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ally being increased and constantly
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son are also increasing in numbers,
for they find choice current litera-
ture at half regular prices.

SAN FRANCISCO COAL TRADE.

J. W. Harrison's latest San Francisco
coal report dated February 2 says:
"During the week the arrivals have
been from the Coast collieries, 27,557
tons; no foreign cargoes have come to
hand. Business in this line is still very
 brisk and prices steady. Wholesalers and
retailers are kept busy filling orders at
full prices, and have had a very profit-
able fall trade up to date. During Janu-
ary there have been periods when
British Columbia coals were almost
unobtainable, and teams have waited in
line several hours to secure a load;
latterly we have had free arrivals, and
the rush has moderated somewhat.
Tonnage is in demand to carry coal from
the Northern mines, and extreme rates
are being paid. Some new names have
been added to the loading list: at New-

castle, N. S. W., increasing the amount
about 10,000 tons; even with this ad-
dition the total quantity of foreign coal
loading for this port is exceptionally
small. The Cardiff and Liverpool lists
of coal carriers are very light and not a
vessel at any Scotch port; this must
lead to an increased demand later on for
our Coast products. Quoted freight
rates from England and Australia show
no decline."

PULP MATCHES.

A difficulty with common wooden
matches is their readiness in breaking at
critical times. The end may fly in-
to a pile of waste or lot of dry papers and
ignite the same and cause a fire. Many
fires have been traced to such causes.
In rubbing a wax match for lighting
purposes, it will bend without breaking,
and the end does not fly off. But wax
matches are too costly for practical use.
The new pulp match is flexible, and like
the wax match bends in igniting and
does not break, as is the case of the
wooden match. A chief feature of the
pulp match is that it can be bent double
and yet not break. A machine for pro-
ducing the pulp matches has been made.
A strip of prepared pulp is admitted into
the machine. The strip is as wide as a
match is long. Metal blocks are indented
with moulds the size of a match, and
each mould shapes matches from the pulp
strip.—*Maritime Grocer.*

London, England, is witnessing an
old time boom in speculation, but it is con-
fined to shares in South Africa gold
mines. Prices have been moved to
high figures due to free buying by the
English, French and Germans. The
"Statist" of that city says that after a
while the speculation now almost con-
fined to the South African department
will extend to other markets. The pres-
ent cycle of low prices will last until
credit recovers in the United States and
Australia. As soon as credit does revive
the large increase in the gold production
will begin to tell. Prices will rise slowly
at first and then rapidly, and we shall
probably see some years of better trade
than we have had for twenty years.

California fruit raisers and shippers
are beginning to consider the possibilities
of Washington shutting them out of
eastern markets, which they have so
profitably enjoyed during the past.
California has now to compete with a
railroad rate of 83¢ per hundred pounds
from this section to the St. Paul mar-
ket.—*Seattle Trade Register.*

Lewis Holman, of Kelowna, argues
that good tobacco can be grown there re-
turning \$225 per acre with a cos. of \$65
for seed and labor.