

## MARKET CONDITIONS.

Toronto, October 30th.

By reason of the approaching Thanksgiving holiday, this report is prepared on Wednesday instead of Thursday. Some slackening in building activity is noticeable, except in directions where contracts already taken are in progress. Plumbers and steamfitters, though busy as a rule, are unable to get out the volume of work they formerly did because of the lack of skilled labor, the strike keeping a number of men idle. In structural steel, cement, stone and brick, there is not so much work offering as this time last year; indeed it may be said that the building trade is slackening off almost all over. This is true in the States as well. Prices in some directions are therefore less stiff, though not quotably lower.

In hardware and metals there is much movement. Bar iron is steady in price and in the small sizes in fairly good supply; the larger sizes are more scarce; the demand normal. The demand for wrought steam and water pipe continues active, and it is scarce, especially  $\frac{3}{8}$ -in.,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ -in., and 2-in. black;  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. and 2-in. galvanized. Shelf goods are active, and the usual fall stock additions are being made all over the list. No changes fall to be made in quotations.

Reports from some Canadian towns and cities are to the effect that men are being laid off at factories here and there, and the Canada Foundry Company have shortened one at least of its departments. But it is not possible to argue from this that general reduction is in progress. In fact the activity is remarkably well maintained.

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

**American-Bessemer Sheet Steel.**—14-gauge, \$2.70; 17, 18, and 20 gauge, \$2.80; 22 and 24 gauge, \$2.90; 26 gauge, \$3; 28 gauge, \$3.25.

**Antimony.**—The London market is not very strong; we now quote 13 to 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. here.

**Bar Iron.**—\$2.30, base, from stock to the wholesale dealer. A fair supply on hand.

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

**Boiler Plates.**— $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch and heavier, \$2.50. Supply limited, and quotations still firm.

**Boiler Tubes.**—Lap-welded steel,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ -in., 10c.;  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in., 9c. per foot; 2-in., \$9.10;  $2\frac{1}{4}$ -in., \$10.85;  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -in., \$12; 3-in., \$13.50;  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -in., \$16.75; 4-in., \$21 per 100 ft.; stocks here are moderate.

**Bricks.**—Common structural \$10 per thousand, as before, and as much in demand as ever. Same may be said of red and buff pressed, which are worth \$18 at Don Valley works. Terra cotta lining very active.

**Cement.**—Star brand, \$1.95 per barrel, f.o.b., Kingston, National, \$1.95 per barrel, Toronto, in car lots; retail price, \$2.15; English, Anchor, \$3 per barrel in wood. The mills are still full of orders.

**Fire Bricks.**—In steady request; English, \$32 to \$35; Scotch, \$30 to \$35; American, \$25 to \$40 per 1,000.

**Ingot Copper.**—The market is still demoralized. The slump has caused dire trouble in many quarters. Price here is down to 14c.

**Lead.**—Demand less strong; goods scarce for immediate delivery; no change in price here; price same as before reported in United States markets.

**Nails.**—Wire, \$2.55 base; cut, \$2.75; spikes, \$2.75. A fair supply on hand; prices steady.

**Pig Iron.**—Summerlee No. 1, to arrive, steadily in demand but hard to obtain, still quotes, nominally, \$27; Glen-garnock, \$26.50; No. 2, \$26; Cleveland, No. 1, \$23.50, \$24; Clarence, No. 3, procurable in Montreal, price here \$23 to \$24.

**Steel Rails.**—80-lb., \$35 to \$38 per ton.

**Sheet Steel.**—Firm, 10 gauge, \$2.70; 12 gauge, \$2.80; in moderate supply.

**Tank Plate.**—3-16 in., \$2.65; Tees, \$2.90 to \$3 per 100 pounds; angles,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  by 3-16 and larger, \$2.75 to \$3.

**Tin.**—Market off in sympathy with copper. We quote 38 to 39c.

**Tool Steel.**—Jowitt's special pink label, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per pound; Capital, 12c.; Conqueror, highspeed, 70c. base.

**Wrought Steam and Water Pipe.**—Trade prices per 100 feet are: Black,  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{8}$ -in., \$2.59;  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in., \$2.89;  $\frac{3}{4}$ -in., \$3.90; 1-in., \$5.60;  $1\frac{1}{4}$ -in., \$7.65;  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in., \$9.18; 2-in., \$12.24;  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -in., \$22.15; 3-in., \$30.00. Galvanized,  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{8}$ -in., \$3.41;  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in., \$3.74;  $\frac{3}{4}$ -in., \$5.06; 1-in., \$7.26;  $1\frac{1}{4}$ -in., \$9.90;  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in., \$11.88; 2-in., \$15.84;  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -in., black, \$39.00; 4-in., \$42.85. In galvanized  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in., and in black 2-in., are at a premium; 3 and 4-in. black are also scarce.

**Zinc.**—Sheet zinc, a moderate business doing at steady prices. Toronto, slab, \$6.25; sheet, \$8.

## CATALOGUES AND CIRCULARS.

**Consulting Engineers.**—The Traylor Engineering Company send us a calendar card for this month, on the back of which is given the "Treatment of Mercury and Amalgam."

**Engines and Accessories.**—The Atlas Engine Works, of Indianapolis, builders of engines and boilers, have issued a Bulletin No. 137, descriptive of their splash-oiling, single-valve engine, designed for direct connection to electric generators, and for classes of work requiring high rotative speed. Size, 8 x 10, pp. 8.

**The Navy Bulletin.**—A booklet which should prove exceedingly useful to everyone who sells electric motors or motor-driven machinery to the Navy Department has just been issued by the Cutler-Hammer Manufacturing Co., of Milwaukee, makers of electric controlling devices. This company for many years has made a special study of Navy Department requirements, and in the booklet just issued full descriptions, illustrations, dimension diagrams, and shipping weights are given on starting panels, speed-regulating panels, machine tool controllers, resistances, circuit-breaker panels, etc.

**Expanded Metals.**—The Expanded Metal and Fireproofing Company, Limited, 100 King Street West, Toronto. "Steelcrete" is the very appropriate name given to the expanded metal system of concrete construction. Anyone who is interested in reinforced concrete will find this catalogue very interesting and valuable. It contains many illustrations of buildings in Canada and the United States in which expanded metal has been used, together with much information regarding reinforced concrete. Size, 8 x 5, pp. 176.

**Metallic Packing.**—The H. W. Johns-Manville Company, of New York, have issued catalogue No. 110 dealing with Morris Metallic Packing. Size 7 x  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , pp. 12.

**Recording Indicators and Testing Instruments.**—A catalogue has been issued by Dobbie McInnes Ltd., of Glasgow, dealing with their "McInnes-Dobbie" Indicators. A great many different types are shown in a neatly arranged catalogue of 46 pages. Pamphlets descriptive of their Cipollina Continuous Double Diagram Indicator, "Sellers" Portable Dynamometer, Explosion and Pressure recorders; and Speedometers have also reached our office.

**Trucks.**—Mussens Limited have issued a pamphlet descriptive of railroad, warehouse, and other styles of trucks.

**Switch and Cut-Outs.**—A pamphlet has been issued by the Canadian General Electric Company dealing with combined switch and plug cut-outs.

**Engines.**—A catalogue has been issued by Belliss & Morcom, of Birmingham, England, and a circular on the Belliss Engine in Canada, dealing with electric light, power, traction, and mill-driving engines. It is a well illustrated catalogue, and shows views of patent self-lubricating, quick-revolution engines, either direct belt or rope drive Laurie & Lamb, Montreal, are the Canadian agents, and