

MARKET CONDITIONS

GENERAL BUSINESS.

General business continues to improve. Steel and automobile production are both well ahead of the corresponding months of 1963 and industrial output generally is rising. Settlements arrived at by Chrysler and Ford with the Auto-workers Union have averted strike threats to these companies. This is good news, so far as continuity of production is concerned, but inflationary implications of the agreements are worrying some economists who fear the beginning of a general upward wage-price spiral to be followed by a recession. However, a large majority of economists seems to feel that generally good business is in prospect for the balance of this year and the entire succeeding year.

ASBESTOS—RAW MATERIAL.

Quebec asbestos fibre shipments for the industry during August 1964 totalled 109,122 tons or 8,822 tons lower than the same period last year.

Year to date shipments at 52,270 tons exceed the same period 1963 by 35,984 tons or approximately 5%.

ASBESTOS—MANUFACTURED GOODS.

Asbestos Textiles. With the high rate of automobile production and consequent demand on heavy industry for supplies and parts, coupled with the overall strength of the economy, there is a continuing strong demand for asbestos textiles. The volume of new orders is increasing and mills are having to extend deliveries. The Asbestos Textile Industry looks for a continuation of the present level of operation for the fourth quarter of this year.

Asbestos Brake Lining. 1964 continues to be a record year in sales (perhaps not dollar-wise but unit-wise). Prices have again become quite soft due to intense competition for this increasingly large market, both in original equipment



LAKE ASBESTOS RESEARCH,
BOTH BASIC AND APPLIED, CONTINUES TO
DEVELOP NEW KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING
CHRYCOTILE ASBESTOS. THIS HAS LED TO
THE DEVELOPMENT OF GRADES ESPECIALLY
DESIGNED TO MEET CUSTOMERS'
REQUIREMENTS. A LETTER OUTLINING
YOUR REQUIREMENTS WILL HAVE OUR
PROMPT ATTENTION.

LAKE ASBESTOS OF QUEBEC, LTD., 180 BROADWAY NEW YORK, N.Y. 10006

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