

### PAPER IN CUBA.

Inquiries have recently been made by a New York export firm to ascertain if it were possible for a paper mill in the United States to take some substantial printing paper contracts for the Cuban market. After an investigation extending over more than two weeks they found that the American mills are not anxious for export trade, as the German prices for the quality of paper used in the island were from 10 to 12½ per cent. cheaper. The quantity of newspaper used in Havana alone, it is well known, would keep a large mill busy the entire year. The business is still going to Germany.—The Paper Mill.

### HARDWARE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Wrought steel hinges, bolts and butts, and tees for South Africa are principally obtained from America, on account, it is said, of their cheapness, better manufacture and neater wrapping than those obtained from Wolverhampton and district. Wolverhampton makers also print their names on the packages very large, and do not indicate the size of the contents, while American firms distinctly state the size and kind of article, and content themselves with very small print for their own names.—South African Export Gazette.

### HONEY IN BELGIUM.

To succeed in this market cheap honeys must be supplied. Fine qualities come from the Ardennes, and are only used for table purposes. Ordinary foreign brands, which are purchased when the price of native honey is too high, come chiefly from America (Child, California, etc.). Honey pays an import duty of eighteen francs per 100 kilos. The average price is from fifty to fifty-five francs per 100 kilos, ordinary, and 110-111 francs per 100 kilos, fine. The chief importers in Brussels are Messrs. Maussion, 1, galerie de la Reine; Huet, 142, rue de l'Intendance; Herlin, 115, boulevard Auspach; Vlebergh (F.), 20, rue Gallait; Vlebergh (J.), 79, rue du Midi; Secordel, 2 rue Læken.—French Chamber of Commerce at Brussels.

### CANADA AND AUSTRALIA.

The development of the trade between Canada and Australia is proceeding rapidly. Mr. J. S. Larke, Commissioner for Canada, is working vigorously in this direction, and a variety of articles stocked by hardware stores have already been placed on the market in New South Wales, though not to the same extent in Victoria. In agricultural implements and machinery, the Massey-Harris Co. are doing a large business, while the Cockshutt ploughs are also being pushed. Window shades or blinds are being stocked by the leading houses. Massey-Harris bicycles, the Gould bicycles, and the Welland Vale Manufacturing Co.'s machines are all upon the market. Bent chairs are being sold both in Melbourne and Sydney. The Bell Organ & Piano Co., Ltd., have established themselves at 6 Bridge street, Sydney. Varnishes and paints of Canadian manufacture are being sold by several firms in Sydney. Fanning mills made by the Chatham Manufacturing Co. have been introduced into New Zealand, and the same firm are sending over waggon arms. Binder twines fall naturally to the Massey-Harris Co.—The Australasian Ironmonger, Sydney, N.S.W.

### AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY IN RUSSIA.

The local trade in agricultural machinery has had a very good year, mostly in mowing machines. These latter, as made in Russia, are of primitive construction, and are known among the people by the name of Lobogreiki. In good years about 1,500 foreign mowing machines are sold here, whereas those of Russian make are placed to the extent of about 2,500. Next to mowing machines, steam threshing machines are the chief line sold. As yet they are obtained almost exclusively from England. They are also made in Russia, but by one firm only, viz., the Malzow Iron Foundry. The

demand for these machines is also subject to great fluctuations, according to the harvest results. Hungarian threshers, it is said, have not yet been offered for sale here. Ploughs are now made largely in Russia, but some kinds—constructed on special systems—are still obtained from abroad. Broadcast sowing machines are made principally in Russia, drills being still purchased partly abroad, although a good quality is now being also made in Russia. As regards the source of supply it may be said that about fifty per cent. of the entire demand is already covered by Russian factories, i.e., as regards mowing machines, seed drills, ploughs, etc.; twenty per cent. of the mowers, grass cutters, harrows, etc., falls to the United States; fifteen per cent. of the threshing machines, and some types of machines for grinding and crushing corn and barley by hand or horse power, are also obtained from England. Germany supplies about ten per cent. of the demand, viz., in ploughs, seed drills, small threshers for horse-gear, etc. Austria-Hungary is present with about three per cent., sending chiefly small horse-gear threshers (considered to be very good and cheap), and grain-cleaning machinery. The balance of two per cent. is divided amongst a few countries, such as Sweden with a certain kind of plough, Denmark with apparatus for dealing with milk, etc. Austrian scythes are imported in large quantities.—Austro-Hungarian Consulate-General at Rostov.

### JEWELRY IN GUATEMALA.

Jewelry of the fourteen carat class sells well throughout the whole of Central America. German goods are preferred by jewelers because (1) they are more showy at the price, and (2) the Germans use more silver than the French in their fourteen carat alloys. In this way they can, for instance, turn out watch-chains which oxydize much less rapidly, whilst they are of a much whiter tint than French makes, which rapidly go black. High-class jewelry is of French origin, but the sales are slow.—French Minister at Guatemala.

### LEATHER IN BULGARIA.

The imports of French sole leather have gone up from 57 to 123 tons. Italian competition seems to have relaxed, having fallen from 252 to 242 tons. In upper leathers we still keep in the front rank with a notable advance of from forty-seven to fifty-five tons. England exceeds us in weight, but takes a lower value. Germany supplied thirty-two tons, chiefly varnished and dyed leathers.—French Consul at Philippopolis.

### NEW BUILDING MATERIAL IN GERMANY.

Consul Warner writes from Leipzig:

"My attention was recently called to an article headed 'A new building material: Keramo,' which appeared in the Leipziger Tageblatt, of which the following is the substance:

"Under the name of 'keramo,' a new building material, composed principally of glass and manufactured at Penzig, Silesia, has been placed on the market. As far as known, this material is made from powdered glass waste, which is hardened by a special devitrifying process and combined by means of strong pressure. In this way, the transparency, brittleness, and fragility of the glass are destroyed, but other prominent properties—extraordinary hardness, stability against exposure to the weather, nonconduction of heat, noninflammability, insensibility to oil, grease, acids, etc.—are retained in this new material.

"Keramo can be used with good results for wainscoting in the interior of buildings, for covering floors in houses, kitchens, washing rooms, verandas, balconies, etc., for rough casting of walls exposed to the weather, as well as for staircases which are to be fireproof. The color depends upon the color of the glass used in the manufacture. The price of keramo is about \$1.60 per square yard, and, so far, the trials which have been made with this product have been most successful."