

features, among which jet is prominent. Nail-heads are quite the thing in this connection, and sequins in colors for sewing on are eagerly looked for. Millinery trimmings in tinsel and jet are in great variety and have a large sale. Chenille is much used as embroidery on brims of hats, as also is silk-covered wire intermixed with jet. Spangled galloon, jet-and-gold trimming at \$2.60 per yard, spangles, and chenille gimp at \$1.25 the yard, are specimens of elaborate hat ornamentation.

Ribbons are of rich and multi-colored design. Some broad ones are shown, for example, with brown ground and blue flower pattern—grey ground and terra cotta pattern—pink ground and silver relief. Ribbons with tinsel effects—gold and tinsel mixtures—striped ribbons—two-toned ombre ribbons, reversible of satin and terry velvet—very beautiful. Ombres are "taking well," we are told, and the "beaver" grey is affected by many tasteful buyers, while "Nile" green finds plenty admirers.

We learn that the dainty material known as chiffon will be much used, in delicate tints, for ladies' neck wear. Lines of handsome fans of lisse and crepe mounted on wood and pearl, are seen. Most of them are hand-painted.

It is not only for hats and bonnets that feathers are in vogue. Feather-edgings for dress-trimming are in great variety, likewise jet, jet-and-steel, jet-and-gold. This trade, which has been practically dead for three seasons past, has now, we are told, thoroughly revived. Feather boas are all the rage in the Old Country for some little time; they are novelties here. And collarettes for the neck made from cocks' feathers will be much worn.

PROGRESSIVE HUMBUG.

A budget of literature has been handed to us which pertains to a concern with the alluring title of the Progressive Benefit Order. This association, whose headquarters are in Boston, has 48,000 members in 612 lodges, according to the Supreme Secretary, whose letter we have seen. It professes to have \$250,000 deposited with the Government, and to have so many hundred thousands in a reserve fund. We give an extract from the letter: "This is a one-year Order, paying its members one hundred dollars at the end of that time. The cost to join is five dollars and the quarterly dues are four dollars, payable one dollar per quarter in advance. Assessments are payable when called and are only called when needed. . . . Up to the present time no member has paid over sixteen assessments of \$2 each to get this \$100. These assessments, with initiating fee and quarterly dues, amount to \$41, making a profit of \$59 on the \$41 invested. Of course we do not guarantee to pay this \$100 for \$41," and so on. Then ensue particulars about sick benefits.

We learn from a fly sheet which accompanies this letter that the "P. B. O.," as they call it, has five lodges in Toronto which hold fortnightly meetings. Some of its officers bear respectable names, but it would seem that its canvassers tell people the monstrous fable that they will really get a hundred dollars at the end of a year by paying in forty-one dollars, and that scores, perhaps hundreds, of people believe it. We can see no difference in principle between this concern and the National Capital Savings concern of Chicago, whose secretary ran away with its money, and which was closed by the American post office authorities as a fraudulent concern, or the Fraternity of Financial Co-operation, which took a million dollars out of 14,000 victims in the States before it burst up. Why then should this be

allowed to exist when the license of the Septennial Benevolent Society has been withdrawn? It has no legal status and should be proceeded against under Section 56 of Ontario Insurance Act. A letter from the Ontario Inspector of Insurance, with respect to this Order, will be found in another column.

LUMBER AND TIMBER PARAGRAPHS.

The table of distribution of imports published in the *Timber Trades Journal* shows July to have corresponded very much with same month of last year. The ports with a marked difference are Grangemouth, decrease 9,000 loads, which is nearly counterbalanced by an increase to Dundee of 7,000 loads. Greenock and Granton have each a decrease of 2,000 loads, while Leith has an increase of 4,000 loads, and Aberdeen has also an increase of 2,000 loads. Other ports are much the same as last year. On the whole year there is a considerable decrease. Greenock for the year shows the most marked difference, there being for the seven months a shortage of 18,000 loads.

There are 413 species of trees found within the limits of the United States and territories, sixteen of which, when perfectly seasoned, will sink in water. The heaviest of these is the black ironwood, found only in southern Florida, which is more than 30 per cent. heavier than water. Of the other fifteen, the best known are the lignum vitæ and the mangrove. Texas and New Mexico lands, full of queer, creeping, crawling, walking, and inanimate things, are the homes of a species of oak which is about one and one-fourth times heavier than water, and which, when green, will sink almost as quickly as a bar of iron. It grows only in mountain regions, and has been found westward as far as the Colorado desert, where it grows at an elevation of 10,000 feet.

