

lishment for 16 ten-wheel freight locomotives, and it is reported that the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul road has ordered the same number of engines from the same concern.

Western roads report the greatest scarcity of cars experienced in the removal of any previous freight traffic. Small grain and new corn are crowding out coal, says The Chicago Journal, and a famine in the fuel supply is threatened in Iowa and States west of the Missouri river. The demand for cars also extends throughout the East to such an extent that western roads object to despatching cars further east than Chicago, owing to the extreme difficulty of getting them back for the immediate service for which they are required. It was this urgent demand and inadequate supply, and the increased cost of material and labor, that caused the railroads to demand an advance in freight rates on commodities of all kinds. The action taken by the Grand Trunk Line Freight Association, recommending an advance in grain freight prices, was approved by the Central Freight Association.

#### A COUNTERFEIT DOMINION NOTE.

It is probably the same counterfeit of the Dominion two dollar note mentioned in our last issue that has been so freely circulated in Quebec and the Maritime Provinces as to cause the Intercolonial Railway authorities to issue a circular to station, ticket and freight agents, warning them to be on the lookout for the fraud. The following is an extract from this circular: "Your attention is called to a dangerous counterfeit of the latest issue of \$2 Dominion of Canada notes (Prince of Wales and fishing scene vignettes), now in circulation. The paper has a greasy appearance, and the words 'Dominion of Canada' on face of note do not show up as clearly as on the genuine. The ink has a purplish hue, and the lathe work and vignette on back of note are much inferior to those on the genuine note. The words 'American Bank Note Company, Ottawa,' on back of the counterfeit are poorly engraved, and irregular in line. A comparison of counterfeit with genuine notes will show clearly these points of difference."

#### THE MANITOBA HARVEST.

A correspondent asks us where the newspapers get such exaggerated statements as sometimes appear about the Manitoba wheat crop. "Here," he says, "is an important American journal, which ought to be well informed, stating this year's Manitoba crop at 60,000,000 bushels, and explaining that not only is it double the quantity of last year's crop, but it grades higher, in the proportion of 80 per cent. No. 1 hard, as against 50 per cent. in 1898." We are unable to inform him where these stories originate. Both the statements in the above quotation, which we presume were made from Bradstreets, are wrong. The Winnipeg Commercial, which two or three weeks ago [See Monetary Times, October 6th], brought a Canadian trade journal to book for stating the 1899 crop of Manitoba at 50,000,000 bushels, now says: "This [the story in Bradstreet's], is even a greater exaggeration than other statements, and is 25,000,000 to 30,000,000 bushels in excess of the probable output of the Manitoba wheat crop, not including the Territories, which will add four or five million bushels to the Manitoba crop."

#### INDUSTRIAL ITEMS.

Power development at Niagara Falls goes on rapidly, new contracts, involving an addition of 50,000 horse-power to that developed on the New York side, having been let recently.

In a recent large order for ploughs for Australia, filled by the Massey-Harris Company, the steel in the ploughs cost just 97 per cent. more than for a large order filled for the same country about a year ago. This will give some indication of the increased cost in manufacturing implements, owing to the big advance in metals.

Mr. S. Chase Phillips, of London, arrived in Chicago on Monday last. He is interested in paper and pulp manufacturing, and is making arrangements for the coming visit of pulp manufacturers and proprietors of newspapers next June, to inspect the pulp plants of the United States and Canada. Mr. Phillips

said that heretofore the English mills had secured their pulp from Scandinavia. Now they are looking to Canada and Maine.

This seems to be a season of unparalleled growth in the telephone business. In New York about a thousand new instruments a month are being installed, while in Chicago about eight hundred new stations are connected monthly. Were it not for the shortage and high price of copper, making cable very difficult to obtain, says The Electrical Review, these figures would be largely exceeded. To a degree the same state of things holds good for the independent companies, and toll lines are rapidly covering the country with a network of communications.

Work has been begun on a warehouse of large dimensions in Montreal for the Canadian Rubber Company, whose business continues to grow with the country. It is intended that the establishment will have dimensions of 180 x 170 feet, occupying the entire block which faces Craig, St. Adolphe, Notre Dame streets and Papineau square. The present building on Papineau square, which is used as a warehouse, will remain, but a super-structure is to be put up and an extension, bringing the dimensions to 180 x 170 feet, will be built. The offices of the company, which are now on St. Paul street, will probably be removed to Papineau square when the new building is completed.

On last Friday evening the town council of Lachine met and adopted a bylaw accepting the offer of Messrs. H. J. Fisk & Co., leather manufacturers, to build a factory at Lachine, the voting by the electors ordered to take place at the Town hall on Tuesday next. The terms of the agreement with H. J. Fisk & Co. are substantially as follows: The firm, which makes embossed kid and other kinds of fine leather, will employ at least 125 persons, mostly men, and pay annually in wages \$40,000. They are to build a factory two stories high, 200 feet long, with two wings 94 feet long by 94 feet wide. The plant and machinery to be put into this building will cost \$50,000. In return the town of Lachine will grant the firm a bonus of \$25,000, and exemption from taxes for a term of years, except for water.

#### IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

The following five paragraphs are commended to store clerks:

Don't toss your head and say, "I dunno," when a customer asks a civil question.

Don't over-estimate the value of your position by allowing someone else to do the work that you yourself should do.

Don't hang round in bunches to talk over the news of yesterday. Customers dislike to disturb such a company. "Ever on the alert" should be your motto.

Don't use ridiculous expressions. Do you find yourself giving way to a propensity to use indignant words and phrases? Are you a victim of the habit of using slang? If so, drop it.

Don't be superior to things about you in general, more than you are obliged to be. Imagine the humiliation you inflict on an innocent woman who asks you to show her real thread lace, by your sarcastic reply, "We have no lace made of real threads."

The stock of the Bon Marche dry goods establishment, valued at \$37,713.04, was sold at Suckling's auction rooms, the purchasers being Starr & Sutcliffe, of Kingston, and George W. Robinson, of Galt. The stock was sold in equal parts, and realized 47 2-3c. on the dollar.

The American manufacturers of hosiery have for some time given the importers more competition than they wished in cheap lines, and each year sees them gaining ground in the better grades, says The American Wool and Cotton Reporter. Fancy hosiery has practically been in the hands of the foreign manufacturers until very recently, but to-day our mills are turning out lines that, in many respects, are ahead of the importers' article.

There is a remarkable firmness in European markets in woollens of all kinds, especially dress goods. Silks are also very firm, and satins and peau de soie goods are hard to secure even at an advance. With the advance in cottons all union damasks as well as mixed linen goods are dearer. In domestic made fabrics a number of further advances are reported. For instance, the Magog mill gives notice of an advance in all lines, equal to about 5 per cent. all round, to take immediate effect. The Montreal Cotton Company advises a rise of 1/8c. in foulards,