

# STANDARD MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE CO.

Head Office, - MARKHAM, Ont.

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

WM. ARMSTRONG, H. B. REESOR  
President Map. Director  
F. K. REESOR, FRANK EDMAND,  
Inspector City Agent  
Confederation Life Bldg.

## The Metropolitan Fire Insurance Company

CASH-MUTUAL and STOCK

HEAD OFFICE, - TORONTO

Authorized Capital, \$500,000

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weather conditions which interfered with business last winter all over the Dominion.

Groceries.—The movement is moderate but not brisk; collections are reported rather better than in April and May, but some houses say there is room for further improvement. A second reduction of 5c. a cental in sugar quotations was announced by the local refiners last Friday, making the present factory figure for standard granulated \$4.35, with yellows ranging from \$3.75 to \$4.15. The decline somewhat checked the demand from jobbers, but as outside markets for raws are again showing signs of firming up there is a growing inclination to place orders. The first direct molasses cargo from the island is now unloading in the harbor. Prices are weak; and little demand is reported. First cost in Barbados is reported at about 8c., and with the late reduction in duty, quotations are from 23 to 24c. in a jobbing way for last year's crop. Teas are reported quiet, but firm as regards quotations.

Hides.—Apart from an advance of 5c. on lambskins, making the present quotation 25 cents, there is nothing new in this line. Hides and calfskins are both rather dull at former figures.

Leather.—Trading is somewhat slow as regards local demand, as some of the boot and shoe factories are taking stock. Export business in sole is fairly good. There is no sign of any weakening in quotations, and dry hides are reported firmer in American markets.

Metals and Hardware.—The markets for general metals seem to have taken an

all-round weak turn. Copper is notably lower at 13 to 13½c., lead is weaker at \$3.15, spelter also is down to \$5.50 in a jobbing way, and antimony to 7¼ to 7½c.; ingot tin is easy at 30½ to 31c. Trading in pig-iron is slow, and there is comparatively little coming in now. We quote No. 1 Summerlee at \$19.50 in moderate lots; No. 3 Middlesboro, \$17; Londonderry, \$19. Bars rule easy at \$1.65 to \$1.70; iron pipe is lower at \$4.30 for inch. Nails, wire, horse shoes, etc., are unchanged, nor are there any variations to note in tinplates, Canada plates, etc. Terne plates, which were scarce, are in better supply, and are easier at \$6.25 to \$6.40.

Oils, Paints, Glass, etc.—Business in these lines, which has been very fairly maintained since opening of navigation, is now showing some signs of slackening up with the approach of mid-summer. Turpentine is again a little easier, the quotation being now 82½c. for single barrels. Linseed continues easy, with sales reported at almost any price; 45c. and 48c. are the supposed regular quotations for raw and boiled, respectively. Pure white lead is quoted at \$4.40 to \$4.50, but is also still sold at much cut prices. The change in the tariff, which provides a 60 per cent. preference in favor of glass of English manufacture, and which, it is claimed, will operate entirely in favor of one house, all the others handling Belgian glass, has raised a general storm of protest in the trade, and an influential deputation of wholesalers was in Ottawa Monday to lay the matter before Mr. Fielding, who promised to give the question further consideration.

### TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, June 15, 1904.

Chemicals, Drugs, etc.—Quotations are nominally the same as those mentioned last week, and new features are lacking. Trade may be described as fair to good. In New York trade is steady. Quinine is meeting with a fair enquiry, but opium continues as dull as ever. Silver nitrate is ½c. lower owing to declining cost of production. In Great Britain, business, both for the home trade and for export, is on the dull side.

Flour and Grain.—An easier market prevails, owing to lower cables from Europe. The ruling quotation for ninety per cent. patents is \$3.65 to \$3.70, in buyers' bags, middle freights. Manitoba flour keeps steady. Millfeed is firm, and no change has occurred in oatmeal. No changes whatever have occurred in grains, but little or no business is being done.

Fruits and Vegetables.—As the smaller fruits come forward in greater quantities the market for tropical products drops off a little, though prices retain a fair amount of firmness. A few Canadian strawberries are in the market, and fetch about 15c., though absolutely first ar-

*Merchants*  
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**INSURANCE CO.**

**CAPITAL AND ASSETS**  
OVER

**HALF A MILLION**

~ HEAD OFFICE ~

**TORONTO.**

Agents Wanted in All Unrepresented Districts.

rivals realized considerably more. Quotations range about as follow: Apples, \$1.25 to \$3 per barrel, according to grade and quality; cocoanuts, \$4.25 per sack; oranges, California navels, \$3.50 to \$4.50; Valencias, large, \$7; ordinary, \$6; Sorrentos, \$3; lemons, Messinas, 360's, \$2.50 to \$3; 300's, \$2.50 to \$3; Sorrentos, \$3 to \$3.50; bananas, 8's, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bunch; 1st, \$2 to \$2.50; dates, Sair, 3¼c. per lb.; Hallowee, 4c.; figs, 8 to 12c.; tap figs, 3¼c.; Egyptian onions, \$2.50 to \$3 per sack; tomatoes, \$3 to \$3.50 per crate; pineapples, Floridas, 12's, \$4.50; 24's, \$3.75; 30's, \$3.25; 36's, \$3; 42's, \$3; Havanas, \$3 to \$3.50; strawberries, Canadian, 15 to 18c.; southern, 16 to 18c.; watermelons, 35c. each.

Groceries.—The prices of all grades of sugars dropped 5c. per hundred since last report. Business in that line is quite good, while in general groceries it is normal for this time of the year. Teas are in good demand at brisk rates. Canned goods retain their firmness. In fish, sardines may be said to be out of the market altogether, though we note that goods described under that heading are being pushed by some of the retail stores at prices ranging from 50 to 100 per cent. less than the wholesale rates at which they were last sold, weeks or months ago.

Hides and Skins.—A certain degree of scarcity exists, especially for good hides. The market as a consequence is quite firm. Sheepskins are firm at \$1.25, while calfskins are steady. Tallow has made no further changes. The leather trade is on the quiet side just now.

Provisions.—Butter offerings are large, and many held goods are coming in, which do not sell very readily. For new grass butter, however, the demand is fairly brisk. For cheese the improved demand which set in two or three weeks ago seems to continue pretty well in force. Eggs are in good demand at 15c. for new-laid. Trade in hog products has improved, and with continued warm weather should become still better.

Wool.—Warm weather has led to more liberal offerings, which meet with a fairly good response, though there has been hardly any export enquiry as yet.