the short voyage will be advantageous. The largest potential market,