

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, July 17, 1906.

Ashes.—Receipts during the past few weeks have been somewhat larger than earlier in the season; but there is no accumulation in store, and prices are steady. No. 1 pots from the bulk of the offerings, and the general quotation is \$5.50, though a choice lot would doubtless realize 5c. better; second pots are scarce, and quote at about \$5; No. 1 pearls realize \$6.75 to \$7.

Cements and Firebricks.—The aggregate of business in these lines is very fair; the demand for building purposes in this city alone being considerable. We quote Belgian cement at \$1.70 to \$1.90; English ditto, \$1.90 to \$2.05; Canadian, \$1.90; firebricks, \$17 to \$21 per thousand.

Dairy Products.—Liverpool cables this week are firmer by from 6d. to 1s. per cwt., and local quotations are again fractionally firmer. Some holders are asking 12c. for finest Westerns, but 11½ to 11¾c. are the general figures; Easterns, 11½ to 11¾c. Shipments to Britain last week were heavy, thirteen steamships taking out 708,681 boxes, as against 94,959 boxes for the corresponding period of 1905. The market for butter is quiet, with an easier undertone, and some factorymen are said to be devoting more attention to cheese. Finest creamery makes are quoted at 20 to 21c.; good dairy butter is in better demand at 17½ to 18c. Last week's exports aggregated 18,222 packages, as against 14,782 packages for the same week of a year ago, but the total shipments for the season to date are some 47,000 packages short of the figures for the corresponding period of 1905.

Dry Goods.—Payments in this line falling due on the 4th, were well protected, and some leading houses report from 85 to 87½ per cent. of their customers' paper as being paid. Travellers are now pretty well through the first fall trip, and the wholesale warehouses display considerable activity in the dispatch of goods for the autumn trade. No variations are reported in prices of domestic fabrics, but the strike of the operatives at the Magog mills may materially affect

the deliveries of prints. English carpet manufacturers give notice of an advance of from 5 to 10 per cent. in Miltons and Brussels.

Groceries.—For general groceries the demand at the moment is not very brisk, but there is an active distribution of sugars, and in this line there is a very strong market, with a general expectation that prices may be advanced at any moment. Molasses remains firm at 30c. for Barbadoes in single puncheons, and local stocks are low. Japan teas are firmer, and the Chinese are reported to be eager buyers of all fannings and siftings, to be utilized in their brisk tea trade with Russia. All lines of dried fruits continue very scarce, and high in price. Owing to a material falling off in the demand from the North-West for canned tomatoes, the jobbing price has been reduced to \$1.20; other lines of canned goods are held at firm figures.

Hides.—Receipts in all lines are somewhat freer, but there is no accumulation of stock, the demand being fairly good, and prices are steady. Dealers continue to buy beef hides on the basis of 12½c. for No. 1, and calfskins at 15c. for No. 1, charging the usual advance to tanners. Lambskins bring 35c. each.

Leather.—While the local demand is not over-active, there is an excellent export business being done in sole and splits, and values are all very firmly held. Splits are now quoted as high as 29 to 30c. Other lines of black leathers and dongolas remain at old figures. Sole is sold on the basis of 20½c. for No. 2 Mils.

Metals and Hardware.—The discount on lead pipe has been reduced from 20 to 15 per cent. In other lines there have been no very important changes since a week ago. Ingot tin has shown some fluctuation, and is now quoted at 42 to 43c.; lead is a little easier, at \$4.30 to \$4.35; copper, 21 to 21½c.; antimony easier at 28 to 29c. Pig-iron, iron bars, nails, wire, etc., remain at last quoted figures. Iron pipe is quoted nominally at \$4.39 per 100 feet for inch, but more or less cutting is reported.

100% — 100%

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are all gilt-edged, as may be seen from the following list:

LEDGER ASSETS	PERCENTAGE
Mortgages	\$4,265,533 86 48.22
Debentures and First Mortgage	
Bonds	3,245,401 89 36.68
Loans on Policies	1,017,480 99 11.50
Cash on hand and in Banks	261,960 60 2.96
Real Estate	56,281 06 .64
Tot'l Led. Assets	\$8,846,658 42 100%

Oils, Paints and Glass.—Linsed oil is a little easier, raw being now quoted at 51 to 52c. Fish oils are little wanted; new steam-refined seal is quoted at 39 to 40c.; cod oil, 30 to 35c., as to quality and lot. Castor is steady at 8 to 9c. Turpentine, 85 to 86c. Shellacs are dearer. Leads, putty, glass, etc., show no change.

Wool.—Millmen are showing some little revival of interest in the market probably due to the lower values developed at the London wool sales, which opened this week, and there seems to be a feeling that the late high prices have reached the limit, and that some reaction is now probable.

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Assurances issued and paid for in cash..... \$18
Increase over 1904.....
Cash Income.....
Increase over 1904.....
Assets at 31st December.....
Increase over 1904.....
Increase in Surplus.....
The Company completed the placing of all policies on the 3½% basis, although the law allows until 1913 to do this, requiring.....

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