

named by the association and guaranteeing the fruit as good as Santa Clara prunes."

A private cable from Nantes, France, reports an advancing market on sardines. Mail advices state that the pack is one of the shortest within recent years.

A private telegram from San Jose states that out of 7,000,000 pounds of prunes received so far only 20 per cent. are of the first four sizes, the remainder being 100s and up.

Latest advices from Barbadoes, dated September 1, said that the weather has been very satisfactory during the latter part of the week, and the hot sun, following the recent rains, must have a beneficial influence in forcing the canes forward. To-day we are having rain, and we welcome the improvement in the temperature.—Montreal Gazette.

Regarding Malaga raisins the Hills Brothers Co., say, "Quotations have been received for small parcels of London layers, but prices are too high to lead to business. The crop is somewhat late and lower figures may be expected as the Malaga market becomes supplied from the interior, but in any event prices must be expected to be higher than during the last crop."

The tone of the market for molasses is firm owing to the small stock held in first hands. Barbadoes in round lots is offering at 38c, but the demand at present is slow, as jobbers have ample supplies on hand to fill immediate requirements. A fair trade is reported for the season in small quantities on country account, and car lots are moving at 40c, and single pineapples at 41c.—Montreal Gazette.

A coast packer has notified the trade of an advance in new choice 2-crown seeded raisins to 7½c and in fancy 3-crown to 7¾c, f.o.b. coast. The advance is attributed to the unfavorable weather in California and the recent advances in foreign raisins. Says the announcement: "Another advance of ¼c is certain to be announced within a few days, and there is reason to believe that 3-crown seeded will be selling at 9c when association opens prices on loose."—New York Commercial.

The feature of the canned goods market of late has been the decided strong feeling in salmon, and prices have scored an advance of \$1 to \$1.25 per case, owing to the scarcity of stock on spot, and the good demand for the same. Recent sales of small lots of Rivers Inlet brand have taken place at \$6 to \$6.25, and Fraser River at \$6.50 to \$6.75 per case. Canned fruits are very firm, and vegetables in a jobbing way are moving freely with no change in values to note. Peas sold at 80c to 90c per dozen, as to brand; tomatoes at 85c to 90c; Log Cabin corn at 80c; strawberries at \$1.50; raspberries at \$1.45; and salmon at \$6 to \$6.75 per case, as to brand.—Montreal Gazette.

Regarding currants, mail advices just received from Woodall & Co., Liverpool, state:—"The week beginning September 1, opened with continued firmness, which has been well maintained throughout, and later a further advance of 1s was readily paid for better qualities, but holders now ask 50s for good Gulph and Patras, and 52s for Vostizza, which shows an improvement of 3s to 4s. Provincial has also been in demand at 43s, and all offering at this price has been disposed of, the market being now nearly cleared of all in first hands. A fair business has been done on c.i.f. terms for new Provincial at gradually advancing prices, the final quotation being 40s against 67s a week ago. The first arrival of new crop, about 800 tons, per Cherbourg, docked this morning and some samples of Gulph and Vostizza came on the market during the day. The quality and condition were excellent, and there was a good demand for ordinary small at 52s to 54s up to 60s for fine. No Provincial was landed."

Physician—"My dear sir, you want sleep. Tell me, do you sleep well at night?"

Patient—"Doctor, I have not had a night's sleep for eleven years."

Physician—"Why, it is wonderful you are not dead or insane. Does it interfere with your business?"

Patient—"No, doctor, not a bit."

"Indeed! What is your occupation, may I ask?"

"I am the editor of a morning paper."—Harlem Life.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

DRESS GOODS.

