

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

**Sheet Steel.**—In moderate supply; 10-gauge, \$2.65; 12-gauge, \$2.70.

**Tar.**—There is some activity in a small way; \$3.50 per barrel the ruling price.

**Tank Plate.**—3-16-in. steady at \$2.65.

**Tin.**—Continues very firm, price here continues at 33 to 34. The price in England has gone up £2.

\* \* \* \*

Montreal, May 28th, 1908.

At a meeting of the representatives of the leading iron and steel interests of the United States, the present arrangement for supporting prices was confirmed. The meetings, which occur at regular intervals, have now adjourned for the summer months, on the understanding that prices will be maintained on their present basis. However, the agreement, in some ways, is not of great importance, as southern furnaces have recently been selling at almost any price they could get. At least a quarter million tons have recently been sold, the orders for the bulk of this going to Alabama furnaces. One company made a cut of 50 cents per ton in order to get business, and sold some 60,000 tons at the low price. Subsequently, the firm has again gone back to prices previously existing. It looks as though there might be a considerable tonnage turned over at around present prices, very shortly. There is little likelihood for higher prices for some time to come, as any attempt to obtain higher figures would only result in furnaces which are now out of blast being blown in again and adding their product to the present supply.

The English market is a weak spot just now, and lack of demand there is likely to occasion a weakening of prices, should it continue very long. The situation is practically unchanged.

On the local market a fair trade is passing, although, compared with recent years, the dullness is marked. Prices continue steady and will likely to do for some time to come. These remarks, regarding pig iron apply equally well to finished or partly finished goods. Throughout the list, this week, not a change in price was reported while the dullness of trade was invariably remarked upon.

**Antimony.**—The market is firm and sales are being made at 9½ to 10c. per lb.

**Bar Iron and Steel.**—Bar iron, \$1.90 per 100 pounds; best refined horseshoe, \$2.15; forged iron, \$2.05; mild steel, \$1.95; sleigh shoe steel, \$1.95 for 1 x ¾-base; tire steel, \$2 for 1 x ¾-base; toe calk steel, \$2.45; machine steel, iron finish, \$2.05.

**Boiler Tubes.**—The market holds steady, demand being fair, prices are as follows:—2-inch tubes, 8 to 8¼c.; 2½-inch, 11c.; 3-inch, 12 to 12¼c.; 3½-inch, 15 to 15¼c.; 4-inch, 19¼ to 19½c.

**Building Paper.**—Tar paper, 7, 10, or 16 ounce, \$2 per 100 pounds; felt paper, \$2.75 per 100 pounds; tar sheathing, No. 1, 60c. per roll of 400 square feet No. 2, 40c.; dry sheathing, No. 1, 50c. per roll of 400 square feet, No. 2, 32c.

**Cement—Canadian and American.**—Canadian cement, \$1.70 to \$1.75 per barrel, in cotton bags, and \$1.95 and \$2.05 in wood, weights in both cases 350 pounds. There are four bags of 87½ pounds each, net, to a barrel, and 10 cents must be added to the above prices for each bag. Bags in good condition are purchased at 10 cents each. Where paper bags are wanted instead of cotton, the charge is 2½ cents for each, or 10 cents per barrel weight. American cement, standard brands, f.o.b. mills, 85c. per 350 pounds; bags extra, 10c. each, and returnable in good condition at 7½c. each.

**Cement—English and European.**—English cement is steady at \$1.85 to \$1.90 per barrel in jute sacks of 82½ pounds each (including price of sacks) and \$2.20 to \$2.30 in wood, per 350 pounds, gross. Belgian cement is quoted at

\$1.75 to \$1.85 per barrel in bags, and \$2.05 to \$2.20 per barrel, in wood.

**Copper.**—The market is steady at 14 to 14½c. per pound. Demand continues limited.

**Iron.**—Prices of pig iron continue steady here, foreign markets being, however, weaker. The following are quotations for pig iron now arriving: No. 1 Summerlee, on cars, Montreal, \$20.50 to \$21 per ton; No. 2 selected Summerlee, \$20 to \$20.50; No. 3, soft, \$19.50 to \$20; Cleveland, \$18.50, and No. 3 Clarence, \$18; No. 1 Carron, \$22 to \$22.50; Carron special, \$20.25 to \$20.75; Carron, soft, \$20 to \$20.50.

**Lead.**—Trail lead is weak and prices are steady at \$3.80 to \$3.90 per 100 pounds, ex-store.

**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 shows but little change and prices are as follows: \$34 for 8-inch pipe and larger; \$35 for 6-inch pipe; \$36 for 5-inch, and \$36 for 4-inch at the foundry. Gas pipe is quoted at about \$1 more than the above.

**Pipe—Wrought.**—The market is quiet and steady at last week's range:—¾-inch, \$5.50, with sixty-three 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. The discount on the following is 68 per cent. off for black and 58 per cent. off for galvanized; ½-inch, \$8.50; 1-inch, \$16.50; 1¼-inch, \$22.50; 1½-inch, \$27; 2-inch, \$36; and 3-inch, \$75.50; 3½-inch, \$95; 4-inch, \$108.

**Spikes.**—Railway spikes are in fair demand, \$2.60 per 100 pounds, base of 5½ x 9-16. Ship spikes are steady at \$3.15 per 100 pounds, base of 5½ x 10 inch and 5½ x 12 inch.

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

**Steel Plates.**—Demand is good, and the market steady. Quotations are: \$2.55 for 3-16, \$2.40 for ¾, and \$2.30 for ½ and thicker, in smaller lots.

**Tar and Pitch.**—Coal tar, \$4 per barrel of 40 gallons, weighing 575 to 600 pounds; coal tar pitch, No. 1, 75c. per 100 pounds, No. 2, 65c. per 100 pounds; pine tar, \$4.35 to \$4.50 per barrel of about 280 pounds; pine pitch, \$4.25 per barrel of 180 to 200 pounds.

**Tin.**—The market is steady at 33½ to 34c. per pound.

**Tool Steel.**—Demand is light, but the market is firm. Base prices are as follows: Jessop's best unannealed, 14¼c. per pound, annealed being 15¼c.; second grade, 8c., and high-speed, "Ark," 60c., and "Novo," 65c.; "Conqueror," 55 to 60c.; Sanderson Bros. and Newbould's "Saben," high-speed, 60c.; extra cast tool steel, 14c., and "Colorado" cast tool steel, 8c., base prices. Sanderson's "Rex A" is quoted at 75c. and upward; Self-Hardening, 45c.; Extra, 15c.; Superior, 12c.; and Crucible, 8c.; "Edgar Allan's Air-Hardening," 55 to 65c. per pound.

**Zinc.**—The market is unchanged, at 5¼ to 5½c. per pound.

\* \* \* \*

Winnipeg, May 26th, 1908.

All kinds of engineering work in the West is progressing in a very satisfactory manner. The contract for the new Union depot has at last been awarded to Peter Lyall & Son, of Montreal and Winnipeg, and work on it will start at once. The demand for contractors' machinery will undoubtedly be brisk when operations on this million dollar building commence.

One of the walls at the high pressure plant is reported as not being over secure, and may have to be strengthened by buttresses. This splendid plant has not been taken over by the city.

The Manitoba Iron Works are supplying 24,000 feet of steel railing for a bridge at Regina, and report business to be increasing in a satisfactory manner, with new enquiries coming in daily. The demand for all kinds of material used