It may be safe to calculate upon an export of 25,000,000 bushels, of which nearly 3,000,000 were shipped in April, and 15,000,000 bushels may be shipped in May, June, and July. With respect to Australia, the wheat crop of the five colonies, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and New Zealand in 1898 is estimated 32,400,000 bushels as compared with 25,300,000 bushels last year. This season may afford a surplus for export 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 bushels instead of the deficiency last year, when Australia had to import wheat and flour.

When opinions came to settle down as to probable total supply to be obtained from the southern hemisphere, it was found that although much larger than in preceding seasons, it still left the question of needed supply in a very doubtful position. France, Italy, Germany, Belgium and other importing countries on the continent of Europe began to purchase on a much larger scale than formerly. Prices commenced to advance rapidly. This advance was greatly stimulated by the outbreak of war between the United States and Spain, which although not actually effecting the supply of wheat, created that sentiment of apprehension as to possible results which has always in case of war tended to advance the price of this article. In six weeks, the price of July wheat in Liverpool advanced from 7s. per cental to 11s. 8d. on 10th May. On 5th April wheat was 38s. 4d. per quarter, in Paris, on 10th May 55s. 2d. On 5th April, River Platte wheat in Antwerp was 37s. per quarter; on 10th May, 50s. 6d. In New York on 5th April, 33s. 3d.; on 10th May, 61s. 10d. per quarter. In Chicago on 5th April, 31s. 7d.; on 10th May, 58s. 4d. per quarter. These quotations are given from tables of Corn Trade News, and are in sterling money per quarter of 480 lbs. While it must be admitted that a large part of the advance was due to manipulation in United States markets, it is evident that the trade in Europe must have been very sensitive as to necessity for immediate supplies, otherwise such large shipments from the United States would not have been experienced. As might have been expected, there has been a considerable reaction from the extreme high prices, and the prospects for next two months are being discussed with great interest.

As returns of stocks in the different countries of Europe, and of imports for the season are only available up to 1st May, an estimate of future supplies and requirements may be made for the three months, 1st May to 31st July:—

WHEAT SUPPLY AND REQUIREMENTS FOR EUROPE.

1st May to 31st July, 1898.

	Supply. Bushels.
Quantity afloat for Europe, 1st May	41,000,000
Shipments due to arrive before 31st July:—	
From United States and Canada	28,000,000
" Argentina and other South American ports	5,000,000
" India	10,000,000
" Russia and the Danube	20,000,000
" other countries, allowed to balance ex-European requirements	....
	105,000,000
Less, included in above quantity afloat, Pacific coast shipments from California and Oregon, shipped since middle of March, not due in Europe until after 31st July	7,000,000
Supply due in Europe before 31st July	98,000,000

REQUIREMENTS OF FOREIGN WHEAT.

United Kingdom	45,000,000
France	30,000,000
Germany, Belgium and Holland	30,000,000
Italy, Austria and Greece	15,000,000
Spain and Portugal, Switzerland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden	5,000,000
	125,000,000

In confirmation of the estimate of requirements, the state of stocks on 1st May must be taken into account. They were:—

	1st May, 1898. Bushels.	1st May, 1897. Bushels.
In United Kingdom	8,900,000	15,800,000
In France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Austria, Hungary, Russia and Danubian ports	11,664,000	26,164,000
	20,564,000	41,964,000

It is difficult to see where the required supply is to be obtained, especially in view of the fact that good authorities on the position in Russia are of opinion that the exports from that country during June and July will be of a very limited character.

THE CANADIAN PAPER INDUSTRY.

We are indebted to the Minister of Trade and Commerce for a copy of the reports of Mr. Anderson and Mr. Sheppard, who were sent abroad to study the possibilities of Canadian trade in American countries south of the United States, in Japan and other places.

These reports contain some points of interest to paper manufacturers and those engaged in allied industries. In his report on Japan, Mr. Anderson says that paper making machinery is among the articles of machinery imported from Great Britain, Germany and the United States. In printing paper alone, he further says, Japan imported over 9,000,000 pounds last year, while of other descriptions of paper it imported to the value of 800,000 yen, equal to $400,000 in gold.

The requirements in "news" are met by the cheap, common varieties, running 500 sheets to the ream. The principal sizes needed he describes as follows: 31 by 43, 25 by 37 and 27½ by 39½, the last size being most in demand. Brown wrapping, blue match box, tissue, imitation parchment, ledger and colored poster papers are in demand. Native newspapers being established all over the country and the Japanese being an intelligent people, he looks for a great development of the demand for printing paper. He adds: "With our natural advantages in paper stock, Canadian manufacturers should be able to secure a good share of the trade."

In regard to pulp he makes the following statement: "Paper making is a large industry in Japan, and wood pulp has already been received from Germany and Sweden. If satisfactory freight rates can be obtained, Canada can readily command this trade with the magnificent resources she possesses in this valuable product."

Of the outlook for an export paper trade to the Latin American republics, Mr. Sheppard writes as follows: "Every city is well supplied with newspapers, each nationality having its own daily paper in the large places, and every leading politician having an organ of his own with which to appeal