

English Comments Upon Decline in American Trade.

LONDON, Sept. 10.—The publication of the report of Seymour Bell, commercial agent of Great Britain in the United States upon American trade, and especially Mr. Bell's comments on the reduction of American exports, has resulted in a number of letters in the columns of editorial opinion.

The Daily Telegraph reaches the conclusion that the slight increase in American exports is merely a warning to Britishers. "Some sanguine observers," says the paper, "have leaped to the conclusion that the night market for American goods has finally been dissipated. There is nothing in the situation to support this view, and there is much to be said to the contrary. American attacks on European and colonial markets have not been weakened for the moment only and will be renewed with immensely augmented force."

The Telegraph agrees with Mr. Bell in believing that American manufacturers will soon be able once more to keep pace with all home needs and that they will then turn their attention to exporting with renewed vigor. Mr. Bell's favorable comments upon the action of the United States Steel corporation in not raising the price of steel in spite of the enormous demand causes the Daily Telegraph to say: "This is a signal combination of nerve, daring and good judgment which stamps the personality of the great American man of business and the energy and tacit support of the economic benefits of the McKinley tariff." The Telegraph hopes, "may still find it difficult for President Roosevelt to deal with the trust."

Vancouver Island Mines.

VICTORIA, B. C., Sept. 9.—A. D. Shepard, general manager of the Pacific Improvement company, discussing the company's interests on Vancouver Island, said they were not at all discouraged in both the E. and N. railway and Union Mines and were not minority shareholders, as is so often stated. The business had been left in the hands of the Dunsmuirs, and besides absorbing all the money required and making the income from land sales, has taken an other million dollars of the Pacific Improvement money. They had been returned from their railway. While the Pacific Improvement people have put \$50,000 into the Union mines, which have been taken out but \$50,000. In both railway and mines the Californians invested \$5,000,000, but," continued Mr. Shepard, "we are not asking for a government of the business; all we desire is proper recognition of our investment and our interest. We have to be out an injunction against the company restraining them from carrying out the contract that Vice-President Hunter has been pleased to enter into with Michael King, which contract involves the expenditure of some \$100,000. We consider that before such an agreement is entered into or carried out the Pacific Improvement company should have been considered."

Tobacco Enquiry.

Windsor, Sept. 9.—The most sensational evidence yet brought out by the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the tobacco trade, which convened to-day, was the production of a form of contract or agreement which the Ontario Tobacco Co. required all dealers and both wholesalers and retailers to sign before being permitted to handle any of their goods. This evidence was introduced by O. E. Fleming, counsel for the Ontario Tobacco manufacturers. The contract is in two forms, one under the heading of the American Tobacco Co. and dated Montreal, Nov. 188, and the other by the Empire Tobacco Co. Limited, of Montreal, and without date. The Empire company's contract is the more binding of the two.

Mr. Robert Wilson of Leamington, and Mr. Geo. Wilkinson, of Mersea, both prominent tobacco growers, were called to stand by the evidence to tell if they were satisfied with prices paid them by the Empire Co. Further charges were made by the American company to offset the testimony of Fleming's witness.

Mr. Robert Pinchin, one of the owners of the Consumers' Tobacco Co. of Leamington, showed that the Empire Tobacco Co. wholesale discounts for thirty days and should a wholesaler handle any of the Consumers' company's goods the penalty was the loss of thirty days' profit accruing from the sale of Empire goods. Further charges against the Consumers' company was compelled to sell through travelers direct to the retail trade, which trade, which necessitated a heavy outlay for freight, they having to pay freight on small packages of only twelve pounds, while retailers, buying through wholesalers at the same rate of freight, he being allowed the privilege of adding such goods as a wholesaler carried billed on the same way bill.

GROCERIES.

Prices to retail dealers for ordinary lots, with usual discounts for cash or large lots.

Table listing various grocery items such as Apples, Peaches, Pears, Beans, Corn, etc., with their respective prices per case or per bushel.

Canned Goods.

Table listing various canned goods such as Sardines, Tomatoes, Peaches, etc., with their respective prices per case.

Canned Meats.

Table listing various canned meats such as Corn beef, Ham, Tongue, etc., with their respective prices per case.

Green Rio Coffee.

Table listing various coffee items such as Potted ham, Potted tongue, etc., with their respective prices per bushel.

Cereals.

Table listing various cereal items such as Soft peas, Pearl barley, etc., with their respective prices per sack.

Cigarettes.

Table listing various cigarette brands such as Athlete, Sweet Colonial, etc., with their respective prices per box.

Cured Fish.

Table listing various cured fish items such as Finnan Haddis, etc., with their respective prices per box.

Dried Fruits.

Table listing various dried fruit items such as Currants, Raisins, etc., with their respective prices per barrel or per sack.

Winnipeg Prices Current

Table listing various commodities such as Pitted plums, Prunes, Nectarines, etc., with their respective prices per bushel or per ton.

Matches.

Table listing various match brands such as Telegraph, etc., with their respective prices per case.

Nuts.

Table listing various nut items such as Brazil, Pecans, etc., with their respective prices per bushel.

Syrup.

Table listing various syrup items such as Extra bright, etc., with their respective prices per bushel.

Sugar.

Table listing various sugar items such as Extra standard gran., etc., with their respective prices per bushel.

Salt.

Table listing various salt items such as Common fine, etc., with their respective prices per bushel.

Spices.

Table listing various spice items such as Assorted herbs, etc., with their respective prices per bushel.

Teas.

Table listing various tea items such as China Blacks, etc., with their respective prices per bushel.

Tobacco.

Table listing various tobacco items such as T and B, etc., with their respective prices per box.

Chewing Plug.

Table listing various chewing plug items such as Pommery, etc., with their respective prices per box.

Smoking.

Table listing various smoking items such as Virgin Gold, etc., with their respective prices per box.

Woolen Ware.

Table listing various woolen ware items such as Palls, etc., with their respective prices per piece.

Brooms.

Table listing various broom items such as Water Woods, etc., with their respective prices per broom.

DRUGS.

Following are prices for parcel lot with usual reductions for cash on parcel lot.

Table listing various drug items such as Alcohol, Bleaching powder, etc., with their respective prices per bushel or per box.

LEATHER.

Table listing various leather items such as Harness, etc., with their respective prices per piece.