TELEPHONY.

Nova Scotia.

LUNENBURG. — The telephone line extending from Barss Corner through Maplewood and Parkdale is nearing completion.

Ontario.

SEELEY'S BAY.—The Leeds Rural Telephone Company are extending their lines into Pittsburg.

WATERFORD.—The Waterford Council has passed a by-law granting a franchise to the Norfolk Telephone Co.

British Columbia.

CRANBROOK.—A telephone company has been formed in Cranbrook to be known as the Kootenay Telephone Lines, Limited, which will be capitalized for $200,000. They have purchased the Cranbrook Telephone Company's system and will operate within the boundaries of British Columbia. They have a by-law before the city of Fernie which received its first reading October 8th, for the purpose of installing a new telephone system in that city and through the Pass. It is the intention later on to connect with Alberta. This by-law for the installing of a new telephone system in the city to replace that destroyed by fire has received its second reading, and will on the 26th go before the people for a vote.

PERSONAL.

MR. R. H. INGRAM, formerly of the G.T.R. has been appointed General Manager of the Cananea, Yaqui River and Pacific Railway Company.

MR. JOHN COULTER, of Brantford has been appointed General Manager of the Ontario Portland Cement Company, in the place of the late Mr. W. G. Elliott.

MR. R. LANGDON FRENCH, formerly of the C.P.R. engineering staff, Muskoka, Ont., and more recently of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway, is in Toronto on a visit.

MR. N. B. PRICHARD has opened an office as a Chemical and Mining Engineer at 40 Quebec Street, Sherbrooke, Que., giving special attention to sulphuric acid, smelting and power plants.

MARKET CONDITIONS.

Montreal, October 21st, 1908.

One of the foremost authorities of the United States, says that he does not think that the railways are going to venture far in their purchases or the manufacturers risk their capital very heavily while the tariff question remains unsettled. If it were not for that, a much more rapid recovery would have taken place. This seems to represent fairly the opinion of those best informed on the pig-iron situation of the United States. Demand has been exceptionally dull in both Northern and Southern irons, during the past week, although enquiry for delivery during the fore part of 1909 shows a slight increase. It is not thought, however, that a buying movement will be inaugurated before the elections. Melters are fairly well covered until the end of the year, and there is sufficient stock to take care of any that are not fully covered. Some strong opinions have lately been expressed to the end that the election of Mr. Bryan, as president, would be injurious to the trade and interests of the country.

Last reports from England and Scotland show a quieter tone to the pig-iron market. Scotch makers are holding firmly to established prices and appear to be able to dispose of their output without difficulty. On the other hand, stocks of Cleveland warrants are showing a gradual increase and prices for these are slightly easier. The news that both English and Scotch pig-iron makers are blowing in their furnaces is confirmed and seems to indicate that the future will show a satisfactory business and that improved conditions will take care of the output. Both fuel and ore show a tendency to advance, and this would sooner or later be followed by proportionate advances in the price of pig-iron. There is considerable movement in pig-iron, in the Montreal market, as is usual at this time of the year. New orders are few and far between, however, and mostly go to Canadian makers. The market is steady and dull.

The market holds very steady, as follows:—

Antimony.—The market is easier, at 9 to 9½c.

Bar Iron and Steel.—Prices are steady all round, and trade is decidedly dull. Bar iron, $1.90 per 100 pounds; best refined horseshoe, $2.15; forged iron, $2.05; mild steel, $2.00; sleigh shoe steel, $1.90 for 1 x ⅜-base; tire steel, $1.95 for 1 x ⅜-base; toe calk steel, $2.40; machine steel, iron finish, $2.10.

Boiler Tubes.—The market is steady, quotations being as follows:—2-inch tubes, 8½c.; 2½-inch, 10c.; 3-inch, 11½c.; 3½-inch, 14½c.; 4-inch, 19c.

