

STANDARD MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

Head Office, - MARKHAM, Ont.

Authorized Capital, - 500,000
Subscribed Capital, - - 125,000

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Inspector City Agent

The Only Interest Tables

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leading houses, reporting the proportion of paper met at about 65 to 66 per cent.

Raw Furs.—Receipts show some falling off, probably due to the soft weather affecting roads in the interior. With regard to prices there is nothing new, but buyers are sorting pretty closely. We quote: Beaver, large, \$5.50 to \$6.50; medium do., \$4 to \$4.75; choice black bear, large, \$17.50; medium, \$13; small, \$6.50; fisher, \$5 to \$6 for fine dark skins; red fox, \$2.25 to \$4, as to quality and size; silver fox, \$100 to \$200; cross fox, \$5 to \$7; wolverine, \$2.50 to \$5; lynx, \$5 to \$9; marten, \$3 to \$7; mink, \$2 to \$4.50; winter rats, 10 to 15c.; fall ditto, 8 to 11c.; otter, \$18 for dark pelts, ranging down to \$8; coon, black No. 1, \$1.50 to \$2.50, as to size; ordinary dark, \$1 to \$1.75; skunk, \$1.75 to \$1.90 for all black, other kinds, 25c. to \$1.30.

Groceries.—The pretty full stocks laid in by retailers generally before the holidays are now apparently almost run down, as more demand is evident from country buyers, and a better volume of business is reported. The local sugar market is steady at the advance of last week, and outside markets for raw show further tendency to advance. The factory price for standard granulated is \$3.90, with yellows ranging from \$3.20 to \$3.70. Mail advices from Barbados, under date February 26th, just to hand, say that reaping was then general throughout the island, but that the yield of juice from the cane was disappointing. The market then was firm at 12c. first cost, though the only orders placed had been from Newfoundland and the Lower Provinces. A cable yesterday, however, advises an advance of a cent, and present laid down cost is figured at about 30c. The demand for teas is more active, though the high prices act as a check on sales, especially in Indians and Ceylons, which have advanced from 3 to 4c. of late. Other lines present no new features.

Hides.—Receipts of beef hides are now comparatively small. Spring lambs are beginning to come in, and are being bought at 10c. each; sheepskins are still quoted at 75c. For beef hides and calfskins quotations are unaltered.

Leather.—There is nothing specially new in this line, and the demand is comparatively light, with some accumulation of stocks in dongola and fancy leathers. Sole continues very firm, and sales of moderate lots are reported at 24c. for mfrs. No. 2, 24½c. for No. 3 jobbing, and 26c. for No. 2 jobbing.

Metals and Hardware.—The demand in these lines continues good. The great scarcity of pig iron is still unrelieved. Some moderate importations of No. 2 Summerlee are due next week, for which \$25 is being asked; for spring delivery, ex-ship, the same goods are quoted at from \$21 to \$21.50. No supplies are available from domestic furnaces. The Sydney people are utilizing all their own product, the Hamilton works are still shut down, besides having orders in hand to keep them busy some months ahead, and the Midland furnaces are employed on orders for makers of malleable iron goods. It is expected the Londonderry, N.S., furnace, so long idle, will be blown in about June or July. Bars are firm at \$1.95 to \$2, and iron pipe at \$4.81 for inch. In plates and sheets no recent changes are reported. Lead is again advanced to \$3.35, but no revision of lead pipe prices is yet announced; spelter also keeps moving upwards, a sale of a 5-ton lot being noted at \$5.75, and 6c. is asked for jobbing lots; copper is rather firmer at 14½c., and tin is firm at 32½ to 33½c.

Oils, Paints and Glass.—Owing to the late advance in pig lead, the British market for dry, white and red leads is much firmer, but no advance has been established locally in these articles or leads ground in oil. In other lines nothing new is reported. We quote: Single barrels, raw linseed oil, 59c.; boiled, 62c.; net thirty days, or 3 per cent. for four months' terms. Turpentine, 92 to 95c. Olive oil, machinery, 90c.; cod oil, 35 to 37½c. per gallon; steam refined seal, 50 to 53c. per gallon; straw, do., 45 to 47c.; castor oil, 7½ to 8c. for machinery; pharmaceutical ditto, 8½ to 9c.; Lead (chemically pure and first-class brands), \$5.15 to \$5.25; No. 1, \$4.75 to \$4.87½; No. 2, \$4.50; No. 3, \$4.12½; No. 4, \$3.75; dry white lead, 4½ to 5c. for pure; No. 1, ditto, 5c.; genuine red ditto, 4¼ to 4½c.; No. 1 red lead, 4 to 4½c.; putty, in bulk, barrels, \$2; bladder putty in barrels, \$1.90; ditto, in kegs, or boxes, \$2.40; 23-lb. tins, \$2.55; 12½-lb. tins, \$2.65. London washed whiting, 40 to 45c.; Paris white, 75 to 80c.; Venetian red, \$1.50 to \$1.75; yellow ochre, \$1.25 to \$1.50; spruce ochre, \$1.75 to \$2; window glass, \$1.90 to \$2 per 50 feet for first break; \$2 to \$2.10 for second break.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, March 12th, 1903.

