

PRICE ADVANCES IN DRYGOODS NOTED

Rise in Wool Reflected in Higher Tendency in Manufactured Articles Principally Men's Wear

PRINT CLOTHS ACTIVE

New Prices Must Prove Attractive to Buyers and Concerns Having Large Plants Will Gradually Find Consumption at Better Price Will Increase.

(Exclusive Lease With The Journal of Commerce.)

New York, December 18.—Business in the dry goods trade was active during the week, and price advances were noted in several articles. The rise in wool has been reflected in a higher tendency of prices on wool products, particularly on men's wear, on which prices are being arranged for the next fall season.

There have been some satisfactory sales of raw wool in the past few days to manufacturers who regard a better demand for some new lines of goods brought out for spring. It is not contended that the sellers will make any great profit, but the raw wool markets have apparently touched bottom and are steadier than they have been in the past few months.

Additional reports confirm the statements recently made of quite a sizeable business done in print of cloths of wide construction and in both regular and odd constructions for future delivery.

In some instances the buyers refuse to confirm the sales and in others sellers make denial. Nevertheless, the business done has been of a substantial character and one of its most interesting phases is that the contracts will run through the last half of next year. The early indications of business on prints and percale are in keeping with expectations. Agents did not look for a great rush to buy, but they predicted a quickening that would reach down to most of the large houses within a day or two. This has occurred. The new prices of percale are decidedly attractive. In the anxiety to secure some business some printers have been making special trades, and in these cases substantial orders have been booked. The wisdom of making two prices on percale is being questioned by some agents and the peculiar division of the business is likely to prove unsettling. The fact that gray percale is included in some lines as whites or light grays is thought odd by printers who know how scarce some of the aniline dyes are, but it seems to be a case where each printer is following his own condition as to dyestuffs in making sales. So far as narrow goods are concerned, it is stated that sales have been large enough to clean up the limited stocks that were held when the price changes were made.

Some buyers and some sellers still insist that a price reduction was not warranted. The fact that the policy of protection is in jeopardy has been known for a long time, and the fixing of a definite date on which protection will cease on current sales is being strongly inferred to mean that all printers will stop giving protection at that time.

It is very certain that the new prices must prove attractive to buyers, and the concerns that have large plants will gradually find that consumption at a higher price will steadily increase, as it has been increasing on certain of the bleached cottons.

STEEL AND METAL DIGEST.

The "Steel and Metal Digest" says that during November there has come over the metal trade a complete change in sentiment. A liberal advance took place in tin, copper, spelter and lead during the month and continued fractionally in the first week in December. In lead and spelter large exports aided this advance, but in copper the export demand was limited by difficulties of shipment to all European countries except Great Britain and France, and the impossibility of shipping to Germany, our largest foreign customer. Under these circumstances it is remarkable that copper should have advanced, and its position is important because next to iron and steel, this is the most important commodity by which to judge a change in fundamental conditions. The "Digest" says that the explanation is that sentiment has completely changed in copper an din every other metal except iron and steel, and indicates that confidence and recovery have commenced in the mind of business. Twenty-eight leading mines produced normally 1,200,000,000 pounds per year, but the curtailment programme now in effect has reduced the total to not over 750,000,000 pounds—an amount insufficient to meet the domestic demand plus the absolute necessities of foreign manufacturers. The conclusion is that the surplus stock in this country is being eaten into materially. There is as yet no such favorable development in iron and steel, and it would seem, as must the whole interior business of the country, and this cannot take place in any degree with the railroads in their present plight. Nevertheless, it is not impossible, and, in fact, is highly probable, that the large purchases from abroad of all commodities will gradually carry us into a great war market, which will favorably affect every interest. With the enormous sums being spent already, and with every prospect that these will increase steadily, we should arrive at a period of higher prices and the greatest activity.

As we go to press it is persistently reported, that the five per cent. increase will be granted by the Interstate Commerce Commission. If such action is taken, it will help the whole situation.

EXPORT TIMBER TRADE.

Comparative annual statement of shipments of wood goods to Great Britain, Continent and South Africa. Seasons 1913-1914:—

Table with columns: Shippers, No. of Ft. B.M., No. of Ft. B.M.

