

Published by Authority of the HON. W. D. EULER, M.P.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce

Price -
10 cents

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY
MINING, METALLURGICAL AND CHEMICAL BRANCH
OTTAWA - CANADA

Dominion Statistician: R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S. (Hon.)
Chief, Mining, Metallurgical and Chemical Branch: W. H. Losee, B.Sc.

MONTHLY REPORT

Historical File Copy

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN CANADA

MARCH, 1938.

PIG IRON - Production of pig iron in Canada totalled 66,228 tons in March, an average of 2,136 tons a day. This average was 3 per cent less than the daily rate in February of 2,194 tons and compares with an output of 2,290 tons a day in March, 1937. Included in this month's output was 57,679 tons of basic iron and 8,549 tons of foundry iron. No malleable iron was reported.

Furnace charges for March included 120,618 long tons of iron ore, 67,157 short tons of coke and 35,400 short tons of limestone. During the first quarter of this year a total of 355,585 tons of ore, 202,933 tons of coke and 103,910 tons of limestone were charged to iron blast furnaces in Canada to make 202,537 tons of pig iron.

FERRO-ALLOYS - Output of ferro-alloys at 4,031 tons in March compares with 4,436 tons in the previous month and 3,868 tons in March of a year ago. This month's tonnage included ferro-silicon, silico-manganese, ferro-manganese and ferro-chrome, in the order named.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS - Production of steel ingots and direct steel castings amounted to 118,676 tons in March. This output was at the rate of 3,828 tons a day and compares with 3,535 tons per day in the previous month and 4,036 tons a day in March, 1937. The month's figures included 113,805 tons of ingots and 4,871 tons of castings.

Cumulative production for the three months ending March, totalled 330,036 tons, a decline of 6 per cent from the 352,164 tons made during the first quarter of 1937.

PRICES - Except for a twenty-five cent drop in tinplate, prices of iron and steel products remained firm during March. The volume of new business increased, due largely to awards for railway equipment and greater demand from the automobile industry. Plant operations were maintained at close to capacity levels. Spot buying predominated but an occasional contract was reported. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of wholesale prices of "Iron and Its Products" on the base 1926=100 fell from 103.7 in February to 103.4 in March. Foundry pig iron prices were unchanged with No. 1 delivered at Montreal quoted at \$27.00 per long ton. This same grade, delivered at Toronto was \$26.00 per long ton.

UNITED STATES - "Iron Age" - Production of coke pig iron in the United States at 46,854 tons a day during March represented a gain of 1 per cent over the 46,367 tons a day in February. During the month three furnaces were blown out or banked and two were put in blast, a net loss of one active furnace.

(a) PIG IRON AND FERRO-ALLOYS

Table 1 - Production during March and February, 1938. (Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	MARCH, 1938			FEBRUARY, 1938		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
PIG IRON -						
Basic	57,679	...	57,679	52,224	1,558	53,782
Foundry .....	...	8,549	8,549	...	2,347	2,347
Malleable .....	...	...	...	...	5,318	5,318
TOTAL	57,679	8,549	66,228	52,224	9,223	61,447
Ferro-alloys .....	...	4,031	4,031	...	4,436	4,436

Table 2. - Cumulative Production for the THREE MONTHS ending MARCH, 1938 and 1937.
(Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	1 9 3 8			1 9 3 7		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
PIG IRON -						
Basic	165,504	1,558	167,062	170,160	5,070	175,230
Foundry .....	...	20,544	20,544	...	8,798	8,798
Malleable	582	14,349	14,931	153	15,200	15,353
TOTAL	166,086	36,451	202,537	170,313	29,068	199,381
Ferro-alloys .....	...	13,964	13,964	...	16,055	16,055

Table 3. - Iron Blast Furnace Charges during MARCH, FEBRUARY and YEAR TO DATE.

