

Grocery Trade Notes.

Ontario canners regard it as being probable that there will be a demand from the United States for Canadian canned vegetables this year as stocks over there are short.

There is some talk of higher prices for broom corn this year owing to injury to the crop by heat. So far, however, there is no change in the price of either corn or brooms.

Private mail advices from the coast to-day state that the California orange crop promises a yield of about 23,000 carloads, against 17,550 carloads in 1900. Dropping of new fruit is reported in telegrams.

The visible supply of coffee for the United States is the largest in the history of the trade, amounting to 1,982,305 bags, of which 1,562,502 bags are Brazilian, spot and atfloat, and 419,803 bags mild grades on the spot.

Private mail advices from Gloucester, Mass., reporting on sea fish state: "The mackerel catch continues disappointing, and the price situation is very firm on the more desirable fish. The size is generally 2s with a fair sprinkling of 1s, but few 3s, and prices range from \$10.25 plain ex-vessel for Bay of Fundy to \$11.50 for plain ex-vessel on late caught Georges. Catch to date is close up to 55,000 barrels, against about 50,000 barrels same date last year."

Opening prices of new Valencia raisins have been cabled to the Pacific Commercial Museum by United States Consul Bartleman, at Valencia, as follows: Baltic, off-stalk, 3-2-3c per lb., fine off-stalk, 3-1-5c per lb., finest off-stalk, 4-1-5c per lb., new Valencia layer raisins, 2-crown, 4-1-5c per lb., 3-crown, 4-4-5c per lb., 4-crown, 5-1-5c per lb. c.f.f. Consul Bartleman reports that the grape crops of Dania and Valencia show prospects of fully one-fifth above the average.

Regarding salmon mail advices from Liverpool state: "The turnover on the market is much larger, and it is more evident that country stocks have been depleted. The lower prices are inducing fresh buying on an extended scale. Reports are at hand of the close of the fishing in several districts with a pack estimated at only half of last year, while against this the Fraser River and Puget Sound packs are reported to be larger than last year. Salmon is now at the poor man's price, and a large consumption should result."

The Mills Bros. Co., New York, say of the current situation: "Demand appears to be increasing as the season progresses, although orders passing are mostly in a jobbing way. The official bonded stocks in New York, as published by the customs department of August 1, show stock on that date as the equivalent of about 4,500 barrels, as against 3,950 barrels on July 1. In the meantime there have arrived during the past month 2,500 barrels, so that deliveries have been, say, 2,150 barrels. The deliveries thus far during August have been on a larger scale than during the previous month, and figuring on this basis supplies will be exhausted before arrival of new fruit. Cables at hand from Greece indicate that the gathering of the crop has been somewhat retarded, but it is expected that the fruit will be shipped about the usual time, say the latter part of August. The outlook at present is that the steamers *Mannin* and *Pocahontas* will arrive in Greece about the 20th, to sail some few days later, and to reach this market about October 1. At present Hesperia is not expected in Greece before the latter part of August or early September. According to Liverpool advices trade has been dull, but this is to be expected with the limited stock held there of only 87 tons. London, however, reports considerable activity, with stock on the 1st inst., of 2,180 tons, against 3,345 tons last year, and deliveries for the month of July of 1,375 tons."

THE HARDWARE TRADE.

MONTREAL IRON MARKET

Trade in all kinds of iron material is in an unusually satisfactory condition for the season of the year. Demand in heavy goods being stimulated by the labor troubles across the lines, and the outlook for fall business all round is quite encouraging. Makers also seem to be very busy, in fact, so much as this the case that jobbers

complain that they cannot get delivery of many lines of goods as fast as they desire. Bar iron has been advanced from \$18 1/2 to \$19 1/2 and is stiff at the rise, while coke tinplate are quoted firm at \$1.50 to \$1.75, with a strong upward tendency, and charcoal is strong at \$1.75 to \$2.25. Canada plate ranges from \$2.60 to \$2.75, and No. 28, galvanized iron, from \$4 to \$4.75. The Daily Metal Market report says of tin: "The rise in the first cable of tin from London created considerable interest, and in some quarters it was felt that perhaps the over-reaction in prices abroad had commenced, but the second cable proved that this was not the case, and the market remained quiet here for the balance of the day. August option, however, advanced on bids to 20 1/2, and 25.50 was bid in several quarters for round lots September without finding sellers. There is a growing feeling that purchases for September at present prices will prove good ones, and that this month (September) will see the settlement of the strike. Jobbing trade from consumers has been very dull this week so far, but in spite of the arrivals to-day and yesterday the spot market is in the same condition as last week, the parties to whom those arrivals are coming holding strong, and as very little stock exists outside of them, dealers and consumers are obliged to pay the prices asked.—Gazette.

