

them with the expectation that the government will eventually redeem them.

THE Bay City *Lumberman's Gazette* says: The year 1883 has been exceptionally disastrous in the matter of fires in wood-working establishments. For the first ten months of the year over one hundred million dollars was wiped out, went up in smoke as it were, and the necessity becomes apparent for every precaution on the part of owners to prevent the continuance of such enormous destruction. One hundred million dollars in ten months is too great a business calamity to be longer endured. The most perfect precautionary measures should be adopted by every wood-working establishment in the country.

It is estimated that 29 per cent. of the acreage of Europe is still in timber. Forty per cent. of the enormous territory of Russia is in forests and of this 200,000,000 acres are in pine woods. Thirty-four per cent. of the territory of Sweden and Norway is occupied with woods of useful timbers; twenty-six per cent. of Austria, twenty-seven per cent. of Germany, seventeen per cent. of France, seven per cent. of Spain, the timber being cork, oak and chestnut, five per cent. of Portugal, and four per cent. of Great Britain. Scotland is the only part of the British Empire (including the colonies) in which the planting of timber is going on to any considerable extent. Sweden is now the country from which the world's supply of fir timber and deals chiefly come.

Woolens and Clothing.

The eastern trade papers have anything but good news to give with regard to the condition of business in woollen goods and clothing. They report a marked stagnation in trade and frequent failures caused by over-production of poor goods, a light fall trade, and many other reasons. The present existing condition of things has been brought about by a long train of circumstances since the close of the war, and we can but hope matters are settling down to a safer basis than has existed for many years, in this as in most other leading lines of trade. Changes in tariff laws, the places of the modern credit system, the expensive methods of selling goods and the reckless competition often found in both wholesale and retail trade, have had the effect to put aside many of the safest and most essential rules of trade, so that the prices asked do not, as nearly as they should, correspond with the cost of production to the manufacturer, or the prices the retailer has paid. More prudent methods must eventually prevail.—*Minneapolis Bulletin.*

The Corn Crop.

A Milwaukee grain dealer has just published an estimate on the yield of corn this year compiled from official returns and other reliable sources of information, from which it appears that the total crop slightly exceeds that of last year, and is the largest ever raised in the United States, excepting in 1880. The total amount this year is put at 1,621,100,000 bus. The United States Department of Agriculture, in its October report, placed it at 1,617,025,100 bus., or only a little over three millions less than the Milwaukee estimate. The

total crop of 1880 was 1,714,435,000 bus., or 90,435,000 more than this year's. Following is the tabular statement of yield by states:

State.	Bushels.
Maine	800,000
New Hampshire	800,000
Vermont	1,800,000
Massachusetts	1,200,000
Rhode Island	300,000
Connecticut	1,200,000
New York	20,000,000
New Jersey	10,000,000
Pennsylvania	40,000,000
Delaware	4,000,000
Maryland	10,000,000
Virginia	35,000,000
North Carolina	35,000,000
South Carolina	15,000,000
Georgia	36,000,000
Florida	4,000,000
Alabama	32,000,000
Mississippi	30,000,000
Louisiana	15,000,000
Texas	65,000,000
Arkansas	34,000,000
Tennessee	75,000,000
West Virginia	15,000,000
Kentucky	75,000,000
Ohio	70,000,000
Michigan	25,000,000
Indiana	100,000,000
Illinois	170,000,000
Wisconsin	25,000,000
Minnesota	20,000,000
Iowa	165,000,000
Missouri	190,000,000
Kansas	190,000,000
Nebraska	90,000,000
California	3,000,000
Dakota	6,000,000
Other States and Territories	5,000,000
Total	1,621,100,000

The World's Bread and Meat.

An interesting paper was read by Dr. Drysdale of London, before the Social Science Congress at the recent annual session at Nottingham, upon the subject of the world's present and future trade supply. The paper attracted special attention, as it well might, for the subject is one of vital importance to Europe and especially to Great Britain. The distinguished essayist adduced many statistics gathered from the highest sources, upon which he based conclusions that will hardly be questioned by those who are well informed on the topic under consideration. He emphasized the fact that Europe is now importing one-twelfth of her food, and that, at the rate of increase which has marked the history of recent years, she will soon import one-sixth of it. So far as Great Britain is concerned this fact possesses great significance. To the essayist one thing was clear, and that was that the continent in the near future would send them no meats, but on the contrary, be a competitor with Britain for meat supplies.

Passing by details that are interesting, pertaining to the enormous monthly consumption of meat in Great Britain and the rapid increase of population, we come to another consideration

dwelt upon by Dr. Drysdale, to wit: Great Britain consumes more meat per head (109 lbs. per head annually) than any other European nation. He said her unceasing activity required that this kind of easily digested albumen should be used by her people, and he compared the condition of the British people with that of the people of Italy, who consumed only eighteen pounds per annum, and were sunk in lethargy and superstition. France and Germany were referred to as the leading nations of Europe in activity, intelligence and culture, and they consume more than any other continental country, except Belgium. It was shown that meat is becoming dearer year by year, and that the same is true of milk and other dairy products. The suggestive circumstance was also dwelt upon that the death-rate is very much higher among ill-fed nations and classes than among the well-fed.

In all this there is profitable food for thought for American farmers and stock-raisers. To this continent will Europe continue to look for supplies of meat-food, as well as breadstuffs and dairy products. With our unmatched facilities for supplying them—resources that are well-nigh boundless—she need not look to us in vain for food; and, while her requirements will be an advantage to our people, it is to her a god-send that she can draw from us wholesome food, both breadstuffs and meats, at prices that enable the masses of her people to enjoy them.—*N. W. Miller.*

The Harvest of 1883.

The last circular of the Ontario Bureau of Industries is dated December 6, 1883. A large surplus of hay and clover is reported. Last year the area under crop was 1,825,890 acres, and the average yield 1.14 tons per acre; this year the area was 2,359,521 acres, and the average yield 1.75 tons. Of potatoes, the yield for the whole Province is 18 bushels per acre less than last year. The produce of the several crops for 1882 and 1883 was as follows:

	1883.	1882.
Potatoes, bush	10,106,731	18,432,145
Mangolds "	6,233,163	7,711,420
Carrots "	3,951,588	4,009,975
Turnips "	29,432,013	35,350,331
Totals	55,723,495	65,512,871

The first crop, as a rule, was a failure. The number of horses continues to increase.

	1883.	1882.
Working horses	350,181	336,932
Breeding mares	87,442	70,596
Unbroken horses	123,408	96,076

The number of cattle in the Province in 1882 and 1883 was as follows:

	1883.	1882.
Working oxen	17,086	14,566
Milch cows	691,808	665,382
Store cattle (over 2 years)	322,154	272,209
Other cattle	790,940	610,527
Totals	1,821,997	1,562,683

The following is a comparative statement of the returns of sheep for 1882 and 1883.

Coarse woolled (over 1 year)	1,044,859	933,143
" (under 1 year)	581,109	676,362
Fine woolled (over 1 year)	150,465	178,299
" (under 1 year)	95,451	127,499

Totals	1,871,884	1,915,303
-----------------------	------------------	------------------