COPPER EXPORTS.

New York, December 18.—The Department of Commerce reported the exports of copper for week ended December 12th as 7,890,597 pounds, valued at \$990,009. Of the total 4,711,113 pounds went to France, and 1,945,214 to Sweden. There were no shipments to Italy or Germany.

Imports of ore, matte and regulus "copper contents" amounted to 1,082,634 pounds, and pigs, ingots, bars, plates and old 3,979,183 pounds.

LIVERPOOL COTTON, 2 P.M.

Liverpool, December 18.—2 p.m.—Futures quiet, prices up 2 1/2 to 3 points. Sales 6,000, including 4,600 American.

May-June, 4.20%; July-Aug., 4.27%; Oct.-Nov., 4.38%; Jan.-Feb., 4.43.

STOCK LUMBER CO. Boston 18.—The Woodstock Lumber Co. has taken a lease of the site of the Ray Lumber Company, consisting of 7, Range 9. The timberland tract covers. The new operators will harvest and pine.

purchase of this property by the Ray Lumber Co. was controlled by Massachusetts courts from three miles was constructed from the Railway, just west of Brownsville, the town of Ray sprang up with a for employes and stores.

management, 400 men were employed. It is understood that the Woodstock Lumber Co. will operate on a still larger scale.

AT OPENED ACTIVE. ber 18.—Wheat opened active and higher, decreasing receipts and increasing buying on the heavy export market with wheat, but quiet and steady.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS

Butter showed no change in the condition of the market to-day, prices being about steady with a fair amount of business doing for local account.

Finest creamery 27c to 27 1/2c
Fine creamery 26 1/2c to 26 3/4c
Seconds 25c to 25 1/2c
Manitoba dairy 25c to 25 1/2c
Western dairy 25c to 25 1/2c

The tone of the market remains very firm on account of the small stock on spot and the trade is quiet.

Finest Western, white 15 1/2 to 15 3/4
Finest Western, colored 15 1/2 to 15 3/4
The tone of the market remains firm with a fair volume of business doing in all grades for local account.

Strictly fresh stock 48c to 50c
Selected cold storage 31c to 32c
No. 1 cold storage 29c to 30c
No. 2 cold storage 25c to 26c

In beans the feeling is firm on account of the small supplies available on spot and the fair demand for the same.

Hand-picked beans, per bushel \$2.70 to \$3.30
Choice 1-pound pickers 2.40 to 2.45
Three-pound pickers 2.45 to 2.50

Demand for dressed poultry continues fairly good, of which supplies coming forward are ample to fill requirements, and there is no change in prices to note.

Turkeys, per lb. 14 1/2 to 15c
Chickens, per lb. 11 to 11 1/2c
Ducks, per lb. 11 to 13c
Geese, per lb. 9 to 11c
Fowl, per lb. 9 to 11c

A steady feeling prevails in the market for potatoes but the trade is quiet in Green Mountains at 60c per bag in car lots ex-track, and in a jobbing way at 70c to 75c per bag, ex-store.

CUSTOMS DECISIONS.

The Board of Customs has rendered the following decisions:— Composition foil, being lead foil, coated with tin (per sample) declared to be free of duty under tariff item 343.

"Mineral Black," "Vine Black," dry (being bone black and clay), and screened soda, declared to be dutiable under tariff item 711.

Magnesia pipe covering, per sample, declared to be dutiable under tariff item 711.

Classification of articles under tariff item 696; declared, that the following article is free of duty when imported under the conditions in tariff item 696, viz:—"Lantern Slides" and "Photographic Films," as photographic reproductions, also adding machines, not being cash registers; further, that magic lanterns, stereoscopes, cameras and moving picture machines are not exempt from duty at philosophical and scientific apparatus under tariff item 696.

The Board of Customs has rendered the following decisions:— Chester, Pa., December 18.—A mammoth plant for the manufacture of dye stuffs is to be erected near this city. For this purpose a tract of 75 acres at the corner of the intersection of the Pennsylvania and Delaware roads is to be purchased by the Benzol Products Co. of Philadelphia, which is backed by capital to exceed \$100,000,000. The war in Europe is said to be responsible for the location of the big concern near this city.

