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PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL

in Canada

FEBRUARY 1930

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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS, CANADA
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PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN CANADA

FEBRUARY 1930

PIG IRON.– Production of coke pig iron in Canada during February amounted to 70,600 long tons, according to a statement issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. This tonnage was 19 per cent under the output of 87,079 tons in January and 25 per cent less than the total of 93,939 tons reported for February of last year.

Compared with the figures for the previous month, data for February showed a gain in the output of basic iron but this was more than offset by lower tonnages for the foundry and malleable grades. Basic iron advanced to 51,262 tons from 48,898 tons while foundry iron dropped to 18,522 tons from 30,073 tons and malleable iron to 816 tons from 8,108 tons in January.

For the two months ending February the cumulative production of pig iron was 157,679 tons as compared with 181,703 tons during the first two months of last year.

Blast furnace charges during February included 127,223 long tons of imported iron ore, 39,081 short tons of limestone and 76,283 short tons of coke. Of the limestone 10,392 tons were quarried in Canada and of the coke 72,758 tons were produced in Canada, 24,231 tons being from Canadian coal and the remainder from imported coal.

On February 12 one furnace at Port Colborne, Ontario, was banked with the result that only 6 furnaces were in blast on February 28. The active furnaces had a daily capacity of 2,175 long tons per day, or about 52 per cent of the total capacity of all iron blast furnaces in Canada, and were located as follows: 2 at Sydney, N.S.; 2 at Hamilton, Ont.; and 2 at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

FERRO-ALLOYS.- Production of ferro-alloys in Canada during February at 4,821 tons was 31 per cent lower than the 6,943 tons reported for the previous month.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS.- Production of steel ingots and direct steel castings in Canada during February at 106.612 tons was slightly under the 115,200 tons of the previous month and was also below the 117,445 tons made in February of a year ago. The reduction from January was due to the lower output of steel ingots, basic open hearth ingots having dropped to 97,211 tons from 105,043 tons, electric ingots to 1,873 tons from 2,144 tons and alloy ingots from basic furnaces, to 880 tons from 1,457 tons. Direct steel castings were slightly higher at 6,648 tons as against 6,556 tons in January.

For the first two months of this year production totalled 221,812 tons as compared with 233,705 tons made during the corresponding period of 1929.

PRICES.- Foundry pig iron prices were reduced $1.00 per gross ton at Toronto and Montreal in February. This move came several weeks after a cut made in the Buffalo market which caused a number of Canadian buyers to hold back until prices were correspondingly adjusted in home markets. Since the reduction, melters are reported to have bought more freely. The new prices for foundry pig iron at Toronto are $22.60 for No. 1 and $22.10 for No. 2, per gross ton. Comparable quotations for Montreal are $24.00 and $23.50.

The Bureau's index for "Iron and Its Products" again moved downward from 93.4 to 92.8 in February, due chiefly to lower prices for steel sheets.

UNITED STATES.- In the United States there was a sharp increase in pig iron output during February when the average was reported to be 101,390 tons per day. This represented an increase of about 11 per cent over the daily average of 91,209 tons in January which in turn was less than one per cent under December. There was a net gain of seven furnaces in February, ten having been blown in and three shut down.

PIG IRON AND FERRO-ALLOYS IN CANADA

Table 1. PRODUCTION FOR THE CURRENT AND PRECEDING MONTH (Tons of 2240 lb.)

ITEM	FEBRUARY 1930 For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	JANUARY 1930 For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic	51,129	133	51.262	48,698	200	48.898
Foundry	189	18,333	18,522	193	29.880	30.073
Malleable	.....	816	816	.....	8,103	8,103
TOTAL	51,318	19,282	70,600	48,891	38,183	87,079
Ferro-alloys	.....	4,821	4,821	.....	6,943	6,943

Table 2. CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE TWO MONTHS ENDING FEBRUARY
(Tons of 2240 lb.)

ITEM	1930 For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	1929 For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic	99,827	333	100,160	137,616	402	138,018
Foundry	382	48,213	48,595	294	37.709	38.003
Malleable	-	8,924	8,924	-	5,682	5,682
TOTAL	100,209	57,470	157,679	137,910	43,793	181,703
Ferro-alloys	.....	11,764	411,764	.....	12,265	12.265

Table 3. BLAST FURNACE CHARGES - FEBRUARY, JANUARY AND YEAR TO DATE.

