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on

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL

in Canada

DECEMBER 1931

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## **PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN CANADA**

**DECEMBER 1931**

**PIG IRON.**— Production of pig iron in Canada amounted to 13,862 tons in December, a decline of 3 per cent from the 14,292 tons of the previous month. The loss from November was altogether accounted for by a drop in the output of the basic grade to 5,693 tons from 7,755 tons, this decline being more than enough to offset the advance made by foundry iron to 8,169 tons from 6,537 tons.

During the year 1931 a total of 420,038 tons of pig iron was produced as compared with an output of 747,178 tons in 1930 and 1,080,160 tons in the record year of 1929. This year's output included 311,850 tons of basic, 80,892 tons of foundry and 27,296 tons of malleable iron. Iron blast furnace charges for this production included 735,878 long tons of imported iron ore, 221,106 short tons of limestone and 437,013 short tons of coke. Of the limestone 68,158 tons were quarried in Canada and of the coke 418,300 tons were carbonized in Canada, including 116,880 tons from Canadian coal. The balance of the limestone and coke was imported.

A review of the 12 month period shows that pig iron production started at 35,592 tons in January, then advanced to 46,395 tons in February and reached the record for this year of 57,110 tons in March. Output then dropped off in April to 53,792 tons and again in May to 50,511 tons, recovered to 55,822 tons in June, after which it declined each month until a new low of 11,562 tons was established in October. The year closed with a slight upward trend at 14,292 tons in November and 13,862 tons in December.

**FERRO-ALLOYS.**— Production of ferro-alloys in Canada totalled 45,731 tons during 1931 as against 65,223 tons in the previous year and 89,116 tons in 1929. This year's output consisted of ferromanganese, ferrosilicon, speigeleisen and silico speigel in the order named.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS.- Production of steel ingots and direct steel castings in Canada during December reached a new low for this year at 20,969 tons or 26 per cent under the 28,337 tons of November. For the twelve month period production totalled 673,087 tons as compared with 1,009,578 tons in 1930 and 1,378,024 tons in 1929. This year's output included 637,997 tons of steel ingots and 35,090 tons of steel castings.

Production of primary steel started the year at 57,598 tons in January and advanced rapidly to a peak of 99,341 tons in March. Then with the exception of a slight recovery in August, output dropped steadily each month to close the year at the low of 20,969 tons in December.

PRICES.- For the first three-quarters of 1931, trade in iron and steel followed an uneventful course, with only a slight improvement recorded in March when some contract buying became apparent. With these needs satisfied, however, orders soon dropped back to small tonnages for immediate delivery. Latterly the discounting of the Canadian dollar attracted attention as it was thought this might lead to better inquiry for Canadian products but conditions in December remained about the same as in the previous month. Orders continued for small spot tonnages with little new business reported.

Prices of No. 1 and No. 2 foundry pig iron were \$22.60 and \$22.10 per long ton at Toronto and \$23.80 and \$23.30 per long ton delivered at Montreal in December. These quotations showed no changes from prices at the beginning of the year. The Bureau's index for "Iron and Its Products" which was 88.7 in January, declined steadily until August, when it stood at 86.8. Then followed a period of somewhat steadier prices, the index for the closing month of the year being 87.3, a slight advance above the November figure of 87.0. This rise was due chiefly to higher prices for hot rolled and annealed steel sheets, and automobile body plates.

UNITED STATES.- In the United States the production of pig iron during December averaged 31,625 tons a day as compared with 36,782 tons per day in November. During the month 3 furnaces blew in and 14 were blown out, leaving 56 in blast at the beginning of January. For the year 1931 the output of finished steel was about 18,500,000 tons, while the pig iron total including ferro-alloys and charcoal iron, was also about 18,500,000 tons, and in each case this was the smallest total reported for any year since 1921.

