

Dry Goods Trade Notes.

The demand for pearl buttons has reached enormous proportions. Manufacturers all over the country have had difficulty to keep pace with the increased requirements of the trade. Reports indicate that the supply of pearl shells is growing less, particularly in the fresh water variety. This will foreshadow a decided shortage in the near future.

The Dominion Cotton Mills Company has issued its new fall price list for the printing department. Some changes have been made in cloths, and prices, which will conduce to the popularity of this section. The patterns of the new velour, serge and Salisbury lines are elegant, and prices are made to prevent the United States making a dumping point of this country.

The demand for blankets has been surprisingly good for this season. When the inquiry usually tapers off, says the Toronto Globe. The sorting trade in this line has been active at the advanced prices. The wholesale price has been obliged to pay advanced prices, which range from 2 1/2 to 4 per pound, but no further advance in prices is looked for, and it is expected that stocks for the fall trade will be purchased at about current prices. The demand for flannels has been strong. The advance in the price amounts to about 1c per yard, and in some lines, too, the buyers have already had to pay the advanced price.

The trend of raw cotton still continues upwards, says the Montreal Gazette. This has been one of the worst seasons to keep track of prices. There has been no satisfactory conclusion about the crop. One of the factors in the situation seems to have been the fact that the most of the small Southern farmers are not in the hands of the banks any more, consequently they say, if they want to, keep their cotton to suit their convenience. At any rate, they do not have to expose their stocks in order to have loans. The British mills have been looking at the situation this way this season, and have got left with small stocks of raw cotton and a tremendous lot of orders at old prices. Many of these orders have been taken in Canada, and will be filled at a loss.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Another cut in the price of table syrup is reported.

Prices of nutmegs and cinnamon have advanced 25 per cent.

Advice from Greece on the current market report a slightly easier tone. According to the Lisbon correspondent of the London Express, a number of Portuguese capitalists are combining to effect the monopoly of all the cocoa produced in the Portuguese possessions, and thus to control the cocoa market. The capital of the combine is said to be half a million sterling.

During a boom, in their monthly circular dated Rotterdam, January 11, say of coffee: "Next Santos crop has undoubtedly suffered from frost, but the falling off of fruit. Estimates vary from 6,000,000 to 8,000,000 bags, but we have no reason to modify our monthly estimate of 7,500,000 bags. There are no estimates current concerning the Rio de Janeiro, which leads to the belief that it will be a full one, taking into account the extension of cultivation."

Latest mail advices from New York say. When cane sugars enjoyed the full benefit of the countervailing duty on imports, the market for all cane sugars, but the Canadian market has now greater importance. The British possessions, as all such sugars are admitted into Canada at 60-2-3 per cent. on the value, and from other countries. This gives them a preferential equal to about 24c per 100 lbs. The Canadian Union of the cane for the British West India planters Canada cannot take all their production, and only part of the surplus of lower rates goes to planters, for Canadian sugars can get all the British West India sugar they want, by paying a fraction over the New York price. The Canadian preferential has, however, moderate influence on the market, for it causes an increasing quantity of British West India sugar to go to Canada, and to that extent lessens the supply of cane sugar coming to the United States."

Hardware Trade Notes.

Lathyrum rope is 1c per pound lower.

An advance of 5 to 10 per cent. has been made in brushes.

Rubber botting has advanced from 10 to 15 per cent.

American axes and sledge handles have advanced about 10 per cent.

Augers and auger bits are again higher at United States factories.

There is a scarcity of cast-iron goods, and an advance is daily looked for.

Brass and copper wire discounts have been reduced 2 1/2 per cent. in the east.

Lumber Trade Notes.

A new list of prices has been fixed by the lumber association of Southern Alberta, which shows a small advance.

Reports from the lumber camps in the Riding and Duck 30s and 40s to the effect that this winter has been the most favorable for years for getting out logs. The number of men engaged in the camps is double that of other years, and the output of lumber will be the largest in the history of the district.

The Lumbermen's Association of Ontario held its annual meeting last week. The president's address noted that conditions are favorable for a profitable business this year. Stocks of lumber are light, demand good and prices firm. It was pointed out, however, that there is not so much profit as might be supposed in the business. The cost of labor has advanced very much, while hardware and everything else used in carrying on the work are proportionately higher.