		FEBRUARY	JANUARY	YEAR TO DATE
Imported Iron ore	Long tons	127,223	158,816	286.039
Canadian Limestone	Short tons	10,392	11,310	21,702
Imported Limestone	" "	28,689	35,249	63.938
Coke made in Canada:-				
From Canadian coal	" "	24.231	28,151	52,382
From Imported coal	" "	48,527	54,167	102,694
Imported coke	" "	3,525	11,376	14,901

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS IN CANADA

Table 4 PRODUCTION FOR THE CURRENT AND PRECEDING MONTH (Tons of 2240 lb.)

ITEM	FEBRUARY 1930			JANUARY 1930		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	97,175	36	97,211	104,959	84	105,043
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	1,873	-----	1,873	2,144	-----	2,144
Other	880	-----	880	1,457	-----	1,457
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	99,928	36	99,964	108,560	84	108,644
STEEL CASTINGS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	147	3,237	3,384	273	3,123	3,396
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bessemer	4	156	160	6	190	196
Electric	19	3,085	3,104	29	2,935	2,964
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	170	6,478	6,648	308	6,248	6,556
GRAND TOTAL	100,098	6,514	106,612	108,868	6,332	115,200

Table 5 CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION for the TWO MONTHS ending FEBRUARY

	1930			1929		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS.						
Open Hearth-Basic	202,134	120	202,254	218,323	241	218,564
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	4,017	-----	4,017	1,876	-----	1,876
Other	2,337	-----	2,337	2,593	-----	2,593
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	208,488	120	208,608	222,792	241	223,033
STEEL CASTINGS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	420	6,360	6,780	349	351	700
Acid	-----	-----	-----	20	4,713	4,733
Bessemer	10	346	356	18	547	565
Electric	48	6,020	6,068	14	4,660	4,674
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	478	12,726	13,204	401	10,271	10,672
GRAND TOTAL	208,966	12,846	221,812	223,193	10,512	233,705

Table 6 AVERAGE MONTHLY PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON, STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS IN CANADA, 1916 - 1929.

(In 1000's of Long Tons)

YEAR	MONTHLY AVERAGE Iron	Steel	YEAR	MONTHLY AVERAGE Iron	Steel
1916	87	106	1923	73	74
1917	87	130	1924	49	54
1918	89	140	1925	48	63
1919	68	77	1926	63	64
1920	81	92	1927	59	76
1921	50	56	1928	86	103
1922	32	40	1929	91	115

TABLE 7 PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON BY MONTHS AND BY PROVINCES, AND STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS BY MONTHS IN CANADA (In 1000's of Long Tons) 1929-1930.

MONTH	PIG IRON Nova Scotia		Ontario		STEEL Total Canada		Total Canada	
	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930
January	21	23	67	64	88	87	116	115
February	41	19	53	52	94	71	117	107
March	32		54		86		137	
April	24		55		79		122	
May	24		57		81		126	
June	25		65		90		120	
July	23		77		100		130	
August	31		82		113		120	
September	31		68		99		99	
October	24		67		91		116	
November	22		65		87		94	
December	22		61		83		82	
TOTAL	320	42	771	116	1,091	158	1,379	222
MONTHLY AVERAGE	27	21	64	58	91	79	115	111

Table 8. BLAST FURNACES IN CANADA, 1929.

Name of Company	Location	Number of Stacks	Total Daily Capacity (Long Tons)
British Empire Steel Corporation, Ltd.	Sydney, N.S.	4	1,400
Canadian Furnace Co., Ltd.	Port Colborne, Ont.	1	350
The Steel Company of Canada, Ltd.,	Hamilton, Ont.	2	825
Algoma Steel Corporation, Ltd.	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	4	1,600
	TOTAL	11	4,175

Table 9. DESCRIPTION OF FURNACES AT END OF FEBRUARY 1930

Condition of Furnace	Number of Furnaces	Total Daily Capacity	
		Long tons	Per cent
In blast	6	2,175	52
Banked	-	-	-
Blown out	5	2.000	48
Total furnaces reporting	11	4,175	100