

Resolved, That an addition to the rate shall be made for such defects as may be shown by the report of the electrical inspector; that to secure such inspection, which, whenever practicable, shall be at the cost of the assured or of the party who has done the writing, local board commissioners shall take such action as they may deem wise and proper; and,

Whereas, The use of a current from trolley wires, or street railway rails, is largely the cause of fires; therefore,

Resolved, That if such risks are written at all by members it must be done at an increased rate; therefore,

Resolved, As mandatory, that the several local board commissions be, and they are hereby, requested to advance the rates on all buildings or their contents, where an electric current from trolley wires or street railway rails is used for electric light or power, not less than 1 per cent.

PETROLIA OIL MARKET.

Some improvement has lately taken place in the Petrolia crude oil market, and as values still remain upon a very low basis, even better things are expected. The *Petrolia Topic* believes that the producer is not getting as much for crude oil as the price of refined would warrant.

"Last August," says the *Topic*, "the Imperial Oil Co. was paying 98½ cents for crude at Marthaville, and \$1 delivered at the refinery. Now they are paying \$1 at Marthaville, and \$1.1½ at the refinery. In that time the price of refined has risen from 5½ cents (in bulk) to 6½ cents, a difference of 1½ cents. The generally accepted ratio between refined and crude is about 1 to 16. That is, a difference of 1 cent per gallon in refined should make a difference of 16 cents per barrel of crude. On this argument the price of crude should have risen about 20 cents per barrel since August 1. Instead of that it has gone up one cent and a half. Truly this a magnificent raise! Yet the producer appears perfectly content to go on delivering his oil to the refineries, taking just what they choose to offer, and complaining about 'hard times,' instead of hiring a mule to kick him for his own folly and faintheartedness."

Appended are the shipments of crude, and refined reduced to crude equivalent, from Petrolia over the G.T.R. and M.C.R. for the month of September, together with a comparative statement for the same month of the two preceding years:—

GRAND TRUNK.		
Crude.	Refined.	Equivalent.
14,220 bbls.	23,430 bbls.	72,795 bbls.
MICHIGAN CENTRAL.		
3,915 bbls.	13,305 bbls.	37,178 bbls.
Total equivalent.....		86,345 bbls.
1892.	1893.	1894.
116,605 bbls.	109,027 bbls.	109,973 bbls.

DRY GOODS JOTTINGS.

Tips their hats—the wind.

Cold weather has had a good effect on trade.

The price of cotton has taken a sudden fall in Manchester.

The uses for black ribbon increase as the season rolls on.

With the football season now on, sweaters are selling well. Prices are much lower than they were a year ago.

Retail merchants who can offer an assortment of durable gloves to retail for \$1 as a holiday leader, will aid sales.

Solid checks and dog-tooth checks are novelties in patterns of prints for the spring trade, and are very taking.

A good number of Canadian merchants and buyers are now in Manchester, Eng., looking after dry goods supplies.

The price of cotton is lower than it has been in 45 years, and the crop this year promises to be the largest ever known.

In Paris, when a local shopkeeper advertises to sell "at cost," he has to keep his word, or the Government knows the reason why.

The designs in prints this year are not large, but, on the other hand, samples indicate that small and medium sized designs will be most in favor.

In British fabrics for dress purposes fancy tweeds occupy a prominent position. Serges, covert coatings, and hop sacks are also likely to have a good run.

Have you had a cloak opening? The season is getting late, but you may yet be able to arrange a special day devoted to displaying and selling women's cloaks.

The Shopper—"I'd like to buy that lovely lamp shade, but I can't afford to pay \$10 for it." The Salesman—"Well, ma'am, I'll make the price \$9.99." The shopper—"Oh, how good of you; I'll take it."

The Belfast Flax Supply Association gives the following as the total acreage under flax in Ireland in 1893 and 1894:—Statute acres, 67,487 in 1893, and 100,851 acres in 1894, showing an increase for this year of 33,364, or almost 50 per cent.

A whipcord like serge, says the *New York Economist*, is out for next spring, and foreign agents are banking considerable faith in its popularity. As a travelling costume material its equal will be hard to find. Foreign retail houses have looked upon this material with great favor, so we are informed, as a leader for next season.

In the goods now being shown in Manchester for the autumn trade crepons and habit cloths occupy a prominent position. The latter have met with a very steady sale, and for plain chevrons the demand is steady, the shades including tan, brown, myrtle, reseda and olive.

The sable tail business will be good if the numbers shown are any guide. They are seen everywhere in profusion, ornamenting the necks of costumes and mantles, and even coiling round otherwise ugly iron columns they look remarkably well. From all appearances it seems safe to assume that the "little animals" will command a good sale.—*London, Eng., Draper's Record*.

Before cold weather has fairly set in, preparations are being made for the spring trade. One would naturally imagine that wholesale jobbing houses would now be hammering away for all they were worth on winter goods, but instead of this we find this class of trade completed, or nearly so. John Macdonald & Co. have just opened out their samples of prints for the spring, and a very fine showing they make. Novelties in prints are unusually numerous this year, and include plain satin drills, printed satin drills, printed ducks, crepe cloths, diagonal cloths, and zephyr effects.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Farmers are putting their orchards in apple pie order.

Potato contracts are being made in Brockville at 40c. a bushel.

The Milton Cheese Factory is to be converted into a butter factory.

The Belmont factory has disposed of their August cheese, 336 boxes, at 10½c. per lb.

Mr. D. Cantelon, of Clinton, Ont., has purchased over 20,000 barrels of fall and winter apples.

Mr. Newans, grocer, Wharncliffe road, London, has sold out to Mr. George Deacon, who takes possession at once.

The price of American whiskey, a Peoria despatch says, was lowered ten cents as a result of the abolition of rebates.

"Who pulled that bell cord?" asked the street car conductor. "I did," answered a passenger. "What did you ring both ends for?" "Because I wanted both ends to stop."

Says the *Mount Forest Confederate*: The Holstein creamery has cleaned out July and August's make of butter at 18½c. per lb. to Mr. Brill, of Guelph, and for the past two weeks has been shipping in pound rolls the total make at 23c. per lb.

Mr. S. M. Schell, apple buyer, says this year's crop in Oxford county is an enormous one, and that the yield is much heavier than was expected. Already in the different sections he has purchased between 12,000 and 15,000 barrels for shipment to the Old Country market.

Our Montreal letter states that the German granulated sugar mentioned in our market report some weeks ago is not yet to hand, although one of the Montreal papers said that it had arrived. "Some 700 bags have been sold in all at a cost laid down said to be \$3.78½ per cwt."

In the window of a Toronto grocer is the following, printed on placards:—

"FOLDING TABLE, BOOK CASE, MUSIC RACK OR CHAIR.

Trade with us until your purchases amount to \$25, and we will send you as above."

A grocer of this city was fined \$120 and costs in the police court Saturday morning for selling liquor without a license, and a similar charge against a resident of Cap Rouge was continued to give an opportunity for witnesses for the defence. A third case was fixed for proof.—*Quebec Chronicle*.

A number of hotelkeepers in Montreal have formed what is to be known as the "Province of Quebec Retail Licensed Victuallers' Association." Officers of the amalgamated committee were elected as follows:—President, Jos. Riendeau; secretary, J. B. Bureau; committee, L. A. Lapointe, Theo. Lanctot, H. Jones, T. A. Lynch, H. Gilchen, George Chartrand and E. Cadieux.

Country merchants are evidently coming round to the view that the recent advances made in Japan teas are of a permanent character. Both Montreal and Toronto jobbing houses report an increased movement in these teas. There is not a large quantity of Japans yet to come