

**Grocery Trade Notes.**

Recent mail advices from abroad on pepper state that the crop for 1901 will be a small one and with diminished supplies values of all peppers are likely to improve steadily.

Private mail advices from Malaga continue to speak of the danger to the next crop of almonds on account of the mild weather which has prevailed during December, and which increases the probabilities of frost later in the winter season. Shelled in Sicily and Bari are reported in light stocks.

On currants the Hills Bros. says: "Stocks are increased by the arrival of 700 barrels shipped from Greece, via Rotterdam Market remains quiet and but little business has been done during the week; dealers everywhere continue their policy of buying from hand to mouth; prices show little variation, but rather in favor of buyers. Late mail advices from Greece state that stocks were reduced to 6,500 tons. It appears that Germany and Holland have taken only insignificant quantities of the present crop, and as these markets were inquiring it is probable that a considerable portion of the remaining Greek stock will be worked off in that quarter. Liverpool reports stock on January 1 at 3,500 tons, and average consumption from January to September 9,000. Demand since the first of the year in that market has shown an improvement."

Recent mail advices from London say: "With a fair amount of business doing in currants the market has continued very firm, and in many cases an advance has been paid for Provincial fruit, of which the chief sales have been at 33s. Parcels of extremely inferior fruit are on offer at less money, but these are quite useless for grocery purposes. There has been more inquiry for better grades, choice Vostizza at 42s receiving some attention. Some offerings of fine old 1899 crop have sold at 31s and show good value. This identical fruit was worth over 60s in the early part of last October, which shows the heavy and ruinous decline which has taken place since that date." Liverpool advices report the demand for currants for home consumption as being disappointing, but that the inquiry for parcels for export is continuous, and this has had a hardening influence on the market. Provincial fruit is offering there at 33s. with Amalias at 31s to 31s and Patras at 33s to 45s.

**Dry Goods Trade Notes.**

The squeeze in cash cotton in the raw markets in the United States has had no appreciable effect on the markets for the finished goods on either side of the line. The movement is regarded in manufacturing circles as largely one of manipulation, and normal conditions are expected to prevail in the raw cotton markets after the turn of the month.—Toronto Globe.

The most important feature of the New York market recently has been the announcement of prices by the American Woolen Company on their new lines of staple suitings. They were about 5 per cent. lower than either buyers or sellers anticipated. A decline of 10 to 12½ per cent. was generally looked for, but the majority of the "combine's" lines of staples are 12½ to 17½ per cent. below opening prices of a year ago. The average reduction is about 15 per cent.

A lace workers' strike at Calais, France, has now lasted nearly ten weeks, during which time 14,000 operatives have been out of employment. It is stated that there are orders to the extent of over £3,000,000 for the spring season goods not executed. One firm alone has £5,000 worth of orders on its books. Some of the firms are arranging to transfer their orders to Nottingham, as they will have to be cancelled if the works are not started within a few days.

Advices from abroad on the linen goods markets are very strong. A Toronto firm received letters last week from which the following are extracts:—"We have to report that yarns have increased in price, and it is a most difficult thing to predict when the upward tendency is to cease. Of one thing we are convinced, and that is that at least during the greater part of this year we are to see no reduction. We are preparing an advanced price list of all kinds of linen goods, and we think that you will find that during the next six months linen goods will be very scarce. We look for a condition in the trade which buyers

and sellers have never experienced before."

From Nottingham it is reported that lace and curtain yarns are slightly easier to buy, and some small concessions are offered. Merino and wool yarns are firmer in value, and here and there quotations are advanced.

**Hardware Trade Notes.**

Ontario jobbing prices on tinplate are 25c lower. Black sheets are 10c lower.

Germany's pig iron output for 1900 was 8,422,842 tons, an increase of 393,537 tons for the preceding year. The December output was 720,790 tons.