BREAK IN THE PRICE OF LINSEED OIL.

The extraordinary advances in the price of linseed oil which took place in June and early in July, and which by many were regarded as only temporary, have continued well into August, but there have been indications that a break was impending, and during the past ten days the market has not only declined but is in a decidedly unsettled condition, and it is impossible to foretell what another week may develop. The decline has been less sudden than was the advance, nor has it been to the same extent, but as offers of oil for future delivery are made at much lower prices, it is expected that the market will recede still further. In the meantime purchases are very light, few caring to buy on a declining market, and no important movement is expected until prices settle down to a level which are warranted by the conditions of the new seed crop. Opinions differ widely as to the probable extent of the crop, but it is generally conceded that it will prove smaller than that of last year, and as it is known that the bulk of the new crop will not be of equal quality, the belief is gaining ground that the price of oil will average higher than it did last year. Under the conditions now known to exist there is a disposition to contract for oil for future delivery at higher prices than could have been realized a year ago, but owing to the uncertainties as to the crop business in futures has not been large, buyers of oil and crushers of seed both being inclined to remain on the safe side, consequently there is a divergence of opinion as to what should constitute future values.—Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter

HARDWARE TRADE NOTES

New crop linseed oil offered for the first time last week in Minneapolis and St. Paul. The flaxseed was from southern sources.

Canada plate and bar iron advanced 5c per cwt. in eastern Canadian markets last week owing to active demand and difficulty in securing supplies.

The United States linseed oil market is somewhat demoralized according to latest reports and prices have declined about 2c per gallon. October oil is offering in New York at 55c.

Canadian stove manufacturers state the iron workers' strike in the United States coupled with the large home consumption there is making it difficult for them to secure supplies of iron and steel plate. They predict that the output this year will be curtailed by those difficulties.

It is stated on good authority that United States manufacturers of window glass are endeavoring to form a compact with the manufacturers in Belgium which would mean for them absolute control of the markets of their own country, as Belgian makers would agree to keep out.

At present there is a decided shortage of sheet metals of various kinds on the Canadian market, and appearances indicate that the scarcity will

deepen into a veritable famine before the bulk of the fall trade has been done. There is no house that has a heavy stock of black sheets, Canada plates, tinplates, and terne plates. Prices are stiffer in sympathy.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

DRY GOODS FORECAST FOR 1902.

Men of prominence in fabric circles are now directing their attention towards materials, weaves and colors. For spring, 1902, says the New York Dry Goods Economist, broadly speaking, and including all materials, silks, wools, worsted and cotton goods there is every indication of a plain season, with the plain effects intensified in most fabrics.

In worsted dress goods, veilings, batistes, saviola cloths, crepes and crepes de Chine, are to increase their present popularity.

Manufacturers are to direct their attention toward producing new and unobtrusive crepe effects, but always in the most modest weaves. Crepe grounds are to be embellished with self-colored stripes, expressed in satin and in crepe effects, and materials on this order are especially recommended for waists and costumes.

Fancy crepes are to be expressed in black pin stripes on grounds of Nile. French blue, ecor and red, and novelties on this order will doubtless be adopted for striking costumes to be worn at home, but more especially at seaside evening gatherings and balls and for fancy waists.

An accentuated demand for light stuffs will carry with it a steady call for grenadines in black and in fancy colors associated with black. Gauze brecois, a new material, will be offered. It comprises a grenadine ground in white, ornamented by white figures produced by solidifying the weave, and mercerized yarns are then introduced for top work.

This beautiful material is also developed into color combinations. Following the light stuffs will come vigorous. This style of weave is very plain, yet suggests a fancy and occupies a conservative middle ground between the two. Vigoureux is safe in spring colors and may be classed as staple.

A natte weave is also suggested for a spring novelty and is recommended in every material, from a sheer and filmy cotton to a worsted yarn. Plain weaves and diagonal weaves have held the vogue for years, and American women should take kindly to a natte weave.

The 1902 woman will naturally follow the male fashions and will ask for stripes in modest effects on grounds adapted for business wear and for separate skirts. Oxford grounds with red, blue or tan pin stripes in unobtrusive effects should be safe to handle.

