

Chicago; D. Sloan, president, Lonaconing Savings Bank, Lonaconing, Md.; Arthur Reynolds, president Des Moines National Bank, Des Moines, Iowa; James T. Hayden, president Whitney National Bank of New Orleans, and James G. Brown, of Raleigh, N.C. The new executive council elected the following officers: Chairman, E. F. Swinney, of Kansas City; treasurer, George F. Orde of Chicago; secretary, James R. Branch; assistant secretary, W. G. Fitzwilson.

The Metropolitan Bank will shortly open two new branches in Toronto, one at the corner of College and Bathurst streets, which will be under the management of Mr. T. B. Clarke, formerly accountant to the Dominion Bank Market branch, and the other at the corner of Dundas and Arthur streets. Architects are at present at work on the former building, beautifying it and putting in a handsome new front, etc. The Metropolitan will also shortly open a branch at Petrolia, Ont., with Mr. T. S. Chatterson as manager.

We have received a printed statement of the position, as at the close of October, of the Sovereign Bank of Canada, which began business on the 1st May this year. The bank has made decided progress in the six months. Upon beginning business the paid capital was \$740,000, and the deposits \$246,900; the total assets \$1,153,553. On 31st October, the paid capital had grown to \$1,173,000; the surplus funds were \$240,000; the circulation \$759,995, and the deposits \$1,681,730. Of the assets, amounting to \$3,855,000, there was \$1,630,000 in call loans; \$1,335,000 in current loans and discounts; \$378,000 in cash and bank balances; so that the proportion of available assets was large.

FOR DRY GOODS MERCHANTS.

The R. M. S. "Empress of India" arrived in Vancouver this week with a cargo comprising among other things 540 tons of raw silk.

The wet weather of last summer was the cause of a great demand for rain-proof goods. The agent for Canada of the Standard Mackintosh Company reports an increase in sales of nearly 50 per cent this year compared with last.

The demand for crossbreds is the principal feature of the Bradford, Eng., market, the finer sorts being mostly in request. The run on crossbreds militates against merino wool, the value of which has not improved, which is largely due to the fact that botanies are somewhat neglected, and it remains as difficult to secure 2s. for a good sixties top as was the case a month ago. Consumers are waiting for developments at the manufacturing end.

The price of cotton in New York made a further advance of 8 or 10 points again on Tuesday. The volume of business is increasing. There was a better quality to the trading in that there was some attention paid to the staple by "outsiders," who appear to be impressed with the fact that the movement of cotton continues to be a disappointing one. To make good the predictions of many traders it should now be expanding, instead of which it is contracting.

Reports from Leeds, Yorkshire, stated that the Canadian demand for woollen goods is satisfactory. Winter repeats are going forward, though to a large extent the run is on low class stuff. The woollen trade shows little change considering that prices still have an upward tendency. The prices for fine worsteds and similar goods are now about equal to the rates current for the finer wools. Fabrics for women's trade are in large request. Fancy tweeds find a ready market for costumes, while gray chevots and friezes cannot be produced with sufficient promptness.

A despatch from Berlin, Germany, states that the Association of German Wool Combers and Spinners has addressed a protest to the Reichstag against the adoption of the tariff bill en bloc. It points out that the adoption of the wool tariffs as altered by the tariff committee will possibly involve in ruin the whole German woollen industry. Mass meetings have been held by social Democrats throughout Berlin to protest against violence done to the sole Parliamentary representative of the city by a majority in the Reichstag. The hall's, it is said, were crowded to the doors with thousands of orderly workingmen.

Among the swell dressmakers and tailors of New York it has been the fashion for some seasons to advocate the use of either black or white taffeta silk lining for gowns on account of the difficulty in matching colors and the necessity of carrying larger stocks. Now, however, they have tired of these linings and are more inclined to choose changeable silks. These do not have to be so exactly matched as do the plain colors, though, of course, they must be chosen to harmonize with the material of the gown. The tendency is to make the drop skirt just clear the ground. Some cloth skirts are being made entirely without lining, in which case the petticoat is also made to do duty as a drop skirt, and must therefore harmonize with the material of the gown.

According to latest advices from Lyons, France, to the Dry Goods Economist, the silk goods market there was less active, few buyers being present, and only a moderate business was being done for either current or future delivery. As the looms have, however, plenty of work on hand, and advance orders for spring already booked are good, the situation continues healthy. Further orders have been placed for muslin and for light summer silks. Taffetas have also been ordered. Fancy gauzes and combinations of gauze with other weaves are also receiving attention. Light shades of crepe lisse have been ordered and crepe de Chine is favored. In tulle transactions continue to be of satisfactory proportions. Damasks have not been very active this season and sell only moderately. Prices of fabrics are generally firm and sellers are able to obtain the right figures. Ribbons have improved and reports are more satisfactory both as to volume of sales and prices realized. There is a fairly good demand for printed ribbons.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The recent rapid rise in Canadian cheese has had a restrictive influence upon the British demand, and it is not unlikely a weakening tendency has already set in.

The total quantity of Valencia raisins imported into Canada this season is estimated at not more than 200,000 boxes, while the average annual consumption is about 400,000 boxes. Prices are becoming firmer.

An advance in railway freight rates on flour from Ontario points to the seaboard will shortly be made. It will average about 2½ cents per 100 pounds, and is in sympathy with the recent advances made by the railways from Chicago to New York. The ports affected will be Halifax, St. John, Boston, Portland, Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York.

Latest reports to hand from London inform us that Canadian butter is finding an improving demand, and prices advanced 2s. per cwt. during the week ending Nov. 28th. Business has increased owing to the discovery made by retailers that for a shilling butter they must trust to the Canadian. The receipts of Australian butter are growing lighter week by week.

A report from Greece states that the currant market continues strong, with an excellent demand from Germany and Holland—in fact from all continental countries. Advices from England indicate a continuance of the good demand there, which is quite unprecedented in volume, the imports having been much larger for the first two months of the crop than before experienced in recent years.

The Cincinnati Price Current says: Offerings of hogs have lessened the past week to an extent not generally looked for, and have fallen far short of the large movement a year ago. Total western packing 435,000, compared with 560,000 the preceding week, and 495,000 two weeks ago. For corresponding time last year the number was 710,000, and two years ago 570,000. From November 1, the total is 2,300,000, against 2,995,000 a year ago—a decrease of 695,000. The average quality has not depreciated, and is fairly good. Prices are moderately higher, closing with an average of \$6.15 per 100 pounds for prominent markets, compared with \$6.05 a week ago, \$6.20 two weeks ago, \$5.75 a year ago, and \$4.75 two years ago.