

foregoing wheats will not be accepted by all; but I write from actual experience and with a knowledge of them all, although some of them have not passed through my hands just recently. Large millers, although sometimes taken in, can overcome their difficulties, but to small millers a faulty lot of wheat means disaster, and I should strongly advise them to shun the doubtful kinds and use those which they can fully trust even if they cost more money. Low-priced wheat is not always cheap, indeed, it may prove very expensive in the end. Some of our most successful millers have done well with the despised Indians, and one, at least, closed his mill when he could no longer buy it to advantage. Of all the wheats we use I think Russians (the most variable and uncertain, and altogether the most risky. Any one who has had an experience with "watery" Russian wheat flour can appreciate my warning, as it is an experience such as no other wheat that I am acquainted with can give. It would be dear at a gift unless it was neutralized by something of opposite character, like Indian, but even this would be only partially successful, and I again warn small millers to be on their guard, leaving the larger men to take up and deal with these bargains. Good flour can be made only from the right sort, or correct combinations of wheat, and there are plenty of these from which to choose in the above described kinds, and if the hints therein given are followed, there is no great danger of going astray.

### Fall Dress Goods.

Trade in fall dress goods continues to hold the attention of retailers and wholesalers and everyone concerned is busy with orders, shipping and receiving goods, says the Toronto Globe. The goods for the coming autumn are very attractive, presenting good value generally, and promise to contribute largely to putting some snap into trade for the coming season when it gets into full swing. Values of imported dress goods are firmer now than they were in the opening of the season. Repeats are costing local wholesale people more money than original orders. In one case, which is a fair sample of a good many others, a certain line which cost 10½¢ was repeated at 11½¢, which is an advance over the original price of 10 per cent. The firmness in the market for fine wools is responsible for these advances. The orders for the fall are bigger and in many cases more expensive goods than a year ago. It is understood here that the stocks in the hands of retail merchants in the country are light and large sales are expected the next six weeks. The current orders so far this season for the fall have called for more expensive lines than last year. There are more dress goods selling at 50¢ to \$1.50 per yard than a year ago. As to styles, as the season advances, the remarks previously made are being weekly confirmed. This season will be a plain goods season. There is no doubt of that fact. There is a good demand now for Amazon, Soleil, satin cloths and honeysuckle, these being among the chief features of the season. Cheviots are stronger than ever. Cashmeres are still going out freely and will be used largely for dressing gowns, evening wear, etc. Plain and printed opera flannels will be largely wanted this coming fall, orders for them already having come forward encouragingly. In colors, black will be the leader this coming season. Navy blues and cardinals are strong favorites. Hussar blue, a new color, should be in big demand. The Hussar blue is between a royal blue and a bright navy and will likely be a big feature the coming season. Beige, a light fawn and browns, are thought well of.

The Winnipeg board of trade has been notified by S. J. McLean, Dominion commissioner of railway rate grievances, that he will hold sittings in Winnipeg on Saturday and Monday next, so that rate grievances complained of may be presented to him. Mr. McLean, in a printed circular letter, requests that formal written or typewritten statements, containing detailed information with reference to the grievances complained of should be presented to him. The board of trade has placed its board room at Mr. McLean's disposal for holding sessions.

### Grocery Trade Notes.

The United States starch trust is making advances in its prices which amount roughly to about 25 per cent., mostly on package lines. Its excuse for this action is the prospective short crop of corn.

Word has been received that there has been a big run of salmon on the Skeena river which will probably bring the pack up to an average size but it cannot be a large one owing to the poor run at the beginning of the season.

Mall advices report that the crop of prunes in France has been injured seriously by the dry, hot weather. The crop of Turkish prunes is estimated up to 2,000 carloads for Serbia and 2,000 carloads for Bosnia, or a total of \$5,000,000 pounds, against \$6,500,000 pounds last season. Estimates on the California crop vary from 10,000,000 to 20,000,000 pounds.

A report from Chicago on Tuesday said: Prices on all classes of brooms will be advanced at a meeting of the brush and broom manufacturers of the United States, which is being held here to-day. The broom manufacturers has been forced to charge the dealers more because of the advance in broom corn. The increase will range all the way from 25 to 50 cents a dozen.

Canadian packers of canned vegetables have formed a syndicate to maintain prices and regulate the output. They have already made advances of 2½ and 5¢ on corn and peas respectively and of 5¢ on tomatoes. Further advances were expected to take place this week. Small crops in some of the lines which the syndicate factories pack is furnishing an excuse for these advances.

