

## THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

## Effect of Dearer Cotton.

The advance in the price of cotton is far-reaching in the dry goods trade. Not only has it affected the consumption of the ordinary grey and white cotton, pillow cottons, sheetings, muscades, printings, etc., but it affects the value of almost every line in the tailoring and dressmaking trade. The summer clothes, which in various styles of finish, are now so popular, are made in the linen trade, that is to say, goods made from a combination of pure linen and cotton, linens are the most affected by the advance in the price of raw cotton and this fact will become more apparent as the coming season to consumers has been in the past. It is becoming more generally known now that the advance in the price of cotton is only partly due to the speculation in the markets for raw cotton, but, perhaps, that has been generally supposed. The opinion seems to be more generally prevalent now that the cotton production has not kept pace with the enormous increase in the demand. The enormous quantities of raw cotton in the United States, mercerized cloths, flannels, and various other lines contribute largely to the increase in the demand, and the result is that the demand for raw cotton has immensely increased. It is natural that with a short crop, or even an average crop, all this should result in putting up with a question of supply and demand. The advance in the price of raw cotton is not the only one on the British markets. Goods that cost \$34.42 twelve months ago are now selling \$43.42 to-day.—Toronto Globe.

## Dry Goods Trade Notes.

Another advance has been made in the price of shantung and white silks. Grey is to be popular for men's overcoats the coming fall and winter.

Ruby, tokay and claret are the shades of red that promise to be popular this fall.

Among the new things are velvet skirt waist suits. They are meeting with much favor.

Women will undoubtedly be a large demand for the walking length skirt for the fall trade.

The markets for gloves, hosiery and stockings are all quiet. The man gloves have advanced 6d to 1s.

Canadian made dress goods are in increasing demand. Their popularity is undiminished, and it is freely predicted that next season will see their sale increased.

Head work of every kind is in immense demand. The craze is still at its height and is still growing. Indian head work is the most popular in this material. Watch fobs are also made in many designs.

A brief letter says linen prices are not so hot as they were, and though buyers are very chary about the upward tendency, they may take it that the market movement will continue in that direction for the remainder of the year. Colonial goods are well sustained both in Australia and Canada sending in between July 30, the six months ended, and the total value of linens imported from the United Kingdom to 10 per cent, as compared with the first half of 1902.

According to latest advices from New York, the cotton market and its representatives are becoming more and more imbued with the idea of no further advance in the new crop. They argue that many mills will be obliged to stop as soon as the crop comes in, and the result will be a steady decline in prices in other cases there is the necessity of purchasing early in order to secure the trade required. The purchases, it is believed, will be made in such a way as to give the price which will do much to govern the price for the rest of the crop.

Muscadine Commercial Bulletin: There is a very great interest noted in the silk market. The firmness in Shanghai and another market is further strengthened by the firmness in the market. There is said to be a remarkable surplus stock in the hands of manufacturers. They are only for current orders, and the

result is that the mills are pretty well cleaned up. There has been a good deal of talking about the popularity of the new style of the dress, but not taking hold of the new style of dress to any great extent. Occasionally will be found a large retailer who will display a line of extreme novelties, but the most of them will stick to the plain and safe. While black and white and taffeta may be said to constitute the season's staples, there is a large order for white China and silk. Some dealers take and summer will be a great season for these goods.

## Grocery Trade Notes.

Canned pulses are firmer at primary points, quoths now standing at about 10c advance.

The cable reports speak well regarding Valencia raisins. It is, however, not expected that the markets will really open for these goods before August 15.

Grecian advices say: Currants promise well for quality, the vines being, however, are showing smaller in prospect, the bunches being smaller, but are expected to develop proportionately finer quality.

The operation of the new sugar factory at Raymond, Alberta, is expected to make considerable adjustment of the sugar business of the Northwest. It is expected that the supply for those parts have been drawn from British Columbia. The Raymond sugar factory is probably displacing the B. C. article in Territorial markets and in Western British Columbia as well.

A private telegram from Toronto to the Pacific coast states that all prices on the 1903 pack of canned salmon on the Fraser River have been drawn, and that packers have refused to accept further orders. This action, it is stated, is due to the continued light run of salmon. The telegram states that the fish have been taken in the Straits of Fuca. This confirms reports which have been current in Victoria regarding the pack.

## IMPLEMENT TRADE.

## The Twine Market.

Farm Implement News, of Chicago, in its review of the twine market at Minneapolis, says: The Northwest is not taking as much twine as is expected. The result is that there is a surplus of twine. The twine market is light, and it is more than probable that this market will carry some over. Twine will come in from southern Minnesota and South Dakota, but it is believed that if the twine market will receive up to \$3.00 a ton on Monday, August 17, tenders for the supply of 100 tons of "red top" or "timothy" hay. The hay is to be delivered at either of the fire stations as required from time to time.

