

## Montreal Smelting and Refining Works.

### G. Langwell's Babbit Metal.

This Babbit, or anti friction metal is the best that is manufactured, and is made in numbered grades, containing certain percentages of copper tin, antimony, etc. Every block is stamped, "G. LANGWELL'S BABBIT".  
A trial will convince users of its superiority.

## GEO. LANGWELL & SON,

Metallurgists and Mfrs. Montreal, P. Q.  
N. B. Order through your wholesale house ONLY.

### TRADE AND COMMERCE

COMMERCIAL JOURNAL OFFICE,  
Tuesday Morning, Feb. 6,  
VICTORIA.

Wholesale trade is generally quiet and merchants are preparing for the spring business. January is usually one of the quietest months of the year in most mercantile lines, and people generally are glad it has passed. The sealers have in past years usually fitted out at this time and their trade has been missed by many the past month. December is always a good month with retailers and the extra business given by the sealers was therefore not noticed as much as formerly. There is a general feeling of confidence that there will be a gradual improvement in business from now on. Importers and wholesale merchants are anxiously looking for the announcements that will come re the revision of the tariff, and operations are necessarily restricted until that important measure is settled by the Dominion Parliament. It is a good indication of confidence in this Province that a large Eastern loan company has within the past month established agencies in British Columbia. The calling for tenders by the navy officials for land and water transport in connection with the fortification work at Esquimalt is taken as an indication that the Government intend pushing forward that work this summer. Collections are fair, and the banks are somewhat easier with loans.

The Vancouver *Nous Advertiser* says: "Though in staples trade is fairly steady, business generally is quiet. Collections are very unsatisfactory and all find it hard to get money in. There has been one failure during the week, which was undoubtedly the result of the present depression. Wholesale business is still quiet, and the volume of trade has not been very large during the last week. Prices on the whole continue steady and there is but little to note."

#### DRY GOODS.

The Toronto *Empire* says: "Local jobbing houses report that travellers are sending in about as many placing orders for spring goods as in previous seasons, but that the quantities ordered are smaller than in former years. It has been held by some that the lighter placing orders indicates a light season's business, the line of argument taken being that if a retailer does not buy liberally at the beginning of the season, a lack of purchasing power is indicated, and that only in unusual instances does his ability to buy

increase as the season advances. This view, however, is not generally held. Other jobbers say that the unusual conditions prevailing just now must be taken into account, and if so, it will be apparent that the lighter placing orders are due to hesitancy rather than inability to purchase. The pending revision of the tariff has without doubt, as noted in this column last week, caused all branches of the trade to proceed cautiously. The wholesale trade especially is disinclined to enter into new engagements on any large scale, and the retail trade appear to be proceeding on the same line. The trade as a whole, however, is not suffering from this curtailment. The consumer will buy none the less if stocks on retail shelves are comparatively light at the opening of the spring season, and with present facilities for repeating it is an easy matter to enlarge stocks, both in the hands of retailers and wholesale houses, should the demand from consumers require it. The consolatory feature is that the absence of speculation reduces the probability of bad debts, and this, of course, is a very important matter. As usual at this season importations are coming to hand freely and forward orders are being filled. Business is coming almost entirely through travellers, house buying not having begun to any extent. A few buyers, however, have been about, and in addition to placing spring orders have done some desultory sorting. Prices remain steady for all staple lines. Payments are rather slow."

#### GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

There is very little fine Eastern creamery on the market and stocks are being held firm at 30c, to which figure prices were advanced last Friday. It is not probable that stocks of Eastern creamery will be replenished for the declining butter market in California now makes that the most profitable market in which to purchase. There has been a drop in the price of sugar since our last review. The B. C. Sugar Refinery lowered their prices all round 2c, making the current figure for dry granulated 4 1/2c. R. P. Rithet & Co., Ltd., met this price and quoted 1 1/2c for Hong Kong granulated. Last week we reported a decline of 1c, so that prices have been lowered 1/2c per lb. during the last two weeks. Canadian meats are reported cheaper but the American market is unchanged.

