

SASH, DOOR AND BLIND MANUFACTURERS.

It must be a strong compulsion which will insure at each monthly meeting of an association, the membership of which is so widely scattered as that of this organization, an attendance nearly equal to the whole number of firms belonging to it. The meeting on Tuesday of this week was no exception, but, in fact, was one of the most interesting and profitable of any that have been held. After the adjournment the gentlemen present remarked that it was the best meeting they had ever attended.

The monthly meetings thus far have shown a steady advance towards unanimity of sentiment and action. Vexatious questions have been met and settled, until at this last meeting there was scarcely any conflict of opinion. The association prospers in adversity, but with improved trade might not stand so well together. However, as its chief use is to prevent disastrous losses in dull times it may be considered to be approaching success.

After the formal opening of the meeting a communication from the Mississippi river branch association was read, requesting, first, that action be taken towards a revival of the price list; second, that members be unrestricted in sales to each other, and that the secretary might be made the medium of communication in such transaction; and, third, that a slight advance be ordered in the price of glazed sash. A request from the Minneapolis branch was read, that a slight advance in glazed sash be made, provided that the production be restricted to one-half capacity upon stock work.

Pending direct action on these requests expressions of opinion as to the condition of trade, stocks on hand, and prices, were called for. With the exception of the Minneapolis representatives, all expressed the opinion that the movement of stocks out of warehouses had been less for the last thirty days than immediately previous. Stocks in general had been kept down by a restricted output, but glazed sash was accumulating to some extent in excess of other lines. This, however, was not due to any lack of real demand, but was only in comparison with doors, for which a speculative demand had arisen. Prices on glazed sash were reported to be firmer than on any other line, notwithstanding the heavy stocks. Prices were stated to have been firmly maintained, and no one claimed to have confirmation of any reported cuts. The fact that prices have been so well sustained was thought by some to be the reason for the temporary slackening of demand, as the jobbers were largely supplying the consumptive trade with goods bought at lower prices than those now ruling, and were now out of the market for the time being, in the hope that the manufacturers might be forced to weaken. One member expressed the opinion that the present situation was an out and out fight between the jobbers and the manufacturers for the mastery. Some stated that the jobbers with light stocks were borrowing from each other in order to postpone purchases at first hands. All agreed on one point, that the key to the situation was in a reduction of the output.

The March meeting fixed the output at not to exceed two-thirds of the capacity in stock work, but that action was based on the anticipation of an increased movement for April, which hope was not realized. Now all were in favor of a reduction to one half, which expression led one member to remark, "I told you so."

The phrase "on stock work" was subjected to some criticism, as that restriction enabled some concerns who make a specialty of the eastern trade to overrun their allowed product. This objection took shape in the resolution subsequently adopted.

Some objection was raised to the f.o.b. at factory clause on small lots, claiming that it helped part of the manufacturers at the expense of others, but all finally acceded to it. All questions under discussion were referred to a committee to report at the afternoon session.

In the afternoon the committee handed in its report, which, after a discussion that was in the same line as that above outlined, was adopted substantially as follows:

The production of the factories is to be

reduced to one-half their capacity on stock work; stock work to include all such pine doors, sash and blinds as have special sized stiles and rails, and are sold to dealers. The restriction to be in force 60 days, beginning with May 1. This extended time was apparently to shut off the possibility of members taking contracts for a month ahead, which would compel them to run full. The members were required to each keep a stock book for the inspection of the inspection of the secretary, whose duty it is to see that the curtailing agreement is observed.

The members were authorized to make sales to each other at such prices as they might see fit, that no surplus stocks, or poorly balanced stocks, might be disposed of without affecting the general market.

The only change in prices recommended was an advance in the price of glazed sash. The new discount on this line is 55 and 5 per cent. off, instead of 55 and 10. The meeting, having arrived at this satisfactory conclusion, adjourned to May 27th, at the Tremont House, Chicago. *Northwestern Lumbermen.*

FIRE IN CHICAGO.