	UNIT	MARCH	FEBRUARY	YEAR TO DATE
Imported iron ore	Long tons	120,618	108,980	355,585
Coke	Short tons	67,157	61,700	202,933
Limestone	Short tons	35,400	31,380	103,910

(b) STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS

Table 4. - Production for MARCH AND FEBRUARY, 1938. (Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	MARCH, 1938			FEBRUARY, 1938		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
STEEL INGOTS -						
Open hearth - Basic	106,283	53	106,336	89,190	26	89,216
Electric	7,469	...	7,469	5,809	...	5,809
Other .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS .	113,752	53	113,805	94,999	26	95,025
STEEL CASTINGS -						
Open hearth - Basic	172	1,412	1,584	180	1,107	1,287
Bessemer .....	...	72	72	...	50	50
Electric	502	2,713	3,215	1,354	1,264	2,618
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL CASTINGS	674	4,197	4,871	1,534	2,421	3,955
GRAND TOTAL	114,426	4,250	118,676	96,533	2,447	98,980

Table 5. - Cumulative Production for the THREE MONTHS ending MARCH, 1938 and 1937.

	1 9 3 8			1 9 3 7		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>STEEL INGOTS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic ...	296,334	143	296,477	320,260	160	320,420
Electric	20,213	...	20,213	15,603	...	15,603
Other .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL STEEL INGOTS ...	316,547	143	316,690	335,863	160	336,023
<u>STEEL CASTINGS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic ...	544	3,627	4,171	599	5,395	5,994
Bessemer .....	...	193	193	...	245	245
Electric	2,592	6,390	8,982	1,976	7,923	9,902
TOTAL DIRECT STEEL ...						
CASTINGS	3,136	10,210	13,346	2,575	13,566	16,141
GRAND TOTAL	319,683	10,353	330,036	338,438	13,726	352,164

Table 6 - Average Monthly Production of Pig Iron, Steel Ingots and Castings in Canada, 1916-1937. (In 1000's of long tons)

Years	Monthly Average		Years	Monthly Average	
	Iron	Steel		Iron	Steel
1916	87	106	1927	59	76
1917	87	130	1928	86	103
1918	89	140	1929	91	115
1919	68	77	1930	62	84
1920	81	92	1931	36	56
1921	50	56	1932	12	29
1922	32	40	1933	19	34
1923	73	74	1934	34	63
1924	49	54	1935	50	78
1925	48	63	1936	56	93
1926	63	64	1937	75	117

Table 7 - Production of Pig Iron, by Months and by Provinces, and Steel Ingots and Castings, by Months, 1937 and 1938. (In 1000's of long tons)

Month	P I G I R O N				S T E E L			
	NOVA SCOTIA		ONTARIO		TOTAL CANADA		TOTAL CANADA	
	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938
January	28	29	38	46	66	75	115	112
February	25	24	37	37	62	61	112	99
March	29	28	42	38	71	66	125	119
April	28		40		68		121	
May	27		51		78		121	
June	27		51		78		119	
July	26		54		80		123	
August	26		49		75		127	
September	26		50		76		115	
October	25		56		81		115	
November	27		54		81		111	
December	28		53		81		98	
TOTAL FOR YEAR ...	322	81	575	121	897	202	1,402	330
Monthly Average	27	27	48	40	75	67	117	110



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- 4 -

Table 8 - Iron Blast Furnaces in Canada, 1937.

Names of Companies	Location of Furnaces	Number of Stacks	Total Daily Capacity
			(Long tons)
Dominion Steel and Coal Corp. Ltd.	Sydney, N.S.	3	1,200
Canadian Furnace Limited	Pt. Colborne, Ont.	1	350
The Steel Company of Canada, Limited	Hamilton, Ont.	2	825
The Algoma Steel Corporation, Ltd.	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	4	1,600

Table 9 - Description of Furnaces at end of MARCH, 1938.

Condition of Furnaces	Number of Furnaces	Total Daily Capacity	
		Long tons	Per cent
In blast	5	2,175	55
Banked	1	350	9
Blown out	4	1,450	33
Total Furnaces Reporting ...	10	3,975	100

NOTE:- Figures in this report are the latest available at time of printing.
Where necessary, data for earlier months have been revised.