# PIG IRON AND FERRO-ALLOYS IN CANADA

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

ITEM	DECEMBER 1931			NOVEMBER 1931		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic.....	5,693	-----	5,693	7,755	-----	7,755
Foundry.....	-----	8,169	8,169	-----	6,537	6,537
Malleable.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL.....	5,693	8,169	13,862	7,755	6,537	14,292
Ferro-alloys .....	-----	1,814	1,814	-----	1,911	1,911

Table 2. CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER  
(Tons of 2240 lb.)

ITEM	1931			1930+		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic.....	308,437	3,413	311,850	481,791	12,440	494,231
Foundry.....	718	80,174	80,892	36,863	156,211	193,074
Malleable.....	-----	27,296	27,296	13,220	46,653	59,873
TOTAL.....	309,155	110,883	420,038	531,874	215,304	747,178
Ferro-alloys .....	-----	45,731	45,731	-----	65,223	65,223

Table 3. BLAST FURNACE CHARGES - DECEMBER, NOVEMBER, AND YEAR TO DATE

	DECEMBER	NOVEMBER	YEAR TO DATE
Imported Iron ore.....Long tons	22,736	24,550	735,878
Canadian Limestone.....Short tons	4,663	3,995	68,158
Imported Limestone....." "	1,623	2,072	152,948
Coke made in Canada:-			
From Canadian coal....." "	-----	-----	116,880
From Imported coal....." "	14,178	14,891	301,420
Imported coke....." "	-----	-----	18,713

+ Revised.



# STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS IN CANADA

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

ITEM	DECEMBER 1931			NOVEMBER 1931		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	17,398	481	17,879	24,810	90	24,900
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	2,107	-----	2,107	2,385	-----	2,385
Other	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	19,505	481	19,986	27,195	90	27,285
STEEL CASTINGS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	28	288	316	31	306	337
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bessemer	2	70	72	3	93	96
Electric	17	578	595	29	590	619
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	47	936	983	63	989	1,052
GRAND TOTAL	19,552	1,417	20,969	27,258	1,079	28,337

Table 5 CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER

	1931			1930		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS						
Open Hearth-Basic	610,438	1,524	611,962	924,674	753	925,427
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	26,035	-----	26,035	30,071	1,390	31,461
Other	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	636,473	1,524	637,997	954,745	2,143	956,888
STEEL CASTINGS						
Open Hearth-Basic	1,337	13,547	14,884	4,833	19,939	24,772
Acid	-----	19	19	-----	-----	-----
Bessemer	40	1,488	1,528	46	2,268	2,314
Electric	238	18,421	18,659	1,391	24,213	25,604
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	1,615	33,475	35,090	6,270	46,420	52,690
GRAND TOTAL	638,088	34,999	673,087	961,015	48,563	1,009,578

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		YEAR	MONTHLY AVERAGE	
	Iron	Steel		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) 1930-1931.

MONTH	PIG IRON						STEEL	
	Nova Scotia		Ontario		Total Canada		Total Canada	
	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931	1930	1931
January	23	15	64	21	87	36	115	58
February	19	14	52	32	71	46	107	83
March	22	17	53	40	75	57	117	99
April	21	17	51	37	72	54	103	91
May	19	15	62	36	81	51	99	75
June	16	15	50	41	66	56	95	56
July	16	8	49	32	65	40	68	45
August	16	-	41	23	57	23	58	52
September	16	-	33	18	49	18	56	33
October	15	-	25	12	40	12	65	31
November	15	-	31	14	46	14	72	28
December	16	-	22	14	38	14	56	21
TOTAL	214	101	533	320	747	421	1,011	672
MONTHLY AVERAGE	18	8	44	27	62	36	84	56

Table 8. BLAST FURNACES IN CANADA, 1931.

Name of Company	Location	Number of Stacks	Total Daily Capacity (Long Tons)
British Empire Steel Corporation, Ltd.	Sydney, N.S.	4	1,450
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	4,225

Table 9. DESCRIPTION OF FURNACES AT END OF DECEMBER, 1931.

Condition of Furnace	Number of Furnaces	Total Daily Capacity	
		Long tons	Per cent
In blast	1	550	13
Banked	-	-	-
Blown out	10	3,675	87
Total furnaces reporting	11	4,225	100

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