

The Dry Goods Trade.

For the last six or seven years worsted makes have predominated to the advantage of tweeds, but now that fashion calls for Scotch effects in tweeds it will give a chance to domestic makers to produce the better grades of tweeds in similar patterns. Shoddy goods are not in large demand and shrewd merchants are showing lines which they can guarantee as fast colors and pure wool. The patterns that have been shown for the last two seasons have been inclined to small effects, but are now somewhat bolder in design and colors. Merchants do not expect a great variety of tints for the autumn. Among the leading shades will be neutral tints of green; browns are likely to be next in favor. In medium grades there is a great variety of lines shown, following very closely the styles of the imported goods, both in the rough Scotch and the more dressy or smooth finish, which are sometimes preferred. Both these makes are in good demand by the tailoring trade for the making of ordinary suits. There is a tendency towards a better class of goods, which is very much in the interest of everyone, as with a demand for better goods some of the mills are turning out very creditable goods. One line in particular deserves special mention. It is an excellent imitation of a West of England whipcord. The demand for six-quarter suitings in Scotch finish is so far very good. Worstad serges continue to have their usual sale. Some very good effects are being produced in a good class of worsted trouserings. These are to a large extent taking the place of the cotton back worsted trouserings. The demand is principally on neat, quiet patterns, although there is said to be a tendency towards a somewhat bolder style. Domestic friezes are still in strong demand, and are being produced in a wide range of colorings. These goods have almost entirely superseded the similar makes in foreign goods. Preparations have been made for equally as good a season as last year. Some of the mills are producing a fine class of beavers and meltons, which reflect great credit on them. Black and blue, with a few browns, are the best sellers. Canadian makes appear to be gaining ground among the tailor trade, mainly on account of the fact that the best class of goods in a large variety of colorings are being produced. Notwithstanding the elections, which interfered with business, the advance orders for the present season are quite up to the mark, and in fact show an increase on last season's business. While prices cannot be said to have advanced, they are firm, and are likely to remain so for the balance of the season.—Toronto Globe dry goods report.

Montreal Grocery Market.

What with the elections and the change in the policy of the country, the sugar market during the past week has been quieter than ever, and refiners do not look forward to any immediate improvement. The raw sugar market abroad has been weaker and prices show a decline of 4½d to 6d since this day week. We quote: Granulated at 4½c in 250 barrel lots and over; 4 7-16c in 100-barrel lots, and 4½c in smaller quantities. Yellows range from 3½c to 3½c, as to quality, at the factory.

In syrup there is no improvement to note, the demand being slow and prices are nominally unchanged at 1½c to 2½c per lb, as to quality, at the factory.

There has been no important change in the situation of the molasses market. The demand on spot has continued slow, and no sales of importance are reported. Cargo lots of Barbadoes are offering at 27½c, car lots at 30c, and small quantities at 31c. Porto Rico is dull and quoted at 30c.

The demand for rice has been fair, and the market is moderately active and steady. We quote:—Japan standard, \$1.25 to \$1.40; crystal Japan, \$1.75 to \$3.00; standard B., \$3.45; Patna, \$1.25 to \$3, and Carolina at \$1.50 to \$7.50.

Business in spices has been dull, and the market is without any new feature of note. The following quotations are what jobbers can buy at only: Penang black pepper, 6c to 7½c; white pepper, 10c to 12½c; cloves, 7½c to 9c, cassia, 8½ to 9½c; nutmegs, 60c to 90c, and Jamaica ginger, 15½c to 18½c.

A small jobbing business has been passing in coffee, but the market on the whole is very quiet and values rule about steady. We quote.—Maracaibo at 17½c to 18c; Rio, 16 to 17½c, Java, 23c to 25c, and Mocha, 28c to 26c.

The demand for canned salmon so far this season has been very slow, and agents state that not a single sale of the new pack has been made, which is due, no doubt, to the fact that buyers are simply supplied with old stock for the present, and the indications are that few orders for this season's pack will be placed until present stocks are reduced. Prices at the coast are unchanged at \$1.50, f.o.b. for ordinary brands, and clover leaf brand, selected quality, fancy label flats, \$8; tails, \$5.50; British American, \$5.30 here. Clover leaf brand, f.o.b. coast, \$5.30 for flats and \$1.75 for tails.—Gazette, June 23.

Quebec Province.

In his address at the recent annual meeting of the Merchants Bank of Canada, general manager Hague made the following reference to the situation in Quebec:

"In our own province reports are generally very satisfactory.

