

The St. John Sun says that during the past season the Jamieson firm handled and pressed about 15,000 tons of hay, all shipped for South Africa. Of this some 8,000 tons was bought in New Brunswick, mainly in Carleton county. The price paid averaged about \$10.50 per ton, or say \$84,000 for New Brunswick hay alone. Probably 50,000 tons in all has been shipped from St. John this year. A large part of this was Quebec hay.

The United States consul at Malaga reports that from reliable sources he learns that this year's Turkish crop of raisins will be about 410,000 cwts. of Sultana, and about 107,000 cwts. of Elemes. Regarding the Denia crop of raisins he estimates it at about 650,000 cwts., against 600,000 cwts. for 1900. The following is the estimate of the raisin crop for this year: Sultanas, 410,000 cwts.; Denia, 650,000; Elemes, 107,000; Malaga, 250,000. Total, 1,417,000 cwts.

Word comes from the Eastern Townships that all the cheese factories in the Waterloo section closed at the end of October. The low price of cheese and the small flow of milk made it no great object to keep them open longer. Fourteen cheese factories and four creameries composing the Shefford Butter and Cheese Syndicate, produced for the six months, May to October, 550 tons of cheese and 329 tons of butter, the market value of which was between \$230,000 and \$240,000.

A despatch of last Saturday from Pittsburg announces a combine of makers of preserves in the United States. Seventeen of them, with a combined capital of \$5,000,000, and representing three-fourths of the production, have formed at that city a combination to be known as the American Association of Manufacturers and Distributors of Food Products. The object of the organization is to regulate prices and sales territory, and to secure a more just interpretation of the pure food laws.

Says a report from London, under date Oct. 25: The demand for Canadian butter is improving, and "choicest" brands are selling at 112s. to 114s., and special fancy lots at 116s., which, compared with prices of Danish, Irish, French and Australian new season, proves it to be the best value of any butter on the market. Finest quality brands bring 108s. to 110s. Buyers are rapidly discovering the relative cheapness of Canadian, and the market is showing signs of considerable briskness. The cheese market continues dull, and the slight advance which lately took place in Canadian c.i.f. quotations is already weakening, and Belleville and Brockville white choicest Septembers for October and November shipment are quoted at 46s. c.i.f. London, inferior qualities at lower figures down to 42s.

—A letter from Montreal informs us that Mr. William Molson Macpherson, president of the Molsons Bank, has been appointed to a seat on the Canadian Board of the British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Company.

—Mr. Edgar Tripp, Canadian agent at Port au Spain, Trinidad, says there is a good opening in that island for printing paper. Canadian wines, and thoroughbred live stock, sheep and pigs, from the Maritime Provinces, of standard breeds had given great satisfaction.

—Mr. A. F. Gault has been elected chairman of the Montreal board of the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Company. In this position he replaces the late Mr. Edmund J. Barbeau. We also learn that Sir Alexander Lacoste has been elected a member of the board in the vacancy thus created.

—W. T. Jennings, C.E., of Toronto, who has been engaged several months in investigating the possible sources of a water supply for Sydney, N.S., recommends pumping water from Middle Lake, to a reservoir, collecting fifty-four millions of gallons, thence by gravity through an 18-inch pipe to the town. The pumps used are to have a daily capacity of six million gallons. He estimates the cost at \$200,000. Sydney does well to set about providing a good and plentiful supply of water.

—To show that the shipping interests, or some of them at least, are in full sympathy with the Canadian Manufacturers' Association's efforts to promote Canadian export trade, the Elder-Dempster Steamship Company offered to transport, free of charge, any two representatives of that body on that errand, to any foreign port touched at by the vessels of their line.

—Negotiations which have long been on foot for equalizing differences among railway systems in the northwestern States are said to be concluded. It appears that the Northern Securities Company, a new corporation with \$400,000,000, is to control various Pacific railways in the United States, and the Great Northern. James J. Hill, is to be president of this huge concern, and the directors are, John S. Kennedy, D. Willis James, Samuel Thorne, James J. Hill, E. T. Nichols, George F. Baker, Robert Bacon, George W. Perkins, Daniel S. Lamont, E. H. Harriman, Jacob H. Schiff, James Stillman, W. P. Clough, George C. Clark and N. Terhune. The Canadian Pacific, so Sir Wm. Van Horne says, have nothing to do with it.

—There are a number of Canadian communities alive to the attractions of neatly kept grounds and lawns, clean streets, and well-painted houses. Among them we recall Kentville, Nova Scotia and Walkerville, Ontario. It is agreeable to find Hamilton among the places whose public spirit has been aroused to the advantage of the features mentioned. Some months ago, the Hamilton Improvement Society offered prizes for the best decorated lawns and houses in Hamilton. The city was divided into eight districts, and a number of other streets outside of these were included in the competitive area. The citizens took up the idea and vied with one another in putting the best face on their respective houses. On Friday last, at a meeting in the Board of Trade rooms, the prizes were awarded to the successful ones. The president of the society, Mr. R. Tasker Steele, was in the chair, and the secretary, Mr. Newton G. Galbraith, read the list of winners and honorable mentions. Messrs. Adam Brown and W. A. Robinson presented the prizes. Attention to such matters as are here thought worthy of reward is seen to possess more than local value when we find Tourist Associations in our own and the Maritime Provinces, laying stress upon civic cleanliness and neatness, absence of mud and weeds in streets, clean dwellings and yards, as precious features in attracting travellers and tourists.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

T. S., Port Hope, asks us to describe the Bureau Veritas, which he frequently sees quoted. The Bureau Veritas is an institution of maritime underwriters in Brussels, Belgium, founded in 1828 for the inspection and rating of vessels of all nationalities.

MERCHANT, Galt.—The statement of the Bank of Montreal, giving earnings of \$711,828, was for the October half-year only. The earnings are the best for ten years, in that period, representing 11.84 per cent. per annum.

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, November 14th, 1901, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS	November 14, 1901.	November 7, 1901.
Montreal.....	\$.....	\$20,978,943
Toronto.....	11,660,080	13,491,033
Winnipeg.....	4,832,027	4,658,006
Halifax.....	1,709,090	1,919,160
Hamilton.....	788,832	1,036,453
St. John.....	773,449	838,587
Vancouver.....	1,056,603	1,198,708
Victoria.....	758,911
Quebec.....	1,506,082	1,650,135
Ottawa.....	1,528,210

Aggregate balances this week \$.....; Last week \$7,389,295