

Grocery Trade Notes.

The injury to the Sultana raisin crop is now believed to be more serious than was at first supposed, and the outturn promises to be small. The English market advanced sharply.

Canadians may soon be shipping salmon to the States. American pack advanced recently and the supply is not large. Should the Canadian catch prove light prices will be very firm.

The Japan tea market in New York and Chicago is quite excited at present. Stocks are very low and fully 3c a lb dearer. Some American dealers are enquiring in Canada for stock.

A private cable from Patras, Greece, last week stated that the progress of the peronosporos was still unchecked, and that holders of old currants were exceedingly firm in their views. It is estimated that the total crop of new currants will not exceed 80,000 tons.

Late mail advices from Denla on raisins say: The growing crop of Muscatel grapes is so far favorable, the quantity of grapes on the vines being larger than last year but as there has been no rain since last November, the probabilities are now that the berries will be small, and the vintage ten to fifteen days later than last season.

New York, July 9.—The American Sugar Refining Company to-day advanced all grades of refined sugar 1-10 of a cent. Sugar, raw, strong and held higher; fair refining, 1/4c; centrifugal, 96 test, 43c; standard "A," \$5.80; confectioners' "A," \$5.80; mould "A," \$6.25; cut loaf, \$6.10; crushed \$6.10; powdered, \$6.10; granulated, \$6.00; cubes, \$6.15.

Since the recent advances in sugar prices commenced, prices at New York have gone up 75c per 100 pound and at Montreal 45c. Granulated is now worth at Montreal \$1.90 per 100 pounds, and yellows at \$1.20 to \$1.80 at the factory. The raw beet sugar market is very strong and prices are now at a higher level than they have reached for many months. Cane is also much higher in London.

According to some cables received from Barbadoes during the past few days a much stronger feeling has developed in the market for molasses, as another advance in prices has been established. There has been more enquiry on spot for round lots and it is reported that holders of Barbadoes stock in Quebec are asking as high as 40c, but we did not hear of any sales being made.—Montreal Gazette.

The strong undertone to the market for refined sugar continues, and American refiners marked up prices 10c per 100 lbs. on all grades to-day, and advices to hand state that they are three weeks in advance oversold of all hard grades. In consequence of the above, refiners here fell in line, and marked up prices on all grades 10c per 100 lbs. The demand continues good and an active business is doing at \$5 for granulated, and at \$1.30 to \$1.90 for yellows, per 100 lbs., as to quality at the factory.—Montreal Gazette, July 10.

Dry Goods Trade Notes.

Toronto and Montreal dry goods houses have been busy this month taking goods out of the customs warehouses which have been waiting for the increase in the preferential reduction on British goods, to go into effect. It is reported that the customs business at Montreal since July 1, has been the largest by far in the history of that port. Leading eastern dry goods men believe that the reduction will have the effect of greatly increasing the importations of British goods.

THE HARDWARE TRADE.**CANADIAN IRON MARKET.**

Business in iron and metals is quiet, as it usually is at this season, and with intelligence from outside markets of an irregular character, buyers are still impressed with the idea that prices have not yet touched bottom and are acting accordingly. Despite this attitude however, it is worthy of note that current orders, notably for hardware, while confined to small quantities, are fairly numerous, and some observers conclude from that fact that stocks in dealers' hands throughout the country, must have been well broken into, and that despite the uncertainty regarding values the current daily volume of trade has been fairly satisfactory. Advices from American iron centres note another decline in pig iron, and the Iron Age states that before a turn for the better can be expected Bessemer pig iron will have to go to \$15 at Pittsburg, and steel billets to \$20 or thereabout. The pending uncertainty regarding the crops is another deterrent factor. If there is an average crop, it seems reasonable to expect a good fall trade, and if not the reverse.