IMPLEMENT TRADE.

The Twine Situation.

There is no perceptible change in the situation as far as twine is concerned. Prices are quoted by a few concerns, but in most cases they are made purposely high, and do not correctly represent the seller's idea of what the price will be when the market opens in earnest. In some instances, however, prices that "sound" like business have been offered. On the whole, the situation is about as it has been for several weeks. Everything appears to be waiting for the big ones to put out their prices.

A middle west jobber is out with a circular soliciting inquiries from dealers who are interested in twine. Dealers are requested not to write out of curiosity. The circular gives the harvester combination a knock and concludes as follows: "It is our opinion that the market has touched bottom, etc." It would be hard to convince most people that there is, or has been, any market so far this season.

Sisal fiber, as noted last week, has paused in its descent and turned the other way. A brisk demand at the low prices caused and recently has caused two or three advances aggregating 1/2 cent to date.—Farm Implement News.

Implement Trade Notes.

The twine dealers of Minneapolis are very much dissatisfied over the failure of manufacturers to announce prices for the coming season. They feel that business is being injured by the delay.

R. McKenize, manager at Winnipeg for the McLaughlin Carriage Co., has had advice regarding the strike in the company's factory at Oshawa. About 150 men are still at work, but the 200 are out. The company had a number of the western orders for the spring trade shipped before the strike, and they hope of being able to fill all advance orders taken for spring delivery.

Live Stock Trade Notes.

The number of cattle exported from the Northwest Territories during 1902 was 52,000 head, as against 41,000 in 1901.

The third annual spring show and auction sale of the Territorial Purebred Cattle Breeders' Association will be held in Regina, commencing May 13 next. Along with it will be held the second annual spring stallion show.

The Lace Warehouse

OF CANADA

Importers and Manufacturers of

FANCY
DRY GOODSAND
NOVELTIES

Kyle, Cheesbrough & Co.

MONTREAL, 16 St. Helen Street.
WINNIPEG, Bulman Blk., Albert St.
LONDON, ENG., 35 Milk Street.

CATALOGUE NOW READY

Baseball
Tennis
LacrosseCROQUET SETS
HATPOCKS
CHILDREN'S WAGONS
VELOCIPEDESFlags, Paper Lanterns, Rubber Balls, and many Specialties
for Spring Trade.

Nerich & Co.

116-148 FRONT STREET WEST

Opposite Union Station.

TORONTO

Reports from Medicine Hat show that cattle on the ranges are in good condition, and that the winter has not affected them to any appreciable extent. Compared with other winters, very little hay has been fed, as range feed is plentiful and easily accessible.

Montreal Gazette: Although the returns of sales of Canadian cattle made in foreign markets so far this year have been discouraging to shippers, as the balance of the same was generally on the wrong side, yet in spite of this fact the shipments have kept up, there being over 5,000 head shipped before the middle of March. There has been nothing done in the way of contracting for cattle for spring shipment, with the exception of one or two lots, which is said will cost 5 1/2 to 6c per lb. live weight.

The prospects are that shippers will not commence operating in this direction before the middle of March. With reference to ocean freight space there are still very few chances for getting cargo, and for some time, as the prospects are the embargo on the port of Portland will be lifted before the opening of navigation,

and if so rates from here will naturally rule lower than if the above port was closed.

Labor Notes.

W. Mackenzie King, editor of the Labor Gazette, Ottawa, has gone to Fernie at the instance of the labor department, for the purpose of endeavoring to settle the strike of coal miners at that point.

In accordance with an arrangement arrived at between the parties to the suit, the British Columbia courts on Monday awarded the Taff-Vale Railroad Company \$115,000 damages against the Amalgamated Society of Railroad Servants. After a long trial in the King's bench division of the high court of justice, the case of the Taff-Vale Railroad Company against the Amalgamated Society of Railroad Servants, involving many questions of great importance to the railway, resulted December 19 in a verdict in favor of the plaintiffs. The latter complained of malicious molestation, picketing, intimidation, etc., during the strike of 1900.