

Subsection 3.—Iron

The large iron and steel industry of Nova Scotia draws its requirements of iron ore from the easily accessible and abundant supplies of the high-grade Wabana deposit in Newfoundland. In Ontario, also, there has been a broad development of the primary iron and steel industry largely because cheap and high-grade supplies of iron ore are readily available from the Mesabi Range of Minnesota, while coal supplies are drawn from the nearby coalfields of Pennsylvania.

12.—Iron-Ore Shipments and Production of Pig-Iron, Ferro-Alloys and Steel Ingots and Castings, 1926-44

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1886-1910, inclusive, will be found at p. 373 of the 1936 Year Book; for the years 1911-25 and 1927-28 at p. 340 of the 1939 edition.

Year	Iron-ore Shipments from Canadian Mines short tons	Production of Pig-Iron			Production of Ferro-Alloys short tons	Production of Steel Ingots and Castings short tons
		Nova Scotia short tons	Ontario short tons	Canada short tons		
1926	Nil	280,266	567,928	848,194	63,896	869,413
1929	"	345,097	861,682	1,209,779	99,810	1,543,387
1930	"	238,152	598,687	836,839	73,050	1,130,728
1931	"	113,560	356,882	470,442	52,376	752,762
1932	"	34,381	127,045	161,426	18,100	380,067
1933	"	132,736	121,859	254,595	33,749	459,176
1934	"	149,363	304,231	453,594	35,751	848,716
1935	"	232,962	438,898	671,860	63,410	1,054,509
1936	"	288,006	471,613	759,619	85,438	1,249,672
1937	"	358,756	647,961	1,006,717	91,921	1,571,227
1938	"	270,879	519,199	790,078	62,637	1,293,812
1939	123,598	290,232	556,186	846,418	85,540	1,551,054
1940	414,603	441,741	867,358	1,309,099	149,394	2,253,769
1941	516,037	421,296	1,106,757	1,528,053	204,354	2,712,151
1942	545,119	467,951	1,507,063	1,975,014	209,017	2,109,851
1943	641,294	345,722	1,412,547	1,758,269	197,094	3,004,124
1944 ¹	549,922	395,804	1,456,824	1,852,628	182,428	3,024,410

¹ Subject to revision.

Canada's Most Promising Iron-Ore Deposit.*—Canada has never been a great producer of iron ore, although a certain amount has been mined at intervals since the days of the French regime. Concentrations of iron-ore minerals have been found from time to time, but these were generally of a nature that required expensive processing, thus making it uneconomical to exploit them. A notable exception was the Helen mine, located in the Michipicoten area north of Lake Superior which produced nearly 3,000,000 long tons of high-grade hæmatite between 1900 and 1918.

After the exhaustion of the Helen Mine, Canadian blast furnaces obtained their ore almost entirely from the United States and Newfoundland, although a sintering plant at Wawa, also in the Michipicoten area, opened in 1938, has been producing a good grade of sinter, a desirable charge for blast furnaces, from an extensive iron carbonate deposit which occurs in that district.

* Prepared under the direction of Charles Camsell, C.M.G., LL.D., Deputy Minister, Department of Mines and Resources, by T. L. Tanton, Ph.D., in March, 1944, for the 1943-44 Year Book. Due to pressure on space, it was found impossible to publish this article at that time.