

fact. There is something unusual which is required, something special and unique. In no line of business does this hold more than in dry goods.

Messrs. H. Telke and M. Finklestine have formed a company in Winnipeg for the purpose of starting a fur dressing, tanning and manufacturing business. It is stated that the home product will be used as largely as possible, but that a large supply of furs will be obtained from London, and that Russian fur experts will be employed in the business.

Never has there been more variety in the millinery lines than this season, says the Dry Goods Economist, of New York. This statement holds quite as good in regard to shapes as materials. Everything is selling, and so far there are no indications that any particular style will show a stronger development than another. This makes easy business in one sense. Again, it may be said to have the opposite effect. It takes a level head and a strong personality to dominate the situation at the retail end this season. The head of the department or establishment must have the utmost confidence in his or her choice of styles, for certainly with a season like the present, a selection must be made by all but the most extensive establishments.

ONTARIO CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.

The opening meeting of the season's programme of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario was held at the new rooms of the Institute, in the Royal Insurance Building, Toronto, on Monday evening, 19th inst., when a gratifying full house was present. Mr. A. C. Neff, F.C.A., delivered an address on "Accounting as a Profession," which subject was discussed by several members present. Mr. Neff drew attention to the comparatively recent growth of the profession of accountancy into anything like prominence in the business world, the first association of accountants having been formed in Liverpool in 1870. The Ontario Association was organized in 1879, and incorporated in 1883. He further discussed the very wide field of work which the profession is required to cover, its importance to the financial and commercial world, the standing of the profession, the high qualities and training necessary to success in it, and the desire of the Institute that every member bearing its endorsement should prove worthy of public confidence.

We are pleased to learn that the fall and winter course of meetings of the Ontario Institute begins under gratifying auspices. We are told that more than seventy students have been enrolled as members of the Chartered Accountants' Students' Association, an organization formed for the purpose of training for the Institute examinations, which take place next May. Furthermore, arrangements are made, we are glad to see, for broadening the minds of students of this important branch of commercial machinery by means of a library, technical works, periodicals, and the like, of a character which will help to equip the ideal accountant. It is also intended to have a series of lectures. These are all desirable things: they all cost money; and we have no doubt that any additions to the library committee in their labors, by those who have the means or the time, will be received with cordial good-will. At the rate at which the business of the country is now growing, more accountants will surely be needed. It is to the general interest that they should be competent accountants, not mere machines who write a good hand and are quick at figures, but well-informed business men, whose assurances or certificates will carry weight in a commercial community.

TRINIDAD PRICES CURRENT.

Advices from Port of Spain, Trinidad, say that additional supplies of breadstuffs which had at time of writing recently come to hand, had weakened values generally. The demand for American and Canadian foodstuffs was light, notwithstanding the comparatively low prices at

which they have been offered. Flour was moving slowly with bakers' quality quoted at \$6.25 to \$6.40 for extra No. 1. Cornmeal was moving slowly at \$4.25. For the cheaper grades of clear pork, there was some demand, but stocks were heavy, and with holders anxious to realize, prices were easing off. Stocks of family beef were still excessive. Cheese, principally Canadian, was still in heavy supply, and was being offered at low rates. Trinidad dealers are beginning to realize the truth of the reports of a small catch of fish, and the market should be in a good healthy condition for some time to come. Importations lately have been small. Good quality of lumber, especially boards, is scarce. Not many potatoes were in the market, and recent sales of new Canadian went at \$2.70 to \$2.85. Onions were in considerable supply. As to Island produce, the continued advance in London in the price of cocoa has brought about a very good feeling. Cultivation of this valuable crop is being extended, but the increase from this source is diminished, owing to the fact that the yield from older trees is rapidly shrinking. Exports of cocoa to Canada and the United States have shown a large increase during the past year.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The Florida orange crop for the coming season is estimated at 1,725,000 boxes, and it is said to promise to be of excellent quality, the fruit being likely to be small, heavy and juicy.

The price of English hops is expected to advance materially. Owing to the gale a short while ago, and to other causes, the yield will be considerably less than anticipated, probably less than 400,000 cwt. altogether.

The steamship, "Escalona," with dried fruits from Mediterranean ports, arrived in Montreal last week, and the "Bellona" is now on her way across the Atlantic with a full cargo of similar goods.

The new president of the British Board of Agriculture appears to be no more amenable to enlightenment, so far as Canada's interests are concerned, than was his predecessor. A despatch from London says that a deputation of Scotch farmers met Lord Onslow and tried to induce him to promise the removal of the restriction on the importation of Canadian cattle into Great Britain. His Lordship declared this to be impracticable, and approved of the Government's policy of a general restriction of cattle importation.

The George Matthews Company, of Peterboro, have bought the plant of the Farmers' Co-operative Pork Packing Company, at Brantford, which has proved as unlucky a venture as so many others of the so-called co-operative packing concerns. The purchase price is understood to be a little over \$40,000. The original company was formed about two years ago, with a subscribed capital of \$200,000, which will, at any rate partially, prove a loss to the farmers. The new company proposes to overhaul the factory thoroughly.

There is only a moderate number of hogs being marketed. Total Western packing, 265,000, compared with 305,000 the preceding week and 265,000 two weeks ago. For corresponding time last year the number was 310,000, and two years ago 390,000. From March 1st the total is 11,960,000, against 11,155,000 a year ago—an increase of 805,000. Prices are further reduced, closing for prominent markets at an average of \$5.60 per 100 pounds, compared with \$5.70 a week ago, \$5.95 two weeks ago, \$6.95 a year ago, and \$6.15 two years ago. The speculative provision market was quiet the past week. There was not much disposition to trade. The undertone was easy, but there were no important price changes.—Cincinnati Price Current.

—After months of a rate war, during which none of the transpacific steamship companies reaped any profit on the transportation of flour or wheat from Vancouver to the Orient, the rates have been restored.