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## Montreal Hardware Market.

Business in heavy iron and metals shows no improvement. A few small lots of Scotch pig have been moving and some Nova Scotia iron. Bar iron is quiet. There have been offers from the lower provinces of this article, but the makers here do not look for any serious competition from that section sufficient to seriously affect prices here. Tin plates are dull, with supplies ample, and Canada plates have an easy tone. Spelter is dull and prices on it would be shaded. There is nothing to report in copper, tin and lead, except complete dullness. We quote:—Summerlee, \$18.50 to 19.00; Eglinton, \$17 to 17.25; Carnbro, \$16.75 to 17.00; Siemens No. 1, \$18; Langloan, \$18.50; wrought scrap No. 1, \$15 to 16; bar iron, \$1.90 to 1.95. Tinplates, cokes, \$3.15 to 3.25; I. C. charcoal, \$3.75 to 4.25; Canada plates, \$2.45; terne plates, \$7.25 to 7.75. Galvanized iron, 4½ to 4¾ for 28 gauge. Copper, 11½ to 13c; ingot tin, 21½ to 22½c; lead at \$2.85; and spelter at \$4.75.

In general hardware business has been fairly active for the week. A few lots of hay baling wire are moving out. Winter goods, such as sleigh bells and skates continue in good demand. A fair movement is to note in nails. Tacks are inactive. A better demand is to note for horseshoes, and consequently for horse nails. Fair orders are still reported also for guns, ammunition and other sporting goods. Plumbing supplies show some life, but building supplies are very dull. Tinware is moving fairly well, but iron and enamelled work is lifeless.

**Leads and Oils**—A steady trade is to note in leads and colors at firm prices. Linseed oil is steady, and there is no change in glass or putty. We quote: Choice brands white lead, (Government standard, \$5 to \$5.25; No. 1, \$4.75; No. 2, \$4.50; No. 3, \$4.25; No. 4, \$4; dry white lead, 5c; red lead, pure, 4½c; do. No. 1, 4½c; zinc, white, pure, \$7.25 to \$2.05, and English, \$2.10 to \$2.25 per c.o.d., ex-wharf. Fire bricks are in fair demand at \$16.50 to \$21 per 1,000.

**Cement**—There was a very good enquiry for cement all week at steady to firm prices. The supply is not over large, and dealers expect a satisfactory ending to the season. We quote: Belgian brands, \$1.95 to \$2.05, and English, \$2.10 to \$2.25 per c.o.d., ex-wharf. Fire bricks are in fair demand at \$16.50 to \$21 per 1,000.

**Coal Oil**—Wholesale grocers are selling at about cost, and refiners have been forced to meet their prices. We quote Canadian at 11½c in cask in Montreal for round lots, and 12c for small quantities. United States petroleum, 16½c in car lots, 17c in 10-barrel lots, 17½c in 5-barrel lots, and 17¾c for single barrels, net cash; United States benzine 23 to 25c; Canadian benzine, 10¾c Petroleum; 12½c Montreal.

**Turpentine, etc.**—The ship chandlers report

a slow demand for naval stores; but prices hold steady. We quote: Turpentine, 46c; resins, \$2.50 to \$5, as to brand; coal tar \$3.75 to \$4; cotton waste, 5½c for colored, and 7 to 10c for white; oakum, 5½ to 7½c, and cotton oakum, 10 to 12c. Cordage—Signal at 9½c for 7-16 and upwards, and 15c for deep sea line. Pare manilla, 11c for 7-16 and upwards, and 12c for smaller sizes. —Gazette, October 19.

## Hides, Wool, Etc.

The Jas. McMillan Co., Minneapolis, speak as follows in their last monthly circular:—

It affords us some satisfaction to inform our customers that trade during the latter part of September showed some improvement, and we now look for a steady demand at fair prices for most articles in our line. Green salted hides and skins have shown more activity, and there is also a little more enquiry for dry stock. We urge our shippers to take advantage of the present increased demand by shipping promptly all goods in our line that they may have on hand.

**Sheep Pelts**—The demand for sheep pelts has been more active for the past two weeks, although prices are practically unchanged, and we look for no advance in value until there is a freer movement in wool.

**Hides**—Although the larger tanners are well supplied with hides for several months ahead, the latter part of the month showed some improvement in demand, and as the quality of the receipts has been better tanners show more inclination to place orders, and we are enabled to secure a little advance in prices. We look for a steady trade at present values, and urge our customers to make frequent shipments. Caution your butcher to use care in taking off hides, so as not to cut them. Proper attention to this matter will save you a deal of money during the course of a year.

**Furs**—But few furs are coming in, and they have but little value, as they are mostly summer caught. With the exception of beaver and muskrat, furs will not be worth trapping until after December 1st. As soon as prices are established for the coming season, we will issue our quotations. We do not look for any reliable information before November.

**Tallow and Grease**—Prime tallow is scarce and firmer. We note a decided advance in prices, and hope our shippers will forward all they have on hand without delay, in order to take advantage of the present active demand. All grades of tallow and grease will meet ready sale at full quotations.

**Ginseng and Seneca**—Since the decline in prices of seneca root the demand has greatly increased, and we are enabled to advance our quotations slightly. Shippers should urge the collectors to harvest the crop early, so as to get it to market while the present active demand continues, as prices will undoubtedly go lower as soon as the export demand is satisfied. We

will pay outside quotations, and possibly a little more, for clean, bright root shipped during the next few weeks. Both ginseng and seneca should be washed clean and thoroughly dried before shipping. See that the tops are cut off close, also.

**Wool**—While the sale of wool in some eastern markets has shown some increase during the past month, prices are practically unchanged. The easier feeling in money has enabled some of the weaker holders to avoid compulsory sales at a sacrifice, and we look for fewer concessions in price from now on. Opinions differ greatly as to what will be done with the tariff on wool, but the general feeling is that prices have touched bottom, and that the entire removal of the existing tariff on wool would not materially affect present prices one way or the other, consequently we have advised our shippers to hold their wool for a time longer, as a partial removal of the import duty and the improved demand that would eventually follow, would have a tendency to stiffen prices. With no prospect of a further decline and a possibility of an improvement, it would be better to hold your wool out of the market for the present.

## Montreal Wholesale Trade.

The Gazette speaks of the wholesale trade situation on Oct. 20 as follows:—"The condition of the general wholesale trade on the whole is fair, although the movement is of smaller dimensions in some lines than dealers like. Buyers as a rule manifest a conservative policy, but this is a blessing rather than evil, provided the abstinence of buyers is not due to unhealthy causes, and there is nothing in the condition of affairs to create this belief. The exceptionally fine weather at present is checking the demand for general dry goods, and it is just possible if it continues much longer that it may have the effect of restricting the aggregate volume of business in this line. The same cause is interfering with the demand for leather. Groceries is undoubtedly active, the chief features being the demand for sugar and the dealing by jobbers in dried raisins and currants who are providing for their wants. The range of values on these have been easy recently, but the market now has a firmer tone in the case of goods for prompt or near future delivery, as the receipts so far have not been heavy, while they are well distributed. Tea and other lines of groceries rule on the dull side. Canned goods rule inactive on the whole, buyers holding off more or less in the case of the staple lines of vegetables, while in salmon and lobsters jobbers are fairly well provided for. There is not much complaint in the matter of payments, but merchants as a rule profess satisfaction with conditions, classing them as healthy on the whole."

Hard coal at Montreal is quoted at \$6.50 for stove and chesnut and \$6 for egg and furnace,