

BUSINESS IN THE UNITED STATES.

Our Philadelphia correspondent writes:

The manufacturers of dress goods of cotton, wool, and silk, and of carpets, hosiery, and all kinds of knit goods have looked an unusually large number of orders. Jobbers say they were never busier. Manufacturers are crowding capacity. Wool sales last week in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia were nearly five million pounds. Buyers are stocking up rapidly. Goods will not advance much this fall or winter.

The boot and shoe manufacturers have about all the business for the next four months they can conveniently take care of. Factories here and all through New England turned on full time this week. Telegraphic orders are frequent. Ladies' and children's shoes are exceptionally active.

Ladies' cloaks and suits will be exceptionally handsome this fall and winter: 3000 hands are working overtime to get up stocks to fill orders in time.

House builders are crowded with contracts in nearly all the larger cities. Building labor is scarce. The urgent demands for dimension stuff has crowded prices up in Chicago and eastern buyers have begun to stock up with white and yellow pine. The lumber outlook is very encouraging and if building activity does not fall off prices must improve.

Business men generally anticipate quite a rushing business in all staple articles. Manufacturing capacity is being increased in nearly every branch of industrial activity. Next year double the amount of bridge building will be done, and for house building we have it on the authority of the best posted architects, builders and investors in Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, that the coming year will be one of exceptional activity. The secret of the strength of the general situation is that production is once more behind consumption, that capital is more abundant than the opportunities for its investment, and that the rate of interest must therefore decline.

The labor question is practically settled. The Chicago Courts will likely conclude not to hang the Chicago Anarchists. Co-operative enterprises are springing up in many States. State Assemblies of the K. of L. are being organized. The order is growing rapidly and arbitration methods are gaining in acceptance. There will be comparatively few strikes this winter but a general movement for shorter hours is probable next spring unless the leaders of the Knights can in the meantime be induced to take a stand against it.

Our latest telegraphic advices all point to an improving demand and to better days for labor and capital. No reaction is probable. Our enormous manufacturing capacity will continue to run full time.

D.

SILVER NEAR PORT ARTHUR.

There is great excitement over valuable silver discoveries near Port Arthur. The mines are located thirty eight miles westward. At present the Ontario Government is engaged in making colonization wagon roads throughout the region. Last year the Dominion Government gave a subsidy of \$3,200 per mile for colonization railways, and the Ontario Government has promised a similar sum. The work of construction will be commenced this autumn, the road running from Monillo, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, to Silver Mountain, a distance of thirty miles. The silver discoveries have so far been made at Silver Mountain, Rabbit Mountain and Silver Creek. At each of these places crushing mills are either erected or in the course of erection. The richness of the silver surpasses anything yet discovered, with the single exception of Silver Islet, which, in the course of a few years, yielded many millions of dollars.

Wheat producers in the United States ought not to fear Australian competition, which has been held up to them occasionally as something very formidable. As a matter of fact, the wheat output in Australia is a decidedly uncertain quantity. Some years you see it, and in other years you don't see it. There is a deficiency there this year of 22,000,000 bushels, instead of a big surplus for export. In India, too, there is a great falling off. Neither India nor Australia is a dangerous competitor. The Canadian North-West is a possible future competitor in wheat. *Pioneer Press.*

The average yield of wheat per acre in Missouri has run down from twenty five bushels per acre on virgin soil to eleven and a half bushels, the average in the state for the past ten years; but Prof. Sanborn says in his last bulletin that, according to his observation and experience, it is not the wheat that is running out, but the farms, and sometimes the farmers. "We can run wheat in again," says the professor, "by running our fertility back."

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