Chemicals, Drugs, Etc.—Trade in local drug circles is moderately active, without any noteworthy feature. Prices remain steady. Manchester reports say that the satisfactory state of things recorded in January was continued throughout the following month. Heavy alkalies did a heavy business. Caustic soda is firm. Ammonia soda was in good demand. Sulphate of copper has made a strong advance. Arsenic is firm with a large business passing. In Baltimore, the market for ammoniates has been quite active, with prices well maintained and tankage a little higher.

Dry Goods.—All values of staple goods are remarkably strong. Further advances have been made in the prices of British cotton goods, and a further advance of ½d. also in sateens. There is an impression locally that the reduction recently made in domestic wrapperettes, being made merely for temporary reasons, to keep out United States goods, will soon be rescinded. Trade is quite active, though a slight lull was to be noted following immediately upon the close of the millinery openings, which proved a great stimulus last week.

Flour and Grain.—No particular change has taken place in the situation of flour, and ninety per cent. patents remain steady at \$2.65. Millfeed is about the same, as also is oatmeal. Wheat has dropped about one per cent. per bushel, and is dull at the decline. Barley is down 2c., and but very small demand exists. Oats also have receded about a cent, and the tendency is lower. Peas are 1c. lower with little or no demand. Rye is steady at unchanged figures. Corn and buckwheat show scarcely any movement.

Fruits.—Briskness characterizes the fruit trade, and the demand for oranges very active and no over-supply. California celery is high-priced with stocks practically finished. Florida strawberries are coming in and sell at about 70c. per box. Prices are quoted thus: Apples, per barrel, \$1 to \$2; per basket, 10 to 20c.; cauliflowers, California, \$3 per case; grapes, Malaga, per keg, \$4.50 to \$5.50; bananas, \$1.50 to \$2.50 per bunch; oranges, Jamaica, per barrel, \$5 to \$5.50; per box, \$2.50 to \$3; do., California navel, per box, \$3 to \$3.50; Valencia, \$4.50 to \$5.50 per box for ordinaries, and \$5.50 per box for 714's; cranberries, Cape Cod, per barrel, \$10; do., Jersey, \$10.50; lemons, Messina, \$2.75 to \$3; California, per box, \$3.50 to \$4; sweet potatoes, per barrel, kiln dried, \$5.50.

Groceries.—The recent advance in all grades of sugar increased the immediate demand and the quickened movement has communicated itself to other lines of groceries as well, so that trade in general has been brisker. There is nothing of particular moment to report, however.

Hardware.—On screws the 10 per cent. discount has been dropped. These are an article which have been considered too low for a long time past, but nothing could be done, owing to the attitude of manufacturers in the United States. Now, however, they have got together and advanced their prices, which action has been followed in this country. Further advances of a still more marked character are not at all unlikely. Usually, at this time of the year general trade is rather quiet, but it is this year at least up to the mark, and business forthcoming for the opening of navigation looks very large, and a thoroughly good year is anticipated. Prices are very firm. No great advances are looked for this year, but there will certainly, according to present indications, be no serious declines.

Live Stock.—Dullness continues at the cattle market. On Tuesday everything was sold, but the offerings were less numerous than usual. Few export cattle were in demand, owing to the lack of space in outgoing vessels. Only a light demand exists locally for butchers' cattle, and this condition was rendered worse by the poor quality offering.

Provisions.—Selected lots of butter have gone a little higher, but this is chiefly due to the fact that poor roads throughout the country have lessened the supply. The cheese demand has fallen off a little, but prices remain at 13c. to a fraction higher. The demand for new laid eggs is good, but they have been a little scarce the last few days. Poultry is practically out of the market. For hogs the demand is good. Hog products are firm in sympathy with live hogs, the price for which has gone up.

Wool.—No offerings of fleece are coming into the market, and prices are purely nominal. Pulled wools are steady with a fair demand.