The market here is irregular or, as one jobber expressed it, very elastic. Elongated twine will buy the twine and standard in small lots; some other twines can be had as low as 10c a ton. It is not the twine that the International agencies outside this city has offered to dealers, other than its own stock. No quotations less than this can be found at this writing even on per cent. The twine market is a national company has left its promises with its agents, and at this date all who did not need the twine were taken care of at 10½ cents.

As is usual here when the season draws near an end and twine is a little rapidly. One or two manufacturers who find themselves with an inventory of twine are putting it out to the brokers' hands. The twine market is certainly slow at this time, but the surplus of twine is surely not very large. The twine market is probably large, to clean out the twine.

## Implement Trade Notes.

Canadian manufacturers of vehicles intimate that unless the price of hardwood lumber prices is arrested soon it may become necessary for them to increase their prices for finished work.

Good authorities estimate that there will be 15,000 tons of twine raised

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over. The past season was the greatest the mill ever had since its total output to August 1st estimated at 1,100,000 tons for United States mills. The large stock to be carried over, having a depressing effect on the pump market, and steel pump, which means cheap twine for 1904.

## Hardware Trade Notes.

The eastern market for lined oil is uneasy owing to efforts of some holders to unload before the new crop comes in.

United States manufacturers of axes have decided to raise their prices to correspond to the increase in cost of production. Whether Canadian makers will follow or not remains to be seen.

## Lumber Trade Notes.

Hardwood lumber is still scarce at producing centers. Quartered white oak is one of the scarcest lines and the price holds firm. Quartered red oak is to some extent taking the place of white as it is cheaper. Maple is reported slightly lower.

## Tenders.

The Winnipeg fire, water and light committee will receive up to \$3.00 a ton on Monday, August 17, tenders for the supply of 100 tons of "red top" or "timothy" hay. The hay is to be delivered at either of the fire stations as required from time to time.

## Railway and Traffic Matters.

The Canadian Northern Railway Company is opening a new summer track at Oak Point on Lake Manitoba. Tracklaying on the loose end extension of the Canadian Northern Railway is expected to commence next week.

About 60 miles of the railway grade between Arcola and Regina have been completed. It is not known yet locally whether the rails will be laid this year or not.

The New York American says that the International Mercantile Marine may be compelled to incorporate in England, and will certainly be compelled to fly the British flag.

D. McNicol, second vice-president and general manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway, will leave Montreal today for a trip over the system through the Northwest to the Pacific.

The gross earnings of the Canadian Northern Railway for the week ending July 31, were \$10,900. The gross for the corresponding period last year were \$7,700, showing an increase for the present season of 33.1 per cent. This is an increase of 62.7 per cent.

Notice has been given in the Dominion house of a resolution to provide for the salaries of the new railway commission board. The chief commissioner will be paid a salary of \$10,000 a year, and the other two commissioners \$8,000 each. The secretary's salary is not to exceed \$4,000 a year.

The directors of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway have called a meeting to be held in Des Moines, Iowa, October 8, to consider the advisability of creating a bonded indebtedness in a sum not exceeding \$250,000,000, maturing January 1, 1988, at interest not to exceed 4 per cent. The proposed bonds will be issued for refunding all out-standing obligations of the company or constitute companies.

President Hill, of the Great Northern, has discovered that the tunnel recently constructed through the Cascade mountains at an expense of \$1,000,000, still carries too high grade in comparison with another route which his engineers have recently discovered. He can by the proposed new plans save about 25 feet in grade which he argues is sufficient to reduce operating expenses on the tunnel. Hence the tunnel will in time be abandoned.

The contract for the new round house and shops of the Canadian Pacific Railway at Winnipeg, which will be erected on the western portion of the grounds, was awarded to the Manitoba Construction Company on Tuesday. The work will cost about \$250,000 and consists of plain brick work. Over one-half mile of brick wall will be necessary and the job is the largest of its kind ever started in Winnipeg. Construction will start as soon as possible.

To prevent the owners of the railway from running a train over it, a detachment of mounted policemen has camped between the rails of the Frank and Grassy Mountain Railway just above where the rock slide occurred and are being reinforced by specials from Calgary. The police are on the rails to prevent traffic. Poupore & Leigh, the contractors who built the rock slide, are to be paid for the work involving \$21,000. An action for the recovery of this money is now before the court. The recovery of the money secured an injunction against the operation of the railway, tore up the track and planted special policemen on the rails in the nick of time to prevent thirty-two carloads of machinery going through. The injunction is to be argued in Calgary in a few days. The machinery, consisting of the coke ovens, which, after coming down the Horn, are stopped five miles from their destination.

## Insurance Notes.

The Superior Court of Michigan holds that a passenger on a vestibuled train is not guilty of negligence in passing from his car into the dining car when there is no moving at full speed and 21,000 passengers are on the train through one window of the vestibule, which was open, and is killed, if it is not shown that he knew or ought to have known the door was open.

The Canada Northwest Land Co., during the month of July disposed of 21,000 acres of land for the sum of \$140,000. The sales for July last year were 20,850 acres, for \$128,000.