

MARKET CONDITIONS.

Following the quotations of the various articles listed in the markets will be found in brackets numbers, thus (10). These numbers refer to the list number of advertisers on page 3 of this issue and will assist the reader to quickly find the name and address of a firm handling any particular article. Buyers not able to secure articles from these firms at the prices mentioned will confer a favor by letting us know.

Montreal, January 20th, 1910.

In the United States markets, pig-iron shows an upward tendency, generally speaking, although prices have altered but little. Enquiry has broadened, in some cases, and now covers the second half of the year. Negotiations for a heavy tonnage of steel making grades are again going on, and it reported that considerable business has already been closed. Foundry grades are less active, but the outlook is hopeful from a seller's standpoint. January is usually a very poor month in the trade but from present appearances it will not be much if any behind November and December. It is yet rather early to make any positive statement regarding the probable tonnage that will be disposed of during the month. Some sellers who were expecting \$17, Valley furnace, a short time ago, are now securing \$17.25 to \$17.50 for the second quarter and it is said that they are asking \$18 for delivery during the second half of the year. Whether this price will be reached or not is still to be seen, but there is every indication that the price will at least be higher in the second than in the first half. Reliable reports from the Cleveland district, the centre for Lake Superior ores state that the tonnage already sold for 1910 delivery far exceeds the expectations of the most optimistic, two or three of the leading forms having already sold their entire production. It is estimated that the total sales of Bessemer and non-Bessemer ores aggregate fully as much, already, as the sales made during the entire season of 1909.

European markets continue to show the strong tone which recently developed and it would appear as if the general outlook throughout not only Great Britain but Germany Belgium and France is decidedly better than it has been for many months past. Cable advices continue to show an upward trend in prices with a disposition on the part of holders to ask for advances.

Enquiries received locally reflect improved conditions throughout the whole country, and also the opinion of users of pig that the present is a good time to cover for their requirements. Good orders have been booked during the past week or ten days and enquiries now being received by importers are very large. It is practically impossible to contract for Canadian made pig-iron for delivery during the first half of the year. Consequently consumers have to look to outside sources. It is anticipated that the imports of the year will considerably exceed those of 1909. People who are delaying purchasing will almost certainly, have to pay advanced prices, as import of iron is constantly edging upwards and will probably continue in its present course for some time.

This week, dealers in different lines of iron and steel products have no alterations to report. The tone is firm, in sympathy with the basic markets but the supply is still fully equal to demand, and as a result the general level of prices is unaltered.

Following is the list of prices:—

Antimony.—The market is steady at 8 to 8½c. (111).

Bar Iron and Steel.—The market promises to advance shortly. Bar iron, \$1.85 per 100 pounds; best refined horseshoe, \$2.10; forged iron, \$2; mild steel, \$1.85; sleigh shoe steel, \$1.85 for 1 x ¾-base; tire steel, \$1.00 for 1 x ¾-base; toe calk steel, \$2.35; machine steel, iron finish, \$1.90; imported, \$2.20. (111, 119).

Building Paper.—Tar paper, 7, 10, or 16 ounces, \$1.80 per 100 pounds; felt paper, \$2.75 per 100 pounds; tar sheathing, 40c. per roll of 400 square feet; dry sheathing, No. 1, 30 to 40c. per roll of 400 square feet; tarred fibre, 55c. per roll; dry fibre, 45c. (See Roofing; also Tar and Pitch). (164).

Cement.—Canadian cement is quotable, as follows, in car lots, f.o.b. Montreal:—\$1.30 to \$1.40 per 350-lb. bbl., in 4 cotton bags, adding 10c. for each bag. Good bags re-purchased at 10c. each. Paper bags cost 2½ cents extra, or 10c. per bbl. weight. (26, 86, 164).

Chain.—Prices are as follows per 100 lbs.:—¼-inch, \$4.90; 5-16-inch, \$4.40; ¾-inch, \$3.70; 7-16-inch, \$3.50; ½-inch, \$3.25; 9-16-inch, \$3.20; ¾-inch, \$3.15; ¾-inch, \$3.10; ¾-inch, \$3.05; 1-inch, \$3.05.

