

MARKET CONDITIONS.

Toronto, February 11th, 1909.

Roofing felt, building paper, pitch and tar, which have been extremely depressed, are finding more enquiry and even definite orders for April and May delivery. Bricks are moving in only small quantities, and cement is as dull as usual, with good prospects, however, of wholesale activity when navigation opens. Lumber, as described in last week's review.

Nothing worth while seems to have come of the flurry in copper and tin last week. The London speculation for an advance in copper has apparently failed, and as to tin all that can be said is that it is firmer in distant markets. Lead is quiet and zinc unchanged. Demand for iron and steel structural goods is quiet, and prices do not appear to have altered. Structural steel is almost stagnant in the States.

The consumers of pig-iron in Britain have had a trying year in 1908, and even yet there is not much activity. The consumption is enormously decreased compared with a year or even two years ago. Scotch iron production shows a decline of 173,256 tons; Cleveland, 282,000 tons; West Coast, 292,583 tons, as compared with 1897. Shipbuilding, too, has suffered from a bad year. The output of British yards was only 1,076,562 last year, where in 1907 it was close upon two millions.

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

Antimony.—Partakes somewhat of the greater strength that characterizes all metals this week. Not much selling, however. Price as before, 93-4c.

Axes.—Standard makes, double bitted, \$8 to \$10; single bitted, per dozen, \$7 to \$9.

Boiler Plates.—1-4 inch and heavier, \$2.40. Boiler heads 25c. per 100 pounds advance on plate.

Boiler Tubes.—Orders continue active. Lap-welded, steel, 1 1/4-inch, 10c.; 1 1/2-inch, 9c. per foot; 2-inch, \$8.75; 2 1/4-inch, \$10; 2 1/2-inch, \$10.60; 3-inch, \$12.10; 3 1/2-inch, \$15; 4-inch, \$18.50 to \$19 per 100 feet.

Building Paper.—Plain, 30c. per roll; tarred, 40c. per roll. Business seasonably quiet.

Bricks.—Common structural, \$9 per thousand, wholesale, and the demand moderately active. Red and buff pressed are worth, delivered, \$18; at works, \$17.

Cement.—Price in 1,000-barrel lots \$1.70 per barrel, including bags, or \$1.30 without bags. Smaller quantities, \$1.80 to \$1.90. Very little movement at present, but a more hopeful feeling for spring.

Coal Tar.—Nothing doing, price maintained at \$3.50 per barrel.

Copper Ingot.—We do not change our quotation from 15c. to 15 1/2-c. Matters have quieted down, and there is but slight movement at unchanged prices.

Detonator Caps.—75c. to \$1 per 100; case lots, 75c. per 100; broken quantities, \$1.

Dynamite, per pound, 21 to 25c., as to quantity.

Roofing Felt. Very limited request. Price \$1.80 per 100 pounds.

Fire Bricks.—English and Scotch, \$30 to \$35; American, \$27.50 to \$35 per 1,000. Moderate demand and fair supply.

Fuses.—Electric Blasting.—Double strength, per 100, 4 feet, \$4.50; 6 feet, \$5; 8 feet, \$5.50; 10 feet, \$6. Single strength, 4 feet, \$3.50; 6 feet, \$4; 8 feet, \$4.50; 10 feet, \$5. Bennett's double tape fuse, \$6 per 1,000 feet.

Galvanized Sheets.—Apollo Brand.—Sheets 6 or 8 feet long, 30 or 36 inches wide; 10-gauge, \$3.05; 12-14-gauge, \$3.15; 16, 18, 20, \$3.35; 22-24, \$3.50; 26, \$3.75; 28, \$4.20; 29, \$4.30; 10 1/2, \$4.50 per 100 pounds. Fleur de Lis—28-gauge, \$4.30; 26-gauge, \$4.05; 22-24-gauge, \$3.50. Queen's Head—28-gauge, \$4.50; 26-gauge, \$4.25. Sheets are in very active request.

Iron Chain.—1/4-inch, \$5.75; 5/16-inch, \$5.15; 3/8-inch, \$4.15; 7/16-inch, \$3.95; 1/2-inch, \$3.75; 9/16-inch, \$3.70; 5/8-inch, \$3.55; 3/4-inch, \$3.45; 7/8-inch, \$3.40; 1-inch, \$3.40.

Bar Iron.—\$1.95 to \$2, base, from stock to wholesale dealer.

Iron Pipe.—Black, 1/4-inch, \$2.03; 3/8-inch, \$2.25; 1/2-inch, \$2.63; 3/4-inch, \$3.56; 1-inch, \$5.11; 1 1/4-inch, \$6.97; 1 1/2-inch, \$8.37; 2-inch, \$11.16; 2 1/2-inch, \$17.82; 3-inch, \$23.40; 3 1/2-inch, \$29.45; 4-inch, \$33.48; 4 1/2-inch, \$38, 5-inch, \$43.50; 6-inch, \$56. Galvanized, 1/4-inch, \$2.86; 3/8-inch, \$3.08; 1/2-inch, \$3.48; 3/4-inch, \$4.71; 1-inch, \$6.76; 1 1/4-inch, \$9.22; 1 1/2-inch, \$11.07; 2-inch, \$14.76. Makers are holding prices stiff.

