

made in the article which has drawn forth a reply from Mr. Braithwaite. Regarding any pocketing of profits on the Patron's twine, The Commercial did not make any such statement. There was a report current to that effect, but this journal distinctly stated that we did not credit the story. The Commercial is aware that twine has decreased greatly in price, but it is folly for the Patrons to claim the credit for this, though we will give them credit for assisting in the decline. The fact that the Patrons were able to buy their twine in the United States this year at only 1 to 10 per lb. higher than prices best Canadian makes were selling at, indicates the principal cause of the decline in prices. With only 12½ per cent. duty on binder twine, Canadian makers have been compelled to make a great reduction in prices, otherwise the home trade would have been supplied from the United States. Even at it is, considerable twine has been imported this season. Therefore, if the Patrons had not been in the field at all this year, Canadian makers would not have been able to obtain any higher prices, owing to the competition from imported twine.]

### Fur Trade News.

The Leipzig correspondent of the New York Fur Trade Review writes as follows on August 9: Trade generally has been dull; we expect greater animation at the close of the Nijai Novgorod, or at the opening of our Michaelmas Fair, which will begin on August 28, an unusual date in conformity with the resolution adopted some time since by our Chamber of Commerce. During the past few weeks a number of New York, Canadian, French, English, Scandinavian and German buyers have visited this city, and Mr. David Steiner recently left here for Nijai Novgorod. These visitors did not purchase goods in very large quantity, but it was a pleasure to notice, at such a dull period, their interest in the trade. Transactions in Musquash have not been large, Russian buyers being absent at the Fair of Nijai Novgorod; the article may be in good demand at that fair and sell better here in the autumn; wholesale furriers have purchased a considerable quantity of musquash, seal-colored musquash and musquash linings, the latter being extremely cheap in comparison with other years. Skunk of low grade has met with an active demand in Germany; some parcels of white skunk have been dyed skunk color; superior natural black skins sell slowly. There has been a limited demand for raw racoons; fancy colors on racoons, especially sea otter imitations, have been purchased for Russia in good quantities. American opossum skunk imitation sells well; mink of cheap sorts has been in demand for northern Germany, but otherwise in only moderate request; mink tails fluctuate in value very considerably; all other American furs have been quiet. Australian opossum has not sold very well; Wall abies dyed skunk or black color, meet with a continual sale; the demand for blue Japanese foxes remain steady; nutria has very considerably declined in favor; reports from South America state that raw skins are dear. A few transactions in European foxes and stone marten have been noted, prices of foxes are firm, and values on stone marten show very little change, as the supply is not too large; fitch has met with a good demand for Russia; land otter is now quiet; badger sells slowly; black cats of cheap sorts are in good demand. Persian lambs, dyed, have not been in as good request as in the spring, though selling fairly well; prices are firm. Broadtails have been eagerly demanded for France, good parcels be-

ing scarce, the prices rather higher than one year ago; flat moire Astrachans are in good request for France and America; sales of the rougher sorts have been less important than during the past few months. American customers complain of the competition of several American importers who depreciate values. Sorted Russian lambs are in good request. Trade in squirrels continues dull, only a small quantity of the lower sorts of linings being in request; squirrel tails, owing to the decline in the demand from loa manufacturers, sell slowly and are moderate in price. Ermine maintains its former status; the supply is not large, and prices are firm. White foxes are in good demand, black dyed and smoked skins meeting with continual favor in England. Kolinsky tails are unusually cheap.

### The Drug Trade Amalgamation.

Following is the circular issued by E. D. Martin & Co. and Bole, Wynne & Co. in announcing the decision of the two firms to amalgamate on January 1. next. Respecting enclosed notice we desire to state we arrived at a decision to amalgamate after most careful consideration. The difficulties and disadvantages attending the conduct of two separate Wholesale Drug Houses in Winnipeg have long been apparent, and we feel sure the retail drug trade of the country will after a careful review of the subject, justify the important move contemplated. It is well known to most of the trade that Wholesale Drug Houses depend for profit almost entirely upon their ability to buy in certain specified quantities arranged to suit the convenience of manufacturers and producers, and these quantities are not varied to suit the constituency in which the jobbing house may be. Winnipeg houses must buy the same quantity as New York and Montreal Houses. In some cases the turnover is sufficiently paid, but in a large number of cases the movement is too slow, necessitating the employment of capital at a loss. At present the two Winnipeg houses carry at least \$50,000 more than is necessary to do the trade of the country, representing an important item of interest.

