

CUPOLAS

FOUNDRY EQUIPMENT

CRANES

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The checking of the amount of pig iron produced offers no obstacles, but the steel cannot be accounted for with the same ease, for the reason that the product is to be treated quickly in various stages, whilst in molten form and before it is allowed to cool. It is likely, therefore, that Government officers will have to be maintained on the spot night and day watching the operations. The question also arises whether scrap resulting from the company's iron operations should be paid for when used over again to manufacture steel. The company will be entitled to a

bounty for steel, 50 per cent. of which is scrap. The Government officers, however, are inclined to draw a distinction between scrap purchased by the company for use and scrap resulting from any of its own processes of manufacturing. The company cannot see why any distinction should be drawn. The Government is anxious to facilitate, as far as possible, manufacturing operations, and to study the convenience of the company, at the same time it deems itself bound to exercise every possible means of supervision where such a large amount is involved.

QUEER PRACTICES IN BRITISH TIN PLATE TRADE.—The question, "When is a coke plate a charcoal plate?" has recently been exercising the minds of some buyers of tin plates, and the answer suggested is, "When it is so branded." There is no doubt that a certain amount of incorrect marking of plates is being carried on in the trade—sometimes, it is said, by manufacturers themselves at the bidding of merchants and other buyers. We have even heard of a case in which a merchant supplied light waster-cokes, originally properly branded, marked "charcoal," and defended himself on the ground that he was only following the "custom of the trade." As a matter of fact, the terms "coke" and "charcoal" as applied to tin plates are altogether out of date, and consequently misleading. Years ago, when the foundation of tin plate was puddled bar iron, the terms served well enough to distinguish different qualities of material, but now they have lost all their old meaning. Generally speaking, "charcoal" plates nowadays are understood to be tin plates bearing a heavier coating of tin than "coke" plates, and made of Siemens steel, while "coke" plates are held to be those least heavily coated and having a base of Bessemer steel. But there is no unanimity even on these points, the essential difference between the two descriptions being apparently the brightness of the plate and the thickness of the tin coating on the so-called charcoal plates. In calling for "charcoals" the buyer undoubtedly expects to be supplied with the best quality of tin plate, and we are by no means certain that the branding of "cokes" as "charcoals" is not an offence against the Merchandise Marks Act.—London Iron-monger.

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Details of the shipping pier to be erected by the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. at North Sydney, N.S., place the total cost at \$120,000. It will be 1,400 feet long, of which 800 feet will be trestle approach work. The 600 feet of shipping face will have a width of 40 feet, and at the outer end there will be 60 feet above high water mark. There will be three tracks on the pier, storage for 5,000 tons of coal, and chutes and other facilities to load 15,000 tons of coal a day.

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