

5 o'clock tea cloths, tray cloths, table cloths, etc. Now in stock they have a full assortment of all sizes in their famous numbers 307x, 308x and 312 cashmere hose.

Fall styles in men's overcoats are said to favor the Chesterfields, one light and the other heavy. The covert will again be in evidence, being in favor for wearing over a sack coat and for general knockabout purposes. A storm ulster of a heavy, loose description for rough weather will likely be popular. An Inverness or a long, straight box overcoat, with vertical openings on the hips, will be the correct thing for evening wear. Straight hanging oversacks of various lengths, some with down slanting and others with peaked lapels, others with plain and still others with plaited backs, will likely be much used. They will be made double and single breasted, full box style. The storm overcoat will likely be a straight hanging box style of good length, with a whole back and fly front. The collar will be of velvet. The four-button single-breasted sack will be a leading favorite. It will be half-shaped, small roll collar, front slightly cut away and bluntly rounded into the bottom.—Exchange.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The steamship "Escalona" arrived in Montreal last Sunday with a cargo of new currants and Valencias. Quality of the latter is said to be very good. Fine off-stalk are quoted in Montreal in a jobbing way at 7c., fine selected 8 to 8½c. Fine Filiatra currants are 4¼c.

The awkwardness of having two fruit markets in Toronto, one supplied by railway, and the other by the lake boat, has long been recognized, and it is now proposed to establish a central market near Yonge street, accessible to both boat and train. The importance of the fruit market in this city is perhaps hardly sufficiently realized. Its value this season will probably be found to foot up to fully half a million dollars.

Probably the country grocers are not so much bothered with it, but in the cities signs and notice cards are growing so numerous as to be a nuisance. As an American exchange says: The exterior store signs should tell in plain, easily read letters, the firm's name and business; it is well, perhaps, to add certain mottoes and the names of specialties; but when it comes to covering the exterior of the building with the advertisement of this, that and the other product or specialty, it is a positive detriment to the firm. Why should he cover the exterior of his building with big advertisements of this stove blacking or that baking powder? Does he ever expect to sell any other kinds? The Denver Commercial Tribune reports a similiar state of affairs in the West—says it is a big nuisance. These signs, it says, "are tacked on his counters, they hang over his shelves, his walls are covered with them, his showcases are completely covered and his store is a standing advertisement for hundreds of different articles, some of which he handles and some he does not."

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES.

The curator of the Canadian Section of the Imperial Institute has received applications as under: A Liverpool house would hear from Canadian makers of birch squares, turned legs, and other chair stock; also wooden drawer bottoms. A London firm asks names of Canadian shippers of soapstone. A British house in Japan, exporting druggists' lines, wishes to arrange with a Canadian firm of good standing to handle their goods.

—According to various papers to hand from British Columbia, the reports from Rossland and other Kootenay points are decidedly encouraging. They all indicate a revival in the mining industry. The lessons of the past, remarks the Vancouver News-Advertiser, will not be forgotten, while the conditions under which the industry can now be carried on are in some respects more favorable than they have been. The reports from the Le Roi indicate that Rossland's great pioneer mine only needs skilful exploration and operation to restore alike the reputation of the property and the fortunes of its owners. The Velvet and other lesser known mines bid

fair to make creditable showings in the near future and there is a probability that the War Eagle and Centre Star mines will yet clear themselves from the clouds which have gathered around their earlier history.

—Industrial war is a fearsome thing, considered from the point of view of the waste it occasions. Calculations have been made that the anthracite coal strike in the United States has already caused a waste of something like \$130,000,000, and of this probably \$50,000,000 consists of wages unearned. This strike has caused 137,000 workers to be idle for an aggregate of 18,480,000 working days. The Montreal Gazette reminds us that it is closely approaching the record made in the great British coal strike, when 300,000 men were idle an aggregate of 23,700,000 working days. The Americans are proud of "big things," and often try to beat the record of achievement. But they will be ill-advised if they try to beat the British record in the matter of a coal strike.

—It is nearly twenty years since a dividend was paid by the Grand Trunk Railway Company on its second preference shares. So prosperous are the company's affairs, however, that it was possible to make the agreeable announcement, at the half-yearly meeting in London on Monday last, that second preference holders would receive a dividend this autumn. The revenue for the past half year showed a substantial increase as compared with the same period in 1901, said Sir Charles Rivers Wilson. He recommended dividends of two pounds per cent, on four per cent. guaranteed stock and two pounds ten shillings per cent. on first preference shares, and two pounds on second preference shares, the last having received no dividend since 1883.

—United States manufacturers are at length becoming convinced by their consular representatives in different parts of the world of the need for personal solicitation and samples in working up an export trade. They have now hit upon a striking plan for putting these consular suggestions into practical working order by fitting up (at Seattle, Wash.), a large steamship, the "Oregon," for the purpose of taking a large party of manufacturers with exhibits for a six-months' cruise to Russia, China, Japan, Philippine Islands, Strait Settlements, India, Mauritius, South Africa, Australia and the Hawaiian Islands. In this floating exposition, the manufacturers hope to have all classes of buyers from the coast cities as well as from the interior of the countries visited brought to view the latest up-to-date ideas in their products. It is hoped that deals will also be made with native merchants and exporters desirous of selling their products and raw materials. The expedition is under the auspices of the chambers of commerce, boards of trade, manufacturers' associations and the consulates of the various points visited, and committees will discuss methods for the betterment of trade relations between the United States and the other countries.

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures for Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, Oct. 16, 1902, compared with those of the previous week.

CITIES	Oct. 16, 1902	Oct. 9, 1902
Montreal.....	\$.....	\$27,120,839
Toronto	18,945,969
Winnipeg	4,142,102	5,047,901
Halifax ...	1,310,485	1,852,083
Hamilton	844,189	1,022,612
St. John.....	664,897	1,038,591
Vancouver.....	1,002,042	1,232,652
Victoria	561,987	528,218
Quebec	1,256,088	1,592,486
Ottawa	2,122,286
London	658,928	867,979
	\$.....	\$62,371,616

Aggregate balances, this week \$.....; last wee \$9,302,138

Yesterday was generally observed as Thanksgiving Holiday in Canada. The stock exchanges were closed and the banks were closed. This will account for the non-appearance of our usual bank clearing figures for Montreal and Toronto for the week ended 16th October.