

Flaxseed Movement.

The movement of flax seed has not, up to this time, equalled earlier expectations and as the seed was consumed or tied up from the old crop, crushers have been compelled to look almost entirely to the new crop for supplies. This situation placed many in an embarrassing position and many shippers who expected large receipts, sold ahead and were at great stress to obtain and ship to the extent that their requirements demanded. They were for that reason in many instances compelled to sacrifice considerable to cover their sales, made for deferred shipment, and their sales made for export were further embarrassed by high ocean freights and difficulty in securing cars to forward such as they had to apply on their contracts. The vessel room for ocean freight was secured by Atlantic coast shippers when it was to be had, leaving western exporters in a serious plight. Considerable has gone through Canadian ports and some probably applied to Canadian consumption. The price of linseed oil as well as of the flax seed has advanced more or less steadily since the beginning of the harvest, with a continuing of good demand for northwestern seed. Some trouble has been occasioned also by the realization of threshing falling below the early level founded on earlier northwestern guesses of the sizes of crop that would be finally secured.—Minneapolis Market Record.

Commercial Travellers Meet.

The regular monthly meeting of the United Commercial Travellers of America, Winnipeg Council No. 104, was held at the "Cedars" Hall McIntyre block, last Saturday evening, Sen. or Commercial Margreaves, presiding. The following new members were initiated: John Graham, manager Rat Portage Lumber company; A. E. F. Phillips, manager Burdette Lumber company; H. P. Cox, representing Geo. McMahon, Winnipeg; W. E. Lewton, representing Deering Harvester company.

Hereafter this council will meet on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. A business meeting will be held on November 11.

Sheepskin Sales.

London, Oct. 27.—A sale of sheepskins was held in Mincing Lane today. The skins offered numbered 129,942 and were in good condition. There was a fair attendance and a strong demand. The quantity sold was 12,793. Long woolled were 1-2d and short woolled 1-4d higher. The bulk of the skins offered went to the home trade.

Norway's Foreign Trade.

According to a correspondent of the Chicago Record the balance of trade in 1895 was more unfavorable to Norway than in any previous year. As a matter of fact, the balance of trade is always against this country, the effect being only partly offset by the earnings of shipping. The average annual excess of imports over exports during the period from 1890 to 1898 was 16,000,000 crowns (\$12,322,000). In 1895 it was 120,000,000 (\$2,160,000). This state of affairs, says the correspondent, is variously accounted for, but it must no doubt be attributed to a complication of factors, the chief being comparative neglect of agriculture and cattle raising; unwise legislation, and, perhaps, the extravagance of the people, whose habits, lack much of being so frugal as formerly.

THE DRUG TRADE.

CAMPHOR MONOPOLY IN FORMOSA.

The Japanese government's scheme for a camphor monopoly in Formosa has now been reduced to working form and embodied in a series of regulations. The government is to receive from manufacturers all the crude camphor and crude camphor oil produced in the island, the possession, hypothecation, transfer or export of all other camphor or camphor oil being interdicted, and the ports of export strictly limited. As to the price paid by the authorities to the manufacturers, it is to be fixed by the governor-general. Manufacturers are required to tender to the government every year a report of the anticipated amount of production, and for failure to do so, or for furnishing a false report, the penalty is a fine of from 10 to 100 yen. Officials connected with the monopoly are to have the right of visiting and inspecting stills and stores, and of enforcing suitable measures of control. The penalty for selling or exporting camphor independently of the government is heavy, namely, confiscation of the camphor and a fine of from 100 to 500 yen. Adulteration is punishable by a fine of from 10 to 100 yen, and so is the making of a false declaration or neglecting to make the required declaration. Simultaneously with the issue of the regulations embodying the monopoly system, another set of rules relating to the manufacture of camphor were promulgated. They provided that anyone desirous of manufacturing camphor or camphor oil must obtain official permission; the failure to commence the manufacture within the period prescribed in the permit may involve cancellation of the license, that the governor-general shall have competence to suspend a manufacturing business or revoke a license, should such a course seem necessary in the public interest; that a manufacturer forfeiting a license or discontinuing his business shall return to the government any camphor wood remaining on his hands, suitable compensation being paid to him in the latter case, and that penalties of from 10 to 500 yen shall be imposed for violations of these rules. It is satisfactory to observe, however, that vested interests are respected. The last article of a set of supplementary regulations provides that persons who have received a license to manufacture camphor under the regulations issued in 1895 and 1896 shall be regarded as already possessing the permission indicated in the regulations.—Bradstreet's.

DRUG NOTES.

Glycerine advanced 10c per pound east last week.

Mercurials are up 2c per pound in all eastern markets.

The Canadian Journal of Commerce, Montreal, in its last review of the drug trade in that city says: "Camphor has slightly advanced. Citric acid is lower. Cocaine has had another sharp advance. Glycerine has also advanced and makers are very firm in their views. Morphine is advancing. Oxalic acid is lower owing to the break in the combine. Quinine, after a temporary drop, is again higher, this article may be classed as under the control of a single firm of money kings. Mercury is quoted higher in sympathy with the advance in primary markets. Buchu beans have advanced very much on account of the South African troubles. Ergot was quoted much higher at the recent London sales."

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