Building Paper.—Tar paper, 7, 10, or 16 ounce, $1.50 per 100 pounds; felt paper, $2.25 per 100 pounds; tar sheathing, No. 1, 50c. per roll of 400 square feet; No. 2, 35c.; dry sheathing, No. 1, 40c. per roll of 400 square feet, No. 2, 26c. (See also Roofing.)

Cement—Canadian and American.—Canadian cement, $1.65 to $1.75 per barrel, in cotton bags, and $1.90 and $2.05 in wood, weights in both cases 350 pounds. There are four bags of 87½ pounds each, net, to a barrel, and 10 cents must be added to the above prices for each bag. Bags in good condition are purchased at 10 cents each. Where paper bags are wanted instead of cotton, the charge is 2½ cents for each, or 10 cents per barrel weight. American cement, standard brands, f.o.b., mills, $1.85 per 350 pounds; bags extra, 10c. each, and returnable in good condition at 7½c. each.

Cement—English and European.—English cement is steady at $1.70 to $1.90 per barrel in jute sacks of 82½ pounds each, sacks extra, and $2 to $2.20 in wood, per 350 pounds, gross. Belgian cement is quoted at $1.60 to $1.75 per barrel in bags, bags extra, and $1.75 to $1.85 per barrel, in wood.

Chain.—The market is steady as follows:—¼-inch, $5.30; 5-16-inch, $4.05; ⅜-inch, $3.65; 7-16-inch, $3.45; ½-inch, $3.20; 9-16-inch, $3.15; ⅝-inch, $3.05; ¾-inch, $3; ⅞-inch, $2.95; 1 inch, $2.95.

Copper.—The market is steady at 14¼ to 15c. per pound. Demand continues limited.

Explosives and Accessories.—Dynamite, 50-lb. cases, 40 per cent. proof, 18c. in single case lots, Montreal. Blasting powder, 25-lb. kegs, $2.25 per keg. Special quotations on large lots of dynamite and powder. Detonator caps, case lots, containing 10,000, 75c. per 100; broken lots, $1. Electric blasting apparatus:—Batteries, 1 to 10 holes, $15; 1 to 20 holes, $25; 1 to 30 holes, $35; 1 to 40 holes, $50. Wire, leading, 1c. per foot; connecting, 50c. per lb. Fuses, platinum, single strength, per 100 fuses:—4-ft. wires, $3.50; 6-ft. wires, $4; 8-ft. wires, $4.50; 10-ft. wires, $5. Double strength fuses, 1$ extra, per 100 fuses. Fuses, time, double-tape, $6 per 1,000 feet.

Galvanized Iron.—The market is steady. Prices, basis, 28-gauge, are:—Queen's Head, $4.40; Comet, $4.25; Gorbal's Best, $4.25; Apollo, 10¾ oz., $4.35. Add 25c. to above figures for less than case lots; 26-gauge is 25c. less than 28-gauge. American 28-gauge and English 26 are equivalents, as are American 10¾ oz., and English 28-gauge.

Galvanized Pipe.—(See Pipe, Wrought and Galvanized).

Iron.—Canadian pig iron is offered at $18 for best, down to $17 for lower grades, while imported iron in car lots, on cars, on dock, Montreal, is as follows, for larger lots lower prices would be taken: No. 1 Summerlee, $20.25 to $20.75 per ton; No. 2 selected Summerlee, $19.75 to $20.25; Cleveland, $18.50; and No. 3 Clarence, $18; Carron, special, $20.25 to $20.75; Carron, soft, $19.25 to $19.75.

Laths.—See Lumber, etc.

Lead.—Trail lead is weak, but prices lower, at $3.50 to $3.60 per 100 pounds, ex-store.

