

belonging to Klock Bros. and the Moore estate.—*Ottawa Journal*, August 1st.

The Dominion Agriculture Department received recently a communication from the capital of the Ottoman Empire. It was a letter from a gentleman doing business in Constantinople, who, from his experience of the Turkish markets, considers that an excellent trade in lumber might be worked up between Canada and the domains of the Sultan.

How long Ottawa will continue to be the centre of Ottawa Valley lumber operations is an open question. There is a constant movement up the river, anything to get near the source of supply, so long as moderately good railway facilities can be secured. The St. Anthony Lumber Company's venture on the head waters of the Madawaska have been, from all accounts, successful, and it is now reported that several large firms are looking up sites on the Upper Ottawa.

Mr. R. M. Cox, lumber merchant, of Ottawa and Liverpool, in conversation with a Montreal reporter, said, "The lumber trade is dull, it is quiet in England, and worse than quiet here. It is a peculiar trade. It does not feel depression until two years after other trades, and does not revive for an equal time afterwards. You see, a man who has begun a house must finish it, but no one will begin a house till he can pay for it. Then Pensacola pitch pine is being very much used for interiors. Three times as much Pensacola pine is being used as white pine, and it is much cheaper. Still, we have had five good years, and are not doing badly now."

"The white birch grows remarkably well in this climate," says the *Fredericton Leader*. This is a handy tree and is now coming into rapid demand for the manufacture of spool bars. Quite a forest of white birch surrounded Fredericton at one time. In the woods on different sides of the city every other tree was white birch, and in other places the forest was exclusively made up of these trees. Of late years, however, they have been cut down at a rapid rate for fuel, and now they are comparatively scarce. If the young growth were not cut down but preserved, a spool factory could be established here in a few years, and it would be a paying investment.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The St. Thomas wheat market opened at 70c. last week.

New apples are arriving in St. John in large quantities.

Oats are going to be a big crop in Prince Edward Island this year.

James Walsh, of Edmonton, N.W.T., purchased \$40,000 worth of furs last season.

Increased warehouse accommodation is to be provided on the St. John pier at a cost of \$5,000.

Messrs. Alexander, Kelly & Co., of Brandon, Man., are building an elevator with a capacity of 40,000 bushels.

The United States consul at Palermo writes that Italians fear that their fruit industries will ultimately have to give way before the enterprise of the Americans.

Blueberries are an excellent crop at Rat Portage this year. Shipments are made to the Dakotas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, in addition to those demanded for home consumption.

Robert Ironsides expects to ship 20,000 head of beef cattle from Manitoba and the Territories this season. He has already shipped nearly half that number.—*Winnipeg Free Press*.

The first sample of the season's new wheat to reach Winnipeg was received on the 10th by the Lake of the Woods Milling Company. The wheat was of a very bright color, plump, and remarkably hard for this time of the year, weighing 64 pounds to the bushel. It is pronounced to be an exceedingly fine sample of red fife.

Hamilton will have a new fruit market next Wednesday. Mr. Thomas Bowker, who for years has carried on a wholesale and retail fruit business, is superintendent of the market. The president is Mr. W. W. Ross, the secretary-treasurer F. W. McBeth, and directors, W. C. Gordon and Wm. Battram. The premises are being fitted up for vegetables, fish, fruit, etc., and everything is to be conducted in a first-class manner.

A Glenboro citizen, the other day, while discussing the effects of the recent dry summer in Ontario, suggested the possibility of our sending our superfluous straw in bales down to the eastern province. It seems a pity that one province should be starved out for want of fodder, while another is gaily putting matches to tons and tons of straw. There is a good deal in the suggestion if farmers can see their way to carrying it out.—*Glenboro, Man., Gazette*.

In London, says an English exchange, the ingenuity of modern advertisers was recently illustrated in the following manner: Two men paraded the streets, each of whom was sandwiched between a brace of

great wooden placards. One of these individuals was 6 feet 4 inches in height, while the other was not more than 4 feet 6. The taller was robust in proportion to his height. The shorter was thin, and worried and careworn. The tall man's placard bore the legend, "I eat B——'s oatmeal." His comrade carried about with him the expressive sentence, "I don't." No comment was necessary: the situation explained itself.

