

prices that may be stimulated by a more active demand.—New York Commercial.

Eastern dry goods houses report their payments of the 6th of November to have been unusually large and satisfactory.

Raw silk is again advancing, and the slight decline registered last week has been recovered and a further advance established that carries prices 10 to 20 per cent above the low record prices for the season reached the first of last month. The present movement is plainly speculative and stimulated by dealers' and speculators' operations in Canton and Yokohama.

## THE HARDWARE TRADE.

### PROOF OF COERCION.

From News and Hardware Reporter: An illustration of trust methods in the making of prices has been shown by the recent course in the price of linseed oil. On Thursday of last week The American Linseed Oil Company marked up their product at the rate of ten cents per gallon. The advance was made without any previous warning and produced a flurry of excitement among the entire trade. It came at a time when the movement of the new crop of flax seed was beginning and the trade was expecting a material reduction in price because of a heavy yield, consequently buyers of oil had held off from the market and their stocks were unusually light. Manufacturers in every line in which linseed oil is used as a raw material are affected by the advance, which is unprecedented in the history of the industry, and among the markets influenced adversely by this action of the trust is that of paints and varnishes. All interests concede that the situation is controlled by the trust and that it can do what it pleases in the making of prices, which is the one great reason why this combination and others like it should be dissolved.

### HARDWARE TRADE NOTES.

Advices from New York of Thursday last state that it had been learned from a trustworthy source that a meeting of representatives of the steel companies has just been held in that city. Steps were taken some time ago to perfect the proposed steel billet pool, and two meetings for drawing up and adopting agreements under which the pool could be formed have now been held. What action was taken at this latest meeting could not be learned. Rumors have been current for some time that the price of steel billets would be advanced to \$30 per ton. The present price is \$18.50.

The McClary Manufacturing Co. of London, Ont., are now making a nickel plated tea-kettle which they claim is superior in many respects to any kettle made in Canada or the United States. The spout by being double seamed into the body, is prevented from dropping off should the water in the kettle run dry. The connections of the breast to the body are also seamed together. The handle is made of one piece of round iron heavily tinned so that it cannot fall apart as so frequently happens with those made in two pieces, and by the use of offset ears it is prevented from falling on the breast and thus bruising it. The body is made of one piece of metal so that there are no seams on the bottom to leak. These are made in four sizes for base-burners and in three sizes for cook stoves.

## THE IMPLEMENT TRADE.

### THE FIBER MARKET.

The hemp situation as reported by Lent & Rukenbrod is as follows:

The manila market may be quoted slightly easier since our last report, with less inquiry. The strike among the lightermen in London seems to have deterred buyers from taking any United Kingdom parcels, fearing a delay in getting the hemp shipped from the other side. Mail advices from London, however, state that most of the lighterage firms have acceded to the demands of the union, and are getting the hemp off as usual; while others are trucking their goods to the various steamers, which, we understand, can be done about as cheaply as lighterage. Some of the manufacturers in this country have bought New York and Boston hemp in place of London hemp, owing to the above mentioned strike; but we are inclined to believe that the repeated rumors of

the seriousness of this strike have been very much exaggerated. To a manufacturer who is not in need of hemp for immediate consumption, i. e., one to whom deliveries three to six weeks further off would be equally satisfactory, the London market at present offers opportunities which buyers in this country should take advantage of. Several small parcels on the spot and afloat to United Kingdom have changed hands during the past week.

The sisal market is strong and prices continue to advance. Sales of current quality, to the amount of 1,500 bales, have been made for November-January steamer, and 500 bales on the spot have also changed hands.

### IMPLEMENT TRADE NOTES.

A Chicago maker is reported to have placed an automobile baby carriage to be operated by a nurse maid in the market.

The annual meeting of the Canada Cycle and Motor Company will take place Nov. 22, when the project of amalgamating with the National Cycle Company will be considered. The plan has been well received by shareholders in both concerns. The Canada company is very strong in the home field, but would be placed in a much better position by amalgamation owing to the valuable American patents controlled by the other company.

### Lumber Trade Notes.

The mill owners of Northern Ontario are making extensive preparations for shipping their stocks of lumber so as to be ready for the winter's work in the woods. There has been a heavy demand for export lumber and a large proportion of these shipments will be to England.

Word is received, under date of the 12th inst., from San Bernardino, Cal., that a forest fire destroyed Brookling's mill in Fredalbra park, and burned over 10,000,000 feet of lumber. This mill is the largest in Southern California, and gave employment to 250 men. The damage is estimated at \$400,000.