The Pall Mall Gazette, London, has discovered that an effort is being made in Greece to corner the supply of currants. It states that proposals have been made, though the conclusions cannot yet be definitely stated, for buying the entire yield of the vines for a period of from three to five years. In connection with this operation a project is mooted for the establishment of a great distillery for the manufacture of industrial alcohol to supply the whole of Greece.

On currants the Hills Bros. Company say: "Owing to pressure to realize by one of the receivers per Marco Minghetti the market has experienced rather a sharp decline, but at the moment is steadier. The demand continues in a jobbing way only. Statistically the position continues favorable, light stocks being held in all countries. Advices from London note a steady demand from all quarters. The new crop from all advices is progressing most satisfactorily, everything being favorable to the outcome of a crop of excellent quality, and in quantity possibly as much as 140,000 tons. Our friends advise us that the retention is likely to be fixed at 15 per cent., which would give as available for export 120,000 tons, or somewhat less. Buyers in this country have so far shown little interest in the new crop, but we are advised that considerable sales have been made in Europe."

### THE HARDWARE TRADE.

#### MONTREAL PAINT, OIL, AND GLASS MARKET.

In this department of the trade the feature has been the active demand for Paris green, and as the stock on spot has been well exhausted, a sharp advance in prices has taken place. In consequence. In regard to linseed oil prices have been well maintained. In spite of the fact that recent advices from abroad have been easier. Turpentine is steady and in good demand. Steam refined seal oil rules firm. The demand for all lines has been good and the volume of business is fully up to the average for the season. We quote: White lead, best brands, government standard, \$5.25. No. 1, \$5.87½. exterior white, \$5.87½. No. 2, \$5.65. No. 3, \$5.12½. white zinc, paints, pure, 3c. No. 1 dry white lead, casks, 5c to 5½c. in kegs, 5½c to 6c. mixed paints, \$1.20 to \$1.40 per gallon; putty, in barrels, \$2.20; do., in boxes, \$2.25; tins, \$2.45 to \$2.75; linseed oil, raw, 82c to 83c, boiled, 85c to 86c; steam refined seal oil, 50c to 52½c, pure prime cod, 32c to 33c. Turpentine, 54c to 55c, glass, first break, \$2.10; second, \$2.20 per 50 feet; first break, per 100 feet, \$4.10, second, \$4.20, third, \$4.70, fourth, \$4.95, fifth, \$5.20, sixth, \$5.70, and seventh, \$6.20.—Gazette.

### HARDWARE TRADE NOTES.

Turpentine has advanced 3½¢ per gallon in United States markets lately.

The strike in the mills of the American Sheet Steel Company threatens to tie up the stove making industry of the United States to some extent, and there are prospects of advances in prices in the early future if the trouble to the steel mills continues.

Barbed wire fencing is still in short supply in this market. Notwithstanding the numerous other varieties of excellent fencing now being offered as substitutes for the cruel barbed wire it still seems to hold a large place in the esteem of the farmer, probably owing to its cheapness, and jobbers find themselves unable to meet the demand for it. Factories are all away behind with their orders.

Reports from the south indicate that the wire nail markets of this continent appear to be unsettled, largely owing to strike conditions in the United States. The strike in the three big branches of the billion dollar trusts industries is still on and judging from appearances is likely to continue. The reports of crop damage in the western states is having a detrimental effect. Demand in some lines is large and there are advances to be noted in prices of sheet iron and bars at mill points.

### THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

#### THE MILLINERY BUSINESS.

The trade in wholesale millinery the current season has given very satisfactory results. The season has been a great one for chiffon, and for black satin and velvet ribbons, the latter being used not only for hat garniture, but also for dress trimming. Never before in this market has there been such an active demand for chiffon as has been experienced the present season. The cause was the large number of hats, built up, so to speak, from chiffon in place of what is known to milliners as the dress hat shapes. While the demand called chiefly for black, white and cream, the demand ran largely to black. Black indeed was the feature of the season's trade in this connection, and sales of that color were so large as to be quite remarkable. The sales of ready-to-wear hats have also been very large this season. These hats appear now to be almost as indispensable as the ubiquitous and useful shirt waist. They are not only stylish and jaunty, but are usually made so as to stand a good deal of rough usage and are therefore specially adaptable for going-away hats and for outing headgear. One error which dealers made in connection with the ready-to-wear hats was their effort too early in the season to make attractive drives of lots picked up from jobbers. One or two dealers went to New York and got a lot of these hats, which they offered at or near the original cost prices. Then others followed suit, getting job lots from Canadian makers, and cutting into the prices, which were already down to hard-pan basis, and in the face of such competition, with everyone trying to undersell his neighbor, prices were put down much lower than was at all necessary, and opportunities to make fair profits comparatively early in the season were lost.