The dress goods departments of the big houses here are very active. A large business is being done in tweeds and a big range of color and variety is shown in that line. Prices continue very firm for imported as well as domestic lines. A local buyer writing from Paris to his firm says that the prices at which many lines of goods are selling to the retailers here now are well below the prices asked in France for similar goods for the fall. A class of tweeds in checks and herring-bone patterns, all wool, to retail at 60 cents per yard, is selling very freely on this market at present. This line is considered such safe property and offers such good value for the price that a leading firm here is buying the same lines again for next spring. Plain Sedans are selling quite freely for the current trade. Good poplins are also in excellent demand. Low price poplins are not considered so good as the better line. "Nigger-head" effects in black only are being bought freely for skirts and suits. Homespun effects in serges, in navys, and blacks are good sellers. A New York idea that is now having a good run in the American metropolis, and which is also shown here, is a heavy reversible cloth for skirts. It is a garnet on one side and on the reverse the color is navy. The skirts of this material are stitched so as to give the same appearance on either side, and as it is sufficiently heavy to be made up without lining it can be worn as a garnet or a navy skirt, thus serving the purpose of two skirts. The cloth is very handsome, but it is sufficiently expensive to prevent it from becoming popular with the masses of buyers. A lot of plaids are being sold for skirts and suitings. The lighter fabrics in this line are selling fairly, but not so well as the heavy makes. Plaids to retail at 50 cents a yard in all the designs and colors are going out well. Fancy black dress goods are reported to be better than ever. Pirouas and zibeline finish are selling freely.—Globe.

RETAIL MILLINERY OPENINGS.

The retail fall millinery openings held in Winnipeg during the last two weeks proved to be the most successful in many years. Notwithstanding the unfavorable weather on some of the days, these displays were largely attended and the sales were much greater than was anticipated. Among the great variety of styles exhibited one most popular were the continental, la marquise, mushroom, Napoleon, etc. The continental hat is in white felt, faced with black velvet and bound with gold braid. The Marquise shape is a general favorite, being exceedingly becoming and very comfortable in cold weather. The mushroom hat, a favorite English shape, which has been so popular in the east for some years is still much worn. Very pretty fur toques are also shown.

In colors, castor, brown and old rose appear to be the leaders, but a great deal of black and white, will be worn. All shades of blue, French gray, automobile red (a new color) and bright emerald green also occur frequently. The latter is at present a favorite in New York, but it is regarded as being only a favorite of the moment. Ribbons for stock collars and belts are worn to harmonize with the hat, and the milliners have provided themselves with ribbons for that purpose.

FRENCH GOODS MARKETS.

There has been a good deal of talk lately about the condition of the French markets for dress goods and the break in wool prices in Roubaix, says the Toronto Globe. After a steady decline in wool futures since January, aggregating about 50 per cent., the market collapsed at the close of last month and sixteen firms went to the wall, with total liabilities aggregating some \$11,000,000. These were firms that had been speculating in wool. The Roubaix manufacturers do not carry large stocks of wool, but when they have accumulated a quantity of orders they go into the market to cover their contracts for goods, and when they have used up stocks so bought purchase fresh supplies as required. When the speculators advanced prices abnormally many manufacturers quit making certain lines so as to moderate the uses of wool for which prohibitive prices were being

asked. The effect of the break in wool in that French manufacturing centre has been less pronounced than might have been expected. Outside of Roubaix and Antwerp the speculative business in wool has been small and other continental and British markets have been but slightly affected by the smash, and it is hoped that the speculation in wool has received its death blow. A fire at Roubaix this week destroyed stores of wool and cotton valued at 4,000,000 francs. An enormous warehouse belonging to the Magasins Genereux, packed with goods, was gutted.

DRY GOODS TRADE NOTES.

A lace combine has been formed at Nottingham, England.

A number of British cotton mills have been closed owing to high prices of cotton.

There was another wild time on the New York cotton exchange last Saturday and prices were shoved up 49 points higher.

The newest ribbons are the gilt effects. These are very handsome, and are shown in all widths from the very narrow to the wide sash ribbons. The narrow ones are used by the millinery trade for trimming.

Foreign linen markets are becoming stronger. The quality of the Russian flax crop is inferior, which is having an effect upon prices. The Irish crop is larger than last year, but cannot materially affect prices.

The Central Agency, Glasgow, comprising the firms of the Coats, the Clark Co., and the Brooks Co., advanced prices three pence per pound on knitting, mending and tambouring cottons on Tuesday. The increase equals 12½ to 17½ per cent. The second quality, soft and glace reeds, was also advanced at the rate of a shilling per gross of 500 yard reel.

