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Monthly Report
on
PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL
in Canada

FEBRUARY 1931

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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS, CANADA
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PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN CANADA
FEBRUARY 1931

PIG-IRON.— Production of pig iron in Canada during February at 46,395 tons showed a gain of 30 per cent over the total of 35,592 tons for January. This increase was the greatest reported for any month, both in the actual tonnage and in percentage, since the output started to fall off during the latter part of August, 1929.

Data for February when compared with the figures of the preceding month showed that the gain in the daily rate of output was 44 per cent, the average for the 28 days being 1,657 tons as against the daily average of 1,145 tons in January. The entire gain was made in the basic grade which advanced to 43,400 tons from 18,966 tons, while the foundry grade fell off to 1,356 tons from 4,711 tons and the malleable grade also dropped rather sharply to 1,639 tons from 11,915 tons.

Furnace charges for the month included 86,451 long tons of imported iron ore, 25,341 short tons of limestone and 49,525 short tons of coke. All of the coke was carbonized in Canada, 16,860 tons being from Canadian coal and the balance from imported coal; of the limestone, 6,303 tons were quarried in Canada and the balance was imported.

During the month one additional furnace was blown in at Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, resulting in four furnaces being in blast on February 28. The active furnaces had a daily capacity of 1,850 long tons a day, or about 44 per cent of the total capacity of all iron blast furnaces in Canada and were located as follows: 2 at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; 1 at Hamilton, Ont.; and 1 at Sydney, N.S.

FERRO-ALLOYS.- Production of 4,006 tons of ferro-alloys in Canada during February marked a slight recession from the 4,467 tons reported for the previous month which in turn was 27 per cent better than the 3,530 tons of December. Output consisted mostly of ferromanganese and a small tonnage of ferrosilicon.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS.- Production of steel ingots and direct steel castings in Canada amounted to 82,637 tons in February. This was the highest monthly figure reported since June of last year and exceeded the total of 57,598 tons in January by 43 per cent. The increase over the preceding month was mostly in steel ingots, this grade advancing to 77,435 tons from 53,680 tons; direct steel castings rose to 5,202 tons as compared with 3,918 tons in January.

For the two months ending February, the cumulative output of steel totalled 140,235 tons as compared with 221,812 tons during the first two months of 1930, and 233,705 tons in the corresponding period of 1929.

PRICES.- Market news for the iron and steel industry showed little change from the previous month. A somewhat better inquiry for pig iron was noted owing chiefly to increased demand from firms which had recently received substantial orders for structural steel and railway rolling stock.

Orders were still for small tonnages to meet immediate needs. The prices of No. 1 and No. 2 foundry pig iron were unchanged at \$22.60 and 22.10 per long ton at Toronto, and \$24.00 and \$23.50 per long ton at Montreal. The Bureau's index for "Iron and Its Products" dropped from 88.7 to 87.9, due chiefly to price reductions for scrap iron and steel and wire.

UNITED STATES.- Pig iron production in the United States averaged 60,950 tons per day in February, a gain of 10 per cent over the 55,299 tons a day in January. While the upturn which began in January continued, output was the smallest for any February since 1922. During the month 9 furnaces were blown in and 3 were blown out or banked, a net gain of 6 active furnaces. In January the net gain was 7.

PIG IRON AND FERRO-ALLOYS IN CANADA

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

ITEM	FEBRUARY 1931			JANUARY 1931		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic.....	43,400	-----	43,400	18,926	40	18,966
Foundry.....	-----	1,356	1,356	159	4,552	4,711
Malleable.....	-----	1,639	1,639	-----	11,915	11,915
TOTAL.....	43,400	2,995	46,395	19,085	16,507	35,592
Ferro-alloys	-----	4,006	4,006	-----	4,467	4,467

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

ITEM	1931			1930		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic.....	62,326	40	62,366	99,827	333	100,160
Foundry.....	159	5,903	6,067	382	40,519	40,901
Malleable.....	-----	13,554	13,554	-----	16,618	16,618
TOTAL.....	62,485	19,502	81,987	100,209	57,470	157,679
Ferro-alloys	-----	8,473	8,473	-----	12,535	12,535

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

		FEBRUARY	JANUARY	YEAR TO DATE
Imported Iron ore.....	Long tons	86,451	63,725	150,176
Canadian Limestone.....	Short tons	6,303	6,029	12,332
Imported Limestone.....	" "	19,033	15,892	34,930
Coke made in Canada:-				
From Canadian coal.....	" "	16,860	17,089	33,949
From Imported coal.....	" "	32,665	22,198	54,863
Imported coke.....	" "	-----	-----	-----

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS IN CANADA

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

ITEM	FEBRUARY 1931			JANUARY 1931		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	74,776	45	74,821	49,947	40	49,987
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	2,614	-----	2,614	3,684	-----	3,684
Other	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	77,390	45	77,435	53,631	40	53,671
STEEL CASTINGS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	178	2,625	2,803	226	1,661	1,887
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bessemer	3	160	163	5	153	158
Electric	13	2,223	2,236	29	1,844	1,873
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	194	5,008	5,202	260	3,658	3,918
GRAND TOTAL	77,584	5,053	82,637	53,891	3,707	57,598

Table 5 CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION for the TWO MONTHS ending FEBRUARY

	1931			1930		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS.						
Open Hearth-Basic	124,723	94	124,817	202,134	120	202,254
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	6,298	-----	6,298	4,017	-----	4,017
Other	-----	-----	-----	2,337	-----	2,337
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	131,021	94	131,115	208,483	120	208,603
STEEL CASTINGS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	404	4,283	4,687	420	6,360	6,780
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bessemer	8	313	321	10	346	356
Electric	42	4,067	4,109	43	6,020	6,063
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	454	8,666	9,120	473	12,726	13,199
GRAND TOTAL	131,475	8,760	140,235	208,956	12,846	221,802

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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		53		75		117	
April	21		51		72		103	
May	19		62		81		99	
June	16		50		66		95	
July	16		49		65		68	
August	16		41		57		58	
September	16		33		49		56	
October	15		25		40		65	
November	15		31		46		72	
December	16		22		33		56	
TOTAL	214	29	533	53	747	82	1,011	141
MONTHLY AVERAGE	18	15	44	26	62	41	84	70

Table 8. BLAST FURNACES IN CANADA, 1930.

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 FEBRUARY, 1931.

Condition of Furnace	Number of Furnaces	Total Daily Capacity	
		Long tons	Per cent
In blast.....	4	1,850	44
Banked.....	-	-	-
Blown out.....	7	2,375	56
Total furnaces reporting.....	11	4,225	100



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TABLE 1. Summary of the results of the 1981 Census of Canada

Province or Territory	Population	Area (sq. km)	Density (per sq. km)
Alberta	2,411,000	661,114	3.6
Saskatchewan	959,000	651,976	1.5
Manitoba	1,150,000	244,611	4.7
Ontario	7,000,000	917,746	7.6
Quebec	6,500,000	1,542,056	4.2
Atlantic Provinces	2,000,000	298,468	6.7
Nunavut	25,000	1,300,000	0.02
Yukon	25,000	474,383	0.05
N.W.T.	25,000	1,300,000	0.02
Total	20,000,000	9,970,000	2.0

TABLE 2. Summary of the results of the 1981 Census of Canada

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Nunavut	25,000	1,300,000	0.02
Yukon	25,000	474,383	0.05
N.W.T.	25,000	1,300,000	0.02
Total	20,000,000	9,970,000	2.0