

## IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

The raw silk market in Lyons continues quiet, and any change is toward lower prices. Values continue to show irregularity, and prices are weak for nearly all sorts.

The spring and summer season of 1900 will be remembered as one of the biggest in the history of white goods selling in the United States, and, it has been perhaps, the most successful.

The annual convention of the National Association of Credit Men opened in Milwaukee last week, the attendance being larger than usual. Prominent business houses in every section of the country were represented. The president of the association, John Field, of the dry goods firm of Young, Smyth, Field & Co., Philadelphia, delivered the annual address.

Justice Harlan, in the Supreme Court of the United States, recently handed down the opinion of the Court in the case of a New Orleans importer, involving a determination of what constitutes an "original package" of imported goods. The Court held that original packages were boxes or cases of goods and not the parcels enclosed in the boxes or cases.

The too early showing of goods; what a lot of trouble and demoralization such a policy is apt to result in! Thus moralizes The Dry Goods Economist. Why not turn over a new leaf this season and make it a rule not to display fall merchandise until the time for such articles to be worn is at hand. Push the seasonable stuff and show the new stuff when it will do the most good—not so far in advance as to cause it to become passé and out of date.

"Are you ready for your summer outing?" asked her dearest friend. "Not quite," replied the sweet young thing. "Of course, I have my bathing suit, my bicycle suit, my golf suit, my tennis suit, my yachting suit and my riding habit, but, as we are going to one of those quiet places merely for rest and relaxation, I will, of course, have to have a few evening gowns and possibly half a dozen suitable for lawn parties and all that sort of thing." Thus she demonstrated that she had been there before and knew "what quiet country life" meant in a summer resort advertisement.—Chicago Post.

## FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Coffee in New York is weaker under easier European advances and increased receipts.

Currants are firm at the advance we noted last week. Letters from the Levant say that mould or blight has attacked the vines.

The season's crop of molasses in Barbadoes is estimated at 32,000 puncheons, which is about 6,000 puncheons larger than last year.

Said a New York refiner of lard: "The packers are trying to make a higher lard market to sell on, helped by wheat. But foreign markets are not in this market, either for refined or raw lard, and there is nothing doing in either."

According to Mr. Fred. Stinson, who has returned to Montreal from his cattle ranches in Alberta, N.W.T., the live stock trade in the west is in a most flourishing condition. The past winter has been the most favourable for stock raising in the past eighteen years.

Cheese shipments from Montreal last week to Britain were very considerable. The exports for the week were 103,427 boxes, where in the corresponding week of 1899 they were 93,467 boxes. There is also an increase in shipments of Canadian butter, the total for the week having been 12,144 packages. This, our Montreal correspondent says, is the largest week's shipment this season.

Advices from the Columbia River state that the total pack of Chinook salmon to date is 20,000 cases less than at the corresponding date last year. If conditions do not improve there is no probability of all the orders booked being filled. The price of packers outside the association of \$1.60 for talls was predicted on a cost of 6c. per pound for fish, and the price of the latter has gone to 7c., and is expected to reach 7½c. The Columbia River Packers Association has fixed prices at \$1.70 for talls, \$1.85 for flats and 1.07½ for half-pounds. Last year's opening prices were \$1.25 for talls, \$1.40 for flats and 80c. for half-pounds.

—A correspondent who desires some further particulars about the list of bonded debts in Nova Scotia towns, printed in our issue of 25th May, is referred to the annual blue books of that province. The total bonded debts of twenty-five towns is \$2,336,110, as the \$300 which Hantsport owes is a floating debt, and Bridgewater had not, at the close of the year, issued debentures for its \$25,000. Of the total about half is due by four places, viz., Yarmouth, \$427,000; Dartmouth, \$366,800; New Glasgow, \$268,000; Truro, \$172,000. And of the remaining towns in the list only two owe more than \$100,000, these being Amherst, \$159,000, and Windsor, \$115,500. It is to be recalled that Windsor, Digby and Bridgewater have all been devastated by fire.

—The Importer's Association of St. John's, Newfoundland, held its annual meeting on Monday of last week when the gentlemen whose names follow were elected officers for the ensuing year: Hon. E. R. Bowring, president; Hon. Jas. Baird, vice-president; Alex. McDougall, Esq., secretary and treasurer; committee, Hons. Geo. Knowling and R. K. Bishop; Messrs. Wm. Frew, Fred. Ayre, John Anderson and S. Milley. There has been a movement on foot for some time to widen the scope of this association by converting it into a board of trade, and possibly the members will see the wisdom of doing this and act accordingly in the near future.

—A remarkably prosperous showing is made for 1899 by the Hudson Bay Company. Indeed we do not know that it ever made a better one. The directors declare a dividend of 15 shillings per share, and a bonus of 10 shillings, in all 25 shillings, as against 20 shillings the year before. The dividend and bonus is equal to 9½ per cent. on the capital stock, as compared with 7¾ per cent. for the previous year. In addition, the company has set aside £10,000 sterling for the employees' benefit fund, £10,000 to the insurance reserve fund, and carries forward £50,000, as compared with £42,000 in the previous year.

—The National Trust Company, Limited, has declared a dividend for the June half-year, payable 3rd July, at the yearly rate of five per cent. The Central Canada Loan & Savings Co. declares a quarterly dividend of 1½ per cent. payable 1st July. A dividend at the annual rate of six per cent. is declared by the Dominion Permanent Loan Company for the current six months.

—Twenty-five prominent mining men met in Vancouver, B.C., on June 6th, and decided that the mining interests demanded that the old Chamber of Mines be resuscitated, since in their opinion it was only through this means the mines of British Columbia could be brought to the attention of capitalists. A committee was appointed to take the matter in hand, and a meeting for organization is to be held shortly.

—The Moyie, B.C., Board of Trade has thirty-five members, and its officers are, J. C. Drewry, president; J. P. Farrell, vice president; A. T. Clark, secretary; F. J. Smyth, treasurer.

—A description of the Lancashire Insurance Company's new Toronto building, and some matter from the Institute of Accountants are unavoidably held over this week.

## CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, June 14th, 1900, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS.	June 21, 1900.	June 14, 1899.
Montreal.....	\$16,361,075	\$14,255,650
Toronto.....	9,960,323	10,919,197
Winnipeg .....	2,362,950	2,382,434
Halifax .....	1,267,572	1,471,808
Hamilton .....	803,067	761,862
St. John .....	732,673	712,663
Vancouver .....	776,922	878,911
Victoria .....	715,050	624,561
	\$32,979,633	\$32,008,086

Aggregate balances, this week, \$4,809,513; last week, \$4,330,515