

A SMALL BOY'S DIARY.

There is a certain nine-year-old kid in this city who is keeping a diary. The book was given him last Christmas by a relative, and his father had forgotten all about it until he accidentally found the volume the other day. Curious to see what his small son had written in it, he opened the book and found that the diary had been faithfully kept. Here are a few of the entries:

"I am nine years old to-day. Looked in the glass, but whiskers aint sproutin' yet."

"Sassed a boy. Got lickt."

"Pop borrid ten cents for carfair. that makes \$1.15 he owes me. Wonder if Ile ever get it."

"Jimmie — stole my ball. I lickt him for it."

"Ast Pop for some of my money and he giv me a nickil. I want that doler."

"We feloes got up a base ball club to-day. Ime pitcher. If I had that doler 15 I could get a unaform."

"Pop got paid to-day and giv me my money."

"Mamma borrid a doler. Dam these people anyway. A feloe cant save nothin'."

"Ast Pop about banks. I want to put my money ware carfair aint so skarse."

"Got lickt again."

There was more of this, but "Pop" had read enough. As a result, there was a conference, and now the arrangement is to pay five per cent. a week interest, and settle every payday. The kid got his "unaform."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, May 25th, 1904.

Ashes.—The market is still disposed to ease off a little, and business is light for the season. For first quality of pots, we would quote \$6.10 to \$6.15, and for seconds, \$5.60 to \$5.70. Pearls are altogethers nominal, at \$6 to \$6.25.

Cements and Firebricks.—Receipts of firebricks for week ending May 18th were 178,800, and of cements, 2,250 barrels and 8,500 bags of Belgian, and 420 barrels of English. For week ending to-day, the figures are: 570 barrels of Belgian, and 640 barrels of English, and 121,000 firebricks. Business is a little livelier, and prices are as quoted last week.

Dairy Products.—There has been some little further improvement in cheese quotations, but 8¼c. would be about the extreme figure for prime Westerns. Full grass butter is now coming to hand, and brings about 17c., fine foddors quote at 15 to 16c. The exports of cheese last week amounted to 32,670 boxes, nearly 7,000 less than same week of last year. Shipments of butter were 1,479 packages.

Dry Goods.—Payments are reported to be showing some improvement, and the month of May is expected to pan out much better in this respect than April. City retailers are fairly busy, and some pretty good sorting orders for light summer fabrics are still being placed, but

reports from travellers are to the effect that country storekeepers are carrying over a good many of last winter's goods, and it is hardly probable that fall business will be as good as last year.

Groceries.—The sugar market keeps moving steadily upwards, and local refiners to-day advanced all grades another 5c. a cental, making standard granulated \$4.45, with yellows ranging from \$3.85 upwards. The demand from jobbers is good, a considerable business being reported to-day even at the advance, and there is apparently no anticipation of any break in the raw sugar market in the near future. In other lines there is nothing to note. There is a little better movement, but business cannot be

called brisk. Money is coming in a little more freely.

Hides.—Business in this line is assuming a quiet tone. Beef hides keep fairly steady, No. 1 being bought by dealers at 9c. Receipts of calfskins are declining, but quotations are steady at 13c. for No. 1, and 11c. for No. 2. Lambskins are quoted at 15c. each.

Metals and Hardware.—Receipts of sheets, plates, and other iron products this spring from Britain are reported to show quite a falling off from the figures of last year at this date, and wholesalers in these lines report just a fair business, no special briskness of demand being noticeable. No noteworthy variations are reported in quotations. Domestic bars



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RECORD FOR 1903.

Policies Issued and Taken '03	\$4,278,850	Interest Earned, 1903	\$110,428
" " " " '02	3,098,450	" " " " 1902	84,676
INCREASE 38%		INCREASE 30%	
Business in Force Dec. 31, '03	\$18,023,639	Surplus to Policy-holders, 1903	\$473,963
" " " " '02	15,289,547	" " " " 1902	226,508
INCREASE 18%		INCREASE 109%	
\$2,734,092		\$247,455	

Average Interest Earned, SEVEN per Cent.

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