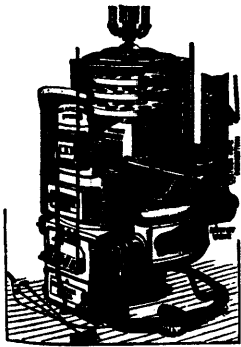
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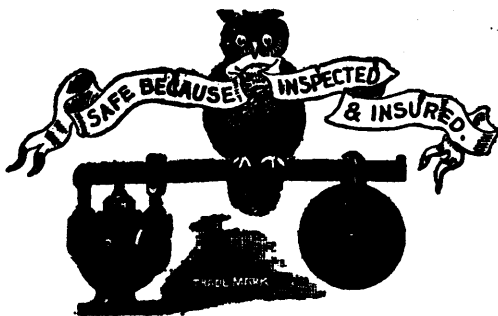
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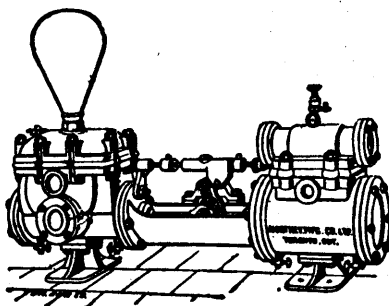
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TORONTO, Ont.

DRY GOODS.—The "tween season" period is hardly over yet, and business rules on the quiet side, but some houses report quite a fair proportion of letter orders. For city retail trade the weather has been too warm. September payments do not as yet show much improvement on the past month, but some parties who follow the run of affairs in the country profess a belief that some improvement in collections is not far off.

GROCERIES.—A better feeling is noted among buyers, and the improvement in the volume of trade is keeping up pretty steadily. There have been some further receipts of new Valencia raisins by mail steamship from Liverpool, but not the quantity expected, and prices are not so easy as some calculated they would be, from 5½ to 7½c. being the asking price, the latter figure for layers. Advices from Denia announce a short crop, but fullest confidence cannot always be placed in these trade reports, and with California fruit available at moderate figures, it is hardly likely prices could be put up very much. Sugars are without recent change, granulated being quoted at refinery at 4½c.; yellows from 3½ to 4c. Complaint is heard of Western houses cutting prices in the country. The New York market is strong, and above our level. Barbadoes molasses is held at 27½c. in lots, car lots 29c., single puncheons 30c., but there is no special demand. Teas are quite as firm, if not firmer than last noted. There is further American enquiry, but the bids made do not meet the views of holders. Some offers cabled to Japan the end of last week have not yet been responded to. In canned vegetables there is still a lack of interest. Lobsters are rather scarce, and are firmer at about \$7.

HIDES AND TALLOW.—The stiffness in hides we noted last week has been further intensified. It is true the American market is rather stronger, but probably the great jealousy between local dealers has more to do with the advanced prices than anything else. The general price for No. 1 green hides being paid by dealers is now 4½c. per lb., though it is hard work to get 5c. from tanners; heavy steers 5c., with some sales to tanners reported of cured at 5½c. Lambskins are worth 45 to 50c. each. Tallow dull, at 5 to 5½c. per pound.

LEATHER.—The local trade is quiet at the moment, for the factories are not doing much. Prices, however, tend to firmness, and tanners are naturally talking in a stiffer tone as hides are firming up. English mail advices just to hand report an improved demand for light waxed splits, and ask consignments. In hemlock sole they report transactions on a more liberal scale. Rough splits are in fair request, and finished stock has sold with more freedom. Buff still low in price. We quote:—Spanish sole, B. A. No. 1, 18 to 20c.; do No. 2 to B. A., 16 to 17c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 17 to 18c.; No. 2, 15½ to 16½c.; No. 1 slaughter, 18 to 20c.; No. 2 do., 17 to 18c.; American oak sole, 39 to 43c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 24 to 26c.; do. heavy, 20 to 24c.; grained, 24 to 26c.; Scotch grained, 25 to 27c.; splits, large, 18 to 15c.; do. small, 10 to 12½c.; calf-splits, 27 to 30c.; calfskins (35 to 40 lbs.), 50 to 60c.; imitation French calfskins, 60 to 70c.; colored calf, American, 23 to 27c.; Canadian, 19 to 21c.; colored pebble cow, 12½ to 13½c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; harness, 18 to 25c.; buffed cow, 9 to 11c.; extra heavy buff, 12½c.; pebbled cow, 8 to 12c.; polished buff, 9 to 11c.; glove grain, 9 to 11c.; rough, 16 to 18c.; russet and bridle, 40 to 50c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—We do not find much to make note of in these lines. We hear of some moderate sales of domestic iron at \$16.50 to 16.75, with a little firmer tone; for Summerlee \$20.50 is asked for small lots ex-ward. Scotch warrants are firmer at 44/1d., and there are now only two furnaces in blast in Scotland. The stock in Connal's yard Sept. 8th was 300,697 tons, as against 334,582 tons at same date last year. Canadian bars are being cut to some extent, and \$1.70 is now the outside figure even for small lots. Some holders of tinplates seem to think that better prices will prevail shortly, but quotations are unchanged as yet. We quote:—Coltness pig iron, none here; Calder, No. 1, \$19.50; Calder No. 3, \$18.50; Summerlee, \$19.50 to 20.00; Eglington, \$18.50; Gartsherrie, none here; Langloan, none here; Carnbroe, \$18; Shotts, none here; Middlesboro, No. 3, \$17; Niagara No. 2, \$18 to 18.50; Siemens, pig, No. 1, \$16.50 to \$16.75; Ferrona, No. 1, \$16.50 to 16.75; machinery scrap, \$14.50 to 15.00; common do., \$10.00