The general tendency at present in dry fabrics is towards the adoption of lighter tones in materials. This has been demanded during the present season and will be intensified during the coming season.

Cloths with white for the body color, darkened by a dash of black, with the proportion of 90 per cent. white and 10 per cent. black should be desirable. Beige tones should be much in demand, and grays will no doubt come forward again.

Invadements, strictly speaking, the only article in wool dress goods, will not lose ground, but will doubtless be adopted for tailor made suits, novelty costumes, separate skirts, fancy waists, opera capes and dinner dresses.

There is as well a strong belief in chevrons. Few materials equal a chevron for business or knockabout wear at the seaside or in the mountains, in sunshine and in storm. More over chevrons possess absolute merit, which is the underlying requisite in all fabrics for a permanent place in dress goods departments, and without which no material can attain enduring success.

In following the vagaries of fashion, inexperienced buyers often overlook this and the fact that the woman with the small allowance of pin money, who from necessity has ever in mind durability, follows fashion more closely in cut of costumes and color than in materials. Homespuns being similar, naturally share in the stability of chevrons, and will, no doubt, be wanted in suitable colors, as this sterling fabric has been copied in silks and has found ready adoption as a novelty by the exclusive and discriminating trade.

The following colors are indicated

for spring: Black, of course, black stripes and figures on white grounds, in the approximate proportion of 5 per cent. of black to 95 per cent. of white; white and black, not black and white, united comprise a striking but still an unobtrusive combination that appeals at once to persons of refined taste in dress.

White is to come prominently forward, not only as a monotone in fabrics made of cotton or silk but as a prominent ground color for all printed fabrics, including silks, woolen dress goods and novelty cotton materials. Peru now promises to increase its lead during the coming spring season, and will be especially prominent in silks, laces and novelty cotton dress goods.

THE LUMBER TRADE.

WHITE PINE CONDITIONS REVIEWED.

In another department will be found a report of the semi-annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Lumbermen's Association, says the American Lumberman. Particular attention is called to the report contained therein, by the secretary of that association, on market conditions. So exhaustive and careful is that review that it makes unnecessary any extended comment on either the report itself or white pine conditions in this department. Yet a few of its features may well be specifically mentioned.

To the careful reader of this report the fact of a steady, year after year decline in the stocks on hand stands out with especial prominence. Stocks at the mills on August 1 of 1900 were 11 per cent. less than those at the corresponding date of the previous year, while during the last year the decrease has been 1 per cent. The mills have been pushed to their utmost during all this period and yet so heavy have been the shipments that stocks have declined below the point of satisfactory business, as is shown by the difficulty of maintaining assortments and in promptly filling orders for mixed cars. It has been the habit in the white pine trade to carry heavy stocks of lumber, this policy being dictated by the conditions under which business is done, and to manufacture in certain seasons instead of the year round. How much longer this decline in stocks can continue is a question which is not easy to answer, for certainly it has gone too far already to please manufacturers, dealers or consumers.

The statement as to shipments is an interesting one, but chiefly so as showing the remarkable way in which trade has been maintained this year. In 1900 July shipments were 65 per cent. greater than those of January, but this year the July shipments are 105 per cent. greater than in January of the same year. In 1901 the shipments for the first seven months were 25 per cent. greater than for the first seven months of 1900 and are substantially the same—perhaps a little larger—as the phenomenal shipments of 1899.

The secretary points out that the very satisfactory demand of the year thus far has come largely from the country and is for building lumber, whereas the greater part of the lumber sold in 1899 was used for special purposes, manufacturing plants of all kinds being large consumers and the demand for box lumber being unprecedented. These demands are large this year, but there has been added to them, and taking the place of what little decline there has been, a tremendous demand for building lumber.

It is pointed out that the building permits for twenty of the principal cities of the United States for July of this year show an increase over last year of 42 per cent. For seven months the value of the building permits issued in Chicago was practically three times in 1901 what it was for the same period of 1900; while we may add to the secretary's statement the further one that Greater New York issued permits during the seven months equivalent to as large a value as during the entire year of 1900.

The report entered quite extensively into crop conditions as affecting the probable future demand for white pine and its conclusions tally very closely with those of all well qualified observers, to the effect that the farmers of the country at large will probably secure as large a money return from their crops this year as last. As to the future of white pine prices it seems to be the conclusion that while no advance may be made there is every reason for a firm maintenance of those