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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
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OTTAWA - CANADA

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MONTHLY REPORT

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL IN CANADA

MAY, 1940

PIG IRON - Production of pig iron in Canada during May totalled 93,254 long tons compared with 84,210 tons in the previous month and 57,746 tons in May, 1939. Basic iron advanced to 78,553 tons from 67,149 tons in April, malleable iron rose to 6,787 tons from 4,378 tons, but foundry iron dropped to 7,914 tons from 12,683 tons.

Blast furnace charges during May included 170,501 long tons of iron ore, 50,120 short tons of limestone and 97,376 short tons of coke. For the first five months of this year, 306,522 tons of ore, 220,235 tons of limestone and 483,241 tons of coke were charged to iron blast furnaces in Canada to make 460,971 tons of pig iron. During the corresponding period of a year ago, 243,716 tons of pig iron were produced.

FERRO-ALLOYS - Output of ferro-alloys at 10,272 tons in May was 28 per cent under the 13,989 tons made in April but more than double the 4,925 tons made in May of a year ago. This month's total was made up of the following, listed in order of tonnage: ferrosilicon, spiegeleisen, silicospiegel, silicomanganese and ferro-chrome.

STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS - The May production of steel ingots and steel castings at 174,417 tons was the highest monthly tonnage on record, exceeding by almost 5 per cent the previous high of 166,496 tons established in January of this year. Output in April amounted to 153,451 tons and in May of a year ago to 121,413 tons.

The cumulative total for the five months ended May amounted to 792,033 tons as against 472,239 tons in the corresponding period of last year.

PRICES - Only minor changes occurred in May prices of iron and steel products. The index of wholesale prices of these commodities on the base 1926-100 moved down fractionally from 102.4 in April to 102.3. Owing to the growing demand for war materials, production of Canadian plants increased and many concerns were reported as operating at capacity levels. Demand for auto manufacturing requirements, builders' needs and railway rolling stock also increased. No. 1 Foundry pig iron delivered at Toronto remained unchanged at \$26.00 per long ton.

PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES - (From the "Iron Age") - On a daily basis the gain in May production of pig iron in the United States was 8.4 per cent over that in April or from 104,567 tons to 113,345 tons in May. The operating rate for the industry was 74.8 per cent compared with 40.8 per cent in May of last year. During the month there was a net gain of 15 active furnaces, 21 being put in blast and 6 taken off.

(a) PIG IRON AND FERRO-ALLOYS

Table 1 - PRODUCTION DURING MAY and APRIL, 1940 (Tons of 2,240 pounds)						
	M A Y, 1 9 4 0			A P R I L, 1 9 4 0		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>PIG IRON -</u>						
Basic	75,687	2,866	78,553	63,180	3,969	67,149
Foundry .....	...	7,914	7,914	99	12,584	12,683
Malleable	52	6,735	6,787	...	4,378	4,378
TOTAL	75,739	17,515	93,254	63,279	20,931	84,210
Ferro-alloys .....	...	10,272	10,272	...	13,989	13,989

Table 2 - CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE FIVE MONTHS ENDING MAY, 1940 and 1939
(Tons of 2,240 pounds)

	1 9 4 0			1 9 3 9		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>PIG IRON -</u>						
Basic	371,625	12,564	384,189	215,477	4,675	220,152
Foundry	99	40,771	40,870	...	17,343	17,343
Malleable	52	35,860	35,912	...	6,221	6,221
TOTAL	371,776	89,195	460,971	215,477	28,239	243,716
Ferro-alloys .....	...	48,116	48,116	...	20,889	20,889

Table 3 - IRON BLAST FURNACE CHARGES DURING MAY and APRIL, 1940 and FIVE MONTHS
ENDING MAY, 1940

	Unit	MAY	APRIL	FIVE MONTHS
Iron ore	Long ton	170,501	(x)146,376	806,522
Limestone	Short ton	50,120	43,525	220,235
Coke	Short ton	97,376	90,409	483,241

(x) Revised.

