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, February 1st, 1910.

Although denials are heard here and there, there is little reason to doubt that makers of pig-iron in the United States have accepted lower prices for third quarter than they were previously asking. The result has certainly been astonishing. Those who had been keeping in close touch certainly been astonishing. Those who had been keeping in close touch with the situation had expressed the view that the sales during January would be exceptionally large—some even thought they might reach 500,000 would be exceptionally large—some even thought they might reach 500,000 tons. It is now stated that they exceeded that quantity, so that they were tons. It is now stated that they exceeded that quantity, so that they were made in prices towards the end of the month accelerated the buying movemade in prices towards the end of the month accelerated the buying movement and were mainly responsible for the large tonnage contracted for.

Much interest is being taken in the reported reduction in price. Some seem to attach considerable significance to it while others merely say seem to attach considerable significance to it while others merely say that there is no evidence of weakness in the situation. They claim that there is no reason why anyone should have paid the prices asked for iron for delivery over the third quarter, their view being that makers should not have asked 50c. more per ton for third quarter than for second quarter as have asked 50c. more per ton for third quarter than for second quarter as they have been doing. Manufacturers of agricultural implements and railway equipment are still in the market for considerable quantities of malleway equipment are still in the market for considerable quantities of malleway equipment are still in the market for considerable quantities of malleway equipment are still much talk of the congestion in railway traffic in the large. There is still much talk of the congestion in railway traffic in the large. There is still much talk of the congestion in been demanding. It wou been for early shipment.

The markets in Great Britain continue to show a healthy tone. Demand from Continental points is keeping up well, and now that the elections are over the home demand is likely to show a considerable improvement, also. In fact, cables show that makers are optimistic, inasmuch as prompt replies are demanded and offers are not left open.

The local market shows little or no alteration. The foundry and general trade is being supplied from imported iron, inasmuch as there is not sufficient Canadian-made iron available. This situation will be relieved somewhat next fall, when the additional furnaces being installed at Sydney, the Soo, and Midland, are in operation, but even then it is thought the production will be considerably less than the consumption.

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As to the market for finished and semi-finished products, there is practically no change. Bar iron and steel are meeting with but indifferent demand, and the same may be said of sheets and plates and similar lines. Merchants are almost in despair concerning prices, inasmuch as these show no evidence whatever of an advance. They claim, however, that the show no evidence whatever of an advance. They claim, however, that the long—inasmuch as the present stocks were only purchased to last till about long—inasmuch as the present stocks were only purchased to last till about that time, and any further purchases can only be made at advanced prices. The market is very steady and inclined to be dull.

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

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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 34-base; tire steel, \$1.00 for 1 x 34-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 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.,

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Montreal:—\$1.30 to \$1.40 per 350-lb, bbl., in 4 cotton bags, adding 10c. for

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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; ¼-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; coale ton, \$5; large lots, special rates, approximately \$4 f.o.b., cars, Montreal \$9 per ton; coke, single \$4 f.o.b., cars, Montreal

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

Explosives and Accessories.—Dynamite, 50-lb. cases, 40 per cent. proof, Explosives and Accessories.—Dynamite, 50-lb. kegs, \$2.25 per 15c. in single case lots, Montreal. Blasting powder, 25-lb. kegs, \$2.25 per 15c. in single case lots, of dynamite and powder. Detonator keg. Special quotations on large lots of dynamite and powder. St; electric caps, case lots, containing 10,000, 75c. per 100; broken lots, \$1; electric caps, case lots, containing 10,000, 75c. per 100; broken lots, \$25; 1 to blasting apparatus:—Batteries, 1 to 10 holes, \$15; 1 to 20 holes, \$25; 1 to blasting apparatus:—Batteries, 1 to 10 holes, \$15; 1 to 20 holes, \$25; 1 to 40 holes, \$50. Wire, leading, 1c. per foot; connecting, 30 holes, \$35; 1 to 40 holes, \$50. Wire, leading, 1c. per foot; connecting, 30c. 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.

Qalvanized Iron.—The market is steady. Prices, basis, 28-gauge, are:—Queen's Head, \$4.10; Colborne Crown, \$3.85; Apollo, 10.4 oz., \$4.05. 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 1034 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, \$10.50 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.

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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 carring \$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).

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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.

Pips.—Gast 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; \$22 for 5-inch and 4-inch at the foundry. Pipe, specials, \$3 per too pounds. Gas pipe is quoted at about \$1 more than the above. (74, 188).

