

COLDWATER.—At a recent public meeting of rate-payers it was unanimously resolved that council be asked to have a by-law submitted to the people at once to decide whether the village will install a system of fire protection alone at an approximate cost of \$10,000 or a complete water-works system at an approximate cost of \$29,000.

HAMILTON.—Mr. S. H. Kent, city clerk, offers for sale \$80,000 school debentures.

NEWMARKET.—Mr. J. E. Hughes, clerk and treasurer of this municipality, offers for sale \$20,000 debentures until September 29th inst.

Manitoba.

BRANDON.—At the earliest possible date a by-law, to obtain permission for borrowing \$13,000 for winter fair buildings, will be submitted to the ratepayers. It is intended to erect the buildings this fall.

Saskatchewan.

WYNYARD.—This municipality has sold to Messrs. Nay & James of Regina local improvements debentures amounting to \$3,407.65.

British Columbia.

VANCOUVER.—The district of Peachland, B.C., sold to Messrs. Wood, Gundy & Co. \$20,800 debentures. The money is required for waterworks, electric light, road improvements and fire protection.

VANCOUVER.—The civic finance committee have recommended to the council money by-laws aggregating \$325,000 for the purchase of land at Kitsalano beach and English Bay.

VANCOUVER.—A draft for the Columbia St. Bridge by-law, recently prepared by the Bridge Committee of the City Council, calls for \$675,000. The total cost of the bridge, approaches, compensation, and bond shrinkage will be \$907,500.

TELEPHONY.

Saskatchewan.

REGINA.—On Wednesday, Sept. 22nd, tenders closed with Mr. S. P. Porter, deputy commissioner of Railways and Telephones, for the construction of 'phone systems in Hanley and Melville.

The world's production of nickel last year is estimated at 12,800 metric tons, as compared with 14,100 metric tons in the previous year. The maximum recorded production was 14,300 metric tons in 1906. Of the total rather more than half is produced in Europe and the remainder in America.

MARKET CONDITIONS.

Montreal, 22nd September, 1909.

The pig-iron markets of the United States show an advance of 50 cents per ton. Bessemer pig is selling as high as \$17.50 per ton, and it is very difficult to obtain any at less, a few sales being, however, reported at \$17 as well as at the higher figure. It would appear that none can be had for next year's delivery at less than \$18. Basic pig is quoted in the vicinity of \$16, but once the advance in bessemer is established, basic will also advance. Foundry iron is also selling at \$16, but it is stated that sales have been made at 50 cents higher than that, and \$17 is being demanded for next year. Another fact of much importance in the situation is the firmness in the price of coke. This, during the past two months, has advanced very considerably, and it seems to be the impression that by the beginning of next year \$3 will be the regular price. Sellers are not looking for long time contracts. Good grades of foundry coke are quoted at \$2.65 to \$2.75 for immediate delivery. The buying of pig-iron is quite heavy at present though steel-making iron is not very active as far as the actual closing of contracts is concerned.

In Great Britain, the market is improving and prices are gradually advancing. Montreal interests state that the latest reports are certainly the best which have been received for at least 18 months past. Replies to cables show that the market is in a very firm position and that the tendency is upwards, no concessions being now obtainable on inquiries even for large lots. In fact, quotations are given subject to immediate acceptance.

The situation in Canada is unusually encouraging. The output of the Dominion Iron and Nova Scotia Steel plants is practically not available for the general market, the requirements of these institutions for steel-making purposes absorbing almost all the iron they produce. Londonderry is out of blast and is likely to remain so until about the end of this year. The Radnor furnace of the Canada Iron Corporation is working on charcoal iron, as is also the Deseronto furnace. The Hamilton furnaces

of the Hamilton Steel and Iron Company have been out of blast for some time and are under repairs, and deliveries with this concern are in arrears. The Midland furnace of the Canada Iron Corporation is now occupied with orders which will keep it operating for five or six months to come, so that the company is not anxious to make further contracts at to-day's prices. The Atikoken furnace, of the Atikoken Iron Company, is now in blast, but the grade of metal produced is not suitable for ordinary small foundries, being sold particularly to the large concerns as a mixture for other grades. The output of these furnaces is also contracted for for some months ahead. The situation in Canada, therefore, is that furnaces are well occupied, and there are absolutely no stocks of metal on hand. It would consequently seem that the furnaces would very shortly take advantage of the upward movement in the United States and Great Britain and ask higher prices for such deliveries as they are able to make.

Regarding the hope that Nova Scotia and Dominion Iron companies would reap very considerable advantages from the lowering of the import duty from 40 to 15 cents per ton on import iron entering the United States, it transpires that the contracts for the coming year were made with the understanding that the purchasers should receive the benefit of any reduction which might take place. Hence the Canadian companies will not be able to get the advantage of the 25 cent. reduction, at the present time. There is, however, an indication that the volume of the orders in the United States will be greatly increased. American foundries have recently contracted for about 250,000 tons of Wabana ore for delivery as quickly as possible.