Manufacturers of textile goods have been hard pressed recently to secure dyestuffs, especially aniline oil. Mills in this city and vicinity have been compelled to close, owing to the scarcity of dyes or to decrease the number of working hours. The management of the Benzol Products Company says this condition will be greatly relieved by the establishment of their plant at Marcus Hook.

Work upon the mammoth buildings to be erected to accommodate the machinery necessary to operate the plant will be started this week, and when in operation the concern will employ about 2,000 skilled workmen.

BOOKED ORDERS FOR MILLION AND HALF PAIRS OF SHOES.

Boston, December 18.—Endicott, Johnson and Company factories are running full, and last week's production was at the rate of close to 60,000 pairs of shoes a day. Its pay-roll was the largest for any single week in the company's history, being about \$100,000.

It is understood the company has taken orders within the last week or two for between 200,000 and 300,000 pairs of army shoes, which makes the total booked by this company in excess of 1,500,000 pairs.

NAVAL STORE MARKET

New York, December 18.—There was little business moving in naval stores, but this is the usual thing at this time of the year, and the trade looks for improvement after the inventories are passed. Some small jobbing orders are being filled for spirits and rosin at the basis of previous prices, but sales of round lots are the exception.

Spot turpentine was quoted at 47 cents, but probably 46 1/2 cents might have been done on actual business. Sales were made the previous day at the latter figure, not as was reported by a typographical error at 45 1/2 cents.

Tar was still held at \$6.50 for kiln burned and 60 cents more for retort. The supplies are moderate. Pitch is still dull at \$4.00.

Rosins were repeated for all grades with business very hard to mouth. Common to good strained is \$3.65 to \$3.70.

The following were the prices of rosins in the yard: B. C. D. \$3.80; E. F. G. \$3.85; H. \$3.90; I. \$3.95; K. \$4.45; M. \$4.95; N. \$5.80; W. G. \$6.10; W. W. \$6.40.

Savannah, December 18.—Turpentine 44 cents. No sales, receipts 2,312; shipments, none; stock 34,630. Rosin firm. Sales 290; receipts 1,905; shipments, none; stock 138,368. Quote: A, B, C, D. \$3.30; E, F, G, H. \$3.35; I, \$3.50; K, \$3.90 to \$4.00; M, \$4.15; N, \$5.45; W, G. \$5.70; W. W. \$5.85.

Liverpool, December 18.—Turpentine spirits 33s. 9d. Rosin, common 10s.

COFFEE MARKET STEADY.

New York, December 19.—The Coffee Market opened steady.

December 6.00
January 6.10
February 6.20
March 6.25
April 6.30
May 6.42
June 6.30
July 7.25
August 7.30
September 7.30
October 7.45
November 7.50

SUGAR SITUATION IN FRANCE ASSUMES SERIOUS PROPORTIONS

France Will Be Obligated to Import a Considerable Quantity of Refined Sugar Owing to the Closing of Nearly Two Hundred Plants.

That the sugar situation in Europe is fast becoming serious owing to the war is the statement of an official of the Federal Sugar Refining Company, New York, who pointed out a few days ago that out of the 206 beet sugar factories in France nearly forty are running. It is doubtful, according to his estimates, whether France and Belgium together will be able to produce more than 250,000 tons of sugar this year.

"Last season France produced about 900,000 tons, and Belgium 230,000," he said. "France will naturally be obliged to import a considerable quantity of refined sugar, as her consumption runs from 600,000 to 700,000 tons."

"France must make outside purchases approximating 250,000 tons. By its recent buying it has probably bought already some 60,000 tons of United States refined sugar, 25,000 tons of Java sugar, 45,000 tons of other markets. This total of 130,000 tons leaves about 100,000 tons still to be secured. Probably the New York refiners will get a good deal of the business; the inquiries are already in the market."

"Owing to the danger of Italy and Holland replacing their supplies with Austrian or German sugars, it is expected that France will follow Britain's example and decree against further purchases from neutral countries that deal in belligerent sugars in this manner. This action ought naturally to mean more business for the American refiners."

