

STEEL



BEACONS OF INDUSTRY—By day and by night America's steel furnaces blink their message of insatiable hunger for more ore and more flux to transmute into iron; and their fires, flaring into the sky, are flaming banners of faith in the nation's future.

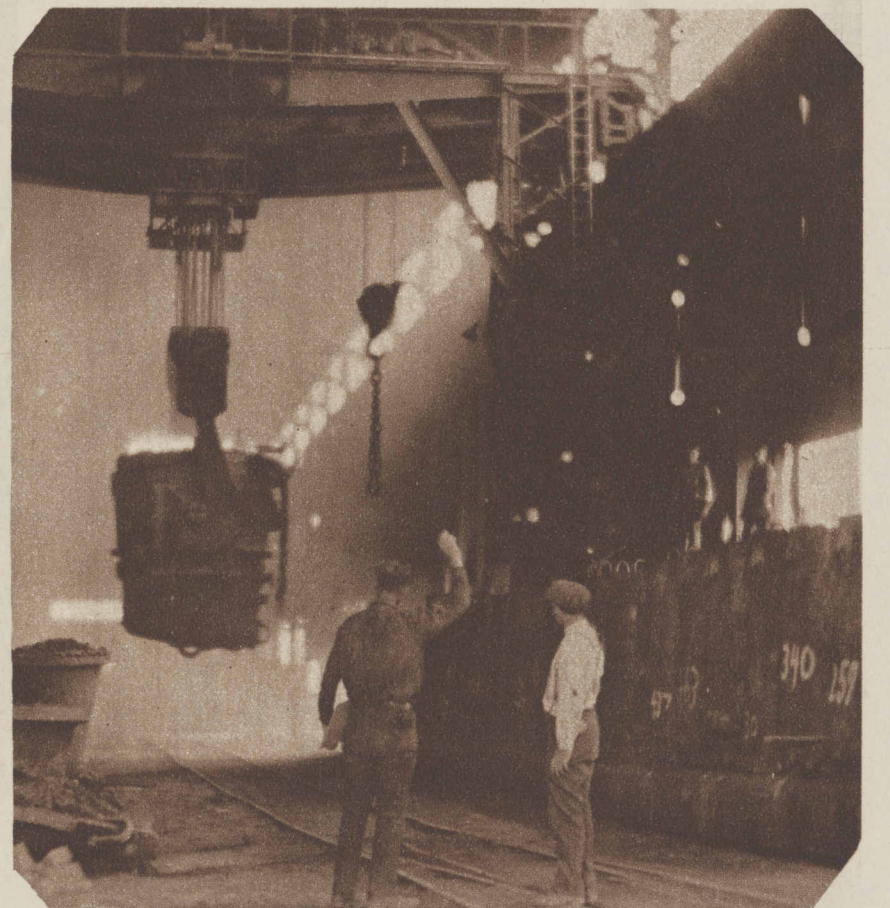
RHYTHM—Silhouetted by the glare of the furnace, grime-streaked, sweat-soaked toilers swing a long, heavy rod with perfect co-ordination in the open hearth "tapping out" operation. When the task is finished molten steel gushes into the pouring ladle.



A RIVER OF MOLTEN METAL—The tapping operation, one of the most dramatic and spectacular moments of the steel worker's routine, has been completed, and the liquid steel flows into the gigantic pouring ladle, which has a capacity of many tons.



THE FLARES OF AN EERIE REALM—Flowing slowly down a bed of sand into submarine-shaped ladles, the stream of molten iron lights the steel mill with a fierce and unearthly glare.



"TAKE IT AWAY!" is the cry to the craneman overhead when the open hearth furnace has been drained of the last drop of liquid metal; and the smoke-blackened crane, a grotesque monster moved by unseen force, swings away another flaming burden.



RIBBONS OF GOLD—Under slanting sunshine, man and machine pull fat steel rods through graduated holes, and the metamorphosis of steel wire is completed.



THE STRENGTH OF STEEL—A silhouette symbolizing the might of the nation's basic industry.



DAYTIME IN THE STEEL MILL—Sunshine pours down on workers at the "soaking pit," where ingots are reheated before rolling operations.
(Hutchinson photos, from Colorado Fuel and Iron company.)