Pips.—Wrought and Galvanvzed.—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; ¾-inch, \$5.50, with 59 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, \$22.50; 1½-inch, \$27; 2-inch, \$36; 2½-inch, \$7.50; 1-inch, \$75.50; 3½-inch, \$55.60; 1½-inch, \$55.60.

Plates and Sheets.—Steel.—The market is steady. Quotations are: \$2.20 for 3-16; \$2.30 for ¼, and \$2.10 for ¼ 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 \$30.50 to \$31 is given for 60-lb. and 70-lb.; 80-lb. and heavier, being \$30; rails, per gross ton of 2.240 lbs., f.o.b. mill. Re-laying rails are quoted at \$27 to \$20 per ton, according to condition of rail and location. (73).

Railway Ties.—See lumber, etc.

Roofing.—Ready roofing, two-ply, 70c. per roll; three-ply, 95c. per roll of 100 square feet. Roofing

\$3.75; \$4, \$4.75; \$4, \$5.25; \$4, \$6.25; \$4, \$8; \$4, \$10; 1-in., \$12 per 100 feet. (132).

Spikes.—Railway spikes are firmer at \$2.45 per 100 pounds, base of 6% x 0-16. Ship spikes are steady at \$2.85 per 100 pounds, base of \$4 x 10-inch, and \$6 x 12-inch. (132).

Steel Shafting.—Prices are steady at the list, less 25 per cent. Demand is on the dull side.

Telegraph Poles.—See lumber, etc.

Tar and Pitch.—Coal tar, \$3.50 per barrel of 40 gallons, weighing about 500 pounds; roofing pitch, No. 1, 70c. per 100 pounds; and No. 2, 55c. per 100 pounds; pine tar, \$8.50 per barrel of 40 gallons, and \$4.75 per half-barrel; refined coal tar, \$4.50 per barrel; pine pitch, \$4 per barrel of 18e to 200 pounds. (See building paper; also roofing).

Tin.—Prices are unchanged, at 32½ to 33c.

Zinc.—The tone is steady, at 6 to 6½c.

CAMP SUPPLIES.

Beans.—Prime pea beans, \$1.85 per bushel. (38).

Butter.—September and October creamery, 26c.; dairy, 22 to 23c.

Canned Goods.—Per Dozen.—Corn, 80 to 85; peas, \$1.05 to \$1.15; beans, 75 to 80c.; tomatoes, 82½ to 90c.; peaches, 2s, \$1.65, and 3s, \$2.65; pears, 2s, \$1.60, and 3s, \$2.30; salmon, best brands, 1-lb. talls, \$1.87½, and flats, \$2.02½; cheaper grades, 95c. to \$1.65.

Cheese.—Late makes, 11½ to 11½c.; finest makes, ½c. more.

Coffee.—Mocha, 20 to 25c.; Santos, 15 to 18c.; Rio, 10 to 12c. (38).

Dried Fruits.—Currants, Filiatras, 5½ to 6½c.; choice, 8 to 9c.; dates, 4 to 5c.; raisins, Valentias, 5 to 6c.; California, seeded, 7½ to 9c.; Sultana, 8 to 10c. Evaporated apples, prime, 9½ to 9½c.

Eggs.—No. 1 candled, 26c.; selects, 29 to 30c.; new laid, 35c.

Flour.—Manitoba, 1st patents, \$5.70 per barrel; 2nd patents, \$5.20; strong bakers, \$5.

Molasses and Syrup.—Molasses, New Orleans, 27 to 28c.; Barbadoes,

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Potatoes.—Per 90 lbs., good quality, 50 to 60c.

Rice and Tapioca.—Rice, grade B., in 100-lb. bags, \$2.95 to \$3; C.C., \$2.90. Tapioca, medium pearl, 4% to 4%c.

Rolled Oats.—Oatmeal, \$2.45 per bag; rolled oats, \$2.20, bags.

Tea.—Japans, 20 to 38c.; Ceylons, 20 to 40c.; Ceylon, greens, 19 to 25c.; China, greens, 25 to 50c.; low-grades, down to 15c.

Provisions.—Salt Pork.—\$30 to \$32 per bbl.; beef, \$15 per bbl.; smoked hams and bacon, 15 to 18c. per lb.; lard, 17c. for pure and 12c. for compound. (38).

Fish.—Salted.—Medium cod, \$7 per bbl.; berging \$2.

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