

wooden cover nailed on. Each of the cases is made to contain about 200 pounds of butter. The plaster of paris being a non-conductor, very little heat reaches the butter, which arrives at its destination in good condition.

The run of fish on the Fraser river is reported to be extra large.

The crop of China tea this season is reported to be of very poor quality. Reliance will have to be placed therefore more than ever on India and Ceylon.

From all indications growers of broom corn will have an inning this season, says a letter from Chicago. Prices have recently advanced and promise to go considerably higher. Reports from all sections show a large shortage in acreage, and in many cases point to a decreased yield per acre, some say 40 per cent. less than last year. Prices have recently risen and broom corn is now bringing from 4½c. to 6½c. per lb. or \$130 a ton for the best.

Although Californian speculators have endeavored to advance the market for apricots, the lack of demand has seriously interfered with their plans. Buying in primary market has been very active, and in many sections the apricots have been closely cleaned up. As there has been no shipping demand, however, the goods are now owned by the dealers instead of the growers, and in view of the absence of eastern and European orders there is no particular reason to expect any advance in prices.

As a result of the largeness of the French vine crop and of the consequent cheapness of wine viculturists in all the vine growing districts of France, besides Algiers, are holding a great congress in Paris to discuss ways and means of saving from destruction the grape industry of the country. According to the leaders of the movement, the most serious fact in the commercial situation of France is the ruin confronting the growers of the vine, the very success of whose crop threatens to be their undoing.

The statistical position of currants in the United States continues to improve. The customs returns as of July 1 note stocks in bonded warehouse as the equivalent of about 3,960 brls., as against 4,500 brls., on June 1, and during the month there arrived 2,850 brls., showing the deliveries for the month of June to have been 3,400 brls.—satisfactory deliveries for what is considered one of the dullest months in the year. The English markets continue to report a fair consumptive demand. The new crop is apparently going on well, and an outturn of about 135,000 to 140,000 tons is expected.

The tea growers of Japan are said to be following American methods, and are forming a trust. There are some nineteen or twenty tea-exporting houses in Japan, and these are combining. The cost of running these houses is large, and by a combine there can be a great reduction in running expenses. The trust will not raise the price of Japan tea; in fact it will tend to lower it, and keep it steady at one figure, without fluctuating as at present. Papers incorporating the Japan Tea Company have been drawn by Edward Corbin, a lawyer of New York, and as soon as the organization is completed in Japan, Mr. Corbin will apply for a New Jersey charter. The capitalization of the company will be between \$3,000,000 and \$5,000,000, and the prospectus promises annual profits of about \$1,000,000. The Japan Central Tea Traders' Association is a Government institution. Every tea-grower and tea merchant is compelled to be a member.

—Regina is bestirring herself to let her advantages be known by the distant world to the east and south. Her board of trade has issued a series of reports and pamphlets which tell all about the prosperous place; telling of the wonderful crop of Assiniboia, and the hundreds of men who are wanted to work, for good wages. The town lays claim to good water, good schools, good marketing facilities, and social advantages. Free homestead lands are being rapidly taken up in Regina, it is said, while railway lands can be bought at \$5 an acre.

—We hear from Montreal that Mr. L. E. Geoffrion has been unanimously elected by the Chambre de Commerce to be the representative of that body on the Board of Trade.

SHOE AND LEATHER TRADE.

There are no specially new features to note in the Boston shoe trade. Reports from salesmen who are on the road are varied. While many manufacturers have a good volume of reserve orders and some cannot fill their contracts in the next two months, there is a prevailing sentiment among the most practical, economical and sensible manufacturers that the price of shoes is entirely too low, considering the price of raw material.

Delegates from many parts of the United States and Canada, representing more than 8,000 workingmen in all branches of the leather trade, met in Philadelphia, on the 4th inst., and formed the Amalgamated Leather Workers' Association of America. This new international union will affiliate with the American Federation of Labor. A constitution was adopted after several hours of debate. The objects of the association are to gain increased wages, decreased hours of labor and better conditions of work for its members.

—We learn that Mr. Edward F. Craig, of Montreal, has received the appointment of chief inspector of grain for the eastern portion of the Dominion. Mr. Craig's jurisdiction extends, we are told, from Port Arthur to Quebec. His fitness for this responsible post is generally conceded, and he is an intelligent as well as an energetic worker.

—We regret to hear of the death in Ottawa last week of Mr. Nicholas Surrey Garland, F.S.S., F.S.A., clerk of financial statistics for the Dominion Government. Mr. Garland was known as the author of "Building Societies and other Financial Institutions," published in 1882, also of "Banks and Banking," published in 1895, and was an occasional contributor to financial journals. He also had in hand the preparation of such Government Blue Books as the Yearly Compend of Building and Loan Societies Figures, and other such tedious and responsible work. The deceased gentleman had, we are told, been unwell since an attack of the grippe last spring, death resulting from a combination of diseases.

FALL FAIRS.

The following are among the principal fairs whose dates have been arranged for this Autumn :

Industrial Fair, Toronto.....	Aug. 26-Sept. 7
Eastern, Sherbrooke	Aug. 31-Sept. 7
Western Fair, London	Sept. 5-14
Kingston, Kingston.....	Sept. 9-13
Nova Scotia, Halifax	Sept. 14-21
Central Canada, Ottawa.....	Sept. 14-22
Guelph Central, Guelph.....	Sept. 17-19
Peterboro' Central, Peterboro	Sept. 24-26
Lindsay Fair.....	Sept. 26-28
Peninsular, Chatham	Oct. 8-10
Woodbridge, Woodbridge	Oct. 16-17
Regina Fair.....	Aug. 13-14

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, August 8th 1901, compared with those of the previous week :

CLEARINGS.	August 8th, 1901.	August 1st, 1901.
Montreal.....	\$16,899,251	\$15,199,056
Toronto	11,041,154	10,107,836
Winnipeg	2,018,307	2,057,906
Halifax	1,851,696	1,647,999
Hamilton	672,417	737,800
St. John	890,294	701,417
Vancouver	1,015,781	811,669
Victoria.....	676,923	571,764
Quebec.....	1,204,995
	\$35,065,823	\$33,040,442
Aggregate balances, this week, \$5,281,573 last week, \$5,682,113 ;		