A cablegram from Germany this week quoted an advance in cotton knitted goods. Advices from another source say the rise in cotton has taken the German weavers by surprise. They are unprepared for it, and will sustain a loss in filling present contracts. West German spinners made two price advances in yarns last week—a total of 4 pfennigs per lb.

The flannel shirtwaist is one of the most popular of the recent innovations in the dry goods line and as these are made up for the season's wear they are really a natty garment. The goods used are exceedingly pretty and lend themselves readily to this style of wear. Some of the prettiest flannels come from France. This season's waists are made in a variety of styles which range from the perfectly plain to most elaborate designs with plaiting, tucking, stitching, etc. The scoop stock collar is also fashionable.

THE HARDWARE TRADE.

PRICE OF GERMAN CUTLERY.

United States Consul-General Guenther writes from Frankfort, August 9, 1900:

"Within a comparatively short space of time, the better class of scissors and shears have advanced in price about 10 per cent. and the common grades about 20 per cent. In knives of the better grades, there has been an appreciation of 5 to 7 per cent. and in the common grades of 10 to 25 per cent."

"Except in pearl-handled knives, which have advanced largely on account of the increased cost of pearl, the appreciation in values is not due to the influence of raw material, it is practically altogether due to labor troubles. The fact that the men employed on the higher class of goods are being paid better than those working on the lower grades explains the difference in the increase in the price of the two grades of goods."

"Taking into account the labor troubles and the fact that the manufacturers are busy, it is probable that German goods will be steady in price for some time to come."

HARDWARE TRADE NOTES.

Tinplate declined 25c per box at Toronto last week.

There is a better feeling prevalent in the market for pig iron and sales are steadily improving both in Canada and the United States. Prices are low compared to what they have been for some time past, as low as \$17.50 per ton delivered having been reached at one Canadian point.

Scotch warrants declined 7s 6d last week.

Black sheets are 10 to 15c per 100 pounds lower in the east.

Pig tin has been reduced ½c per pound by Toronto jobbers.

Turpentine declined 2c per gallon at Montreal last week owing to continued weakness at primary centres.

The glass strike in Belgium continues and some dealers on this side of the ocean are getting anxious about their future supplies.

The world's copper markets appear to be in a decidedly strong position and prices are advancing. Requirements seem to grow faster than production and the visible supply is remarkably small.

A cable from London on Tuesday said: "The corner in Scotch pig iron has eased in. The price was maintained at 77s for sometime and yesterday 77s 3d cash was called. It collapsed to-day at 65s. There was a paucity of business throughout."

The supplies of copper during August, as shown by English statistics, reached a higher total than in any previous month this year, excepting April, being 26,910 tons, against 21,22½ tons in July and 17,965 tons in August last year. The April total was 27,155 tons, the largest in any month for three years past. Deliveries in the past month totalled 25,673 tons, and stocks are consequently 1,232 tons higher than at the end of July, being 30,175 tons, compared with 28,913 tons.

A row in the Canadian White Lead association has led to one of the members withdrawing from the association and making a cut in selling prices. In response to this action the association has cut its price 25c per 100 lbs., making the rate f.o.b. Montreal \$6.50 per 100 lbs. for pure white lead. This reduction is purely the result of the split in the association as the market is if anything stronger, and it has been freely predicted for some time that higher prices might be looked for. At New York pure white lead is to-day worth \$7 per 100 lbs.

Insurance Notes.

The Canadian fire underwriters have decided to materially reduce the rates on mercantile risks in northwestern Ontario as the business centres of that thriving region are no longer regarded as "distant points." The reduction in some instances will amount to about one-quarter of one per cent.

J. S. Wallace, agent at Winnipeg for the Imperial Life Insurance company, has distributed a fine calendar this week among the friends of his company. The calendar is good from September till the end of 1901 and is embellished with the photos of the Queen, Lord Roberts, General White, Col. Baden-Powell and Col. Otter.

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