

The stationers' shops display a marked variety in color of crinkle paper, so much used for ornamentation, and the odd names the new shades are getting remind us of the Louisville *Post* story of the customer who, asking the name of a new shade of red, was told it was the Anarchist tint. "Anarchist!" said the lady with surprise, "how did it come to get that name?" To which the clerk replied, "It won't wash."

It is curious to read, as one may do if he has an hour to spare for the perusal of *Geyer's Stationer*, of the origin and development of the business in children's games and various educational appliances founded in 1860 by Milton Bradley in Hartford. From small beginnings this business has grown. Children's games, croquet materials, kindergarten supplies, Sunday school blocks—all these have been poured out with wonderful enterprise and skill for thirty odd years. It is said, indeed, that this firm are the largest makers of kindergarten materials in the world. Their factory of five stories in height covers a space of 150 by 250 feet.

DRY GOODS JOTTINGS.

Raw silk markets are firm.

The outlook for ribbons is good.

Golf jerseys, the popular English garment, are taking well with the trade in Canada.

A Montreal firm, H. Shorey & Co., boast of a sale of waterproof clothing to parties in Amsterdam, N.Y.

Outing windows are the particular feature of trade in July. People are looking for suggestions, and the newer and brighter you make them the larger your sales.

The new carpet factory at Elora, Ont., is now in full swing, and the proprietors, Messrs. Talbot, Cockroft & Harvey, are turning out Brussels and Wilton carpets of the newest designs.

The Montreal Cotton Co. has placed several new lines of dress canvases and grass cloths on the market. It is the intention of the company that these shall take the place of goods now imported.

A letter from Berlin says that several parasol manufacturers have completed their stocks for 1896. It is difficult to say what will be the prevailing styles. Last year's fashion brought the length of the stick and the smallness of the umbrella to an extreme, farther than which they cannot go. The probability then is that the tendency will be in the other extreme, to large and puffy styles.

ECHOES OF THE WOOL MARKETS.

Eastern dealers are offering 8 to 12 cents for wool on the Calgary market.

Wm. Irving, Merrickville, Ont., will run a woolen mill at Sundridge, Ont.

D. Munro, Carleton Place, Ont., has built a large addition to his wool pulling factory.

We speak of some men as all wool, probably because they shrink at nothing.—*Boston Transcript*.

Last year's clip of Canadian territorial wool amounted to about 500,000 lbs., and was purchased for the most part by a single firm. The clip of 1895 will be somewhat larger, and the competition of buyers is forcing prices upwards.

The news concerning the progress of the Australian clip are not as definite as one might wish. Lack of rain and poor feed has been a serious handicap to growers. The drop of lambs is likely to be small, and the wool clip will show traces of bad times for the sheep.

Sheep shearing is about over in this district and the clip has been a large one. In former years, the wool has been mostly purchased by John Hallam, of Toronto, but this year we believe there will be several buyers in the field, and competition may force the price a trifle. Sheepmen have seldom had a better season than this has been.—*Medicine Hat News*.

INSURANCE MATTERS.

The Brooklyn members of the defunct Order of Tonti are to get, within a few days, twenty-five per cent. of the money due them by the organization, and it is hoped that some day they may realize fifty per cent. of their investment.

A Bill to prohibit the insurance of children under ten years of age was lately voted upon in the lower house of the Massachusetts Legislature, and defeated by the overwhelming vote of 149 to 23. This vote, following as it does upon the most exhaustive investigation ever made into industrial insurance in this country, is an endorsement of the entire scheme of industrial insurance (family insurance) as it is carried on at the present day.

A Syracuse man, who has been a policy-holder in various assessment associations, made the following remarks in a letter to a New York insurance agent the other day: "I have been carrying assessment insurance for many years, having been in six companies. viz.: Order of Ægis, Order of Tonti, A.O.U.W., Royal Templars of Temperance, Home Circle and Golden Chain. Some have failed (one just about the time my certificate was to have matured). Others have increased their assessments till I considered it wise to drop out, and take up something that I could depend upon. I learned the fallacy of assessment insurance by experience, and by paying out hard-earned cash, which has profited me nothing."

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

ADVOCATE, Aylmer, propounds the following: "In referring to La Banque du Peuple, the *Globe* said that this bank, with the exception of one other, was the only bank in Canada with unlimited liability, and that the directors are held responsible for all losses. What is the name of the other bank, and are the stockholders in the same position as the directors in regard to impairment of capital?" [La Banque du Peuple corporation is a partnership in which the dormant members, who are equivalent to the ordinary shareholders, are liable to the extent of their subscribed stock and no more, but the active shareholders, who are the directors, are held liable to the full extent of their ability to pay. We do not recall any other Canadian bank similarly *en commandite*, but the Bank of British North America and the Bank of British Columbia shareholders are exempted from the double liability on their shares, these banks being specially excepted from the application of Section 89 of the Banking Act.—EDITOR M.T.]

LENDER, Port Hope.—It is disappointing, no doubt, to have one's income reduced in the way you describe, but it is not curable by any means that we can discover. Remember, it is not the mortgage loan societies alone that are affected. Private lenders are in the same box. The situation is fairly well described by a correspondent of ours, who says: "A loan company is precisely in the same predicament as a private individual, who, say, seven or ten years ago, lent \$5,000 for that length of time at 8 per cent. and took back his money on maturity of the mortgage. Then, finding that he could not re-invest at the same rate, he had to take 5 or 5½ per cent. for his money, or else leave it in the bank for probably 3 per cent."

CLEARING-HOUSE RETURNS.

The following are the figures of the Canadian clearing-houses for the week ended with Thursday, July 11th, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS.	July 11.	July 4.
Montreal	\$15,246,846	\$ 9,941,703
Toronto	6,655,305	6,366,772
Halifax	1,437,285	1,269,359
Winnipeg	905,808	973,911
Hamilton	813,524	692,913
Total	\$25,058,768	\$19,244,658

Aggregate balances this week, \$3,142,855; last week, \$3,228,071.

—Whether there are too many ocean steamships, or whether the rates of freight and passage are too low, it is a fact that there is no profit in the transportation business for many of those engaged in it. Not long since, the *London Economist* published statements of one hundred and forty-seven British steamship companies, from which it appears that of the number thirty-six paid no dividends last year, thirty-six paid less than 5 per cent., while none paid more than 7 per cent. The National line, running to New York, paid 1½ per cent. on its common stock in the year 1890 and nothing since. It paid 8 per cent. on its preferred stock in 1890 and 1891, and nothing since. The Cunard line paid 4 per cent. in 1890, 3 per cent. in 1891, 2 per cent. in 1892 and 1893, and nothing last year.

—A compliment to the status of Canadian medical schools is conveyed in the statement of Dr. R. Beverley Cole, of San Francisco, president of the American Medical Association, who has lately been visiting the principal medical colleges on this continent. That gentleman says, speaking without his notes, "If I remember rightly, the institution which impressed me as the best equipped was the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of New York. Second, I think, probably McGill University, of Montreal, was the most perfect; then, perhaps, Toronto, Harvard, Ann Arbor, the University of Pennsylvania and Rush Medical College, Chicago."

—By an inadvertence, the statement was made in our issue of 21st ultimo that the National Bank of Scotland, limited, has its head office in London. The head office of the bank is in Edinburgh.