

Nickel contained in matte, etc.:

	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Exported to Great Britain	3,843,763	5,335,331	5,023,393	5,072,867
Exported to United States	21,772,635	30,679,451	27,596,578	39,148,993
	25,616,398	36,014,782	32,619,971	44,221,860

The price of refined nickel in New York remained practically constant throughout the year, quotations in the Engineering and Mining Journal being for large lots, contract business, 40 to 45 cents per pound except during the early part of May, when 40 to 50 cents was quoted. Retail spot from 50 cents for 500 pound lots up to 55 cents for 200 pound lots. The price for electrolytic is 5 cents higher.

Iron.

Iron Ore.—Complete returns of iron ore production have not yet been received but shipments from Canadian mines in 1912 were probably about 175,000 tons.

The total shipments of iron ore from mines in 1911 were 210,344 short tons, valued at \$522,319, and included 137,399 tons classed as hematite and 72,945 tons as magnetite.

Exports of iron ore from Canada during 1912 were recorded by the Customs Department as 118,129 tons, valued at \$382,005. The exports were chiefly from Bathurst, New Brunswick, and Torbrook, Nova Scotia.

Shipments from the Wabana Mines, Newfoundland, in 1912, by the two Canadian companies operating there, were 1,331,912 short tons, of which 956,459 tons were

shipped to Sydney and 375,453 tons to the United States and Europe.

Pig Iron.—The total production of pig iron in Canadian blast furnaces in 1912 was 1,014,587 tons of 2,000 pounds, valued at approximately \$14,550,999, as compared with 917,535 tons, valued at \$12,307,125 in 1911.

Of the total output in 1912, 21,701 tons were made with charcoal as fuel and 92,886 tons with coke. The classification of the production according to the purpose for which it was intended was as follows: Bessemer, 256,191 tons; basic, 544,534 tons; foundry and miscellaneous, 213,862 tons.

The amount of Canadian ore used during 1912 was 71,588 tons; imported ore 2,019,165 tons; mill cinder, etc., 36,901 tons. The amount of coke used during the year was 1,265,998 tons, comprising 609,183 tons from Canadian coal and 658,815 tons imported coke or coke made from imported coal. There were also used 1,886,748 bushels of charcoal. Limestone flux was used to the extent of 705,613 tons.

In connection with blast furnace operations there were employed 1,358 men and \$993,941 were paid in wages.

The production of pig iron by provinces in 1911 and 1912 was as follows:

1911.			1912.		
	Tons.	Value.		Tons.	Value.
Nova Scotia	390,242	\$4,682,904	per ton.	424,994	\$6,374,910
Quebec	658	17,282	
Ontario	526,635	7,606,939		589,593	8,176,089
	917,535	\$12,307,125		1,014,587	\$14,550,999
					14.34

*The Nova Scotia producers do not place a selling value upon their pig iron production and the increased value used for Nova Scotia pig iron in 1912 does not mean that there has been an increase in the value as shown but that the value used in 1911 was probably too low.

There was also a production during 1912 in electric furnaces of 7,834 tons of ferro-alloys valued at \$465,225, as compared with 7,507 tons valued at \$376,404 in 1911.

The exports of pig iron during the year are reported as 6,976 tons, valued at \$310,702, an average of \$44.53 per ton. Probably the greater part of this is ferro-silicon and ferro-phosphorus produced respectively at Welland and Buckingham.

There were imported during the year 272,680 tons of pig iron, valued at \$3,512,969, and 19,810 tons of ferro-manganese, etc., valued at \$469,884.

Asbestos.

The total shipments of asbestos in 1912 exceeded those of 1911 by at least 5 per cent., it being probable that complete returns will show a somewhat higher production and shipments than the figures given below. According to returns so far received, the total output of asbestos was 97,816 tons, the sales 106,520 tons,

valued at \$2,959,677, or an average of \$27.79 and stock on hand at the end of the year amounting to 21,686 tons, valued at \$1,021,066. The record indicates an increase in sales and a reduction of stocks on hand.

Shipments were confined to the mines of the Black Lake and Thetford districts, those at East Broughton remaining idle. Operators report that they were handicapped by shortage of labour, but since market prices and conditions have greatly improved, 1913 promises to be a very successful year.

The number of men employed in mines and mills during 1912, was 2,755, at a wage cost of \$1,296,655.

The total quantity of asbestos rock sent to mills is reported as 1,514,314 tons, which, with a mill production of 97,815 tons, shows an average estimated recovery of about 6.45 per cent.

The following tabulated statement shows the output and sales during 1912, and the stock on hand at the end of the year.