At Leith on the 25th ult. an important sale was held by A. Garland & Roger. The special feature is their Quebec cargo of pine and other timber newly landed. The quality of the waney wood looks well, ensuring for it a good attendance, and giving special interest to the sale.

The Cardiff Chamber of Commerce had before them last month the circular letter from the London Chamber of Commerce in reference to railway rates, and they decided by a majority in favor of the adoption of actual machine weight for the carriage of timber. This must, however, not be taken as an expression of opinion emanating from the timber trade, says the *Timber Trades Journal*, for most of the members who voted in the majority were, we hear, colliery representatives, and the timber merchants present, with one exception only, voted with the minority in favor of the retention of measurement weight.

The imports of anthracite coal at Montreal for July this year were much larger than in the corresponding month of 1890. The figures are: Anthracite imports, 36,492 tons, value \$140,395 in July, 1891, against 24,708 tons, value \$91,173, in July, 1890. The imports of bituminous for the same month, as we showed last week, were increased in nearly a like ratio.

It is remarkable to what an extent the consumption of coal has reached in the rural districts of the province of Quebec. "I have been myself surprised in my peregrinations of recent years to see how the use of coal as fuel is growing, even in what might be called a wooden country. St. John's, Que., is a port of entry

for a considerable amount of coal, which is distributed through the Eastern Townships." So writes our Montreal correspondent.

MEMS. FOR GROCERS.

We learn, says "Chilliwack" in the *Vancouver World*, that the enterprising firm, the Fraser River Fruit Cannery, intend shipping apples in the natural state to China and Japan.

An American firm, Strong, Cobb & Co., recently imported a lot of Liebig's extract of beef, put up in small earthenware jars. It was assessed at 35 cents per pound, under the provision of paragraph 313, new U.S. tariff. The importers appealed, claiming that it was dutiable at only 15 cents per pound, as a fluid extract of meat, but the decision of the Collector was affirmed.

The Canadian new pack of canned vegetables is moving briskly in the warehouses, so far as regards peas and beans in particular. Peas bring \$1.10 to 1.15, as to lot, per dozen. Beans sell at \$1.00. The quality of this year's beans is ahead of that of any year of late; the vegetable is of delicate flavor and tender structure. Dealers say that the quality of the tomato crop and its prospect is perceptibly improved in the last few days, but the vegetable will be late in ripening.

Cables of Wednesday and yesterday from Patras advise an increase in price of sixpence sterling per cwt. each on currants, or one shilling in all, equal to a quarter cent the pound. Our market report gives some further particulars. Malaga fruit, on the other hand, is lower.

The West Oxford Cheese Company, whose repute as a good cheese-maker stands high, has received an order from Thomas J. Lipton, of the Union Stock Yards of Chicago, for four cheese to weigh not less than 5,000 pounds each and one for 2,000 pounds.

On one day last week the Neustadt, Ont., Creamery Association shipped 26,550 pounds of butter, which brought the handsome sum of \$4,669.80, equal to about 17½ cents.

The farmers around Delhi, in the county of Norfolk, have made experiment with a new mode of harvesting peas. According to the *Woodstock Sentinel-Review*, the Delhi canning factory made arrangements with the farmers to thresh their green peas in the field, leaving the fodder on the field for the farmers' own use, and deliver the same to the factories for two cents per pound. The Delhi factory put up 84,000 cans of green peas recently in forty-eight hours.

The apple crop in Prince Edward county is declared abundant, and it is estimated that 250,000 barrels will be marketed this year. Some farmers in the same county have realized from \$1,000 to \$1,600 each this year from their strawberry crops.

Matches were exported from Christiansa, Norway, to the amount of about 4,300 tons in 1889, while in 1890 the export was 4,863 tons. Prices for phosphorous matches—the chief kind exported—were last year on an average five to ten per cent. higher than in the previous period, but owing to an increase in the prices of wood, manufacturers had but small profits. Most of these matches go to Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

In an article entitled "Sell good goods," the *St. Louis Grocer* contends that the successful retail grocers are the ones who sell goods of a high quality, and such a policy has everything to commend it. "While fine quality goods