MAMMOTH DYE PLANT BACKED BY A CAPITAL OF \$100,000,000

Chester, Pa., December 18.—A mammoth plant for the manufacture of dye stuffs is to be erected near this city. For this purpose a tract of 75 acres at the corner of the intersection of the Pennsylvania and Delaware roads is to be purchased by the Benzol Products Co. of Philadelphia, which is backed by capital to exceed \$100,000,000. The war in Europe is said to be responsible for the location of the big concern near this city.

Manufacturers of textile goods have been hard pressed recently to secure dyestuffs, especially aniline oil. Mills in this city and vicinity have been compelled to close, owing to the scarcity of dyes or to decrease the number of working hours. The management of the Benzol Products Company says this condition will be greatly relieved by the establishment of their plant at Marcus Hook.

Work upon the mammoth buildings to be erected to accommodate the machinery necessary to operate the plant will be started this week, and when in operation the concern will employ about 2,000 skilled workmen.

BOOKED ORDERS FOR MILLION AND HALF PAIRS OF SHOES.

Boston, December 18.—Endicott, Johnson and Company factories are running full, and last week's production was at the rate of close to 60,000 pairs of shoes a day. Its pay-roll was the largest for any single week in the company's history, being about \$100,000.

It is understood the company has taken orders within the last week or two for between 200,000 and 300,000 pairs of army shoes, which makes the total booked by this company in excess of 1,500,000 pairs.

NAVAL STORE MARKET

New York, December 18.—There was little business moving in naval stores, but this is the usual thing at this time of the year, and the trade looks for improvement after the inventories are passed. Some small jobbing orders are being filled for spirits and rosin at the basis of previous prices, but sales of round lots are the exception.

Spot turpentine was quoted at 47 cents, but probably 46 1/2 cents might have been done on actual business. Sales were made the previous day at the latter figure, not as was reported by a typographical error at 45 1/2 cents.

Tar was still held at \$6.50 for kiln burned and 60 cents more for retort. The supplies are moderate. Pitch is still dull at \$4.00.

Rosins were repeated for all grades with business very hard to mouth. Common to good strained is \$3.65 to \$3.70.

The following were the prices of rosins in the yard: B. C. D. \$3.80; E. F. G. \$3.85; H. \$3.90; I. \$3.95; K. \$4.45; M. \$4.95; N. \$5.80; W. G. \$6.10; W. W. \$6.40.

Savannah, December 18.—Turpentine 44 cents. No sales, receipts 2,312; shipments, none; stock 34,630. Rosin firm. Sales 290; receipts 1,905; shipments, none; stock 138,368. Quote: A, B, C, D. \$3.30; E, F, G, H. \$3.35; I, \$3.50; K, \$3.90 to \$4.00; M, \$4.15; N, \$5.45; W, G. \$5.70; W. W. \$5.85.

Liverpool, December 18.—Turpentine spirits 33s. 9d. Rosin, common 10s.

COFFEE MARKET STEADY.

New York, December 19.—The Coffee Market opened steady.

December 6.00
January 6.10
February 6.20
March 6.25
April 6.30
May 6.42
June 6.30
July 7.25
August 7.30
September 7.30
October 7.45
November 7.50

NEW YORK COTTON.

New York, December 18.—Cotton opened steady. March, 7.48, up 2; May, 7.67, up 1; July, 7.90, off 1.

COTTON MARKET QUIET.

New York, December 18.—The Cotton Market was quiet and steady. Ring traders were fairly heavy sellers at the opening. Liverpool was steady.

ARMY DEMANDS ARE GROWING STEADILY

Manufacturers Are Doing Best to Meet All Requirements; Demand for Blue-Grays Heavy

FRENCH MILLS CLOSED

In Leicester, Yarns Are Moving Off Very Fast and Spinners Are Not in a Position to Accept Any Large Orders. Prices Are Stiff at Maximum Rates.

(Special to The Journal of Commerce.)

