

There is also a large catch on the Western Shore in the vicinity of Prospect and on the Cape Breton shore; these will probably be marketed in Halifax at about \$4 to \$5 per bbl. Fresh mackerel have been selling in Boston the past week for 6c. each for large and 3c. each for medium. The catch in the United States up to present is 16,000 bbls. over last year.

IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

A new article for fall is panne relevee. This is a panne that imitates fancy velvet in a sort of embossed effect, either plain or with printed pattern.

Including steam filatures, the supply of silk from Shanghai will, according to estimates, not exceed 65,000 bales next season, against 90,000 bales this season.

A good point for ribbons in the future, as far as millinery uses are concerned, is the help which they get indirectly through the efforts of the society which opposes the use of birds for trimming purposes. This may lead to the reacceptance of ribbons as the chief millinery trimming as soon as popular favor has become tired of the light silk piece goods favored this year and last.

As it is between seasons in the dry goods trade there is a general tendency on the part of merchants to reduce stocks, and this confines trade almost solely to sorting orders. The spring trade is practically over, and it is too early for developments for next season. In the United States the silk market is inactive. Dress goods show no change of conditions, but first orders were sufficient to give manufacturers enough to produce until the fall business opens. In other lines conditions are practically the same.

Textile mills in the United States report the demand for their products to be very quiet, with little new business coming to hand. A marked contrast is shown with the conditions ruling ten weeks ago, and as a few mills have this week stopped machinery for want of orders to keep it running, the heavy orders that were on hand must have been lessened by cancellations to bring about such a reduction of employment. These mills, however, are the exception, for the majority of manufacturers are pushed to their utmost to get out the orders they have on hand, and to accomplish this are running every machine, and cannot comply with their customers' requirements to deliver goods as promptly as is desired.

INSURANCE ITEMS.

The Provident Savings Life Assurance Society of New York has appointed Mr. J. Henry Miller, manager for Quebec. Mr. D. H. Peters, of Toronto, takes a similar position in the same company in British Columbia with headquarters at Vancouver. Mr. Miller was formerly an inspector with the Travelers' Insurance Co., while Mr. Peters was with the Confederation Life.

Fire on Saturday morning at St. John, N.B., destroyed the last factory of Robert Clarke. The loss is heavy and insurance small.

A suit has been entered at Montreal by C. A. McDonnell, curator of the W. J. O'Malley estate, against the Lancashire Fire Insurance Company, the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company, and the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society. The first named company has issued two policies of \$10,000 each, and the last mentioned two policies of \$5,000 each, upon the property of the firm of Blackley, O'Malley & Co., of which Mr. O'Malley subsequently became sole partner, the business coming ultimately into the hands of ex-Ald. Kinsella, who, it is alleged, on the part of the plaintiffs, held it only as security for certain obligations due him by Mr. O'Malley. On the 25th of January last, the property was destroyed by fire, the loss being \$14,424.59. The companies refused to pay the insurance, on the ground of violation of the conditions of the policies, which required the consent of the companies to every change of ownership. The point at issue is whether ownership of the property had been actually transferred to Mr. Kinsella, or

whether he had been merely put into possession temporarily, as alleged by the plaintiff.

The head office of the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society has instructed its Canadian manager, Mr. J. B. Laidlaw, to subscribe \$1,000 to the Ottawa-Hull Fire Relief Fund.

THE CHEESE BOARDS.

Cheese is holding its ground well. At the board meetings during the week the bulk of the business was done at 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. During last week 53,130 boxes were exported from Montreal, making the total shipment for the season 160,103 boxes, against 133,776 for the same period last year. We append the following table of transactions:

Boards and date of meeting.	No of factories.	Cheese boarded. Boxes.	Cheese sold Boxes	Price per lb. Cts.
Ottawa, June 1	..	988	all	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Perth, June 1	..	1,256	"	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$
Brantford, June 1 ..	..	1,300	"	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Iroquois, June 1	..	528	"	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Kemptville, June 1 ..	..	700	"	9 9-16 $\frac{1}{2}$
Chesterville, June 1 ..	..	504	bid	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
South Finch, June 1 ..	..	1,553	"	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
London, June 2	10	1,289	719	9 5-16-9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Watertown, June 2 ..	..	6,500	6,500	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Belleville, June 2 ..	19	1,445	645	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cowansville, June 2 ..	52	2,441	2,441	9 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$
Lindsay, June 4	..		all	9 $\frac{1}{2}$

—Brandon, fertile in schemes for relieving the stringency in the municipal treasury, has a new proposition before the Manitoba Legislature. Its representatives want power to hypothecate its tax sale lands in order to raise \$35,000 to pay arrears of interest on its bonded indebtedness. It desires to be allowed to issue short date debentures to take up the \$31,000 indebtedness, the new issue not to run longer than ten years, and it is hoped to redeem it in two or three years. The city's arrearages of taxes amounts to over \$100,000. A deputation of reeves from the Western Judicial district are protesting against the legislation asked for until some settlement is reached in regard to rental for the jail and courthouse. It is claimed that according to the agreement between Brandon and the municipalities, a sinking fund should have been formed; that the municipalities had been paying into this fund; that Brandon had been investing this money in tax lands and now wants to hypothecate the lands acquired with their money for the benefit of the city.

—The Parliamentary Committee of the Manufacturers' Association at a meeting held Tuesday to consider the proposed change in the Bank Act decided to recommend that a clause be inserted obliging the bankers to make public any loans to business men on the security of merchandise held by them. They contend that under the present law merchants bordering on insolvency may secure credit on goods in stock which are in reality hypothecated by the bank. Claims of this sort, while as binding as a chattel mortgage, do not affect the credit of the merchant, as there is no means of ascertaining if such a claim exists. All such claims, the committee contend, should be registered.

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, June 7th, 1900, compared with those of the previous week :

CLEARINGS.	June 7, 1900.	May 31, 1900.
Montreal	\$14,571,242	\$13,053,524
Toronto	11,176,040	9,186,980
Winnipeg	2,239,992	2,301,864
Halifax	1,571,061	1,328,116
Hamilton	821,866	723,868
St. John	778,164	630,880
Vancouver	990,697	857,992
Victoria	671,887	508,147

Aggregate balances, this week, \$5,138,070; last week, \$4,933,881