

### DRY GOODS MEMORANDA.

Rochdale flannel manufacturers will be employed on contracts for some time to come. Prices are very stiff and are now nearer the cost of the raw material than they have been at any time during the year.

The Domestic Silk Company and Leonard Brookes, silk manufacturers, of Paterson, N.J., have been adjudged bankrupts, and a meeting of the creditors will be called within ten days.

Manufacturers think that ribbons are not always to occupy second place in fashion's favor, and that the coming spring will find them in more general use.

Spring silks are going to be of artistic designs. Some of the probable fashionable colors are here indicated: Royal marine, for one; beiges are rising into prominence; lilacs are booked by leading departments; automobile, whatever that is, must be prominent; old blue will have a front place; rose shades will not be neglected.

In New York, hosiery with fancy white embroidered fronts on national blue, garnet, helio and other grounds, are taking well. Colors are strong favorites, with blue, garnet and helio as the choice, some browns and no greens. Mercerized goods in black are selling.

On the subject of colors for spring dress goods (woolen), a Continental correspondent of The New York Dry Goods Economist enumerates a bewildering list. In colors, cream, cement, ash gray, reddish gray, silver-poplar gray deepening into steel gray, dove gray and slate gray, with shades of violet, form the bridge to the true violets. Among the many new violet shades are lilac, clover blossom, dahlia, pansy and prune. Among the blues: Dresden china and hyacinth blue are the favorites. Then comes green in its variations of ice green, sap, olive, moss, myrtle, cypress and bronze green. Browns show an immense variety of old and new tones, doe, cinnamon, chamois, leather, coffee, earth, dark-capucine brown and bear brown leading up to the long list of reddish browns. Reds are expected to be the staple colors next summer, the tomato and copper tones, with some corals and fuchsia reds. Yellows are likely to sell well. Lilacs, sea greens and rose pink will do very well for evening and house gowns.

Velvets are active in European manufacturing centres. In Zurich silk goods have been more active. Taffetas retain favor and taffeta fancies are seen in the collections for spring. In Crefeld, says the letter of our New York contemporary, the demand for silk fabrics has not been satisfactory. "For cloak purposes silks have had to make room for seal plushes and velour du nord, so that in that branch also business has not been satisfactory."

### INSURANCE MATTERS.

Here is paternal legislation, if you like: The National Council at Berne, Switzerland, has adopted, by 113 votes to 1, the law regarding compulsory insurance against illness and accidents, which comes into force at the beginning of the year 1903.

The New York Chronicle is informed that French-Canadian life insurance associations, on the assessment plan, have been doing business in Massachusetts illegally, and under cover in "lodge" meetings. Last week an agent at Fitchburg was detected and fined \$65, which he paid. Does this mean French companies with headquarters in Canada? If so how is it more has not been heard of them near home? Is somebody swindling Eastern Americans by professing to represent Quebec companies?

The bylaw to raise \$4,000 for an electric fire alarm system in the city of St. Thomas, was voted on last Tuesday, and carried by the following vote: For, 313; against, 174; majority for bylaw, 139.

Insurance of a million dollars on the Canadian contingent was negotiated by the Government in two companies. The Standard policy for \$250,000, and the British Empire Life Company for \$750,000, each policy covering all risks from the moment of the sailing of the men from Quebec. Mr. Alfred McDougald, the manager of the British Empire Company, and

Mr. J. Hutton Balfour, the secretary of the Standard Company, were together in Ottawa, on last Saturday, to settle the contracts. A telegram from Ottawa to The Mail and Empire, dated 1st November, states, that the negotiation is "off," and that pensions and other compensation will be substituted. But the news we get from Montreal, under date yesterday, is that the transaction is being completed, and that portions of the first-mentioned amount will be underwritten by the London & Lancashire, and the British Empire, and that the British Empire Co.'s reinsurance arrangements have all been completed in London through their Canadian head office. Our correspondent says that the closing details are in the hands of the Government for settlement.