Coal and Coke.—Anthracite, egg, stove or chestnut coal, \$6.75 per ton, net; furnace coal, \$6.50, net. Bituminous or soft coal: Run of mine, Nova Scotia coal, carload lots, basis, Montreal, \$3.85 to \$4 per ton; cannel coal, \$9 per ton; coke, single ton, \$5; large lots, special rates, approximately \$4 f.o.b., cars, Montreal.

Copper.—Prices are strong at 14 to 14½c.

Explosives and Accessories.—Dynamite, 50-lb. cases, 40 per cent. profit, 15c. 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; 6-ft. wires, \$3.54; 8-ft. wires, \$4.08; 10-ft. wires, \$5. Double strength fuses, 4-ft., \$3.75; 6-ft., \$4.20; 8-ft., \$4.81; 10-ft., \$5.37. Fuses, time, double, tape, \$6 per 1,000 feet; explometers, fuse and circuit, \$7.50 each. (83).

Galvanized Iron.—The market is steady. Prices, basis, 28-gauge, are:—Queen's Head, \$4.10; Colborne Crown, \$3.85; Apollo, 10¼ oz., \$4.05.

The New Russell

Official Headquarters
for Convention of
The Canadian
Society of Civil
Engineers

55 Sparks Street
Between Canal and Elgin

Mulligan Brothers
Proprietors

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. (111).

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

Iron.—The outlook is strong. The following prices are for carload quantities and over, ex-store, Montreal, prompt delivery; No. 1 Summerlee, \$21.50 to \$22 per ton; selected Summerlee, \$21 to \$21.50; soft Summerlee, \$20.50 to \$21; Clarence, \$19.50 to \$20; Carron, No. 1, \$21.50 to \$22, and Carron special, \$21 to \$21.50. (111).

Laths.—See Lumber, etc.

Lead.—Prices are about steady at \$3.55 to \$3.65.

Lead Wool.—\$10.50 per hundred, \$200 per ton, f.o.b., factory.

Lumber, Etc.—Prices on lumber are for car lots, to contractors, at mill points, carrying a freight of \$1.50. Red pine, mill culls out, \$18 to \$22 per 1,000 feet; white pine, mill culls, \$16 to \$17. Spruce, 1-in. by 4-in. and up, \$15 to \$17 per 1,000 ft.; mill culls, \$12 to \$14. Hemlock, log run, culls out, \$13 to \$15. 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. (112).

Nails.—Demand for nails is better and prices are firmer, \$2.40 per keg for cut, and \$2.35 for wire, base prices. Wire roofing nails, 5c. lb.

Paints.—Roof, barn and fence paint, 90c. per gallon; girder, bridge, and structural paint for steel or iron—shop or field—\$1.20 per gallon, in barrels; liquid red lead in gallon cans, \$1.75 per gallon.

Pipe.—Cast Iron.—The market is unsettled and uncertain, as dealers are compelled to meet competition from all sources. Prices are easy and approximately as follows:—\$31 for 6 and 8-inch pipe and larger; \$32 for 5-inch and 4-inch at the foundry. Pipe, specials, \$3 per 100 pounds. Gas pipe is quoted at about \$1 more than the above. (74, 188).

Pipe.—Wrought and Galvanized.—Demand is much better and the tone is firm, though prices are steady, moderate-sized lots being: ¼-inch, \$5.50 with 69 per cent. off for black, and 48 per cent. off for galvanized; ¾-inch, \$5.50, with 59 per cent. off for black and 44 per cent. off for galvanized; ½-inch, \$8.50, with 69 per cent. off for black, and 59 per cent. off for galvanized. The discount on the following is 71½ per cent. off for black, and 61½ per cent. off for galvanized; 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.

Plates and Sheets.—Steel.—The market is steady. Quotations are: \$2.20 for 3-16; \$2.30 for ¼, and \$2.10 for ¾ and thicker; 12-gauge being \$2.30; 14-gauge, \$2.15; and 16-gauge, \$2.10. (111).

Rails.—Quotations on steel rails are necessarily only approximate and depend upon specification, quantity and delivery required. A range of

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