

COMPANY NOTES

CANADA IRON CORPORATION.

The second annual meeting of the Canada Iron Corporation was held in Montreal on October 24th. The profits for the year, ending May 31, were shown to be \$375,140, as compared with \$401,885 in 1911. After meeting interest and other charges a balance of \$46,566 was carried forward to the credit of profit and loss, making the total at credit at the end of the fiscal year, \$406,737. The president, Mr. T. J. Drummon, in his report to the shareholders, explained the somewhat disappointing result of the year's operations as follows:

"The adverse conditions in the iron trade of the United States during the last half of 1911 continued throughout the first half of 1912, and resulted in large quantities of American pig iron being dumped into the Canadian market and sold at sacrifice prices. The corporation had naturally to compete or lose the trade, and the result of such unusual competition has consequently affected the outcome of this year's operations; but your directors are pleased to report that the revival of the United States' iron trade has already resulted in an increased demand and advanced prices there, with the resulting falling off of shipments to Canada, so that the corporation has orders on its books for a very large tonnage of pig iron for immediate and future shipments, at remunerative prices."

As to the future for the pig iron ore department, Mr. Drummond stated that with American furnaces gradually coming into operation again, the corporation has already booked contracts for a considerable tonnage of ore, for immediate and future shipment, not only to the United States, but to Great Britain and Germany.

As to the foundry department, he said: "The business of the iron foundries at Fort William, Hamilton, St. Thomas, Midland, Three Rivers, and Londonderry, shows a constant and very healthy growth, and despite the effects of American competition, on the profits for 1911-1912, a yearly tonnage production is now being obtained in all departments, that ensures the permanent supremacy of the corporation in its special field of operation, from foundry pig iron to the finished product of railway and tramway car wheels, cast iron, water and gas pipes, and general castings. The actual volume of foundry trade exceeded that of the previous year by 23 per cent., and the opening months of the current year showed a still greater increase. The balance sheet of the corporation for the year shows total assets of \$15,229,955, as compared with \$14,602,765 a year ago."

BEAVER DIVIDENDS.

The directors of the Beaver Consolidated mines, at their regular meeting on Saturday, declared a three per cent. interim dividend, payable on December 21st to stock on record December 9. This is the first disbursement made since last July, but is the third for the year to date. The record is as follows:

	P.C.	Amount.
1911—May 15	2½	\$45,000
—Aug. 31	3	60,000
—Dec. 15	3	60,000
1912—April 20	3	60,000
—July 15	3	60,000
—Dec. 21	3	60,000
Totals	17½	\$345,000

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE COPPER CLIFF SMELTER.

During the past eighteen months extensive and important improvements and additions have been made to the plant of the Canadian Copper Company's reduction works at Copper Cliff. In a paper contributed to the Canadian Mining Institute last spring, Mr. David H. Browne outlined some of the changes that had then been made, referring more particularly to the substitution of basic for acid converters and to the provision of reverberatory furnaces to treat the flue dust. Since then the new plant has been in steady operation and has afforded the best possible results. Thus the tonnage now being produced from the basic converters, of from 110 to 120 tons daily from the treatment of from 400 to 500 tons of 20 per cent. matte, is said to constitute a world's record; while, notwithstanding that wages have advanced 25 per cent., and, since a greater tonnage of ore is being mined and treated, the average value of the ores smelted are lower, the reduction costs have been maintained at about the same level as last year. It is interesting, moreover, to note that before relining was necessary in the last occasion, the converters had treated 6,700 tons of material.

The two new reverberatory furnaces are, meanwhile, treating daily about 140 tons of flue dust and green fines, and 250 tons of hot slag. The coal charge is almost an infusible mixture. The company is now installing four Wedge roasters, and a third reverberatory, slightly different in design to those now in use, is being built.

Although event at present in point of metallic output the Canadian Copper Company is the most important undertaking of its class in the Dominion; in respect of tonnage treated it is second to the Granby Company, in the Boundary district. The present tonnage smelted represents from 1,800 to 2,000 tons daily, producing about 3,500 tons of matte a month; but next year, when four additional blast furnaces are provided, this will be increased to 4,000 tons daily, which is about what is accomplished at the Granby smelter when working at full capacity.

The basic converters are 37 feet 2 inches long by 10 feet in diameter, outside measurement; and turn on four tread rings 12 feet in diameter. The tuyers number 44, and are 7 inches apart, but none is directly under the stack. The length inside the lining is 33 feet 3 inches; the bottom is 2 feet thick; the back or tuyere wall is 18 inches and the front 15 inches thick. The converters have two openings or spouts in the front wall opposite to but above the tuyere line, and the shell is turned down to pour slag or matte or turned back to blow by means of two wire ropes surrounding the shell on either side of the central stack. The converters are lined with magnesite bricks. The initial charge is about 60 tons of furnace matte, additions being made as the slag is poured off, until finally there remains in the converter from seventy to eighty tons of finished product, which may represent from 300 to 400 tons of furnace matte. Mr. Browne points out that the basic converter has several advantages over the acid converter, among which are: the units are much larger, which simplifies the problem of dealing with large quantities of matte; no material is "slopped out" of the converter during the blow and so less furnace matte is required to produce a ton of Bessemer matte; the slag is lower in silica, thus effecting economy of flux; and, in general, the operation of converting is simplified.