

MARKET CONDITIONS.

Montreal, January 30th, 1908.

In the local market, collections are considered fairly satisfactory, more particularly from smaller concerns which have not tied up their capital in extensions or improvements to their plant. Some of the larger establishments are finding it difficult to make prompt payment for the considerable supplies which they must of necessity get in, owing to the action of the banks in declining to give them the same line of credit as heretofore. Inquiries are coming in for a considerable tonnage, and small orders are being placed for delivery during the next two or three months. It is expected that quite a buying movement will take place very shortly, covering the needs of Canadian manufacturers for the spring and early summer months. As a matter of fact, several of the large concerns have already asked prices on quantities running into several thousand tons in the aggregate. Market conditions are practically unchanged, and are largely governed by prices prevailing on English and other imported irons.

Antimony.—The tone of the market is weaker but prices hold steady at 12½ to 13c. per pound.

Bar Iron and Steel.—Mills are prepared to accept very much lower prices than formerly, owing to the absence of demand and the fact that import prices are lower. There has been a decline of fully 10 per cent. all round, the following prices being now quoted: Bar iron, \$2 per 100 pounds; best refined horseshoe iron, \$2.25, and forged iron, \$2.15; mild steel, \$2.10; sleigh shoe steel, \$2.10 for 1 x ¾-base; tire steel, \$2.10 for 1 x ¾-base; toe calk steel, \$2.60; machine steel, iron finish, \$2.15.

Boiler Tubes.—The market holds steady, demand being fair. Prices are as follows: Two-inch tubes, 8 to 8¼c.; 2½-inch, 11c.; 3-inch, 12 to 12¼c.; 3½-inch, 15 to 15¼c.; 4-inch, 19¼ to 19½c.

Cement—Canadian and American.—Canadian cement is generally quoted at \$1.80 to \$1.90 per barrel, in cotton bags, and \$2.10 to \$2.20 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 is steady at \$1.15 per 350 pounds, basis Glens Falls, cotton or paper bags. When the cotton bags are returned in good condition, only 7½ cents is allowed for them. American cement sold at \$2 on track.

Cement—English and European.—English cement is unchanged at \$1.90 to \$2.20 per barrel in jute sacks of 82½ pounds each (including price of sacks) and \$2.10 to \$2.20 in wood, per 350 pounds, gross. Belgian cement is quoted at \$1.90 to \$2.10 per barrel, in wood. German is \$2.52 to \$2.55 per barrel of 400 pounds for Dyckerhoff.

Copper.—The market for copper shows very little change this week, being perhaps slightly firmer in tone. Prices hold at 15 to 15½c. per pound.

Iron.—Dealers make the claim that they will not accept less than the following for carload lots: Londonderry is only offering for future shipments, and is quoted at \$24 f.o.b. Montreal for No. 1. Toronto prices are about \$1.25 more. Summerlee iron is arriving, and is quoted at \$24 f.o.b. on cars, Montreal, for No. 2 selected, and \$25 for No. 1. No. 1 Cleveland is unobtainable at the present time, and Clarence at \$20 to \$21. Carron special, \$24; soft, \$23.75, to arrive.

Lead.—Prices show a slight advance, this week, at \$4 to \$4.10 per 100 pounds. Demand is fair.

Nails.—Demand is still dull and although cut nails are still quoted steady at \$2.50 per keg, it has been found necessary to reduce prices on wire, to \$2.40, base price.

Pipe—Cast Iron.—The market is next thing to dead, as nothing is used during the winter. Prices are steady at \$36 for 8-inch pipe and larger; \$37 for 6-inch pipe, \$38 for 5-inch, and \$39 for 4-inch at the foundry. Gas pipe is quoted at about \$1 more than the above.

Pipe, Wrought.—Trade continues on the dull side. Quotations and discounts for small lots, screwed and coupled, are as follows: ¼-inch to ¾-inch, \$5.50, with 53 per cent. off for black and 38 per cent. off for galvanized. The discount on the following is 66 per cent. off for black and 56 per cent. off for galvanized: ½-inch, \$8.50; 1-inch, \$16.50; 1¼-inch, \$22.50; 1½-inch, \$27; 2-inch, \$36; and 3-inch, \$75.50.

Spikes.—Railway spikes are not in very good demand, \$2.60 per 100 pounds, base of 5½ x 9-16. Ship spikes are steady at \$3.15 per 100 pounds, base of 5½ x 10 inch and 5½ x 12 inch.

Steel Shafting.—At the present time prices are steady at the list, less 25 per cent. Demand is very dull and lower figures would hardly be refused.

Steel Plates.—Demand is quite dull and a firm bid at lower figures than quotations would be considered. Quotations are: \$2.75 for 3-16, and \$2.50 for ¼ and thicker, in small lots.

Tin.—The market for tin shows a slight advance, this week, at 31½ to 32c. per pound.

Tool Steel.—Demand is light but the market is firm. Base prices are as follows: Jessop's best unannealed, 14½c. per pound, annealed being 15½c.; second grade, 8½c., and high-speed, "Ark," 60c., and "Novo," 65c.; "Conqueror," 55 to 60c.; Sanderson Bros. and Newbould's "Saben," high-speed, 60c.; extra cast tool steel, 14c., and "Colorado" cast tool steel, 8c., base prices. Sanderson's "Rex A" is quoted at 75c. and upward; Self-Hardening, 45c.; Extra, 15c.; Superior, 12c.; and Crucible, 8c.; "Edgar Allan's Air-Hardening," 55 to 65c. per pound.

Zinc.—Demand is on the dull side and prices show a slight decline as compared with a week ago, being \$5.20 to \$5.45 per 100 pounds.

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Toronto, January 30th, 1908.

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

American Bessemer.—Fourteen-gauge, \$2.65; 17, 18, and 20-gauge, \$2.75; 22 and 24-gauge, \$2.85; 26-gauge, \$2.95; 28-gauge, \$3.20.

Antimony.—Quiet, but inquiries are coming in more freely; we quote 11½ to 13c.

Bar Iron.—\$2.20 base, from stock to the wholesale dealer. A moderate supply on hand.

Beams and channels, \$2.75 to \$3, according to size and quantity; angles, 1¼ by 3-16 and larger, \$2.65; tees, \$2.90 to \$3 per 100 pounds. Extras for smaller sizes.

Boiler Heads.—25c. per 100 pounds advance on boiler plate.

Boiler Plates.—¼-inch and heavier, \$2.50. Supply probably adequate and quotations still firm.

Boiler Tubes.—Lap-welded steel, 1¼-in., 10c.; 1½-in., 9c. per foot; 2-in., \$9.10; 2¼-in., \$10.85; 2½-in., \$12; 3-in., \$13.50; 3½-in., \$16.75; 4-in., \$21 per 100 ft. There is no reduction in price.

SECOND HAND DRYER.

FOR SALE—A second hand, Ruggles-Coles Dryer, return flues.

Capacity 2000 lbs. water evaporation per hour.

Electric Reduction Co., Ltd.
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