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on

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL

in Canada

MAY 1931

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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS, CANADA
DOMINION STATISTICIAN . R.H. COATS. B. A., F. S. S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.

W. H. LOSEE, B. Sc. -- Chief of the
MINING, METALLURGICAL AND CHEMICAL BRANCH.

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN CANADA
MAY 1931

PIG IRON.— Production of pig iron in Canada during May totalled 50,511 long tons as compared with 53,792 tons in the previous month and 80,505 tons in May of a year ago. The daily output during the month under review averaged 1,629 tons which was 9 per cent under the daily average of 1,793 tons in April. May was the first month this year to show a decline from the previous month in the daily rate of production.

Compared with the figures for April, the data for May showed losses for both the foundry and basic grades; no malleable iron was made in either month. Foundry iron, which accounted for most of the decline, dropped to 5,372 tons from 7,377 tons while basic iron at 45,139 tons was but slightly under the 46,415 tons of April.

For the five months ending May 31, 1931, the cumulative output of pig iron in Canada amounted to 243,400 tons, a decline of 37 per cent from the total of 385,105 tons made during the first five months of last year which in turn was 10 per cent under the 428,684 tons reported for the corresponding period of 1929.

Furnace charges included 86,106 long tons of imported iron ore, 26,308 short tons of limestone, and 52,296 short tons of coke. All of the coke was carbonized in Canada, 17,879 tons being from Canadian coal and the balance from imported coal. Of the limestone, 6,002 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 May 31 as on April 30. 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 May amounted to 2,540 tons, a sharp decline from the 4,605 tons of April while in May of last year output was reported at 7,766 tons.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS.- Production of steel ingots and direct steel castings in Canada during May amounted to 75,235 tons, a daily average of 2,427 tons. This rate of output was 20 per cent under the 3,049 tons per day in April and 18 per cent less than the daily average of 2,958 tons during May, 1930.

For the five months ending May, the cumulative production of steel ingots and castings totalled 406,272 tons as against 541,292 in the corresponding period of last year and 619,337 tons during the first five months of 1929. This year's output to date included 382,754 tons of steel ingots and 23,518 tons of steel castings.

PRICES.- Demand for iron and steel, which had been fairly well maintained during April chiefly because of orders for railroads and bridge building, gradually tapered off in May. Contract buying became scarce, most orders being for small lots to meet immediate needs. No. 1 and No. 2 foundry pig iron quotations of \$22.60 and \$22.10 per gross ton, delivered at Toronto, and of \$23.80 and \$23.30 per gross ton delivered at Montreal, were unchanged from the previous month. The Bureau's index for "Iron and Its Products" fell from 87.6 to 87.5 on account of lower prices for steel tank plates, automobile body plates, and black steel sheets.

UNITED STATES.- May production of pig iron in the United States showed a decline of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. While this was the first reduction in output since December, it was foreshadowed by the downturn of steel ingot production in April and the continued recession of steel works operations during the past month. The average daily output of pig iron at 64,325 tons in May was the smallest May daily rate, since that of 1921 and compares with 67,317 tons a day made in April. During the month 5 furnaces were blown in and 13 blown out, a net loss of 8.

PIG IRON AND FERRO-ALLOYS IN CANADA

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

ITEM	MAY 1931			APRIL 1931		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic.....	45,098	41	45,139	46,415	-----	46,415
Foundry.....	150	5,222	5,372	151	7,226	7,377
Malleable.....	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL.....	45,248	5,263	50,511	46,566	7,226	53,792
Ferro-alloys	-----	2,540	2,540	-----	4,605	4,605

Table 2. CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE FIVE MONTHS ENDING MAY
(Tons of 2240 lb.)

ITEM	1931			1930		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
In blast furnace:						
Basic.....	204,004	81	204,085	270,484	2,730	273,214
Foundry.....	647	23,526	24,173	571	71,946	72,517
Malleable.....	-----	15,142	15,142	-----	39,374	39,374
TOTAL.....	204,651	38,749	243,400	271,055	114,050	385,105
Ferro-alloys	-----	20,144	20,144	-----	33,901	33,901

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

		MAY	APRIL	YEAR TO DATE
Imported Iron ore.....	Long tons	86,106	97,034	437,548
Canadian Limestone.....	Short tons	6,002	6,569	32,145
Imported Limestone	" "	20,306	21,339	99,661
Coke made in Canada:-				
From Canadian coal.....	" "	17,879	17,921	88,710
From Imported coal.....	" "	34,417	36,995	167,606
Imported coke	" "	-----	-----	-----

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS IN CANADA

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

ITEM	MAY 1931			APRIL 1931		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	69,333	-----	69,333	84,150	-----	84,150
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	2,258	-----	2,258	2,622	-----	2,622
Other	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	71,591	-----	71,591	86,772	-----	86,772
STEEL CASTINGS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	122	1,018	1,140	133	1,678	1,811
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bessemer	5	85	90	5	130	135
Electric	10	2,404	2,414	24	2,719	2,743
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	137	3,507	3,644	162	4,527	4,689
GRAND TOTAL	71,728	3,507	75,235	86,934	4,527	91,461

Table 5 CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE FIVE MONTHS ENDING MAY

	1931			1930		
	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL	For Own Use	For Sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS.						
Open Hearth-Basic	369,605	146	369,751	490,151	419	490,570
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Electric	13,003	-----	13,003	10,813	-----	10,813
Other	-----	-----	-----	5,655	-----	5,655
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS	382,608	146	382,754	506,619	419	507,038
STEEL CASTINGS:						
Open Hearth-Basic	837	9,447	10,284	869	15,914	16,783
Acid	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Bessemer	21	669	690	23	1,071	1,094
Electric	103	12,441	12,544	110	16,267	16,377
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	961	22,557	23,518	1,002	33,252	34,254
GRAND TOTAL	383,569	22,703	406,272	507,621	33,671	541,292

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		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	78	533	166	747	244	1,011	406
MONTHLY AVERAGE	18	16	44	33	62	49	84	81

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 MAY, 1931.

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

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