

lighting, etc., concludes: "From these deductions and considerations, it may be concluded, in the light of our present knowledge, that acetylene gas should not drive the incandescent and arc lamp from the lighting field, neither should it make such inroads on the electric lighting business as to materially affect the earnings of existing central station companies."

The diversity of uses to which electric motors are now being put is illustrated, says the *Iron Trade Review*, by the orders which the power and mining department of the General Electric Co. received in the first two weeks of April. Motors were called for to operate printing presses; saws and planers in a box factory; an assortment of mining machinery in a coal mine; machinery in a large bakery; blowers in a stove works; a Gould fire pump; a mine pump; large Brush arc lighting dynamos; a jib crane; travelling cranes; machinery in an oil cloth works; inclined railway, etc.

A paragraph from Farnham, in the Eastern Townships of Quebec, states that a party of Montreal capitalists spent a day last week in an inspection of the large premises formerly operated there as a beet sugar factory. The sugar making plant has been disposed of to an American firm, leaving the factory building available for another, and, it is hoped, a more profitable industry. The present promoters, among whom are some business men of Montreal, propose to enter into the manufacture of cereal foods, etc., and would depend for a part of their material upon the adjacent farming country.

An interesting ceremony drew a crowd together at Picton, Ont., the other day, when a metal smoke-stack, 100 feet in height, was raised at the new fruit-canning works of W. Boulter & Sons at that place. The job was under the supervision of J. E. Webb, of Hamilton. After the raising had been successfully done Mr. Boulter addressed the assemblage respecting the vast proportions to which the fruit canning industry of this province has attained. He then gave a brief history of his firm's industry since its inception at Picton, following its extension to Demorestville and Toronto, ultimately its concentration into the premises now under construction at the first-named place, and referred in terms of praise to Mr. Webb, his construction engineer, and Mr. Burns, his foreman of the works, and other employees; "all Canadians for Canadians our motto."

A meeting of the shareholders of the Lachine Rapids Hydraulic and Land Company, Ltd., was held last week in Montreal. Mr. Geo. B. Burland, the president, was in the chair, and there were also present Messrs. Alex. Fraser, Ottawa; Jas. Shearer, Peter Lyall, W. F. Evans, E. Kirk Greene, R. Wilson-Smith, J. M. Fortier, Thos. Pringle, W. H. Davis, W. McLea Walbank; several out-of-town shareholders were represented by proxy. The half million dollars of the company's stock then unsubscribed for will not be placed on the market, we are told, for the shareholders present had not only subscribed for this amount, but had over-subscribed to the extent of \$40,000. It was decided to increase the capital stock to \$2,000,000 and to issue the next \$250,000 worth at 50 per cent. premium and to go on at once with the construction of the conduit and distribution in the city. There is much confidence shown by these gentlemen in the future earning power of this company.

ITEMS ABOUT DRY GOODS.

Canadian orders for linen supplies, by recent Irish textile reports, show improvement.

A strike of dye-house men in the Kidderminster carpet district has disturbed the trade recently.

The feature of the new gingham dresses is a wide collar of white organdie trimmed with lace.

An English firm of corset makers made 900 pair of men's corsets last year, and say the trade is growing.

Combination gowns of white dimity prettily trimmed with lace are one of the new additions in the underwear department.

At present 74.26 per cent. of the total spindles engaged in flax spinning in the United Kingdom are working in Belfast, Ireland, and its immediate vicinity.

Since the advent of the bicycle craze the United States Patent Office has been over-run with the application of suit designers for patents upon their ideas.

In the South of Scotland woolen trade the present summer season has been rather better than the best expectations, and makers are looking forward to a good autumn trade in both ladies' and gentlemen's goods.

In the Dundee jute trade business at 6th June remained dull, but prices were fairly well maintained. For first months £11 15s. to £12 is paid, and for August-September shipment £12 15s. has been paid, which are about level prices with the same period last year.