Black sheet iron is somewhat lower this week, with No. 28 quoted at \$3 on spot, and sleigh shoe steel has also been marked down to \$2.65. There has been no change in any other lines of iron material. In metals, copper is quiet at 17 1/2c, and at this price, is \$2 per 100 lbs. below the figure for the corresponding period last year. Lead is cabled firm from abroad, and there is no change here. The same remarks apply to spelter, but tin has been easier abroad and is quoted here at 31c. This metal now stands in London £17 the ton above the low price of the present year, and £14 below the high price, which shows what violent fluctuation it has been subjected to.—Montreal Gazette.

HARDWARE TRADE NOTES.

The Standard Oil Company have had a \$3,000,000 fire in their oil tanks at Bayonne, N. J.

The turpentine market at Savannah has been much firmer of late and prices have had an upward tendency under a fair demand.

Steam refined seal oil weakened last week at Montreal and prices declined 2 1/2 to 5c per gallon. Demand is very light owing to high price.

Another mammoth plant for the manufacture of iron and steel is projected at North Sydney, N. S. The ores owned by the promoters of the new company are quite as large as those of the Dominion Iron and Steel Co. of South Sydney. It is understood that Mackenzie & Mann are interested in the new scheme.

Implement Trade Notes.

Work has been commenced on the foundation of a new warehouse for the Massey-Harris Company at Neepawa, Man.

Southern twine men are about disgusted with the situation of that article at present. The recent cut in prices, due to short crops, instead of inducing a rush of orders has only led to greater stagnation and there is almost absolutely no sale for twine now in northern territory. Mostly all the orders booked earlier have been cancelled and the others will be if the outlook does not improve. Prices are about as hard to quote as they can be as there is so much cutting being done by speculators and catalogue houses,

Moreover there is so little business being booked that quotations are largely nominal in any case.

The trade in all kinds of implements and vehicles south of the boundary has fallen off greatly since the full effect of the recent drouth has come to be realized. The crops in most parts of the two Dakotas and Minnesota is so short that most of the farmers will be well satisfied if they get back enough for seed and bread. In consequence the demand for implements has fallen off so that instead of a shortage there will likely be a large surplus to hold over for another season. The dealers are not at all satisfied to do this as there is every expectation of lower prices next year. Haying machinery may sell later on as there a big demand for hay and everything that will pass at all will be cut.

Lumber Trade Notes.

The yellow pine lumber manufacturers of the United States are reducing their prices.

Large forest fires are devastating the forest within eight miles of Dawson City, Yukon, started by carelessness of woodcutters.

The falling off in building operations in Toronto is affecting the demand for lumber seriously. For the half year ending June 30 building permits fell off \$55,406. During the month of June alone there was a falling off of \$75,745.

The recent rains have swollen the waterways around the Lake of the Woods so that logs can now be floated to the mills at Rat Portage and the mills which have been idle are busy again. Since the heavy rains began last week 6,000,000 feet of logs have come down the Little Forks from the American side and the Rat Portage Lumber Co. will, it is estimated have 10,000,000 feet in the government boom on Rainy river by to-night. The same company has five or six million feet now on their way down from Denmark lake.

The hay crop of the Northwestern States is largely a failure, and it is being freely predicted that hay will go to \$20 per ton in the twin cities.

An international good roads convention was held at Port Huron, Mich., last week at which a great deal was done in the direction of stirring up interest in this important subject. Steps were taken towards forming a permanent good roads association for Canada and the United States. Canada was well represented at the convention. Among the Canadian delegates was A.W. Campbell, Ontario road instructor. It was found that Ontario leads in the matter of good roads among the states and provinces. The unanimous opinion was expressed that the state should assist in constructing good leading roads because of their advantage to the general development of the country, and a resolution favoring the employment of convict labor in their construction was adopted. The most interesting part of the meeting was a visit made in wagon trains drawn by traction engines to see actual macadam road-making for which the city of Port Huron had provided funds and on which the most approved methods, materials and implements were employed, among other novelties being a traction engine easily converted into a steam roller, the extra parts to the engine for this purpose costing only \$400, making it well within the means of most municipalities.