Leeds, (By Mail), December 8.—The woolen industry continues in a condition of the greatest activity caused by the ever-increasing demands of the Army clothing departments of England and France. The requirements of the forces grow greater every day, and the West Riding is the only place apparently that can supply them. The great majority of the French woolen mills are closed, many of them are actually in German hands, hence the demand for French clothing cloth is almost as insistent as that for khaki. Manufacturers are doing their very best to meet the demand, and are turning out Army cloths with all possible despatch. The production is still handicapped by the scarcity of skilled labor, which is greater than ever. Weavers are plentiful enough, but expert spinning operatives and "pieceners" are scarce because the recruiting campaign has drawn very heavily upon the young workers in these departments. Again the improvement in the outlook in the Lancashire cotton industry has brought back to the cotton mills a number of workers who sought employment during the Lancashire depression in the West Riding mills. In this matter of labor manufacturers are becoming handicapped more and more, and some of them express the view that woolen workers should not be accepted as recruits whilst employers are short of hands. It is hoped that the recent visit of Sir George Askwith to the West Riding may result in some plan being adopted to stop the depletion of the best workers in the mills at a time when their services are so badly needed. Orders from private customers have to be neglected to a large extent, and the distributing houses have to be content with what they can obtain from stocks which are being rapidly depleted. Shippers are quiet, the United States trade being the only branch that shows any activity. Wholesale clothiers are still well employed. Much of the machinery is occupied with Army work, and is likely to continue so for some time to come. The ordinary trade is normal for the time of the year. Business in the drapery warehouses keeps remarkably steady. There is not just so much doing as in normal years in the fancy departments for the Christmas season trade, but in all others the turnover is well maintained.

Leicester, (By Mail), December 8.—In our local market this week English sorts, both fleece and skin, meet with some demand at full rates, owing to scarcity of supplies. Users, however, for the most part have bought heavily, and are pretty well covered for present orders and only take what is absolutely necessary to keep them going. Offers of wool to arrive from the colonies and South America are more frequent, but the uncertainty as to delivery here hinders business. Yarns are moving off very fast and spinners are not in a position to accept many large orders. There is rather an increased demand for sorts

outside those wanted for Government purposes. Prices are very stiff at maximum rates. The hosiery manufacturers find no diminution in business. In fact, they could not well be busier, mainly on Army and Navy contracts, though the outlook for outside goods continues to show improvement.

THE HOP MARKET

New York, December 18.—But little demand is now noticeable in any of the primary Pacific Coast sections, and no business importance is reported. Growers, however, are still firm and are not offering their hops freely.

There is no improvement in the demand for state hops, and trading on the local market remains at a standstill.

The quotations below are between dealers in the New York market, and an advance is usually obtained from dealers to brewers.

States, 1914—Prime to choice, 22 to 28; medium to prime, 20 to 25.
1913—Nominal. Old, olds, 7 to 8.
Germany, 1914—37 to 39.
Pacific, 1914—Prime to choice, 14 to 15; medium to prime, 11 to 14.
1912—8 to 10. Old, olds, 7 to 8.
Bohemian, 1914—38 to 43.

BOSTON MARKET STRONGER.

Boston, December 18.—The early market was dull and weak, many issues dropping over a point. The rate decision announcement stimulated trading and activity so that at noon substantial recoveries from the low were made. United Fruit advanced 1 and Boston Elevated declined 1/4.

outside those wanted for Government purposes. Prices are very stiff at maximum rates. The hosiery manufacturers find no diminution in business. In fact, they could not well be busier, mainly on Army and Navy contracts, though the outlook for outside goods continues to show improvement.

The . . . "Canadian Fisherman"

Edited by F. WILLIAM WALLACE

A Monthly Illustrated Journal, Devoted to the Commercial Fisheries of Canada, the Science of Fish Culture, and the Use and Value of Fish Products

The Only Magazine Representing This Particular Canadian Industry Which Has An Annual Value Of \$35,000,000.00

The "Canadian Fisherman" is Written for the Fish Trade and the Commercial Fishermen. It is Profusely Illustrated by Unique Photographs, and Specializes in Authoritative Articles from Expert Writers and Special Correspondents in the Fishing Ports.

The "Canadian Fisherman" Subscription Price, \$1.00 per Annum, to any place in Canada and United States

45 St. Alexander Street, Montreal

COAL The Hartt & Adair Coal Company 146 Notre Dame West Phone Main 5645

DOMINION COAL COMPANY GENERAL SALES OFFICE 19 ST. JAMES ST. MONTREAL