

All communications, advertisements, etc., intended for insertion in "The Trade Review" should reach this office by Wednesday morning.

## General Summary.

The Ohio report estimates condition is 12 per cent below the general average.

In whale oil the market remains bare of crude with no change in quotations. Bleached is also dull and unchanged.

The reported improvement in the leather industry is confidently expected to increase the trade in nearly all varieties of fish oils, although at present dealers do not note much change in their business.

In cod oil the demand holds its own, being in no wise improved over last week's report. Newfoundland is quoted at 26c and 27c and domestic almost stationary at 25c in New York.

In sperm whale oil there is an extremely light demand for bleached, and of crude there have been no sales to speak of. The price of crude, owing to the fact that supplies have not been increased, remains nominally at 44c.

In 1892 the visible supply of wheat on March 1st was 23,000,000 bushels, or 20,000,000 bushels less than this season; about July 10, 1891, the visible was 11,805,000 bushels, Minneapolis and Duluth then holding more than half that amount. We perceive no reason why the visible and in visible supply will not be reduced to a very low point the coming summer.

Duluth millers report they have made careful estimate of the amount of wheat tributary to Minneapolis and Duluth to be 35,000,000 bushels, including country elevators and 12,000,000 bushels in farmer's hands; that the two cities and interior mills will require 48,000,000 bushels prior to September 1, 1897. This only leaves 4,000,000 bushels for Eastern shipment and export requirements.

Net-top laces are still excellent property, says a lace importer, particularly in the narrower widths, in six-inch goods and under. The only thing, he continues, is that we can't get them fast enough. It is an excellent lace season with all styles of light effects in laces selling. Veillings are selling well also plain and chenille dots in fine goods. Fancy veils in point d'esprit fancy borders are also popular this season goods with good quantities going forward.

The creditors of J. R. Ayer, Sackville, N. B. have not yet accepted his offer of 30 cents and he has assigned to William Ogden and F. McDougall, of the Merchants Bank of Halifax, Sackville, who have placed Mr. J. M. Baird in charge of the business. The factory has been shut down and over 110 hands thrown out of employment. There is some talk of forming a joint stock company and several local capitalists have signified their willingness to take stock in the enterprise.

The Allen Seed Company, of Pictou have given the farmers notice that they could not put out a bushel of peas to be grown this year as the McKinley tariff has put a duty of 80 cents a bushel on this seed. The company has paid as high as \$2 a bushel for peas to the farmers in that district, many of whom realized \$1,000 on the sale of the peas. The Allen Seed Company has supplied as much as 30,000 bushels of seeds to the farmers in Ameliasburg and Hastings county.

The Illinois State report says: "Winter wheat crop in 1896 was 28,000,000; in 1895 it was 19,000,000 bushels." The State Superintendent now estimates the 1897 yield will not be over 10,000,000.

Minneapolis and Duluth receipts since January 1st have been about 11,000,000 bushels against about 20,000,000 bushels in 1896. Same time Chicago receipts were about 11,000,000 against about 20,000,000.

Canada last year exported 6,221,670 dozens eggs, of which 5,585,725 dozens were sent to Great Britain and 891,980 dozens to the United States. Of the total Ontario contributed 2,231,648 dozens, Quebec 3,433,111 dozens, and Nova Scotia 56,739 dozens.

There is every prospect of a large make of butter in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories this approaching season. Several cheese factories are being changed for the manufacture of butter. An establishment which has turned out 300 and 400 pounds per day last year will double its output this season.

The salt industry around Lake Winnipegosis may develop into quite a business this summer. A salt mining outfit was taken to Dauphin last week and will be set in position at once. Manitoba may therefore soon become self sustaining in the matter of salt.

The Calgary Herald declares that it has received information from a reliable source, that the C.P.R. not only intends building a road through the Crow's Nest Pass, but also one through the Kootenay Pass which is about 50 miles further to the south, and is besides a much easier pass through which to build.

Owing to the large amount of work to be done on the Cornwall canal, of the St. Lawrence canal system, this spring, by the canal constructors, the water will and continue out until the 1st of May. Nearly all the manufacturing establishments in Cornwall will be closed down for that period.

