

are difficult to place for either immediate or future delivery. The market has reached a point where buyers exercise caution, but conditions remain the same as a month ago. Prices continue firm at late quotations, and, although buyers may not be as eager to place orders as at the beginning of the year, sellers are equally as reluctant to canvass for business until they reduce by deliveries the large quantities of yarn they have sold. Spinners have plenty of work ahead of them, and, as users have provided for the future to a liberal extent, there is no necessity for further business, and neither buyer nor seller has an inducement to contract it.

Manufacturers of raw silk, says an advice from New York, are at a loss to understand the continued advance in raw material, judged from their own situation and the movement of their product. Based on the smallness of trade, prices should show a sagging tendency rather than otherwise. There seems, however, to be no doubt that producing markets are dependent on European demand for their firmness. Europe continues to operate, especially in the Yokohama market, where sales are fast depleting stocks, the available supply being much smaller than it was a few weeks ago. A good deal of the silk in Yokohama is not adapted for exportation on account of its inferior quality. These conditions have accounted for a further advance of 7½ to 10 cents a pound during the week. Certain qualities are not being quoted, being held out of the market by retailers.

A report from Belfast says there has been little change in the linen market. The turnover has been fully maintained, and prices are firmly held at highest rates. The outlook for the future is as satisfactory and promising as ever. The demand for yarns is of a steady, all-round character, and prices for both home and foreign spinnings are fully maintained. Manufacturers have booked a fair average number of orders. Unions are selling steadily, and there is an increasing demand for damasks and other household goods. Power-loom linens for bleaching and cloth for dyeing and hollands are in steady request, and makers-up are getting busier. Prices keep very firm. There is a further improvement in home demand for bleached and finished linens, and this tendency is likely to continue for some time. Reports from the United States are of a very satisfactory character, and demand is likely to tax production. Continental business is steady.

The "Wool and Cotton Reporter," speaking of the Boston woolen market, says it is firm, but there is not much

[FIRE]
German American
Insurance Company
New York

CAPITAL
\$1,500,000

NET SURPLUS
5,841,907

ASSETS
12,980,705

AGENCIES THROUGHOUT CANADA.

business transpiring. Only two or three houses have succeeded in accomplishing any business worthy of note, comprising sales of fine medium and medium territory, and South American and Australian crossbreds. Quite a number of the mills have been represented in the market, including the worsted and woolen dress goods makers, a Philadelphia worsted spinner, manufacturers of thibets and kerseys, carriage cloth manufacturers and makers of uniform cloths. Two well-known dress goods mills have purchased foreign crossbreds, one of these concerns taking on a fair amount of South American quarters; but the purchases of consumers have, in the main, been of small lots, running in size from 25,000 to 75,000 pounds. There is, perhaps, as much business as could be reasonably expected in view of the small selections procurable. There are really no large and desirable selections of good, staple wools available, except of foreign wools, and how long these will last, in view of the strengthening tendency manifested on the other side of the water, is not clear.

The "Drapers' Record" states that a steady trade continues to be done in the home trade houses at Manchester, and the prospects are encouraging on the whole. A feature of the Lancashire cotton trade has been the big advance in raw Egyptian cotton since the beginning of the year. The quotation today for certain grades is 2d. higher than at the beginning of the year. This is a serious matter for spinners in the Bolton district and South Lancashire. It is said that the rise has been brought about owing to speculative influences in Alexandria. The latest estimates of the Egyptian crop are not very satisfactory, and, although earlier in the season the crop was said to be larger than that of last year, the news now is that the yield

will hardly be so large as 1905. Spinners of Egyptian yarn have plenty of work to go on with, but the higher quotations which they have now been obliged to quote have restricted business. Cotton piece goods also, made from Egyptian yarns, have advanced in price considerably, and the higher rates being asked have placed goods out of the reach of buyers.

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