Lead.—Quiet and unchanged at \$3.90 to \$4.00 here. Excitement abroad quieted.

Lime.—In adequate supply and slow movement. Price for large lots at kilns outside city 22c. per 100 lbs. f.o.b., cars; Toronto retail price 35c. per 100 lbs. f.o.b. car.

Lumber.—We quote dressing pine \$32 to \$35 per thousand; common stock boards higher at \$26 to \$30.00; cull stocks, \$20; sidings, \$17.50. Norway pine is neglected in favor of Southern, which is much stronger in fibre and the price well maintained. Hemlock continues to sell pretty freely, and in car lots brings \$16.50 to \$17.00. Spruce flooring is quoted at \$22.00 in car lots. The season being practically over for shingles, there is but little movement in them, and prices are weak though unchanged at \$3.20 for British Columbia. White pine lath are scarcer, No. 1 especially, we quote \$4 for No. 1 and \$3.50 for No. 2 firm. More spruce and hemlock have moved than pine. Prices are maintained all over the list.

Nails.—Wire, \$2.55 base; cut, \$2.70; spikes, \$3. There is a fair supply and no special activity.

Pitch.—Very quiet; price, 70c. per 100 lbs.

Pig Iron.—Business continues quiet; prices are fairly well maintained. Clarence quotes at \$20.50 for No. 3; Cleveland, \$20.50 to \$21.00; in Canadian pig, Hamilton quotes \$19.50 to \$20.

Plaster of Paris.—Calcined, wholesale, \$2; retail, \$2.15. Trade quiet.

Putty.—In bladders, strictly pure, per 100 lbs., \$2.25; in barrel lots, \$2.05.

Rope.—Sisal, 9 1/2c. per lb.; pure Manila, 12 1/2c. Base

Sewer Pipe.—

	4-in.	6-in.	9-in.	10-in.	12-in.	24-in.
Straight pipe per foot	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$3.25
Single junction, 1 or 2 feet long	.90	1.35	2.70	3.40	4.50	14.63
Double junctions	1.50	2.50	5.00	8.50	15.00	40.00
Increases and reducers	1.50	2.50	5.00	8.50	15.00	40.00
P. traps	2.00	3.50	7.50	15.00	30.00	60.00
H. H. traps	2.50	4.00	8.00	16.00	32.00	64.00

In steady demand; price 70 per cent. off list at factory for car-load lots; 60 per cent. off list retail.

Steel Beams and Channels.—Quiet. We quote:—\$2.50 to \$2.75, according to size and quantity; if cut, \$2.75 to \$3; angles, 1 1/4 by 3-16 and larger, \$2.50; tees, \$2.80 to \$3 per 100 pounds. Extra for smaller sizes of angles and tees.

Steel Rails.—80-lb., \$35 to \$38 per ton. The following are prices per gross ton, for 500 tons or over: Montreal, 12-lb., \$45; 16-lb., \$44, 25 and 30-lb., \$43.

Sheet Steel.—Market steady, with fairly good demand; 10-gauge, \$2.50; 12-gauge, \$2.55; American Bessemer, 14-gauge, \$2.35; 17, 18, and 20-gauge, \$2.45; 22 and 24-gauge, \$2.50; 26-gauge, \$2.65; 28-gauge, \$2.85.

Bar Steel

IRON FINISH SMOOTH FINISH

REELED

At low prices for satisfactory qualities

A. C. LESLIE & CO., Limited

MONTREAL

Tool Steel.—Jowett's special pink label, 10 1/2c. Cyclops, 16c.

Tin.—The tone of outside markets is firmer, some authorities still think the price must go up. The production has increased. No change in price here, 30 to 31c.

Wheelbarrows.—Navy, steel wheel, Jewel pattern, knocked down, \$21.35 per dozen; set up, \$22.35. Pan Canadian, navy, steel tray, steel wheel, per dozen, \$3.30 each; Pan American, steel tray, steel wheel, \$4.25 each.

Zinc Spelter.—Business fairly active, market strong at \$5.25 to \$5.50, and more enquiry.

* * * *

Montreal, February 10th, 1909.

Antimony.—The market is steady at 9 to 9 1/2.

Bar Iron and Steel.—Prices are steady all round, and trade is dull. Bar iron, \$1.90 per 100 pounds; best refined horseshoe, \$2.15; forged iron, \$2.05; mild steel, \$2.00; sleigh shoe steel, \$1.90 for 1 x 3/4-base; tire steel, \$1.95 for 1 x 3/4-base; toe calk steel, \$2.40; machine steel, iron finish, \$2.10; smooth finish, \$2.75.

Boiler Tubes.—The market is steady, quotations being as follows:—2-inch tubes, 8 1/2c.; 2 1/2-inch, 10c.; 3-inch, 11 1/2c.; 3 1/2-inch, 14 1/2c.; 4-inch, 19c.