The question of expense is also an important feature. A saving of at least 40% would be effected by amalgamation. Other reasons could be cited of minor importance, but these we think are sufficient to show the necessity of bringing together under one roof the present Wholesale Drug Trade of Winnipeg.

While it would be idle to state that the primary object of amalgamation is for other purposes than to strengthen and improve the position of the two houses interested, it must at the same time be patent to all that the entire drug trade of the country will be better served. Our improved financial position will give us command of the best markets of the world, while the savings above referred to will enable us to compete with any other house in Canada.

It will be the policy of the Martin Bole, & Wynne Co. to conduct the business in such a way as will command the respect and support of all the friends of both houses.

The Special object of this early notice to the trade is to advise them of the mode of conducting business during the next five months. In order to enable the two firms to trim the stocks, it is proposed that E. D. Martin & Co. shall control all drugs and sundries, and Bole, Wynne & Co. patent medicines and pharmaceuticals of their own manufacture. After September 1st and until the first of January, therefore, all orders received by either house will be divided as above indicated, and billed out by the two houses. Ample provision is made for the expeditious filling of all orders, and as each firm will have the command of the other's stock few shorts may be looked for.

E. D. MARTIN & Co.  
BOLE, WYNN & Co.

### Russian Crops.

A St. Petersburg dispatch July 29 says: "The loans made this year by the Imperial Bank of Russia on the security of grain crops amounted up to the 8th inst. to 12,916,000 roubles. The exports from Russia for the first five months of the year amounted in value to 251,085,000 roubles, as compared with 183,369,000 roubles during the corresponding months of last year. The imports for the same period, exclusive of gold and silver, amounted to 178,830,000 roubles, as compared with 140,895,000 roubles. The gold and silver imports amounted to 56,704,000 roubles, the value of these metals imported during the first five months of 1893 having been 11,470,000 roubles. The condition both of the summer and winter grain crops have improved, owing to beneficial rains. In the southern governments the harvest has begun, and the rye and barley crops have been partly gathered in. The result, both in quality and quantity, is very satisfactory, and straw is also abundant. The prospects of the millet and maize crops are better than they were, and there is now every probability that the harvest, as a whole, will be very satisfactory.

### This Year's Wheat Yield.

So far as threshing reports have come to the MARKET RECORD, the average wheat yield of Minnesota indicates about 15 bushels per acre, or a crop of 50,000,000 bushels. More of these reports are from southern counties than from northern, as harvesting was concluded there earlier and more threshing is done. If fuller reports from the north confirm those already received, there is little doubt of a crop near 50,000,000 bushels wheat in Minnesota. It is possible for North Dakota to reach about as much and would give some 115,000,000 bushels for the northwest, which figures may be increased later when fuller returns are in. The straw is light and the wheat is unusually clean bringing the yield above estimates made before threshing. To this increase, if we add the probable yield of the other spring wheat states. There is little doubt of a production of 170,000,000 bushels of spring wheat this season. Few will doubt now that there is about 325,000,000 bushels of winter wheat of this season's crop. Making 500,000,000 bushels for the yield of 1894. In every state where wheat is threshed it is yielding above expectations. The indication is that the yield this year will figure among the larger yields, excepting that of 1891.—Minneapolis Market Record, August 16th.

The Delinctor for September is called the Summer Number, and contains unusually large number of articles on interesting subjects. In addition to the regular fashion matter there is a special article of much value to mothers called Fitting Out the Family for Autumn and Winter. There are also articles for the housekeeper on Seasonable Cookery, Hints on Serving Peaches, Apricots and Plums, and the Use of the House, Life and Work at Mount Holyoke College are well treated by a recent graduate, the second paper in the Kindergarten Series opens up the mind in an interesting way, and there is a practical contribution on Millinery as an Employment for Women. The relations between Mother and Daughter are concluded in this number, and in How to Live Wisely the subject of Illness and What Not to Do is ably discussed, Instructions in Artistic Handicraft is given in Venetian Iron Work and the Uses of Crepe and Tissue Papers, and entertainment is provided in a Hallow'en Roman and a Chrysanthomum Party, Around the Tea Table is as gossipy as usual, and there are papers on Knitting, Matting, Tatting, Lace Making, Crocheting, etc., etc. The subscription price of the Delinctor is \$1 a year, single copies 15c. Address orders to The Delinctor Publishing Co., of Toronto, Ltd., Richmond St., West, Toronto, Ont.