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TORONTO, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14th, 1904.

## DRY GOODS NOTES.

It has been decided by the assignee not to set aside the sale of the Canada Woolen Mills property to Mr. W. D. Long, of Hamilton, as has been requested by Mr. G. F. Benson, of Montreal. We understand that a check from Mr. Long for the amount in question has been accepted, but that an appeal will be made.

The raw cotton market in New York is not very interesting just now. On Tuesday it declined some ten points, but as there was but little cotton for sale the tone steadied; which was helped, it is believed, by the interests which have tried to bull the market before during the last month.

Buyers recently returned from the Old Country say the situation is very firm in cottons and linens. Manufacturers have but small stocks, and have to make to order, with the result that they have to obtain raw material at the high prices which now prevail. It is likely that English cotton and linen goods for the spring trade will range about 10 per cent. higher.

The shareholders of the Montmorency Cotton Mills Co. held their annual meeting in Montreal on Saturday last. The result of last year's work was considered satisfactory, and hope was expressed that an improvement would set in soon. The following directors were elected: Lieut.-Col. F. C. Henshaw, H. M. Price, John T. Ross, R. Forget, N. Rioux, Alex. Pringle, and Edgar McDougall, and at a subsequent meeting Lieut.-Col. F. C. Henshaw was elected president, and John T. Ross, vice-president.

## FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The report of the United States Department of Agriculture states that the average yield over the whole country of spring wheat this season was 12.7 bushels per acre. The Ontario yield was 18.5 bushels. Of oats, the yield in Ontario was at the rate of 39.3 bushels per acre, against 32.1 in the States.

It is a long time since prunes and raisins were held in primary markets at such low prices as prevail this year. The Pacific Coast crop of prunes is estimated at 165,000,000 pounds, while consumption on the whole scarcely seems so large as a few years ago. Perhaps one reason for slow sales is the constant unsettlement of the situation by the vacillating business in recent years on the part of growers.

The Annapolis Fruit Estates, Limited, with a capital of \$350,000, and headed by Senator McKeen, of Halifax, proposes to combine about thirty fruit farms in the Cornwallis Valley, comprising about 12,000 bearing trees, and about 10,000 others. Besides apples, the company will cultivate small fruits and vegetables, and will erect canning and vinegar plants.

During the year just closing, importations into Great Britain of Cape fruit have increased considerably. They numbered 34,723 boxes, not a very large quantity when looked at as trade figures, but significant when it is remembered that they follow such quantities as 21,968 and 14,998 in the last two years respectively. Plums were the largest item, being responsible for 13,553 boxes, while peaches amounted to 7,876, and grapes, 7,641 boxes.

—The Grand Trunk Railway Company having applied to the Railway Commission for permission to haul coal to certain manufacturers in Cobourg for 80c. per ton, their usual charge to other customers being 90c.; consent was refused. The allegation was made on one side that the cut was needed by the parties in question in order to continue in business. The extraordinary circumstance of a railway making a concession to a customer gratuitously was, however, almost beyond belief. And it now turns out that the customer in question, had really threatened to bring their coal in by water unless the railway gave them a cheaper rate. Hence the condescension.

—Much dissatisfaction is expressed by merchants and business men at the inequitable working of the present assessment system in the Province of British Columbia. Many attempts have been made to have it rectified at the hands of the Government, but so far without avail, the Government having allowed the matter to slide. At a meeting of the Vancouver Board of Trade last week, the following resolution was passed: "That this board has learned with very great regret that no action has been taken regarding the appointment of a commission to inquire into the Assessment Act, and strongly urges upon the Government that steps be taken at once to carry out the promises made."

—We have had the pleasure of a call from Mr. James Martin, F.S.S., of Martin, Farlow & Co., King St., London, Eng., who is secretary of the Society of Accountants and Auditors, of England, and editor of the Incorporated Accountants' Journal. Mr. Martin has been the guest at St. Louis of the Congress of Accountants from all over the world, and has reached Toronto en route for Montreal and home. His plan to visit Chicago and other northwestern cities, and also, perhaps, to spend some further time in Canada, was dislocated by the extraordinary warmth of his reception in the States, as well as by the embarrassing and exhaustive nature of the duties that devolved upon him in connection with his office as a delegate. To have to go, as we understood him to say he had to do, to attend accountants' dinners at places so far apart as St. Louis and New York, disposed of him, when he reached here, to stop a while and rest, and this he did, very agreeably.

## CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures for the Canadian Clearing Houses for the week ended with Thursday, October 13th, 1904, compared with those of the previous week:

	Oct. 6th.	Oct. 13th.
Montreal .....	\$24,509,079	\$24,184,164
Toronto .....	20,816,890	19,790,488
Winnipeg .....	5,949,073	5,619,492
Halifax .....	1,950,508	1,717,382
Hamilton .....	1,138,149	1,227,134
St. John .....	1,040,664	1,142,094
Vancouver .....	1,597,750	1,684,337
Victoria .....	793,977	542,360
Quebec .....	1,608,538	1,942,129
Ottawa .....	2,077,925	2,627,133
London .....	892,327	1,014,716
Total .....	\$62,464,880	\$61,411,449

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