

## Ribbons and Velvets.

It has been many years since ribbon sales have experienced such a perpetual demand for their goods, says The Commercial Bulletin of Minneapolis. It would be difficult to mention any particular kind of ribbon as having received a preference, for all kinds all widths, and all colors have been reaping the benefit of the general demand. Manufacturers of dresses, millinery and other female apparel have been buying ribbons as they were bought then before. Retailers all over the country report selling more ribbons now in a week than has been the custom in former years in a month. Wholesalers note an increase in the demand for plaid ribbons, fabrics of about medium width being the favorite. Fancy shade effects are also being asked for by the millinery trade. Orders for spring seem to be coming along to the satisfaction of the sellers in the wholesale trade. And, in fact, the spring order trade promises to be one of the best that has been experienced in many years, if not the best that has ever been known.

There is considerable activity in the high class velveteens at the present time. Agents have been receiving many calls for good sized orders in these goods for quick delivery and the market is considered in very good shape. Narrow velvets have been meeting with very satisfactory demand, but the wider goods, suitable for costumes, are showing the most life. Metal prints continue to be in great favor for waists, suits and costumes and the demand is sufficient to keep stocks from accumulating in sellers' hands.

## A Moderate Flax Crop.

In spite of a heavy increase in the acreage sown to flax this year in the northwest the crop aggregate is very little different from that of last year, according to Orange Judd Farmer correspondents located in all sections. The greater part of the increase area was in North Dakota, largely in the Red River valley, and a considerable part of this increment was due to the fact that the early season was too wet to permit of the seeding of the full wheat acreage.

The land which was seeded to flax as a last resort was naturally sown late, seeding being prosecuted as late as the middle of June, some of it being crop speculation. The season did not prove favorable to such late sown flax, being cool, wet and marked by early frosts. The result was some abandonment of area and a generally low rate of yield for the Dakotas. The season in Minnesota was rather more favorable, the crop being planted earlier, and consequently being less affected by the early frosts. Here the rate of yield reported is a fraction more than that of last year. In the northwest the season was better than last year, with a rate of yield and an aggregate crop slightly larger.

The following statement presents the Orange Judd Farmer estimate of flax acreage, yield per acre, and total crop, by states:

Minnesota	67,000	11.8	791,600
Dakota	66,000	10.9	719,400
Nebraska	104,000	9.2	956,800
Montana	40,000	6.1	244,000
Idaho	17,000	11.5	195,500
North Dakota	175,000	8.1	1,417,500
South Dakota	260,000	8.1	2,106,000
Wyoming	83,000	12.0	996,000
Total	1,400,000	8.7	12,353,400

The price of seed is materially lower than last year, ranging from \$1 to \$2 per bushel on the farm in the

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Lacey R. Johnson, of Montreal, assistant superintendent of rolling stock on the C. P. R., is in Winnipeg on business in connection with the erection of new Canadian Pacific Railway shops in this city, which, it is said, will be built next year.

"A granite tablet," remarked the moralizer, "is a splendid thing to perpetuate one's memory."

"Yes," replied the demoralizer, "but personally I prefer a string around my finger."—Chicago News.