The Canadian Horseshoe Nail Association was dissolved on Jan. 1, and since then open prices have prevailed on horseshoe nails. As a result prices have been reduced, the discount being 50, 10 and 5 per cent. on oval head, and 50, 10 and 10 per cent. on countersunk head horse nails, at factories.

Another decline is reported in the price of wood screws at Canadian factories. The cause of these declines is American competition. The discounts are now as follows: Flat head bright, 87½ and 10 per cent. off list; round head bright, 82½ and 10 per cent.; flat head brass, 80 and 10 per cent.; round head brass, 75 and 10 per cent.

A customs house return has just been issued showing the quantity of unwrought steel imported into the United Kingdom from foreign countries. The total last year was 179,000 tons, as compared with 77,000 the previous year. The increase is almost entirely in steel imported from the United States, which last year sent 157,000 tons to British ports.

**Lumber Trade Notes.**

Ritchy's new saw mills, on the Ochre River, six miles from Makinak, Man., will be completed within two weeks.

A report from the secretary of the Ontario board of health shows that there have been eight cases of smallpox at the Niblock tie camp. There is also a case at Fort William, one at Sault Ste Marie, and four at Algoma district. Mr. Osborne, of the C. P. R., states that the Ontario authorities have placed ten policemen in charge of the camp and that passengers are not allowed to board trains in the vicinity unless they can show a clean bill of health.

The cut of pine saw logs in the Northern Ontario woods during the present winter promises to be one of the largest in the history of the province. From reports received by the department of crown lands, Toronto, it is estimated that it will amount to 750,000,000 feet, board measure. This is one hundred millions more than during the winter of 1899-1900, which was slightly less than 650,000,000 feet. The cut during the last few years has been as follows: 1899, 513,000,000; 1898, 370,000,000; 1897, 503,000,000; 1896, 920,000,000. At present there are about 17,000 men employed in the various lumber camps, housed in 300 shanties, and getting wages averaging \$27 per month and board. This wage rate is higher than it ever was before.

The Minneapolis correspondent of the American Lumberman reviews the lumber market in that city up to the end of last week as follows:—"Prices are strong and there are indications that advances may be expected. Regular spring trade is beginning and the last week has seen a good volume of business done. Dealers, having had time to reflect upon the situation since their recent visit to Minneapolis, are now actively on the market for spring stock. Most of the travelers for the large wholesale and manufacturing concerns at Minneapolis are already in the field and the results of their efforts are visible in the increased volume of trade. It was feared that the advent of the travelling men would have the effect of weakening the market but such does not seem to be the case. Prices are firmer today than for several weeks and the strong undertone towards higher prices indicates that no decline need be feared. Reports for a week or two show that building operations will be exceptionally brisk this spring. It is claimed that dealers are receiving a heavy inquiry from probable builders

and that much of their time is consumed in making estimates on bills."

A dispatch from Grand Forks, B. C., states that the largest body of timber in that section, and probably one of the most important in British Columbia, occupies the valley of the north fork of Kett's river, north of that city. Commencing at Cedar creek is a cedar belt which extends for a distance of over fifty miles north in an almost unbroken body. The cedar is interspersed with merchantable tamarac and pine, and at the mouth of Franklin creek the white pine commences. This is of the same variety as the Michigan pine, and is abundant in the river valley for fifteen miles above the mouth of Franklin creek.—Canadian Lumberman.

**Statistical Wheat Report.**

**WHEAT IN CANADA.**

Stocks of wheat in Canada at principal points of accumulation are reported as follows:

Montreal	94,000
Toronto	79,000
Coteau, Que.	13,000
Depot Harbor, Ont.	249,000
Kingston	50,000
Port William, Port Arthur and Keewatin	1,840,000
Winnipeg	265,000
Manitoba elevators	3,310,000

Total Jan. 26	5,900,000
Total previous week	5,698,000
Total a year ago	9,510,000

**BRADSTREET'S REPORT OF STOCKS.**

Total stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, as reported by Bradstreet's Jan. 26, were 87,408,000 bushels, being a loss of 550,000 bushels, compared with the previous week.

