

## TRADE NOTES.

The Dominion Thread Company announces its intention of building almost immediately a factory on the shore of Victoria Lake, near Stratford, Ont.

The Eclipse Umbrella Company has received a Dominion charter authorizing it to manufacture, buy, sell and deal in umbrellas, suspenders, haberdashery, neckwear, etc. Its capital stock authorized is \$100,000.

The village of Sutton, in Brome County, Que., has a population of 766, and the new assessment roll shows the value of real property in the municipality to be \$233,000. When the village was incorporated in 1896 the total valuation was only \$105,000.

We hear from Winnipeg that the first car of this year's crop of wheat was received by the Lake of the Woods Milling Company on the 20th inst. It was loaded at Douglas, and will grade good No. 1 Northern. Barley has also been loaded, said to be a fine sample.

A report from Manchester states that the master cotton spinners have withdrawn the notice of the 5 per cent. reduction, while the operatives will also withdraw their request for an advance, so that it is altogether likely that the threatened strike will be averted.

An eastern township exchange says that Mr. John MacDougall, living about three miles east of Ormstown, in Chateaugay County, thirty miles from Montreal, has sold his farm, one of the best in the locality, for \$11,500. This is the highest price obtained for a farm in the vicinity, so it is said.

The strong demand for cheese in England is reflected in the recent firmness on the local country boards. At Peterborough, Picton, Woodstock, and elsewhere, the prevailing price during the week has been 11½c. At Quebec Province board 11 to 11½c., and occasionally 11½c. have been the figures accepted.

This is the quiet season in the Belfast linen market, but there is a full average business passing. The tone of the market is buoyant, and values are on the up-grade. The reports of the Belgian flax crop are unfavorable, but the Russian crop is stated to be more satisfactory than was expected. The Irish crop will probably be about an average one. Prices of yarns have advanced. Spinners have plenty of orders on hand now, and the smaller business of the past week was expected after the previous brisk buying. There is a fair amount of business in the brown cloth market for the time of year, and prices continue to harden. For bleached and finished goods there is the usual quiet demand from the home warehouses. It is to be noted that export business is steady and promising. Canadian business is somewhat better, and there is improvement with Australasia and with the Cape.

Pure merino wools are still in very meagre supply at Bradford, Yorks, reports the Drapers' Record, and, as spinners are getting more business and the tendency of fashion is in favor of an increased consumption, there is every reason to expect that the recent advances in prices will be maintained, at all events up to the end of the year. The coarser kinds of crossbred colonial wools, which are very similar in character to our own home-grown wools, are perhaps slightly easier in price, but are still much dearer than was the case as recently as February last, and are actually higher than for many years, even including the "boom" time of 1890. There can be no doubt that these high values in the coarser kinds of crossbred wool are seriously interfering with the trade in several classes of Bradford manufactured dress goods, as the dearth has carried the cost of such staple goods as worsted dress serges quite beyond the reach of the poorer classes of the community, and increased the sale of some of the competing classes of cheap dress fabrics, such as tweeds, into which inexpensive raw materials, such as cotton and shoddy, can be introduced.

In New York and Washington a plan is on foot to equip a large steamer and furnish space to American manufacturers for the purpose of making a display of their products and sending them around the world on a 60,000-mile trip, to consume about fifteen months. The plan is to send on the steamer a representative whose duty it will be to see that the exhibit is properly arranged at each port, to meet the merchants and dealers invited to inspect the exhibits, explain the utility and advantages of the goods, ascertain what the markets of the country demand, the competition to be met, etc. This representative will also satisfy himself by personal investigation that any agent so appointed to represent his principal shall be of good character and financially able to meet his obligations. The date of arrival in the ports will be advertised. It is also proposed to print, in the language of each country, a catalogue showing the name of each, and each exhibitor, the name of his representative, the position of the display in the ship, and a full description of the goods exhibited.

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## INSURANCE PARAGRAPHS.

If ladies can be found who could put as much energy and tact into the obtaining of a life proposal as they sometimes do into the procuring of a proposal for life, their fortunes may be considered as good as made.—Insurance and Banking Review.

The happy relations existing between the Canada Life Assurance Company and its clients can be seen in no better manner than by a perusal of a little book lately issued by that company, bearing the suggestive title: "They Are Satisfied." A large portion of the book is devoted to letters from holders of tontine policies, the dividend periods of which have expired, and these indicate with what correct judgment this title was chosen. In a number of cases the present cash values of the policies are greater than the estimates made when they were issued. Another portion of the book gives letters from holders of ordinary contracts, and these are of a similarly satisfactory character.

At the annual congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health in London last month a resolution was passed to the effect that the hours of sleep allowed in many public schools for boys under sixteen were too short. With that dictum, the Insurance Spectator of London, looking at it from the standpoint of longevity, entirely concurs. It is a fact that there is no repair of the brain substance except during sleep, although other physiological processes can and do go on very well while the subject is awake. Sleep to a proper extent is one of the surest things to make for longevity, and many persons would materially lengthen their lives by shortening their waking hours. It has been laid down by high physiological authority that after all man can only at the best live a certain time awake, and if, as is said, you increase the period of sleep you thereby lengthen the period left for wakefulness. Of course, the sleep must be healthy, and not due to artificial means.

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## EVERYDAY FIRE PROTECTION.

Continued good service is being done by the fire marshal of the State of Ohio in his dissemination of useful hints, whereby the average householder may help save himself from the ravages of fire. It appears that the department of which he is the head has passed a set of ordinances against such dangers, and one section of the law prohibits the carrying of unprotected lights in rooms containing material which is easily ignitable, and also prohibits the hanging of unprotected lights too near wooden walls.

This ordinance, the fire marshal explains, is directed more particularly against the practice, quite common in villages and in the country, of carrying a house lamp to the stable. He explains that a kerosene lamp in a stable is liable to be upset or to explode while being carried and to then start a flame in hay or straw which in a moment becomes beyond control. Records show that almost two-thirds of

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