Lumber, Etc.—Prices on lumber are for car lots, to contractors, at mill points, carrying a freight rate of $1.50. At the moment, the market is exceptionally irregular and prices are uncertain. Red pine, mill culls out, $18 to $22 per 1,000 feet; white pine, mill culls, $22 to $25. Spruce, 1-in. by 4-in. and up, $16 to $18 per 1,000 ft.; mill culls, $14 to $16. Hemlock, log run, culls out, $14 to $16. Railway Ties: Standard Railway ties, hemlock or cedar, 35 to 45c. each, on a 5c. rate to Montreal. Telegraph Poles: Seven-inch top, cedar poles, 25-ft. poles, $1.35 to $1.50 each; 30-ft., $1.75 to $2; 35-ft., $2.75 to $3.25 each, at manufacturers' points, with 5c. freight rate to Montreal. Laths: Quotations, per 1,000 laths, at points carrying $1.50 freight rate to Montreal, $2 to $3. Shingles: Cedar shingles, same conditions as laths, X, $1.50; XX, $2.50; XXX, $3.

Nails.—Demand for nails is moderate, but prices are steady at $2.30 per keg for cut, and $2.25 for wire, base prices

Pipe—Cast Iron—The market is strengthening and dealers look for higher prices shortly. Meantime former quotations hold: $33 for 8-inch pipe and larger; $34 for 6-inch pipe; $34 for 5-inch, and $34 for 4-inch at the foundry. Pipe, specials, $3.10 per 100 pounds. Gas pipe is quoted at about $1 more than the above.

Pipe.—Wrought and Galvanized.—The market is quiet and steady at last week's range: ¼-inch, $5.50 with 63 per cent. off for black, and 48 per cent. off for galvanized; ⅜-inch, $5.50, with 59 per cent. off for black and 44 per cent. off for galvanized. The discount on the following is 69 per cent. off for black and 59 per cent. off for galvanized; ½-inch, $8.50; ¾-inch, $11.50; 1-inch, $16.50; 1¼-inch, $22.50; 1½-inch, $27; 2-inch, $36; 2½-inch, $57.50; 3-inch, $75.50; 3½-inch, $95; 4-inch, $108

Railway Ties.—See lumber, etc.

Roofing.—Ready roofing, two-ply, 60c. per roll; three-ply, 80c. per roll of 100 square feet. (See also Building Paper.)

Rope.—Prices are steady, at 9½c. per lb. for sisal, and 12½c. for Manila.

Shingles.—See lumber, etc.

Spikes.—Railway spikes are in dull demand and prices are lower at $2.40 per 100 pounds, base of 5½ x 9-16. Ship spikes are also dull and steady at $3 per 100 pounds, base of ⅝ x 10-inch and ⅝ x 12-inch.

Steel Shafting.—Prices are steady at the list, less 25 per cent. Demand is on the dull side.

Steel Plates.—The market is steady. Quotations are: $2.15 for 3-16, $2.25 for ⅛, and $2.15 for ¼ and thicker; 12-gauge being $2.30; 14-gauge, $2.05; and 16-gauge, $2.10.

Tar and Pitch.—Coal tar, $4 per barrel of 40 gallons, weighing about 500 pounds; roofing pitch, No. 1, $1 per 100 pounds; pine tar, $4 per barrel of 40 gallons; pine pitch, $4 per barrel of 180 to 200 pounds.

Telegraph Poles.—See lumber, etc.

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Toronto, October 22nd, 1908.

In hardware and metals, there is firmness, with a feeling pervading the hardware trade that prices must soon go higher. Dealers are busy, besides, for in both metals and hardware the demand shows increase. The metal markets in London yesterday were all strong. In the United States it appears that the uncertainty of the election alone keeps back the demand for many structural materials.

Nothing new in bricks, stone, or cement; none of them is active, bricks being perhaps the least quiet. Nor can we report any marked feature of the lumber market. Roofing or covering materials, such as roofing felt, building paper, pitch and tar show distinct activity, which arises in part from new dwellings going up and in part from repairs and additions undertaken in anticipation of winter.

The following are wholesale prices for Toronto, where not otherwise explained, although for broken quantities higher prices are quoted:—

Antimony.—Price unchanged at 8¾c., with more enquiry.

Axes.—Standard makes, double bitted, $8 to $10; single bitted, per dozen, $7 to $9.

Bar Iron.—$1.95 base, from stock to the wholesale dealer.