(b) STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS

Table 4 - PRODUCTION DURING MAY and APRIL, 1940 (Tons of 2,240 pounds)						
	M A Y			A P R I L		
	For own use	For sale	TOTAL	For own use	For sale	TOTAL
<u>STEEL INGOTS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic	148,144	9,529	157,673	137,920	...	137,920
Electric	11,030	...	11,030	9,458	...	9,458
Other .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Steel Ingots	159,174	9,529	168,703	147,378	...	147,378
<u>STEEL CASTINGS -</u>						
Open hearth - Basic	290	1,538	1,828	269	1,477	1,746
Converter .....	...	121	121	...	114	114
Electric	974	2,791	3,765	1,089	3,124	4,213
Total Direct Steel Castings	1,264	4,450	5,714	1,358	4,715	6,073
GRAND TOTAL	160,438	13,979	174,417	148,736	4,715	153,451

Table 5 - CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION FOR THE FIVE MONTHS ending MAY, 1940 and 1939

	1	9	4	0	1	9	3	9
	For own	For		TOTAL	For own	For		TOTAL
	use	sale			use	sale		
STEEL INGOTS -								
Open hearth - Basic	702,887	9,687		712,574	433,794	345		434,139
Electric	47,394	...		47,394	18,323	...		18,823
Other .....	...	...		...	...	...		...
Total Steel Ingots	750,281	9,687		759,968	452,617	345		452,962
STEEL CASTINGS -								
Open hearth - Basic	1,297	9,217		10,514	779	4,553		5,332
Converter .....	...	561		561	...	221		221
Electric	4,839	16,151		20,990	2,918	10,906		13,724
Total Direct Steel Castings	6,136	25,929		32,065	3,697	15,580		19,277
GRAND TOTAL	756,417	35,616		792,033	456,314	15,925		472,239

Table 6 - AVERAGE MONTHLY PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON, STEEL INGOTS AND CASTINGS IN CANADA, 1916 - 1939 (In 1000's of long tons)

Year	Monthly Average		Year	Monthly Average	
	Iron	Steel		Iron	Steel
1916	87	106	1928	86	103
1917	87	130	1929	90	115
1918	89	139	1930	62	84
1919	68	77	1931	35	56
1920	81	92	1932	12	28
1921	50	56	1933	19	34
1922	32	40	1934	34	63
1923	73	73	1935	50	78
1924	49	55	1936	57	93
1925	48	63	1937	75	117
1926	63	65	1938	59	96
1927	59	76	1939	63	115

Table 7 - PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON, BY MONTHS and BY PROVINCES, and STEEL INGOTS and CASTINGS, BY MONTHS, 1939 and 1940 (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	
	1939	1940	1939	1940	1939	1940	: 1939	1940
January	16	34	42	71	58	105	78	167
February	13	23	28	64	41	87	77	140
March	12	34	29	58	41	92	96	157
April	19	31	27	53	46	84	100	153
May	25	37	33	56	58	93	121	175
Total - 5 Months ..	85	159	159	302	244	461	472	792
June	24		29		53		108	
July	23		36		59		111	
August	23		43		66		122	
September	24		42		66		125	
October	24		62		86		150	
November	25		63		88		147	
December	32		63		95		150	
TOTAL FOR YEAR ..	260		497		757		1,335	



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- 4 -

Table 8 - IRON BLAST FURNACES IN CANADA

Name of Company	Location of furnace	Number of stacks	Total Daily Capacity (Long tons)
Dominion Steel and Coal Corp. Ltd.	Sydney, N.S.	3	1,200
Canadian Furnace Limited	Port Colborne, Ont.	1	350
The Steel Company of Canada, Limited	Hamilton, Ont.	2	975
The Algoma Steel Corporation	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	4	1,600

Table 9 - DESCRIPTION OF FURNACES AT END OF MAY, 1940

Condition of furnaces	Number of furnaces	Total Daily Capacity	
		Long tons	Per cent
In blast	7	3,175	77
Banked .....	...	...	...
Blown out	3	950	23
Total Furnaces Reporting	10	4,125	100

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