Although merchants handling different lines of finished and semi-finished products of iron and steel report few or no changes, this week, they are uniformly of the opinion that advances in the near future are in order, the present tone of the market being unusually firm, throughout. Quotations are:—

Antimony.—The market is steady at 8 to 8½c.

Bar Iron and Steel.—Prices are steady and trade is quiet. 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 ¾-base; tire steel, \$1.00 for 1 x ¾-base; toe calk steel, \$2.35; machine steel, iron finish, \$1.90; imported, \$2.20.

Boiler Tubes.—The market is steady, quotations being as follows:—1½ and 2-inch tubes, 8¼c.; 2½-inch, 10c.; 3-inch, 11¼c.; 3½-inch, 14 1-2c.; 4-inch, 18 1-2c.

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 fibre, 55c. per roll; dry fibre, 45c. (See Roofing; also Tar and Pitch).

Cement.—Canadian cement is quotable, as follows, in car lots, f.o.b., Montreal:—\$1.30 to \$1.40 per 350-lb. bbl., in 4 cotton bags, adding 10c. for each bag. Good bags re-purchased at 10c. each. Paper bags cost 2½ cents extra, or 10c. per bbl. weight.

Chain.—Prices are as follows:—¾-inch, \$5.10; 5-16-inch, \$3.95; ¾-inch, \$3.55; 7-16-inch, \$3.35; ½-inch, \$3.20; 9-16-inch, \$3.05; 5/8-inch, \$2.95; ¾-inch, \$2.90; 7/8-inch, \$2.85; 1-inch, \$2.85.

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

Copper.—Prices are strong at 14¼ to 14¾c.

Explosives and Accessories.—Dynamite, 50-lb. cases, 40 per cent. proof, 15c. 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; 6-ft. wires, \$3.54; 8-ft. wires, \$4.08; 10-ft. wires, \$5. Double strength fuses, 4-ft., \$3.75; 6-ft., \$4.29; 8-ft., \$4.83; 10-ft., \$5.37. Fuses, time, double-tape, \$6 per 1,000 feet; explometers, fuse and circuit, \$7.50 each.

Iron.—Swedish iron, 100 lbs., \$4.75 base; sheet, black, 14 to 22 gauge, \$3.75; 24-gauge, \$3.90; 26-gauge, \$4; 28-gauge, \$4.10. Galvanized—American, 18 to 20-gauge, \$4.40; 22 to 24-gauge, \$4.65; 26-gauge, \$4.65; 28-gauge, \$4.90; 30-gauge, \$5.15 per 100 lbs. Queen's Head, 22 to 24-gauge, \$4.65; 26-gauge English, or 30-gauge American, \$4.90; 30-gauge American, \$5.15; Fleur de Lis, 22 to 24-gauge, \$4.50; 28-gauge American, \$4.75; 30-gauge American, \$5.

Galvanized Iron.—The market is steady. Prices, basis, 28-gauge, are:—Queen's Head, \$4.40; Comet, \$4.25; Gorbals's Best, \$4.25; Apollo, 10¾ oz., \$4.35. 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 10¾ oz., and English 28-gauge.

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

Iron.—The outlook is strong. The following prices are for carload quantities and over, free on dock, Montreal, prompt delivery: No. 1 Summerlee, \$20 to \$20.50; selected Summerlee, \$19.50 to \$20; soft Summerlee, \$19 to \$19.50; Clarence, \$17.50 to \$17.75; Midland or Hamilton pig is quoted at \$20.50 to \$21, Montreal. It is said Dominion and Scotia companies are not quoting prompt delivery. Carron special, \$19.50 to \$20; Carron, soft, \$19.25.

Laths.—See Lumber, etc.

Lead.—Prices are about steady, at \$3.50 to \$3.60.

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 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 c. 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 better, but prices are steady at \$2.30 per keg for cut, and \$2.25 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, in barrels; liquid red lead in gallon cans, \$1.75 per gallon.

Pipe.—Cast 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; \$32 for 5-inch and 4-inch at the foundry. Pipe, specials, \$3 per 100 pounds. Gas pipe is quoted at about \$1 more than the above.

Pipe.—Wrought and Galvanized.—Demand is much better and the tone is firm, though prices are steady, moderate-sized lots being: ¾-inch, \$5.50 with 63 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, \$8.50, with 69 per cent. off for black, and 59 per cent. off for galvanized. The discount on the following is 72½ per cent. off for black, and 62½ per cent. off for galvanized; ¾-inch, \$11.50;