

## IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTION.

### Exports of Pig Iron—Bounties Paid by Government— Some Interesting Statistics.

Excluding Quebec, for which complete returns have not been received, the production of iron ore in Canada in 1910 was 254,915 short tons, valued at \$566,109. The shipments may be classified as magnetite, 124,535 tons; hematite, 130,380 tons. In 1909 the total shipments were 268,043 tons, valued at \$659,316, and comprised magnetite, 74,240 tons; hematite, 190,473 tons, and bog ore, 3,330 tons.

Exports of iron ore from Canada during 1910 are recorded by the Customs Department as 114,499 tons, valued at \$324,186. This is chiefly from Moose Mountain Mine, Ontario, Torbrook, N.S., and Bathurst, N.B.

Although not a Canadian production, it may be of interest to state that the two Canadian companies operating the Wabana mines, shipped during the year 1,259,626 short tons of which 808,762 tons were shipped to Sydney, and 450,864 tons to the United States and Europe.

#### Increase in Pig Iron.

An increase of 5.58 per cent. is shown in the production of pig iron in Canada in 1910, as compared with 1909. The total production in 1910 was 800,797 short tons, valued at \$11,245,630, as compared with 757,162 tons, valued at \$9,581,864 in 1909. These figures do not include the output from electric furnaces making ferro-products, which are situated at Welland and Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., and Buckingham, Que. Of the total output of pig iron during 1910, 17,164 tons valued at \$333,956, or \$19.78 per short ton were made with charcoal as fuel, and 783,633 tons, valued at \$10,911,674, or \$13.92 per ton, with coke. The amount of charcoal iron made in 1909 was 17,003 tons, and iron made with coke was 740,159 tons. The classification of the production of 1910, according to the purpose for which it was intended, was as follows: Bessemer 219,492 tons, basic 425,400 tons, foundry, including miscellaneous, 138,741 tons.

The amount of Canadian ore used during 1910 was 160,290 tons; imported ore 1,406,668 tons; mill cinder, etc., 22,671 tons.

The amount of coke used during the year was 993,037 tons, comprising 499,717 tons from Canadian coal, and 493,320 tons imported coke or coke made from imported coal.

The consumption of charcoal was 1,615,919 bushels.

Limestone flux was used to the extent of 569,355 tons.

In connection with blast furnace operations there were employed 1,403 men and \$1,006,727 were paid in wages.

The total daily capacity of 16 completed furnaces was according to returns received, 2,880 tons.

The number of furnaces in blast December 31, 1910, was 11.

#### Three Provinces Helped.

The production of pig iron by provinces in 1909 and 1910 was as follows:—

Province.	Value. 1909.	Value. 1910.
Nova Scotia .....	\$ 3,453,800	\$ 4,203,444
Quebec .....	125,623	85,256
Ontario .....	6,002,441	6,956,930
Total .....	9,581,864	11,245,630

The exports of pig iron during the year are reported as 9,763 tons, valued at \$296,310. Probably the greater part of this is ferro-silicon and ferro-phosphorus, produced at Welland and Buckingham respectively.

There were imported during the year 227,753 tons of pig iron, valued at \$3,122,695; 16,106 tons of charcoal pig valued at \$242,152, and 18,900 tons of ferro-manganese, valued at \$464,741.

The total production of ingots and castings in 1910 was approximately 822,281 short tons, of which 803,600 tons were ingots, and 18,681 tons were castings. The figures have been partially estimated, the records of the Ontario Iron and Steel Company having been unfortunately destroyed by fire. The production in 1909 was reported as 754,719 short tons, made up of 739,703 tons of ingots and 15,016 tons of castings.

Returns from seven of the principal rolling mills report the production in 1910 of steel in the following shapes: blooms and billets 635,500 short tons; rails 399,761 tons; rods and bars 214,233 tons; miscellaneous rolled products 23,167 tons.