"I referred to the development of agriculture in the province of Quebec last year, and all that has transpired since has confirmed me in the belief that its farming interests are undergoing a silent revolution in methods, all tending to a larger production of a better class of articles, realizing larger returns to the farmer, and diffusing a constantly increasing prosperity.

"The improved appearance of the villages and towns of our province, the new areas that are opened up to cultivation, the great improvement in our live stock and in our method of dairying, must all strike an observer.

"But the unsettled condition of affairs in the States is affecting prejudicially our great export of lumber to the American market. Fortunately the other great branches of the trade in our forest products are in a really prosperous condition. The English market is active and strong, and contracts for this year's sales in the United Kingdom have been made by the shipping houses at better prices than for years back, a state of things which has given rise to a feeling of satisfaction and hopefulness, especially in this province and throughout the Ottawa Valley.

There is one development of recent date, that is coming into increasing prominence. I refer to: the products of our spruce forests. Many of these forests have been neglected on the supposition that they were almost valueless. Now, however, they are becoming available for the production of pulp for paper making. "It is estimated that 75,000 cords of spruce pulp wood or about 1,000 canal-boat loads will be taken out of Canada this season through the Chambly and Champlain Canals and delivered at Ticonderoga and 'mills on the Hudson.' Perhaps it is a pity that so much immature timber is sacrificed and sent out of the country in this way, but developments may go on in the future of a character we can hardly estimate at present.

Experiments are now being made in Europe with a view to the production of a kind of silk from pulp wood, the process being a close

imitation of that by which raw silk is produced by the worm. If our forests, besides producing lumber and paper, can also be utilized to produce silk, we may be independent by-and-by altogether of the looms of Lyons.

This, however, may only be a fanciful picture. Yet quite as strange things have happened, and anyone who has observed the extraordinary development of electrical engineering during the last decade may well be pardoned if he believes almost anything to be possible in the way of future development.

I need say little or nothing about our own city. You know very well how it is steadily growing, in spite of all drawbacks. Our manufacturing interests, which are now of such large extent, are generally in a prosperous condition. But this can hardly be said of our purely mercantile interests, with the single exception of those who sell goods for cash.

This is a development which has been so satisfactory in its results, both in Montreal and elsewhere, that it is likely to grow. The effects of this system are already very far reaching, and may in time so extend as to bring about a cure for that abuse of credit which has been spoken of.

Dairy Trade Notes.

At Ingersoll, Ontario, on June 24, the offerings of cheese were 8,677 boxes. Sales 227 at 7c. Market dull.

At Belleville, Ontario, on June 24, four factories offered 286 white and 19 colored cheese. The following were the sales: 615 white at 7c and 16 colored at 7c; 100 white at 6 15-16c; 190 white at 7 1-16c; and 30 colored at 7 1-16c; 190 white at 7c; 325 white at 7c.

At the cheese board at Woodstock, Ontario, on June 24, 22 factories offered 4,538 boxes cheese offered, 72 sold at 7c, the balance unsold. Buyers and sellers were apart in their views.

At the cheese board at Brockville, Ontario, on June 25, the total offerings were about 2,600 boxes. For colored 7c was bid, and 6½c for white. After the adjournment of the board a large quantity was sold, the colored at 7c and white at 6½ and 6¾. A few lots of white brought 7c. For the corresponding week of last year sales were: White 35c at 7½c; 208 at 7 15-16c; colored 1,490 at 8c.

The Montreal Gazette of June 27 says: "Cheese was dull and inclined to further easiness Thursday. The public cable declined the full shilling and shippers said that their limits meant the offer of less money. They were again prepared to pay 7 to 7½ finest to-day on spot, but holders cannot offer to sell under 7½c, and even at that price do not make any money. Townships make are not on the market, but nominally their cost is fully equal to Ont. makes, while Quebec range around 6½c. The butter market is unchanged in the main. Exporters were in the market at 16½c, but found it impossible to get finest at that as local jobbers were paying more.

At the cheese board at London, Ontario, on June 27, thirty-two factories boarded 5,237 boxes first half June. Sales—65 at 6½c, 1,838 at 7c and 895 at 7 1-16c. Bids from 6½ to 7 1-16c.

The Montreal Gazette of June 30 says: "The cheese market continues downward in its tendency. This was demonstrated plainly at the wharf yesterday, when 6,000 odd boxes were offered to slow demand. The basis was difficult to get at, but it was in the vicinity of 6½c, which is a decline of ½c on last Monday's ruling. Butter continues much as it was. Local jobbers paid 16½c for creamery to-day, with a fraction more in some cases, but all that shippers were bidding was \$16½c."