—The Yukon country is no longer the remote, perilous, comfortless region we had pictured it but the other day. What with railroad and telegraph communication and the commercial and social facilities a modern community is bound to surround itself with, anywhere, Dawson City is to-day a reasonably cheerful place to live in. Among other institutions it has a board of trade, whose first meeting and election of officers has been held. It was decided to so organize that the many mining and professional men whom it was desirable to have on the board might be qualified to join. The officers elected are: President, Thos. McMullin, assistant manager Canadian Bank of Commerce; first vice-president, F. H. Ames, of the Ames Mercantile Company; second vice-president, Dr. Yemens, manager Empire Transportation Company; treasurer, D. Doig, manager Bank of B.N.A.; secretary, F. M. Clayton; trustees, H. P. Hanson, manager of Parsons Produce Company; H. T. Wills, manager Canadian Bank of Commerce; L. R. Fulda, manager Alaska Exploration Company; Emil Stauff, and Alex. McDonald.

### ONTARIO CHEESE BOARDS.

Offerings of cheese this week amount to 28,052 boxes at sixteen board meetings. In the corresponding week a year ago eighteen boards offered 34,607 boxes. Sales continue light at prices ranging from 11 to 11 7-16c. per lb. Salesmen in many cases are holding out for higher prices, but seem more moderate in their demands than was the case a few weeks ago. A number of the boards have adjourned for the season to meet in May, 1900. We append our usual table:

| Boards and<br>Date of meeting. | No. of<br>factor-<br>ies. | Cheese<br>boarded.<br>Boxes. | Cheese<br>sold.<br>Boxes. | Price<br>Per lb.<br>Cts. |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Brockville, Oct. 26 .. ..      | ..                        | 2,050                        | ..                        | 11-11½                   |
| Kingston, Oct. 26.... ..       | ..                        | 1,575                        | ..                        | 11                       |
| Madoc, Oct. 26 .... 18         | ..                        | 1,900                        | 500                       | 11½                      |
| Tweed, Oct. 26 ..... ..        | ..                        | 1,900                        | 1,900                     | 11½                      |
| Brighton, Oct. 27.... ..       | ..                        | 2,021                        | ..                        | 11                       |
| Kemptville, Oct. 27 .. ..      | ..                        | 500                          | 240                       | 11 1-16                  |
| Lindsay, Oct. 27 .... ..       | ..                        | 2,000                        | ..                        | 11½-7-16                 |
| Perth, Oct. 27 ..... ..        | ..                        | 966                          | 966                       | 11                       |
| South Finch, Oct. 27 .. ..     | ..                        | 770                          | ..                        | 10½-11                   |
| Belleville, Oct. 28 .. ..      | ..                        | 1,130                        | ..                        | 11                       |
| Cornwall, Oct. 28.... ..       | ..                        | 2,596                        | 262                       | 11 1-16                  |
| London, Oct. 28 .... ..        | ..                        | 3,240                        | ..                        | 10½-11½                  |
| Campbellford, Oct. 31 .. ..    | ..                        | 3,375                        | 3,375                     | 11 1-16-½                |
| Ingersoll, Oct. 31.... ..      | ..                        | 1,885                        | ..                        | 10½                      |
| Picton, Nov. 1 ..... 4         | ..                        | 260                          | 110                       | 11½                      |
| Sterling, Nov. 1 ..... ..      | ..                        | 1,884                        | ..                        | 11                       |

### CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, Nov. 2nd, 1899, compared with those of the previous week:

| CLEARINGS.      | Nov. 2, 1899. | Oct. 26, 1899. |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Montreal.....   | \$14,800,614  | \$17,056,546   |
| Toronto.....    | 10,879,794    | 11,302,501     |
| Winnipeg .....  | 3,145,568     | 3,209,674      |
| Halifax .....   | 1,358,688     | 1,532,075      |
| Hamilton .....  | 889,081       | 836,591        |
| St. John .....  | 589,540       | 718,293        |
| Vancouver ..... | 827,688       | 1,005,856      |
| Victoria .....  | 774,390       | .....          |
|                 | \$33,265,363  | \$ .....       |

Aggregate balances, this week, \$5,441,802; last week, \$ .....