

## Commercial.

### Camphor.

A camphor famine is threatened as a result of the war between Japan and China. The price of camphor has rapidly advanced, and Japan is placing the most severe restrictions upon its export. Much of the camphor is held by a syndicate. Should a warm summer bring cholera and dysentery, the demand for camphor will be very great, and its scarcity will not only interfere with many medical compounds, but will hinder the manufacture of smokeless gunpowder, in which camphor largely enters as an ingredient.

### Ginseng.

The demand for ginseng in China is increasing, and the price has advanced to such an extent that farmers and others in rural districts who market the root will be well paid for their trouble. It is worth from \$2 to \$4 per pound.

### Cod-Liver Oil.

The following statistics of the cod fisheries of Norway, and production of cod-liver oil and livers for industrial oils from 1888 to 1895, have been compiled from official reports by Joh. Rye Holmboe, Tromsø, Norway, and furnished to THE CANADIAN DRUGGIST for publication:

| District.        | PRODUCTION OF COD-LIVER OIL—IN HECTOLITRES. |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                  | 1888.                                       | 1889.  | 1890.  | 1891.  | 1892.  | 1893.  | 1894.  |
| Lofoten .....    | 16,100                                      | 12,900 | 16,700 | 18,200 | 8,100  | 18,600 | 12,300 |
| Tromsø Amt ..... | 450                                         | 560    | 222    | 100    | 1,154  | 2,344  | 1,729  |
| Vesterålen ..... | 2,233                                       | 1,168  | 1,535  | 707    | 425    | 3,940  | 2,047  |
| Vidarsiden ..... | 744                                         | 560    | 250    | 300    | 630    | 625    | 482    |
| Norland .....    |                                             | 31     |        | 23     |        | 95     |        |
| Vestlandet ..... | 9,000                                       | 5,700  | 9,700  | 5,085  | 7,850  | 6,196  | 2,500  |
| Finmarken .....  |                                             | 4,267  | 1,400  | 772    | 3,899  | 2,076  | 4,168  |
|                  | 28,527                                      | 25,186 | 29,807 | 26,087 | 22,319 | 33,876 | 23,226 |
|                  |                                             |        |        |        |        |        | 27,004 |
|                  |                                             |        |        |        |        |        | 16,684 |

\* Nordmore, Sondmore, and all southern districts.

The above figures represent crude oil. 100 hectolitre crude will give from 70 to 75 barrels (25 gallons; refined (non-freezing) oil ready for export.

### YIELD OF LIVERS FOR OTHER OILS—IN HECTOLITRES.

| District.        | 1888.  | 1889.   | 1890.   | 1891.  | 1892.   | 1893.   | 1894.  | Average 1888-94. | 1895, 30 April. |
|------------------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|------------------|-----------------|
| Lofoten .....    | 38,000 | 23,500  | 58,500  | 22,700 | 23,000  | 31,500  | 14,000 | 30,171           | 11,000          |
| Tromsø Amt ..... | 3,230  | 3,459   | 4,436   | 2,750  | 5,757   | 4,643   | 1,315  | 3,660            | 398             |
| Vesterålen ..... | 6,100  | 3,700   | 5,461   | 4,075  | 10,140  | 6,810   | 4,108  | 5,771            | 1,515           |
| Vidarsiden ..... | 7,336  | 4,871   | 8,200   | 5,265  | 10,644  | 8,965   | 4,259  | 7,077            | 3,156           |
| Norland .....    | 2,321  | 2,693   | 3,006   | 1,697  | 2,690   | 3,194   | 800    | 2,257            | 730             |
| Vestlandet ..... | 4,570  | 27,000  | 17,995  | 7,485  | 10,750  | 26,824  | 10,791 | 15,068           | 1,712           |
| Finmarken .....  | 20,293 | 58,925  | 38,104  | 29,172 | 54,148  | 35,044  | 15,600 | 35,068           | 540             |
|                  | 81,850 | 123,638 | 135,702 | 73,144 | 117,129 | 116,980 | 50,873 | 99,902           | 19,051          |

\* Nordmore, Sondmore, and all southern districts.

100 hectolitres raw livers give about 40 barrels oil (about one-third each of raw medicinal, light, and light brown), and to barrels boiled (black) tanner's oil (bruntran).

consumption never having exceeded in a year more than 5,500 cases on the average. It should also be noted that Persian opium is plentiful on the consuming markets. When the prices of Turkish opium exceed a certain limit, which is the case in London at the present time, then Persian opium is sold in preference to that of the Ottoman Empire. If the forthcoming crop should be a good one, the total production of Turkey can easily reach 8,000 couffes, which will bring the quantity available for consumption in the coming year, 1895-96, to the very respectable figure of 14,000 couffes. It is this large quantity at disposal which explains the little trouble taken by exporters to follow the speculation which has been manifested recently on the Smyrna exchange.—*Foreign and Colonial Importer.*

### Paris Green.

Immediately after our issue of last month, the price of Paris green took a sudden change, and the price is likely to keep up for the remainder of the season, as any "green" imported from England now would be too late for this season's consumption.

The annual consumption of Paris green in Canada is about 400 tons. There are two manufacturers, one in Toronto and one in Montreal. Within a few days the price advanced about 100 per cent., owing to a shortage in stock and a shortage of arsenic, the principal ingredient. In the United States the poison is controlled, like nearly every other commodity, by a trust, and this combination had advanced the price to about 26 cents per pound.

### Tariff Changes.

The following are the tariff changes on goods affecting the drug trade:

Spirituuous or alcoholic liquors, distilled from any material, or containing or compounded from or with distilled spirits of any kind, and any mixture thereof with water for every gallon thereof of the strength of proof, and when of a greater strength than that of proof at the same rate on the increased quantity that there would be if the liquors were reduced to the strength of proof. When the liquors are of a less strength than that of proof the duty shall be at a rate herein provided, but computed on a reduced quantity of the liquors in proportion to the lesser degree of strength, provided, however, that no reduction in quantity shall be computed or made on any liquors below the strength of 15 per cent. under proof, but all such liquors shall be computed as of the strength of 15 per cent. under proof, as follows:

(a) Ethyl alcohol, or the substance commonly known as alcohol; hydrated oxide of ethyl, or spirits of wine; gin of all kinds, n.e.s.; rum, whiskey, and all spirituuous or alcoholic liquors, n.o.p., amyl alcohol, or fusel oil, or any substance known as potato spirit or potato oil;

### The Opium Yield.

Counting only on a maximum yield of 4,000 couffes for the whole of Turkey, there is estimated to be—taking into account the existing stock of about 6,000 cases in the interior of the vilayet of Aidin, at Smyrna, Salonica, Constantinople, London, New York, and Philadelphia—a total of 10,000 couffes, which is amply sufficient for pharmaceutical and special consumption for a year and a half, this