THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMMISSION.

The itinerary of the Technical Education Commission has been completed. The first sitting will be held at Halifax on July 18, 19 and 20, and others as follows:—Lunenburg, July 22; Liverpool and Yarmouth, 23; Digby, 25; Middleton, 26; Kentville and Wolfville, 27; Windsor, 28; Truro, 29; Sydney and district, August 1, 2 and 3; New Glasgow, 5; Pictou, 6; Charlottetown, 7 and 8; Summerside, 10; Amherst, 12; Shediac, 14; Moncton, 15 and 16; Sussex and Hampton, 17; St. John, 18 and 19; Fredericton, 22; and Woodstock, 24.

The commission then will go to the Toronto exhibition.

The Quebec and Ontario dates are: Quebec, September 13th to 15th; Three Rivers, 16th; Sorel, 17th; St. Hyacinthe, 18th; Sherbrooke, 20th; Montreal and Valleyfield, September 21st to 28th; Ottawa and Hull, September 29th to October 3rd; Lachute, October 4th; Smith's Falls, October 5th; Cornwall, October 6th; Brockville, October 7th; Kingston, October 11th; Belleville, October 12th; Peterborough, October 13th and 14th; Toronto, 17th to 20th; Barrie and Orillia, 21st; Hamilton, 24th to 26th; St. Catharines, 27th; Niagara Falls, 28th; Brantford and Paris, October 31st to November 1st; Galt, November 2nd; Berlin and Waterloo, 3rd and 4th; Guelph, 5th and 7th; Stratford, 8th; Woodstock, 9th; London, 10th and 11th; St. Thomas, 14th; Chatham, 15th; Windsor and Walkerville, 16th.

The commission will then go west and stay there till the end of January. On the way back St. Louis, Chicago and Milwaukee will be visited. The commission early in February will go to the Eastern States and then sail for Europe.

MARKET CONDITIONS.

Montreal, July 13th.

Dullness is still the predominating feature of the pig-iron markets in the United States. The northern producers, however, are showing a disposition to resist further declines in price, and are refusing orders because of a difference of 15c. per ton. Just the same it would seem that most orders have been placed at minimum prices. In the south, a slightly easier tone was noticed, although for late deliveries producers are still holding out for a minimum of $11.50 for No. 2 Birmingham. At water points, iron is available at the lowest prices yet reached, although sellers do not seem to be quite so anxious, having no doubt disposed of most of the supplies which they were prepared to dispose of at a sacrifice. Since the first of July there has been further blowing out of blast furnaces, especially of steel companies, and it is thought that the total production is now at a rate of 29,000,000 tons annually. A further curtailment of merchant furnaces seems highly probable, as stocks on furnace banks have increased slightly, although the rate of production has been cut down between four million and five million tons per year from the high point.

While consumption of steel remains about steady, production has gone ahead very rapidly, so that there has been competition between mills. Blowing out of blast furnaces is accordingly the order of the day, and the cutting down of output of both semi-finished and finished material is in progress. It looks as though this condition of affairs would continue until the fall when the demand will again overtake the production. There is competition for orders, and finished material is being shaded $1 to $4 per ton. The output of crude steel as well as pig-iron has been cut down recently at the rate of over 3,000 tons per day. It may be curtailed still further. Reports as to the production of pig-iron during June in the United States shows a falling off.

In Great Britain, there has been practically no change during the past two or three months. The past week has witnessed nothing new; very little export demand is being experienced, although a fair quantity is going out. Home consumption is moderate.

Trade in Canada is quiet, although dealers are not complaining. Canadian furnaces seem to be operating steadily on contracts, and prices show very little alteration. The situation here is just about as it has been for some time past. There is no real activity in buying at the moment, and the trade is waiting more or less upon the conditions on the other side of the border.

The market holds steady at recent prices:—

Antimony.—The market is steady at 8c. to 8¼c.

Bar Iron and Steel.—The market holds dull and steady. Bar iron, $1.90 per 100 pounds; best refined horseshoe, $2.15; forged iron, $2.05; mild steel, $1.90; sleigh shoe steel, $1.90 for 1 x ⅜-base; tire steel, $2.00 for 1 x ⅜-base; toe calk steel, $2.40; machine steel, iron finish, $1.95; imported, $2.20

Building Paper.—Tar paper, 7, 10, or 16 ounces, $1.80 per 100 pounds; felt paper, $2.75 per 100 pounds; tar sheathing, 40c. per roll of 400 square feet; dry sheathing, No. 1, 30 to 40c. per roll of 400 square feet; tarred year will be the largest in the history of the country. Prices on foreign fibre, 55c. per roll; dry fibre, 45c. (See Roofing; also Tar and Pitch). (164).

Cement.—Canadian cement is quotable, as follows, in car lots, f.o.b.,

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