This story is told by the *Savannah News*: "A lady sent to her grocer for some cinnamon, lemons, sugar, gelatine and wine. She wanted to make some jelly. The grocer was a Prohibitionist, so he sent all the ingredients except the wine, which he stated he did not keep. The lady at once returned all the above-named articles, with a message that she could not use them for the intended purpose without the wine. What did the grocer do then? Did he with fine self-denial keep to his principles and put the goods back into their respective boxes? Alas! no. The business part of the man got the better of the teetotaler—he hustled round and got the wine."

DRIED FRUITS AND NUTS.

For the following report concerning the condition of the dried fruit markets, we are indebted to a number of sources; among others, to P. L. Mason & Co., Front street, Toronto:

VALENCIA RAISINS.—The yield promises to be less than an average one. Medium sized fruit will be most plentiful; good selected descriptions are going to be scarce. Cable advices make quotations on new crop Valencia raisins 15s. for off-stalk, and 20s. for four-crown layer. These quotations apply to stock to be shipped by steamer "Burgundia," which is expected to sail on Saturday of this week for New York.

SULTANA RAISINS.—The yield is now estimated at 35,000 tons against 33,000 last year. Cable advices received in Toronto report sales in Smyrna of fair quality fruit at 14s. f.o.b.

MALAGA RAISINS.—Recent advices have not altered dealers' opinions that the crop will be a good one.

CURRENTS.—A New York house is offering currants to arrive for August shipment at 8s. 3d.

TURKISH PRUNES.—Certain to be a short crop, at least the cables say so.

FRENCH PRUNES.—A short crop.

CALIFORNIA PRUNES.—New crop of the four sizes offering in San Francisco, 4½c.

FRENCH PLUMS.—Crop smaller than last year, but sufficient for all requirements.

FIGS.—Yield estimated at 65,000 loads against 83,000 loads last year. The quality is reported good.

APRICOTS.—Choice new California apricots in car loads are quoted at 9½c. at primary points.

TARRAGONA ALMONDS.—Crop will likely be light as fruit is dropping from the trees.

INSURANCE ITEMS.

It is satisfactory to notice that the town of Orangeville has at last shown itself fully alive to the importance of adequate fire protection. A contract, amounting to \$45,000, has been awarded to Messrs. Shields & Gowanlock, both practical men, to complete the plant by the first of December next. The gravitation system will be adopted for domestic use, while a pumping plant will supply the water necessary to extinguish fires. To provide the funds required the ratepayers have authorized the issue of bonds. These will be endorsed by the county of Dufferin.

On the evening of August 1st one of those pleasant events that make hard work a delight occurred in Montreal, when the Standard Life Insurance Company dined their inspectors and agents at the St. Lawrence Hall. W. M. Ramsay, general manager, presided. In the vice-chair was J. Hutton Balfour, superintendent of agencies. Around the board were the following gentlemen from different parts of Ontario and the west: G. P. Payne, I. A. Mill, W. Buchner, A. Gilleen, J. F. Martin, G. M. Hunt, F. W. Doran, J. J. Hanratty, J. W. Kerr, C. Hunter, F. W. Gates, jr., G. H. Allen, L. E. Percy, S. S. Davis, W. C. Austin, A. Shortt, G. Maclean, J. S. Smith, E. H. Brown, J. A. Downs, W. E. Findlay, E. Champagne, L. D. Hudon, S. Ramsay.

There is a strongly suggestive cartoon in a recent issue of the *New York Chronicle*, and it increases the natural repugnance to an incendiary of anyone who has seen the way that brave firemen risk their lives to combat flame. The cartoon represents a fireman, branch in hand, inside a burning clothing store, staircases and floors falling around him. The presiding spirit of the place seems to be a horrid creature labelled "fire-bug," bearing an incendiary torch in one hand, an insurance policy in the other. Looking at this spectre, the fireman asks: "Is this what we imperil our lives for?"