

had gone to the locality from whence originated part of that city's water supply, and he found that trees were being planted all around the smaller streams. In explanation of this Mr. Hensall said it had been demonstrated that every square foot of ground in an area covered with trees held at least 35 per cent. more water for a fortnight after rain than did a square foot of land devoid of trees. This meant that by judicious tree-planting the great city of Leeds was increasing the capacity of its reservoir by 35 per cent.

PRESERVE YOUR BELTS.

There are thousands of belts standing idle at the present time in mills and factories all over the country. Nothing weakens belting quicker than to let it hang for any length of time in one position. It readily dries out and loses its pliability when not being used, and when started in operation again it commences to slip over the pulleys to such an extent that the heat generated very often burns the surface, making it hard and slippery.

When an establishment is closed down the first thing that should be done is to relieve the belting of all strain if possible, and give it a coating of a good preservative. There are a number of these preservatives on the market, and the outlay will be repaid in the efficiency of the belting when the plant is started again.

Through the courtesy of the F. S. Walton Company, of Philadelphia, Pa., we are able to make a very liberal offer to our readers. They have assured us of their willingness to send a can of their Oxoilox belt dressing free of charge to any belt user, merely as an advertisement. In this way you will have an opportunity to test its merits without it costing you one cent. You run no risk, as Oxoilox is made from the highest grade neatsfoot oil, and is therefore a splendid leather tonic; it adds new life to old and practically worn out belts, making them limber up, grip the pulleys and run for years. Mention this paper when writing, stating number and average size of belts in use.

The Smart-Turner Machine Co., of Hamilton, are continually booking orders. Among their recent orders is one for a duplex pump for the new dredge for Toronto harbor, and underwriter fire pump for G.T.R. Co., and a seven-ton hand-power travelling crane for the Galetta Electric Light and Milling Co., of Ottawa.

The Haskett-Moore invention which claims to have discovered a direct method for treating iron ore and converting it into iron and steel by one continuous process has, it is reported, sold its Canadian patent right guaranteeing a reduction in cost of 17½ per cent. as against present methods.

MARKET CONDITIONS.

Toronto, April 14th, 1908.

Business for the week has been fairly active and prices steady in most lines. Cement, lumber and other building supplies maintain their prices at a fair demand. There is a good demand for manufacturers' supplies, and the volume of business in sight for those lines is encouraging. The opening weeks of April have developed a little more business, and it is believed that a more active buying period will be seen in the course of a few weeks.

American Bessemer Sheet Steel.—Fourteen-gauge, \$2.45; 17, 18, and 20-gauge, \$2.60; 22 and 24-gauge, \$2.65; 26-gauge, \$2.80; 28-gauge, \$3.

Antimony.—Quiet, but inquiries are coming in more freely; we quote 10 to 11 cents.

Bar Iron.—\$2 base, from stock to the wholesale dealer.

Beams and Channels.—\$2.50 to \$2.75, according to size and quantity; angles, 1¼ by 3-16 and larger, \$2.55; tees, \$2.80 to \$3 per 100 pounds. Extra for smaller sizes.

Boiler Heads.—25c. per 100 pounds advance on boiler plate.

Boiler Plates.—¼-inch and heavier, \$2.50. Supply probably adequate and quotations still firm.

Boiler Tubes.—Lap-welded steel, 1¼-in., 10c.; 1½-in., 9c. per foot; 2-in., \$9.10; 2¼-in., \$10.85; 2½-in., \$12; 3-in., \$13.50; 3½-in., \$16.75; 4-in., \$21 per 100 ft.

Building Paper.—Plain, 32c. per roll; tarred, 40c. per roll. Demand up to average for the season.

Bricks.—Common structural, \$9 to \$10 per thousand, wholesale; small lots, \$12; there is a good demand. Red and buff pressed are worth \$18 at works.

