

## DRY GOODS TRADE.

## Fabrics in Wool.

It seems to be settled that the coming summer will be one of considerable demand for woolen dress goods, of course wash goods will play an important part—as they do every summer—but there is an increasing demand for wool dress fabrics adapted to summer wear. This is where the mohair comes in and dealers are showing large lines of this popular fabric. Most of the new designs while attractive are not striking or radical. Hair line stripes, melanges, browns and blues with flecked figures, and with small checks are the favorites. Light-weight broadcloths have been in good demand for Easter and opera gowns and will probably be popular for fall wear. The pastel shades that were in favor some seasons ago will evidently be leaders.

The sale of fall lines of cotton fabrics have been immense in some instances. There are several cotton lines which have the sanction of that tyrannical dame, Fashion, and the demand for them has been large. New lines in these goods include plaids, small figures and some checks.

Zibelines will evidently hold a strong place in the demand for fall dress goods lines. The plaids will likely have a slightly larger sale than the fancies, but not large enough to put the latter to any disadvantage.

It looks as though the advances that have been made from time to time in the prices of dress goods will be fully maintained. Whatever jobbers have had to reorder the manufacturers have kept the same firm position that they have held for some time. There is some indication, however, that the market may be disturbed by the selling of narrower goods than the standard widths. This always has a tendency to make trouble as the lesser widths, being sold slightly under the standard, seems to be cheaper, while in reality it is not at all—Minneapolis Commercial Bulletin.

## Dry Goods Trade Notes.

The call for pearl buttons is almost phenomenal.

Metal buttons of various sizes are having a good sale.

Parasols to match the gowns are one of the season's novelties.

There is a steady demand for the popular line of laces. It is said that there will be a demand for colored effects in the fall.

States are being ordered by shirt makers, and some handsome effects in foreign shirtings are being shown in these states.

Our weather has been checking the sorting business in dry goods at Ontario centres. Retailers are still stocked, and until there is some warm weather to start the goods moving freely, activity is not looked for.

Green and plique skirts are in much favor, especially with the younger women. Many new and striking effects are noticed in the colored linens. Blue and white checks in rather large designs are among those called for.

The shirt waist business has been enormous with manufacturers. The fingered waist, made in the dainty style with fine lace and embroidery integrated with a yoke entirely of Irish embroidery, is a particular favorite.

In linens and white goods, United States jobbers look for a large duplicating demand. These goods will be bought largely at an advance of from 2 1/2 to 10 per cent. Unions and cottons are largely affected by the destruction of two of the mills by fire, and the large increase in the demand which is sure to be experienced this year will only tend to aggravate the difficulty.—Toronto Globe.

The new surtax on German goods entering Canada is expected to transfer a considerable volume of dry goods business from Germany to Great Britain. It is stated that the German manufacturers have been hanging on to this trade since 1897 at a sacrifice of their profits in the hope

that something would turn up to give them back the old position in the Canadian market. Now they will be obliged to let it go to their British competitors. The surtax will also reap some benefit from the change.

The strength of all raw materials, which go to make up the various lines of dry goods, now seasonable, is such that very little hope is held out by manufacturers of an early reduction in values in the country. On the other hand, the fact that intrinsically all leading lines are cheap at current prices. The jobbing trade lends its endorsement to this view of the case by the manner in which orders ahead are being placed. There has seldom been shown such great willingness to provide for future requirements than is the case at present in every department of jobbing trade.

Advices from British and European markets indicate a still firmer feeling in cottons, woollens, linens and silks and prices have gone up again in all of these lines. Manufacturers are called upon to pay such high prices for the raw material that it becomes imperative for them to make corresponding advances in their selling price. Silks and linens have advanced more in proportion than the other two lines, but all are relatively higher. As showing how wools have advanced it may be stated that fine wool yarns, which not long ago were selling at 10 1/2d in England are to-day worth 4d more than that.

## Grocery Trade Notes.

Advices by cable from Sicily state that the cold weather has caused some damage to the coming crop of alfalfa.

Cables from Spain report an advance of the equivalent of 1c per lb. on Tarragona almonds, due to fears of damage to the coming crop.

Cable advices from Sicily report that market firmer on shelled almonds, due to reports of damage to the growing demand crop in some sections.

The plant of the International Salt Company, located at South Chicago, with three boats lying in the Calumet river, were burned on Tuesday. The loss is estimated at \$1,250,000.

The demand for Congou teas in the New York market for shipment to Europe continue active and it is estimated since the buying commenced some 42,000 packages have been shipped.

Present quotations on fine Amalia currants at the Atlantic seaboard are 5c below those of a year ago, which, considering the position of stock, is considered a low figure. Free buying is looked for for a while.

Referring to Brazil oats a prominent New York importer says: The bullish reports which have recently been circulated in this market, combined with the light arrivals, have had a tendency to advance prices.

According to late cable advices from Brazil, large sales of new crop oats have been made at 6c per lb., f.o.b. The yield of the crop promises to be no larger than last year, if, as large. Last year's crop was approximately 60,000 hectolitres.

Messrs. Bernasconi & Co., Yokohama, cable their Montreal agent, W. R. Forester, last week, as follows: The market for apples is firm. Apples purchased at \$60 to \$70 per picul, equal to about 36c to 42c per pound, come freight and insurance. Eben James, of Toronto, the well-known apple operator, has converted his business into a joint stock company, and is establishing a cold storage plant at Trenton, Ont. The name of the company will be The Apple and Produce Cold Storage and Forwarding Co., Ltd., with a capital stock of \$100,000. Henry Pedwell, of Thornbury, is president and Mr. James is manager. The building will accommodate 50,000 barrels of apples, besides large quantities of produce. It will be completed in time for the fall trade.

There has been no important change in the condition of the market for new crop Barbadoes molasses since this day week, says the Montreal Gazette. Cattle advices have been received which were firm in tone and stated that the supply now left unsold was only 4,000 numbers. The news has been the means of creating some little excitement in the wholesale grocery trade, as they are com-

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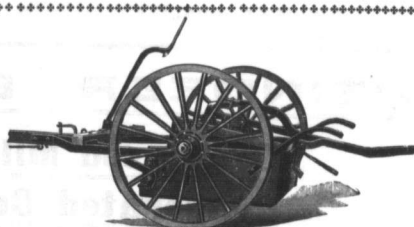
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mening to think now that they will be left without any stock of Barbadoes molasses for the coming season, and, therefore, they are showing a disposition to operate; consequently, some business will likely be done in

the near future, but if there is only the above quantity left on the market for sale there is bound to be a big shortage here, which will, no doubt, result in much higher prices than are at present ruling on spot.