

"BIRCH.—Logs.—The import continues too large, and although there has been a fair demand stocks are accumulating and recent sales show a further decline in value. Planks are coming forward much too freely, the import during the past month being 182,000 feet, against no import last June; the deliveries have been fair, but the stock is excessive; recent sales show a serious decline in value.

"UNITED STATES OAK.—There has been a fair import, the demand is very limited, and prices continue low. Of planks there has again been a large import; the demand is very moderate; there has been a fair consumption, but prices are weaker.

"PITCH PINE.—The arrivals during the past month have been:—Six vessels, 7,784 tons, against six vessels, 5,379 tons, during a like period last year. Of hewn the consumption has been small, but owing to the small import stocks are only slightly increased. Of sawn the import has been on a large scale, but in spite of a good consumption we are left with somewhat heavier stocks. Of planks and boards there has been an average consumption, and a small import during the past month, and stock is moderate.

"SEQUOIA (CALIFORNIAN REDWOOD).—Sales have been made chiefly by retail, but there has been more inquiry, and prices have been well maintained.

"BRITISH COLUMBIAN AND OREGON PINE has not been imported; demand continues very limited, and values unchanged; the stock is still too heavy.

"UNITED STATES STAVES.—There has been a heavy import during the past month and a fairly good consumption, but the stock is increasing; the demand at present is not very brisk, and moderation in shipments is desirable.

"BALTIC AND EUROPEAN WOODS.—The arrivals during the past month have been 17 vessels, 9,642 tons, against 23 vessels, 11,290 tons during the like period last year. *Fir Timber.*—No import, but a small demand, and an ample stock. Red and white deals have been imported moderately, prices are firm, and the stock moderate. *Flooring Boards.*—The import has been moderate, viz., 1,691 standards; there has been a good consumption during the month; values remain practically unchanged, the stock is ample."



St. Lawrence Canals

IROQUOIS DIVISION

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

The time for receiving tenders for the Iroquois Division of the St. Lawrence Canals has been postponed to **Friday, 26th June, 1896**, and the time for the exhibition of plans till **Monday, 1st June, 1896**.

By order,

JNO. H. BALDERSON,
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 22nd May, 1896.

British Columbia.

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MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 17th June, 1896.

ASHES.—Values are a shade easier, as receipts have been fairly liberal, and are ahead of this time last year. There are continued shipments of moderate lots, including one to Australia. First quality pots may be quoted at \$3.60 to 3.65; seconds, \$3.30; last transactions in pearls have been at \$4.80.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.—Shipments of cheese are still behind the figures of last year. Exports were only 26,251 boxes for week ended 13th inst., while in the same week of 1895 they were over 44,000 boxes. The total shipments to date are 148,963 boxes, against 195,506 boxes in 1895. The market has gained something in strength since a week ago, but the advance is thought by some to be rather speculative than warranted by fact. Quebec country cheese sold this week at about 7c., and for the finest Western 7½ to 7¾c. per pound is paid. In butter shipments there is some increase, though the figures are far from what they should be. Last week there were exported 1,701 pkgs., against 157 pkgs. for same week last year. Creamery butter is a shade firmer, at 16½ to 17c., but other grades are neglected. In eggs, boiling stock is quoted at 9 to 9½c. per doz.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—Business in this line is very quiet, most of the contractors and various other consumers evidently devoting all their attention just now to "missionary work" on behalf of their respective candidates. Quotations for British cements are \$1.95 to \$2.05; Belgian, \$1.80 to \$1.95. Firebricks, \$16 to \$20 per thousand.

DRY GOODS.—A number of travelers are getting out upon the road with a fair assortment. Samples of Fall goods, and some moderate orders, are already reported, but the most of the business doing is of a sorting character, in summer fabrics, for the most part, with city retailers, and a certain number of visiting country buyers. There is some little slackening in collections.

MONTREAL GRAIN STOCKS IN STORE.

	June 8, '96.	June 15, '96.
Wheat, bushels.....	357,504	455,533
Corn, "	43,374	50,635
Oats, "	354,113	365,680
Rye, "	6,484	6,484
Peas, "	61,603	57,567
Barley, "	62,696	65,333

Total grain.....	885,774	1,001,232
Oatmeal	5,300	5,272
Flour	35,177	35,504
Buckwheat.....	35,831	4,785

GROCERIES.—The sugar market may at last be quoted an eighth easier, as sales of 250 barrel lots of granulated are now reported to the trade at 4½c. per pound, with a range to 4¼c. for smaller lots. Yellows run from 3½c. to 3¼c. Receipts of raws have been liberal, and three or four more large cargoes are near at hand. The St. Lawrence refinery is starting up again this week. Molasses is weaker, card prices for the Province of Quebec, except Hull and as far west as Cornwall, being now 30c. per gallon for car lots, and 31c. single puncheons. for both Barbadoes and Porto Rico. Rice prices have undergone no recent revision. The market is clear of Denia and other raisins; of currants there are fair supplies at 3¼c. per pound for barrels Filiatras, cases, 3¼c.; Patras, 4¼ to 5c.; Vostizzas, 6 to 6¼c.; Sultanias are very scarce, and the Smyrna market advanced. A member of the leading California fruit firm of Griffin & Kelly was in town the other day and stated that the raisin crop would be light and late; prunes are estimated a fair crop, but will run smaller than last year. New canned strawberries are in the market, and are being jobbed at \$1.65 for preserved, and \$1.50 in heavy syrup. It is said new corn, tomatoes and peas are being offered to the retail trade at 77c., future delivery. Teas are quiet, and values tend to easier levels; a good quality of Japan is being jobbed at 19c., which last year would have realized 21 to 22c.

HIDES.—It was expected there might be some further advance in hides this week but at the regular weekly meeting of dealers it was decided to maintain quotations as revised last week. Dealers' quotations for green hides are on the basis of 6c. per lb. for No. 1; the figure to tanners being 7c. Calfskins, 6c. and 4c. per lb. for Nos. 1 and 2; sheepskins, 85 to 90c. each; lambs, 30c.; clips, 25c. Not much activity is shown.

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The Ontario Mutual Life



As at
December
31st, 1895:

ASSETS:

\$3,136,012

RESERVE (Actuaries 4%):

\$2,933,283

INCOME:

\$731,302

SURPLUS (Actuaries 4%):

\$196,736

SURPLUS (Hm. 4½% Government Standard)

\$315,000

INSURANCE:

\$19,312,477