

busy, and orders, though not large, are numerous. The character of both orders and enquiries indicates a good spring business. We hear of no changes in price of canned goods, nor is there anything remarkably stirring in teas. The sugar market is very quiet, both in Montreal and Toronto, and an easier feeling

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References—Bank of New South Wales,  
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is caused probably by the situation in New York, where it is believed competition is again developing between the Sugar Trust and the Arbuckles. There is decided firmness in rice, and the milling company in Montreal will not make contracts beyond July, a material advance being expected, by reason of the famine in India and other causes. Molasses is higher, both in Barbadoes and here, as our market report shows. It seems that New Orleans molasses is becoming more of a factor in Canadian markets, and there are some who profess to believe that the importations of Barbadoes goods will drop off, in consequence. There are some advances in oils, especially in linseed oil, and in drugs and heavy chemicals much firmness prevails.

Metals, while not as excited as they were, and metalwares, are still good value. Ingot tin is slightly higher and firm, sheets being correspondingly affected. There is good demand for structural iron and for boiler plate steel, indicating much activity in boiler and engine shops. In Montreal there is much enquiry for pig iron, and English brands, which have not hitherto sold freely, are now bringing \$26 to \$28.50, as compared with \$25.50 for Feronna. In both Montreal and Toronto there is a fair demand for shelf goods and other hardware, somewhat better than at this time last week, and prices continue firm. Canadian manufacturers of woven wire fencing advanced prices this week to 40 per cent., and 5 per cent. off, and prices must go still higher, owing to the ruling figures of raw material. The market for window glass is extremely firm; latest advices from primary markets show increased prices. It is more than likely that jobbers, who hold stocks in this country, will reap considerable benefit if they have the sense to take advantage of it, as it is not probable that any fresh stocks will come to hand before fall, owing to strikes and high-priced labor abroad. Glass blowers claim they cannot manufacture at present figures, and will wait till the strikes are over, which will throw import business well into the fall. Owing to the fact that railways are putting summer rates into effect on March 1st, this year, a large number of orders for hardware booked for spring delivery will go forward earlier than last year. In this connection, an effort should be made to induce railways to accept shipments for Manitoba and the North-West at summer rates about March 1st, as the opening of navigation is too late for the bulk of North-West trade. Axe makers claim they will have to still further advance prices owing to the difficulty in getting steel, and the high prices asked for the same.

—Amos J. Sledge and Thomas W. Hammer are the names of the editors of a Western newspaper, whose motto is: "Nothing but sledge-hammer blows!" Georgia once had two editors, Frank Stanton says, whose names were Hay and Oates, and they took both on subscription.

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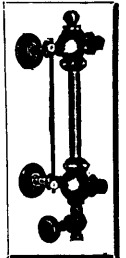
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