The Hanbury Manufacturing Company, Brandon, have had a very successful season, cutting about 10,000,000 feet of logs. This company now owns 230 square miles of limits on which there is a lot of fine poplar and it is intended to cut several thousand feet of this as an experiment, as this wood has proved very successful in pump manufacture. This summer they have had a gang of men in the bush grading roads, cutting hay and in other ways preparing for this season's operations, which will be the largest in the history of the concern.

A large and representative gathering of Western Ontario sawmill men met at Palmerston on October 23 and formed an association to be called the Huron, Bruce, Grey and Wellington Hardwood Lumbermen's Association. J. P. Newman, of Wlarton, was elected president. The object of the association is to promote the interests of the mill men by keeping members of the association posted as to stocks on hand and general information as to the trade. The association find from reliable information that the stocks of hardwood lumber at the mills are not large, especially at this season of the year, and believe that prices have reached bottom and are sure to advance. They also learn that the stocks of hardwood lumber held by the manufacturers are not as large as represented.

The American Lumberman says: "Some saw mills in Michigan which had been depending upon the logs cut on crown lands in Canada have been obliged to shut down since the application of the 2 duty on lumber imported into this country and the retaliatory act of the Canadian authorities in prohibiting the exportation of crown land logs. A great cry has been sent up about this matter and it has appreciably affected a few towns. But those who have looked into the matter say that the very sections adversely affected by this condition are much more than compensated for the damage by the increased number of plants interested in the development of other than pine timber. Hardwood and hemlock mills and cedar plants have been springing up all over eastern Michigan and it is asserted by those who should know that the number of men employed is much larger than three years ago and that the output is probably larger. Not only so, but land formerly worthless has been given a value and rich farms are replacing the wastes. A good many public spirited and well informed citizens believe that the cutting off of the Canadian log supply was an actual blessing."

O'Brien & Macaulay, hotel keepers, White Horse, Yukon Territory, have dissolved partnership. The business will be carried on by L. O'Brien.

At the last meeting of the White Horse board of trade it was decided that the board should meet once a month and that any emergency matters which might arise should be dealt with by a council, consisting of seven members. Officers for the year were elected as follows: President, Robert Lowe; first vice-president, J. P. Whitney; second vice-president, H. Chambers; secretary-treasurer, Arthur Copeland; council, H. M. Lay, J. W. Nay, Frank Richardson and the officers already mentioned.

## Death of R. G. Dun.

New York, Nov. 10.—R. G. Dun, head of the mercantile firm of R. G. Dun & Co., died in this city this morning of cirrhosis of the liver.

Mr. Dun has been a prominent figure in the business world for nearly half a century. He became a partner in the mercantile agency of R. G. Dun & Co., in 1854 and in 1859 purchased the entire interest. His ancestors were Scotch. His grandfather was the Rev. James Dun, for twenty years a minister of the Free Church in Glasgow. Mr. Dun was 74 years of age, having been born in Ohio in 1826. He began his business career in a country store at a salary of two dollars a week at the age of sixteen and by reason of his application to business, his energy and practical ways soon became a partner. When Mr. Dun first became the head of the mercantile agency firm there were 17 branch offices and this number increased until in the year 1900 there is a total of 150 offices in 150 cities in America, Europe, Australia and Cuba. The organization has under salary several thousand employees and its reference book contain the names of over 1,300,000 traders. Mr. James Scroggie is the Winnipeg agent of the firm.

## Typhoid and Milk.

W. S. Grant, a resident of Fort Rouge, Winnipeg, has traced fourteen cases of typhoid fever in that section of the city to a milk dairy. On investigating the cause of fever, Mr. Grant was surprised to learn that in every case the patient had been procuring milk from the same dairy, and he also found that two cases of fever had developed among those connected with the dairy. Mr. Grant's work is mainly of value in showing what could be accomplished by the proper officials if these matters were looked after sharply by officials appointed for the purpose. If on the appearance of a few cases of disease in any locality a thorough investigation were made, much sickness and many valuable lives would be saved. It is generally asserted by medical men and scientists that milk is a frequent cause of spreading disease, and this again is usually traced to impure water. Cows which have their run about the outskirts of the city, may often be seen drinking water from filthy pools, or feeding on refuse thrown out from the houses of residents.

A. S. and W. H. Masterman, pork packers, Montreal, have assigned, liabilities about \$200,000.

The total number of failures in Canada last week was 18, against 23 last week and 28 this week last year.

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