The Montreal *Trade Bulletin* says: "Butter receipts during the past were 2,369 pkgs., against 1,857 pkgs., for the week previous. Receipts have been a little more liberal during the week, and as the demand has slackened off somewhat, owing to the recent advance in prices quoted by us last week, the market is not quite as firm and bullish as it was. Advices from Toronto state that supplies there are heavy, and the surplus stock sent here from that market is not working off as quickly as it might do. It is said that other shipments from England are on the way to Canada. If this be the case, we shall soon have sufficient to supply all wants at easier prices. We quote: Creamery, early made, 23c to 23 1/2c per lb., Creamery, late made, 24c to 25c. For single tubs of selected, 1c per lb. may be added to the above. Receipts of roll

butter have been heavier during the past week, and under a good demand, there has been more doing in rolls than in packed at 20c to 21c. Receipts of cheese during the past week were 211 boxes, against 1,751 boxes for the week previous. Considerable cheese has gone forward recently to England, and if the export movement continues at the present ratio, Canada will be drained of nearly all her stock next month. English buyers are operating on the basis of 11 1/2c to 11 3/4c, with fancy Septembers held firmly at 11 3/4c. It is estimated that 55,000 to 60,000 boxes covers all the cheese there is in the Dominion to-day, more than half of which is said to be sold for English account, and is waiting orders to ship. Australian cheese has commenced to arrive in England rather earlier than expected, and this may account for the check in the recent advance on the other side; but it is said that quantity will not materially effect the sale of Canadian goods."

#### Jobbers quote:

Valencia raisins.....	per lb	\$ 6 @ \$ 7
Malaga raisins.....	per box	3 00 @ 3 25
Currants (barrels).....	per lb	5 @ 5 1/2
" half bbls.....	per lb	5 @ 6
" (cases).....	per lb	5 1/2 @ 7 1/2
Sultana raisins.....	per lb	8 @ 10
Paragon almonds.....	per lb	14 @ 18
Grenoble walnuts.....	per lb	14 @ 18
Filberts.....	per lb	11 1/2 @ 14

#### Dairy produce is quoted:

Butter—Eastern Creamery, tubs.....	29 @ 30
Manitoba dairy.....	00 @ 00
Cheese—Canadian, lb.....	13 @ 14
California.....	16 @ 18
Eggs, case, per doz.....	00 @ 23

#### Smoked meats and lard are quoted:

Hams.....	13 1/2 @ 14 1/2
Breakfast bacon.....	14 1/2 @ 15
Short rolls.....	10 1/2 @ 11 1/2
Dry Salt, long clear.....	10 1/2 @ 11 1/2
Backs.....	13 1/2 @ 13 1/2
Pure Lard, 20lbs, pails.....	14 @ 14 1/2
" " 10lbs, tins.....	14 1/2 @ 14 1/2
" " 5lbs ".....	14 1/2 @ 15
" " 3lbs ".....	14 1/2 @ 15
Lard Compound, 10 lbs.....	11 1/2 @ 00
" " 20 lbs.....	11 @ 00
" " 5 lbs.....	11 1/2 @ 00
" " 3 lbs.....	11 1/2 @ 00

#### Sugar—Jobber's prices 1/2-barrels and kegs in each case being 1/2c higher:

Dry Granulated (China).....	4 1/2
Extra C, China.....	4 1/2
Australian Granulated.....	4 1/2
Dry Granulated.....	4 1/2
Extra C.....	4 1/2
Fancy Yellow.....	4 1/2
Yellow.....	4 1/2
Golden C.....	4
Cubes.....	5 1/2
Powdered.....	6 1/2
Syrups, per lb.....	3
" 1 gal. tins, American (10).....	5 50
" 1/2 " " (16).....	5 35
" 1 " Vancouver.....	5 50
" 1 1/2 " ".....	7 00

#### Jobbers' quotations for Armour Packing Company's brands per lb.:

Helmet brand sugar cured hams, medium	0 16
" " " heavy	0 15 1/2
" " breakfast bacon	0 16 1/2
Fancy Gold Band hams	0 17 1/2
" " breakfast bacon	0 18 1/2
White Label pure leaf lard, tierces	0 14
" " " 50-lb tins	0 14 1/2
" " " 20-lb "	0 14 1/2
" " " 10-lb "	0 14 1/2
" " " 5-lb "	0 14 1/2
" " " 3-lb "	0 14 1/2
Lard compound (tierces)	0 11 1/2