An expert tool juggler in one of the great English needle factories, in a recent test of skill, performed one of the most delicate feats imaginable. He took a common sewing needle of medium size, length one and five-eighths inches, and drilled a hole through its entire length from eye to point, the opening being just large enough to permit the passage of a very fine hair.

Already the talk in Leeds is of next spring's fabrics. Cheviots are likely to see a revival and serges will probably maintain their ground. There are more delicate shades of color promised in these goods than ever before. Saxony cloths in neat designs, and made from Scotch yarns, are maintaining a strong rivalry with Scotch fabrics. Fancy worsted are sure of a good position as usual.

The mad rage after bargains which characterizes a portion of the general public was exemplified at a salvage sale in Toronto this week, when the doors had to be closed upon the throngs of people that sought admittance to the store. Goods sold at a reduction of twenty-five per cent. apparently prove an irresistible attraction, although the damages they have suffered may exceed this percentage.

The attempt now being made by Canadian woolen manufacturers to secure uniformity in credits and terms deserves to succeed. The number of small mills in Canada, however, precludes, we fear, close adherence to any arrangement that may be made. The tendency of the times is towards the centralization of the industry in fewer hands, but until this end be well worked out competition must remain keen.

A very pretty collarette recently produced is made of Persian lamb. It is described by a New York cloak journal as about 14 inches deep, plain and flat over back, with full flutes of godets over shoulder, fastened in place very gracefully by rosette bows of ribbon. The ribbon is drawn over front by a strap and two large diamond-effect buttons. The collar is of ruched ribbon, interspersed with tufts of chinchilla fur, and finished off with two additional large buttons to fasten the end.

Great expense is lavished on ladies' belts this season, and the most elaborate are those of white kid jeweled with turquoise. Bright red belts are traced with black sequins and black kid. Russia leather and peau de suède play a leading part in the variety of leather belts. A wide belt of black satin ribbon, carefully fitted and boned, and fastened on one side with two rosettes, with jet or white stone buttons in the centre, is another variety of belt very much worn in the States.

A Canadian resident of Lawrence, Mass., now in Montreal, reports an incident creditable to the development of Canadian manufacturing. Some time ago, the head dyer at the Pacific Mill, at Lawrence, one of the largest in New England, was given by a customer of the mill a sample of Magog mills print cloth, with a request to produce something equally as good. Though he had all the facilities of a large mill at his disposal, he had not, at latest accounts, succeeded in the task.—*Montreal Gazette*.

The British consul at one of the Chinese ports says that the cotton mills established by the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung at Wuchang in that country in 1892 are turning out large quantities of cloth and yarn. The mills work day and night, and employ about 2,800 hands. The men work twelve hours with only one hour's interval, and no difference is found in their capacity for work at night. The children ranging from nine years upwards work the same hours as the men. One thousand looms and 30,700 spindles are at work, and their daily output is about 650 pieces of cloth. The cotton used is a mixture of local growth and "Shanghai" cotton. Adjoining the cotton mills a spinning factory is being erected, which it is expected will be finished by the end of this year, and which is to contain 50,000 spindles.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

New York State's grape crop this year promises to be very heavy.

Sicilian lemons are going to be plentiful enough. At the first week of June there were 300,000 boxes of them in transit across the Atlantic.

Groceries are supplied to consumers in Great Britain and Ireland by fully 100,000 retailers, while the United States is credited with nearly 200,000 retail grocers.

Our Montreal letter says that Sultana raisins are very scarce and the Smyrna market advanced. The market in Montreal in fact is cleared of Denia and other raisins, while of currants there are fair supplies.

It is stated by a prominent fruit merchant of San Francisco, who was in Montreal, that the raisin crop of California will be late and light, and that prunes, while estimated to yield a fair crop, will run smaller than last year.

Caillon, Walker & Co., of Messina, report by letter the stock of filberts in Sicily to be 13,000 bags. They also say that the tone of the market there is firmer owing to a report that the new crop will not be up to that of last year.