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STOCKS AND BONDS

54-56 BROAD STREET

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NEW YORK. Feb. 25, 1908. 190

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,  
American Magazine,  
341 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

My dear Miss Tarbell:-

I have not before replied to yours of 14th inst. because I have not had the information desired and because I have not had time to seek where I might possibly find it promptly. I have, however, started inquiry in Canada and Scotland and hope to obtain all or a part of the information wanted. I should have heard from Canada by today and may hear at any time.

I assume that the export price of tin plates is now about \$1. a box below the home price; that is, \$1 per hundred pounds. I also assume that the difference in 1906 was only from 15 cents to 50 cents a box. Export and home prices on most iron and steel goods were closer together, in 1906, than in any other year, perhaps. They probably did not average more than \$5 or \$6 a ton on steel products and goods.

I have learned that the U. S. Steel Products Export Co., (The export end of the steel trust) sold for export, in January last, 100,000 tons of sheet bars (The semi-finished products from which tin plate is made) at 81 shillings per ton, delivered in Wales. This is-or was- about 40 shillings below the home price at Pittsburgh. That is, the Pittsburgh price was then \$29 and the export price to Wales \$19.50. Deducting \$3.50 for freight, the real difference between the export and home price was then \$16. Within two weeks, I believe that the U. S. Steel Corp. and the Stahlwerks Verband have agreed on prices of sheet bars etc. for export, and also to keep out of each others territory.

Sorry that I cannot now give you more valuable data, I am  
Very sincerely yours,

Byron W. Holt