CHICAGO, May 8.—Shortly after noon to day a spark from a locomotive set a fire in the heart of the great pine lumber yard district lying along both sides of the south branch of the Chicago river, near the southwestern city limits, in the vicinity of the wooden built section known as Bridgeport, and close to the stock yards with acres of wooden sheds and pens filled with cattle, hogs and sheep. A fierce wind was blowing and the flames spread rapidly. The entire fire department was called out, but had little or no effect on the burning pine and shingles. The news of the fire spread rapidly to the business centre of the city, and created alarm lest the fire should assume the proportions of the great conflagration of 1871, which came from the same direction. Great brands were carried forward by the wind, setting fire to new piles, and several fire steamers and the men running them had narrow escapes. Starting upon the west of the river, the flames consumed all the lumber between 35th and 38th streets, an area of about 400 by 2,000 feet. It set fire to a canal boats, which floated across the river and set fire to lumber on the east bank, which covered an equal area, and this with one or two planing mills was consumed. Brands were carried eastward and set fire to several small frame houses occupied by employes in the lumber district. The fire department, however, made a stand at this point and succeeded in preventing the spread of the flames into the residence district. The fight continued through out the afternoon, and it was nearly seven o'clock before the conflagration was brought under control, having practically burned itself out. A heavy rain during most of the afternoon was of material assistance. The entire area burned over is 870 by 2,300 feet. Forty-five million feet of lumber, of the value of \$900,000 was burned.

The principal sufferers are the Chicago Lumber Company, \$400,000; Bigelow Bros., \$175,000; Adams, Hastings & Co., \$85,000; J. W. Hinckley, planing mill, \$26,000.

FOREST FIRE IN SCOTLAND.

We hear of forest fires commonly in America when hot and dry weather sets in, but we are not accustomed to expect them at home, and especially in Scotland, where Dr. Johnson, a little over a century ago, despaired of recovering his lost walking stick because he thought such a piece of timber must be valuable in a country so bare of trees. But a great change has taken place in the arboriculture of Great Britain since his day, and it was stated that by a fire which broke out recently in Clacknadarroch Forest, Inverness-shire, the property of the Duke of Richmond, five miles of young trees have been destroyed. Two acres of wood and 1,500 acres of heather were also burned recently on Castle Forbes Estate, Aberdeenshire, belonging to Lord Forbes. Two hundred acres of heather were also burned on the estate of Mr. Grant Drummond, also in Aberdeenshire. Yet it is hardly a month since Scotland was buried in snow.—*Timber Trades Journal.*

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UNDER proclamation of Governor Martin Kansas observed April 2nd as a holiday in the business places and in schools for the purpose of tree planting, a custom which has given to that once barren state in a few years twenty millions of fruit trees and two hundred thousand of fruit trees. Eight states observe this tasteful and beneficial custom.

"Say, why is everything
Either at sixes or at sevens?"

Probably, my dear nervous sister, because you are suffering from some of the diseases peculiar to your sex. You have a "dragging-down" feeling, the back-ache, you are debilitated, you have pains of various kinds. Take Dr. R. V. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" and be cured. Price reduced to one dollar. By druggists.

We take pleasure in noticing the enterprise of Mr. Thos. Best, of Mount Pleasant, who has recently built a grist mill, and is now engaged in erecting a saw mill alongside of it.

It Astonished the Public

To hear of the resignation of Dr. J. C. Corneille as a Congressman to devote himself solely to his labours as a physician. It was because his true constituents were the sick and afflicted—everywhere. They will find Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery," a beneficial use of his scientific knowledge to their behalf. Consumption, bronchitis, cough, heart disease, liver and kidney ailments, intermittent fever, dropsy, neuralgia, gonorrhea or thick neck and all diseases of the blood, are cured by this world-renowned medicine. Its properties are wonderful, its action magical. By druggists.