Building Paper.—Tar paper, 7, 10, or 16 ounce, \$1.60 per 100 pounds; felt paper, \$2.40 per 100 pounds; tar sheathing, No. 1, 55c. per roll of 400 square feet; No. 2, 35c.; dry sheathing, No. 1, 45c. per roll of 400 square feet, No. 2, 28c. (See Roofing; also Tar and Pitch).

Cement.—Quotations are for car lots, f.o.b., Montreal. Canadian cement is \$1.55 to \$1.65 per 350-lb. bbl., in 4 cotton bags, adding 10c. for each bag. Good bags re-purchased at 10c. each. Paper bags cost 2 1/2c. extra, or 10c. per bbl. weight. English cement is \$1.65 to \$1.85 per 350-lb. bbl. in 4 jute sacks (for which add 8c. each) and \$2.20 to \$2.40 in wood. Belgian cement is \$1.60 to \$1.65 in bags—bags extra—and \$2.10 in wood.

Chain.—The market is steady as follows:—1/4-inch, \$5.30; 5/16-inch, \$4.05; 3/8-inch, \$3.65; 7/16-inch, \$3.45; 1/2-inch, \$3.20; 9/16-inch, \$3.15; 5/8-inch, \$3.05; 3/4-inch, \$3; 7/8-inch, \$2.95; 1-inch, \$2.95.

Copper.—The market is steady at 15 to 15 1/2c. per lb. Demand continues limited.

Explosives and Accessories.—Dynamite, 50-lb. cases, 40 per cent. proof, 18c. 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, \$3.50; 6-ft. wires, \$4; 8-ft. wires, \$4.50; 10-ft. wires, \$5. Double strength fuses, \$5 extra, per 100 fuses. Fuses, time, double-tape, \$6 per 1,000 feet.

Galvanized Iron.—The market is steady. Prices, basis, 28-gauge, are:—Queen's Head, \$4.40; Comet, \$4.25; Gorbals' Best, \$4.25; Apollo, 10 1/2c., \$4.35. Add 25c. to above figures for less than case lots; 26-gauge is 2c. less than 28-gauge. American 28-gauge and English 26 are equivalents, as are American 10 1/2 oz., and English 28-gauge.

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

Iron.—Prices are rather higher, and the outlook is steady. The following prices are ex-store: Canadian pig, \$18.50 to \$19.50 per ton; No. 1 Summerlee, \$21 to \$22; No. 2 selected Summerlee, \$20.50 to \$21.50; Carron soft, \$20.25 to \$20.75; No. 3 Clarence, \$19 to \$20 per ton.

Laths.—See Lumber, etc.

Lead.—Trail lead is unchanged and steady, at \$3.70 to \$3.80 per 100 pounds, ex-store.

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 rate of \$1.50. At the moment, the market is exceptionally irregular and prices are uncertain. Red pine, mill culls out, \$18 to \$22 per 1,000 feet; white pine, mill culls, \$22 to \$25. Spruce, 1-in. by 4-in. and up, \$16 to \$18 per 1,000 ft.; mill culls, \$14 to \$16. Hemlock, log run, culls out, \$14 to \$16. 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.

Nails.—Demand for nails is moderate, but prices are steady at \$2.30 per keg for cut, and \$2.25 for wire, base prices.

Pipe—Cast Iron. The market continues steady at \$33 for 8-inch pipe and larger; \$34 for 6-inch pipe; \$34 for 5-inch, and \$34 for 4-inch at the foundry. Pipe, specials, \$3.10 per 100 pounds. Gas pipe is quoted at about \$1 more than the above.

Pipe—Wrought and Galvanized.—The market is steady, moderate-sized lots being: 1-4-inch, \$5.50 with 63 per cent. off for black, and 48 per cent. off for galvanized; 1/2-inch, \$5.50, with 59 per cent. off for black and 44 per cent. off for galvanized. The discount on the following is 69 per cent. off for black and 59 per cent. off for galvanized; 3/4-inch, \$8.50; 1-inch, \$11.50; 1 1/4-inch, \$16.50; 1 1/2-inch, \$22.50; 2-inch, \$27; 2 1/2-inch, \$36; 3-inch, \$45; 3 1/2-inch, \$55; 4-inch, \$75; 4 1/2-inch, \$95; 5-inch, \$118.

Rails.—Quotations on steel rails are necessarily only approximate and depend upon specification, quantity and delivery required. A range of \$1.50 to \$3.25 is given for 60-lb., 70-lb., 80-lb., 85-lb., 90-lb., and 100-lb. rails, per gross ton of 2,240 lbs., f.o.b. mill. Re-laying rails are quoted at \$27 to \$30 per ton, according to condition of rail and location.

Railway Ties.—See Lumber, etc.

Roofing.—Ready roofing, two-ply, 64c. per roll; three-ply, 86c. per roll of 100 square feet. (See Building Paper; also Tar and Pitch.)

(Continued on Page 45)