Total stocks in the United States and Canada a year ago were 88,500,000 bushels, according to Bradstreet's report.

Stocks of wheat at Pacific coast ports on Jan. 1 were 8,686,000 bushels.

**THE VISIBLE SUPPLY.**

The Chicago visible supply statement of stocks in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Feb. 2 was 59,707,000 bushels, being a decrease of 24,000 bushels for the week. A year ago the visible supply was 54,322,000 bushels, two years ago 29,984,000 bushels, three years ago 30,022,000 bushels, four years ago 47,885,000 bushels, five years ago 66,113,000 bushels.

**STOCKS OF OATS AND CORN.**

The visible supply of oats in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains is 9,929,000 bushels, compared with 5,376,000 bushels a year ago. The visible supply of corn is 14,825,000 bushels, compared with 14,583,000 bushels a year ago, according to the Chicago statement.

**WORLD'S WHEAT STOCKS.**

Stocks of wheat in America and Europe and allot for Europe Jan. 1 in each year, for a series of years, were as follows—Bradstreet's report:

Year	Bushels
1901	169,000,000
1900	167,000,000
1899	117,000,000
1898	132,000,000
1897	136,000,000
1896	184,000,000
1895	205,000,000

**CROP MOVEMENT.**

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal United States spring wheat markets, from the beginning of the crop movement, Aug. 1, 1900, to date, compared with the same period of last year:

City	This Crop	Last Crop
Minneapolis	49,277,969	72,450,120
Winnipeg	6,249,020	6,736,882
Duluth	13,446,335	33,812,493
Chicago	31,888,307	17,947,297
Total	99,861,720	110,947,232

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal United States winter wheat markets, from the beginning of the crop movement, July 1, 1900, to date, compared with the same period of last year:

City	This Crop	Last Crop
Toledo	7,438,109	10,215,792
St. Louis	16,826,015	7,387,883
Detroit	2,362,626	4,123,490
Kansas City	29,069,317	11,180,540
Total	55,696,147	34,917,704

**Grain and Milling Notes.**

The latest estimates of the Argentine linseed crop is one received from Buenos Ayres, the surplus for export being put at 300,000 tons; the more generally believed quantity appears to be 350,000 tons; which, allowing for Argentine home requirements, would mean a crop of some 400,000 tons.

The contract for a 1,500,000 bushel elevator to be erected at Port Arthur, Ont., has been let to J. A. Jamieson, Montreal, by Mackenzie & Mann. The elevator is to cost \$350,000, and is to



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be completed next September, in time for next season's grain crop. The elevator is to be run in connection with the Canadian Northern Railway, now in course of construction.

The government tax of 20c per thousand on manufactured shingles has been changed in British Columbia to 50c per cord on the shingle bolts.

The Ontario legislature opened for business on Wednesday. Bills were fore-shadowed in the speech from the throne dealing with the dead meat trade and beet sugar industry.

The United States Rubber Company's cut of 18 per cent. in the price of rubber goods became effective last week. This follows a former cut of 5 per cent.

A general advance in the price of wines is announced at San Jose, Cal., by local dealers. Sweet wines going from 9 to 12c higher. Clarets and white wines will sell at an advance of from 5 to 6c a gallon. It is estimated drought and phylloxera have reduced the season's output to 1,000,000 gallons in the Santa Clara Valley.

G. F. Stephens & Co., wholesale paint, oil and glass merchants, Winnipeg, give notice to their customers that the business will hereafter be carried on as a joint stock business under the name and style of G. F. Stephens & Co., Limited. The management of the house will continue the same as heretofore. This business was established in 1882 and has grown steadily since then until it has reached its present large dimensions. The capital stock of the new company is \$150,000. G. F. Stephens is president, Wm. Hargreaves, vice-president, and M. F. Christie, secretary-treasurer.