It is too early yet to say much about fall styles in millinery. A few things about the trade, however, may be taken for granted. The outlook for trade is certainly very bright. The same factors that make for improvement in the general dry goods trade are working for the benefit of the millinery business. The coming fall will certainly be a big velvet season. Velvets will be the big feature of the coming season. Plain velvets will be most in demand, but fancy panne velvets, in plain spot and Persian effects, will be largely sold. A feature in the make of hats will be the crowning in fancies of all kinds, including silver and jet embroidered crowns. In colors it is already evident that the leaders will be brown, castors, all shades of green, fawn, blues, but the preference is likely to be strongly given to the first three named colors.—Toronto Globe.

#### DRY GOODS TRADE NOTES.

Velvets promise to be in popular demand this fall and prices will hold firm.

The recent reduction in two numbers of spool cotton, is explained, says the Toronto Globe, by the fact that large dealers in the old country had lately

been sending goods into Canada and selling them 30 cents per gross lower than the combine prices. In order to meet this cut the combine had to reduce the prices on the same numbers. The dealers who undersold the combine got their supplies from the combine, so that when they were able to undersell the manufacturers from whom they bought the thread it appears that the makers must have been getting fancy prices from the trade. The spool cotton combine is a most prosperous concern, and is able to pay dividends of 40 per cent to its shareholders.

A Nottingham letter says: Many branches of the lace trade are in a very dull state. In fancy millinery departments good quality of Valenciennes, torchons, malines and some heavy laces with all-over nets and galons are in favor. Fancy Plauen laces are not so much in request. There is no improvement in the cotton embroidery trimming department, and Irish crochet trimmings move slowly. The silk lace branches are depressed, but specialties in plain and fancy veilings are selling steadily. A large business is being done in Honiton braids, headings and purses, and manufacturers of caps, aprons, collar-cuffs, shirts, ruffles and articles of underwear are well engaged. Bobbin nets are in moderate request, but there is a fair demand for Brussels, Bretonne and Machin laces, as well as for spotted nets.

### Lumber Trade Notes.

The Minneapolis shingle market has been a little easier this week owing to setbacks given business by poor crop prospects in the south.

In Canada is situated what is said to be probably the largest forest in the world. It is in the Labrador and Hudson Bay district and is roughly estimated at 1,700 miles long by 1,000 miles wide.

The Pigeon River Lumber Company will commence work shortly on the new mill which it proposes to erect at Port Arthur, Ontario. The capacity of the mill when complete will be 20,000,000 feet per annum, besides which there will be a number of woodworking processes carried on.

A letter from Harrison Watson, curator of the Canadian section of the Imperial institute, has been received at the department of trade and commerce, Ottawa. He says that a gentleman in the timber trade purposes visiting Canada in September, with the object of making arrangements for obtaining large and regular supplies of shooks for fruit and egg cases. At the same time, on behalf of a friend of his who has a United Kingdom and South African business, he desires to arrange for supplies or agencies in such lines as leather, lobster, flour, cardboard, cheese, furniture doors and woodenware, either for both the United Kingdom and South Africa, or for South Africa only.

### New Railway from Moscow to Trans-Siberian.

The Moscow-Riazan Railway company has just submitted to the Russian government a project having for its object the construction of a line of railway joining Moscow directly with the Siberian railway. This new line, including the section already constructed between Schikrane and Svijsk—123 versts—will have a length of 1,602 versts. By its aid the distance by railway between Moscow and Tcheliabinsk on the Siberian line will be reduced by 270 versts compared with the journey by Samara, Syzran, Rousaleff, and Riazan. The line to be constructed will be divided into two parts, having a total length of 1,479 versts. The construction of this line will necessitate the construction of five large bridges, viz.: (1) On the Oka near Mouroum, 300 sajenes long, (2) on the Volga near Svijsk, 600 sajenes long, (3) on the Viatka near Mamodeche, 300 sajenes long, (4) on the Kama near Benefnie-Tchehnoff, 400 sajenes long, (5) on the Bielala near Kebanoff, 300 sajenes long. One sajene equals 7 feet. These five bridges alone will, therefore, comprise a total length of over 2½ miles. The line will take six years to build, and will, it is estimated cost 110 million roubles.

First samples of new crop Kansas flaxseed have been offered on the market in Chicago. The grade is said to be very low and the oil producing qualities of the seed very poor. It sold at \$1.75 per bushel. Destructive weather conditions have lessened the prospective yield.