Fitting out has been begun on the R. & O. fleet, which consists of twenty-four vessels, and two new steamers are to be built for the company. These will not be ready to go into commission, however, until the season of 1898. Most of the R. & O. western fleet are undergoing repairs at Sorel.

Russia's total wheat shipments since January 1st are 12,000,000 bushels, compared with 15,624,000 in 1896 same time. Argentine shipments past six weeks were but 880,000 bushels, against 6,118,000 bushels in 1896. The world's shipments to Europe a year ago averaged about 6,500,000 per week; of late the average is but about half that amount.

Elizabeth Island in Black Lake together with the club hut and all other buildings thereon was sold at sheriff's sale the past week, the property bringing \$732. This property was owned by the Black Lake Fishing Club, a company of prominent politicians and its sale was the result of disruption among the members.

Inspector Stark, of the Dominion detective department, has received a counterfeit 25 cent coin of the date of 1891. It is made of an alumina alloy, and bears a remarkable resemblance to the genuine article. In size and workmanship it is almost identical. It is a little light weight, and from this fact its detection will be made comparatively easy. Another way by which the spurious coin can be recognized is a peculiar oily feeling noticed when rubbed between the fingers.

The crop damage report from Illinois as reported received by the Illinois State Board of Agriculture says: The amount of damage is placed at 69 per cent of the area, reducing the total area to 682,000 acres for harvest; in many counties it is claimed the entire area will be ploughed up.

The Market Record says:—Instead of 88,000,000 bushels there are probably some 125,000,000 bushels in the farmers' hands, and, even with that, supplies would be 60,000,000 smaller in all hands on July 1st next than on July 1st, 1896.

The imports into the United Kingdom last week were 2,128,000 bushels of wheat, 3,078,000 corn and 208,000 barrels of flour. The imports and the farmers' deliveries made an aggregate of 4,031,500 bushels for the week's supply, indicating a decrease of 608,500 bushels in the English visible supply.

The State report of Oregon says that farming operations were prosecuted during February with much vigor. Unusual activity prevailed in sowing more than usual acreage of grain. Winter sown grain was in excellent condition and the weather has been favorable for a successful year.

A largely attended meeting of the farmers of Manitoba, and business men of Birtle was held at Birtle to protest against any further extension of charter or the granting of other privileges to the Great Northwest Central Railway company unless a pledge is given that twenty miles of line will be constructed this year.

In Toronto the following stocks were sold en bloc:—W. McWhinney, Alliston, general, \$9,845; M. C. Dale, Mitchell, dry goods, \$5,500; Edlicott Bros., Orangeville, general, \$7,500; H. S. Wilcocks, Pictou, groceries, \$6,400; J. W. Walker, Belleville, hardware, \$10,000; Ed. Fotts, Toronto, fancy goods, \$1,070.

Some statistics gathered by Sir Julius Vogel show that since 1840 the British Empire has increased in population from 112,100,000 to 306,312,000, while the yearly value of its "foreign" commerce has grown from £49,050,000 to £483,955,000. Compared with that record, the much vaunted development of other nations becomes picayune.

Quite a fleet of steamers has been chartered to load at St. John, N.B., for the other side during spring and summer at 40 to 42½ shillings. Three Spanish steamers have just been chartered for July, loading at 40 shillings. The rate from ports up the bay is about 42½ shillings. The first vessel to load up the bay for the season arrived at Hop-well cape last week.

Those insurance companies who were interested in the Murray fire have settled with the firm, the amount paid over being \$95,022.70 on a total of \$378,500 insurance carried on property valued \$417,944. A committee, which was appointed by the insurance people to investigate into the probable cause of the fire report that they are unable to arrive at a conclusion thereon.

The catch of lobsters in the Bay of Fundy and around the Yarmouth shore has been small thus far this season. The Yarmouth News states the shipment of live lobsters from that port during the months of January and February of the present year were 4,772 crates, against 5,777 crates in the same period of 1896. The amount received for them was \$51,105 this year, compared with \$2,893 in 1896.