#### Bessemer Steel Production.

Statistics showing the open hearth and Bessemer steel production for two years are as follows:—

	1909. Tons.	1910. Tons.
Ingots—Open hearth (basic) .....	535,988	580,932
Bessemer (acid) .....	203,715	222,668
Castings—Open hearth .....	14,013	18,083
Other steels .....	1,003	598
Total .....	754,719	822,281

The following is a statement of the bounties paid on iron and steel during the calendar years 1909 and 1910, as kindly furnished by the Trade and Commerce Department. As no bounty is paid on iron made from mill cinder or ingredients other than ore, the figures do not show the total output of the furnaces but only those quantities on which bounty was paid.

	1909. \$	1910. \$
Pig iron made from Canadian ore .....	214,705	76,282
Pig iron made from imported ore .....	425,402	278,356
Total, pig iron .....	640,108	354,639
Steel ingots .....	766,470	460,427
Steel wire rods .....	488,432	529,077
Total bounty paid on iron and steel .....	1,895,011	1,344,144

### WATER COMPANY SUED BY FIRE COMPANY.

The Queen Insurance Company of New York has entered action for \$50,000 against the Montreal Water and Power Company and the city of Montreal in connection with the recent fire at the St. Ann's convent, Laurier ward.

The company claims that it paid \$50,000 losses on this fire and that the loss was caused through insufficient water pressure, for which the Montreal Water and Power Company and the city jointly are responsible.

It is claimed that at the time of the fire the water pressure in the locality was insufficient and that a test of the mains was made some time before the fire by the secretary of the underwriters' association, who sent a report to Chief Tremblay of the fire department, setting forth that the water pressure was unsatisfactory.

The Montreal Water Company are held directly responsible for the lack of pressure and the city of Montreal is responsible, as it is its duty to see that the water pressure is kept up to its proper mark.

### SOUTHERN ALBERTA LAND COMPANY.

Major-General Sir R. B. Lane, K.C.V.O., C.B., presided over the fourth annual meeting of the Southern Alberta Land Company, held in London on March 9th, and in discussing the balance sheet stated that the company was just emerging from its construction stage. "From the accounts," he said, "you will see that our property now stands in the balance sheet at a cost of £371,868, represented by 406,000 acres of land, of which about 50 per cent. is irrigable. Other capital expenditure includes irrigation works, equipments and improvements, and sundry expenditure on experimental farm, etc., amounting to £367,800. Live stock and sundry debtors amount to £42,000, and investments and cash at bank to a further £171,500, so that you see the company has ample funds in hand to carry on its work. (Hear, hear.)

"Our authorized capital is £700,000, of which £400,000 has been issued, the balance being held in reserve against option certificates, which entitle the holders to subscribe for the unissued shares at 30s. per share on or before June 30th, 1912. From the present outlook we may reasonably assume that the whole of these options will eventually be exercised, thus bringing the company a further £450,000.

"We have £400,000 five per cent. debenture stock issued, an increase of £100,000 over last balance sheet, but the circumstances of this issue were fully explained to you at the last general meeting. Bills payable and sundry creditors stand at £76,000, and we are shown as debtors to the Dominion Government for £107,600, but this amount is payable in instalments spread over the next five to nine years.

"Land sales account is explained by sundry sales of town lots in Suffield, of which £4,695 is shown on the other side in respect of deferred payments. As this is the only sale made during the past financial year, we have not considered it advisable to bring it into a profit and loss account, as, at the end of the present year, the question of valuing the whole of the company's lands and assets will have to be carefully considered, in order to arrive at a basis of profit for future sales."

The Dominion Plate Glass Insurance Company, which has ceased to transact business in Canada, has insured all its outstanding risk in Lloyd's Plate Glass Insurance Company, of New York, and has applied to the Minister of Finance for the release of its securities on June 26th next.

The Penticton Lumber Company, Penticton, B.C., have commenced construction of the first big saw mill south of Armstrong. It will have a capacity of 35,000 feet of lumber a day and a large drying kiln will be built by the company in the vicinity of the mill. Plans have been prepared for extensive yard accommodation and subsequently a pipe and box factory will be built.