

DRY GOODS ITEMS.

A Montreal paper says that a number of Montreal capitalists have formed a syndicate with a capital of \$250,000, for the purpose of taking over the merchandise, plant, patterns, etc., of the Semi-Ready Clothing Co.

As, an illustration of the difficulties and complications with which the Tariff Commission have had to deal, such as were referred to in a recent article in these columns on the tariff question, may be cited their session in Valleyfield, P.Q., the seat of the Montreal cotton mills. A deputation of local farmers came forward on that occasion with a plea to increase the duty on cotton manufactures to 30 per cent., as in the neighborhood of the mills there were so many who depended for their livelihood on the work to be obtained therein. Mr. Louis Simpson, the manager of the mills, who was the farmers' spokesman, said that increases of duty on white and fancy cottons, and on goods woven in stripes, checks and brocades were necessary to keep the mills profitably employed.

GROCCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

P. Burns & Co., Vancouver, are about to erect a large packing house and abattoir on Burrard Inlet.

The city of Toronto has done well this year in its leasing of market privileges; the price was \$36,675, or an increase of \$2,575 over last year. The successful tenderer was Mr. R. Hunter.

At the annual meeting of the Montreal Wholesale Grocers' Guild last week officers were elected as follows: President, Joseph Quintal; vice-president, A. Orsali; treasurer, J. Ethier; directors, S. J. Carter, L. O. Demers, W. Gendreau. The retiring president, Mr. L. E. Geoffron, was unanimously chosen as the Guild's nominee for election to the Council of the Board of Trade.

It is probably not generally known that Alberta is such a large producer of dairy products. There are no less than twelve creameries in that province under Government control, with an output of 800,000 pounds annually, besides, ten creameries which are run privately. The chief markets, not counting the Yukon, are in China and Japan. The industry seems to be not only thoroughly well established, but to be increasing by leaps and bounds.

At the International Live Stock Exhibition at Chicago, Canada received highest honors in the students' judging contest, the Ontario Agricultural College of Guelph receiving a grand total of 4,154.30 for judging horses; cattle, sheep and swine, the next competitor being Ohio, with a grand total of 4,068.33. On the other hand, Canadian sheep-breeders made a poor showing compared with their record in previous years. In championships the Americans won 13 and Canadians 7, while in firsts Americans won 36 and Canadians 7, and in seconds the Americans took 36 and the Canadians 26.

The quantity of wheat already marketed from the West is extraordinarily large, the total which so far has passed out of the farmers' hands being 57,831,000 bushels. Of this the C.P.R. has carried over 46,000,000 bushels. Besides this it is calculated that 7,000,000 bushels have been used for flour and that 8,000,000 bushels will be required for seed, so that there still probably remains in the farmers' hands between 12,000,000 and 17,000,000 bushels. Up to December 28th, 38,408,250 bushels of wheat had passed inspection at Winnipeg, 14,452,000 bushels were in store in interior elevators, and 2,745,818 bushels in store at Fort William, and the remainder in transit, 1,400,000 bushels being in transit on the C.P.R. system and 737,932 bushels on the Canadian Northern.

The plant which the Ogilvie Flour Mills Company are erecting at Fort William, Ont., bids fair to be one of the most important in the world. The mill proper will have a daily capacity of 5,000 barrels, though at present machinery