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Monthly Report
on
PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL
in Canada

APRIL 1931

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

APRIL 1931

PIG IRON.— Production of pig iron in Canada during the 30 days of April was at the rate of 1,793 tons a day and totalled 53,792 tons, a decline of 49 tons, or 2.7 per cent, from the daily average of 1,842 tons in March when the total production amounted to 57,110 tons.

Compared with the figures of the preceding month the data for April showed the loss to be in the basic and malleable grades while foundry iron was in a slightly improved position. Foundry iron advanced to 7,377 tons from 5,357 tons, basic iron dropped to 46,415 tons from 50,165 tons, while no malleable iron was made as against 1,588 tons of this grade in March.

For the four months ending April 30, 1931, the cumulative output of pig iron in Canada amounted to 192,889 tons, a decline of 37 per cent from the total of 304,600 tons made during the first four months of last year which in turn was 12 per cent under the 347,220 tons reported for the corresponding period of 1929.

Furnace charges for April included 97,034 long tons of imported iron ore, 27,908 short tons of limestone, and 54,916 short tons of coke. All of the coke was carbonized in Canada, 17,921 tons being from Canadian coal and the balance from imported coal; of the limestone, 6,569 tons were quarried in Canada, and the balance was imported.

No change was made in the active furnaces during the month, the same furnaces being in blast on April 30 as on March 31. 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 ferro-alloys in Canada during April was at the highest rate of any month of the year to date when output reached a total of 4,605 tons, an increase of 5 per cent over the daily rate in the preceding month when output totalled 4,526 tons. The daily rate in April amounted to 153 tons and in March to 146 tons.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS.- Production of steel ingots and direct steel castings in Canada during April amounted to 91,461 tons, a daily average of 3,049 tons. This daily output was 5 per cent under the year's high average of 3,205 tons per day attained in the previous month but exceeded by 64 per cent the low of 1,858 tons per day in January.

For the four months ending April the cumulative production of steel totalled 331,037 tons as against 441,980 tons in the corresponding period of last year and 492,965 tons during the first four months of 1929. This year's output to date included 311,163 tons of steel ingots and 19,874 tons of direct steel castings.

PRICES.- A decided improvement in demand for pig iron, including contract buying for considerable tonnages, due to a better inquiry from makers of railway rolling stock, marked the early part of the month. Latterly, with the needs of most melters supplied, buying dropped back to small lots to meet immediate needs. Sales of structural steel also increased owing chiefly to better demand for bridge construction. No. 1 and No. 2 foundry pig iron remained unchanged at \$22.60 and \$22.10 per gross ton at Toronto and \$23.80 and \$23.30 per gross ton at Montreal. The Bureau's index number for Iron and Its Products declined from 87.8 to 87.6, influenced by price recessions for steel sheets and automobile body plates, which more than counterbalanced slight gains for steel tank plates.

UNITED STATES.- In the United States, during April the output of pig iron showed a gain for the fourth successive month. The daily rate of production averaged 67,317 tons in April, an advance of 2.7 per cent over the 65,556 tons a day in March. Despite the improvement the April rate was the smallest for that month since 1921 and with that exception the lowest since 1909. Furnaces in blast on May 1, totalled 113, as against 116 on April 1.

PIG IRON AND FERRO-ALLOYS IN CANADA

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

ITEM	APRIL 1931			MARCH 1931		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic.....	46,415	-----	46,415	50,165	-----	50,165
Foundry.....	151	7,226	7,377	187	5,170	5,357
Malleable.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	1,588	1,588
TOTAL.....	46,566	7,226	53,792	50,352	6,758	57,110
Ferro-alloys	-----	4,605	4,605	-----	4,526	4,526

Table 2. CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDING APRIL
(Tons of 2240 lb.)

ITEM	1931			1930		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic.....	158,906	40	158,946	215,319	1,413	216,732
Foundry.....	497	18,304	18,801	571	60,559	61,130
Malleable.....	-----	15,142	15,142	-----	26,738	26,738
TOTAL.....	159,403	33,486	192,889	215,890	88,710	304,600
Ferro-alloys	-----	17,604	17,604	-----	24,432	24,432

Table 3. BLAST FURNACE CHARGES - APRIL, MARCH, AND YEAR TO DATE

		APRIL	MARCH	YEAR TO DATE
Imported Iron ore.....	Long tons	97,034	104,232	351,442
Canadian Limestone.....	Short tons	6,569	7,242	26,143
Imported Limestone.....	" "	21,339	23,086	79,355
Coke made in Canada:-				
From Canadian coal.....	" "	17,921	18,961	70,831
From Imported coal.....	" "	36,995	41,331	133,189
Imported coke.....	" "	-----	-----	-----

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS IN CANADA

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

ITEM	APRIL 1931			MARCH 1931		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	84,150	-----	84,150	91,399	52	91,451
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	2,622	-----	2,622	1,825	-----	1,825
Other	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	86,772	-----	86,772	93,224	52	93,276
STEEL CASTINGS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	133	1,678	1,811	178	2,465	2,643
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bessemer	5	130	135	3	141	144
Electric	24	2,719	2,743	27	3,251	3,278
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	162	4,527	4,689	208	5,857	6,065
GRAND TOTAL	86,934	4,527	91,461	93,432	5,909	99,341

Table 5 CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDING APRIL

	1931			1930		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS.						
Open Hearth-Basic	300,272	146	300,418	400,940	171	401,11
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	10,745	-----	10,745	8,117	-----	8,117
Other	-----	-----	-----	4,150	-----	4,150
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	311,017	146	311,163	413,207	171	413,378
STEEL CASTINGS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	715	8,429	9,144	710	13,782	14,492
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bessemer	16	584	600	19	892	911
Electric	93	10,037	10,130	93	13,106	13,199
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	824	19,050	19,874	822	27,780	28,602
GRAND TOTAL	311,841	19,196	331,037	414,029	27,951	441,980

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		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		38		56	
TOTAL	214	63	533	130	747	193	1,011	331
MONTHLY AVERAGE	18	16	44	32	62	48	84	83

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 APRIL, 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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