Cement.—Price of Canadian makes to the dealer in 1,000 barrel lots and up is \$1.75, in cotton bags, on car, Toronto. The dealers' price to the contractor up to car-load lots without package price, are general at \$1.80 per barrel in cotton bags and \$2 in wood, weight in each case 350 pounds. Most builders are booked for year's supply. Prices firm.

Detonator Caps, 75c. to \$1 per 100; case lots, 75c. per 100; broken quantities, \$1.

Dynamite, per pound, 21 to 25c., as to quantity.

Felt Paper—Roofing Tarred.—Market steady at \$2 per 100 pounds. In moderate request.

Fire Bricks.—English and Scotch, \$32.50 to \$35; American, \$25 to \$35 per 1,000. Demand, moderate.

Fuses—Electric Blasting.—Double strength, per 100, 4 feet, \$4.50; 6 feet, \$5; 8 feet, \$5.50; 10 feet, \$6. Single strength, 4 feet, \$3.50; 6 feet, \$4; 8 feet, \$4.50; 10 feet, \$5. Bennett's double tape fuse, \$6 per 1,000 feet.

Galvanized Sheets—Apollo Gauge.—Sheets 6 or 8 feet long, 30 or 36 inches wide; 10-gauge, \$3.25; 12-14-gauge, \$3.35; 16, 18, 20, \$3.50; 22-24, \$3.70; 26, \$3.95; 28, \$4.40; 29 or 10¼, \$4.70 per 100 pounds. Stocks very low.

Ingot Copper.—Has been fluctuating abroad, and a good deal sold for forward delivery in the belief that prices are going up. Local price continues at 14 to 14½c.

Iron Pipe.—Black, ¼-inch, \$2; ¾-inch, \$2.25; 1-inch, \$2.72; 1¼-inch, \$3.68; 1½-inch, \$5.28; 2-inch, \$8.64; 2½-inch, \$11.50; 3-inch, \$18.40; 3½-inch, \$24.15; 4-inch, \$30.40; 4½-inch, \$34.55; 5-inch, \$38; 5½-inch, \$43.50; 6-inch, \$56. Galvanized, ¼-inch, \$2.85; ¾-inch, \$3.05; 1-inch, \$3.57; 1¼-inch, \$4.83; 1½-inch, \$6.93; 2-inch, \$9.45; 2½-inch, \$11.34; 3-inch, \$15.12.

Lead.—Holding its own at \$4.25. Easier in England.

Lime.—In plentiful supply no very active movement. Price for large lots at kilns outside city 21c. per 100 lbs. f.o.b. cars; Toronto retail price 35c. per 100 lbs. f.o.b. car.

Lumber.—The following are quotations for lumber suitable for making forms for concrete, per 1,000 feet f.o.b., shipping points; hemlock, 2-inch plank, \$16; 2 x 4 scantling, \$12; spruce, good mill culls, 2-inch, \$14. For dressing one or two sides the prices will be about \$1.25 in advance of quoted prices, and for dressing and matching about \$1.75.

Nails.—Wire, \$2.55 base; cut, \$2.70; spikes, \$3.15.

Pitch.—Fair demand at 75c. per 100 lbs.

Pig Iron.—More pig is selling; Summerlee quotes: No. 1, \$25.50; No. 3, in car load lots, \$22 to \$23 here; Glengarnock, \$25.50; Clarence, \$20; No. 1 Cleveland, \$20 to \$22; Old Country market firm.

Steel Rails.—80-lb., \$35 to \$38 per ton. The following are prices per gross ton; Montreal, 12-lb. \$45, 16-lb. \$44, 25 and 30-lb. \$43.

Sheet Steel.—In moderate supply; 10-gauge, \$2.65; 12-gauge, \$2.70.

Tar.—Market unsettled, \$3.50 per barrel the ruling price.

Tank Plate.—3-16-in., \$2.65.

Tin.—Irregular abroad, but higher on the whole; price here 33 to 34c.