

Dry Goods Trade Notes.

The United States cotton crop is turning out better than was expected and there has been a decline in the price of raw.

Woolens have advanced 5 per cent. in the United States and are firm at the new quotations. Business is not so good in this trade as at this time last year and collections are only fair.

Chiffon covers for evening wear are now with polka dots and bands of zibeline in matching color set into the chiffon. Zibeline applications are also seen on new gowns. Combinations of lace and fur are another of the extravagant fancies of the season. The ermine is the most desirable for this use, though a good deal is being done with the black broadtail.

Many of the new shirt waist designs call for buttons. The fashion is no longer for the plain button, to serve only as a fastening, but is rather for buttons to be used as ornaments. Entirely new designs are shown in oxidized and gun metal buttons. These are very odd in design and are wholly unlike anything that has been shown. There is more of novelty than beauty to recommend them. They are in various sizes.

There seems to be a great demand for fancy corsets, says the Minneapolis Commercial Bulletin. The shape of the corset is decided. The straight front is not too exaggerated a form is here to stay. Now that there is no rivalry among the corset makers in regard to form, materials and trimmings seem more important. High waisted corsets are growing more and more elaborate. A corset of white silk stitched with black is ornamented with red and blue tulle and has a narrow black velvet. A corset of pale yellow silk has a wide spray of pale violet and white French lilies running over it in fan-fashion from the narrow point in front.

THE GROCERY TRADE.

The Current Situation.

Messrs. Tees & Perse agents for Hancock & Wood, of Patras, have received the following circular from that firm: "When we issued our last report, we had the prospect of a total yield of about 170,000 tons of excellent quality generally, everything favored the growing crop. By the 24th of August about three-fifths of the crop had been secured, the quality of the lower and medium growths particularly, being distinctly above the average. On the 25th of August, very heavy rain fell in almost all current districts, and although the weather recovered immediately and continued eminently suitable for drying purposes up to the very end of harvest operations, the fruit exposed on the drying grounds and plants suffered to a considerable extent both in appearance and weight. In the districts of Vostizae, Panariti and the Gulf, where so much depends on the bloom, aroma and flavor, the effects of the rain have been particularly noticeable. The committee which assembles each year in Athens on the 14th of August to estimate the total probable yield and the amount of retention accordingly, reckoned the total at about 155,000 tons and decided upon a retention of 20 per cent, which is the maximum allowed by law; unofficial statistics, variously estimated the total at from 190,000 to 170,000 tons but the rain will have caused some reduction. The fruit also this year, strange to say, weighs less than usual so that, a safe estimate to take will be about 160,000 tons, deducting 20 per cent. retention, 128,000 tons available for export or 10,000 tons more than total exports of 1901 crop. Prices opened moderately on the 18th of August when business has been very brisk and shipments exceptionally heavy, as holders and growers have very wisely continued to feed the demand at the decline which has gradually been established. Some speculation, there is no lack of interest in the article on the part of various consuming markets, and it is evident that the extremely moderate price of currants coupled with generally fine qual-

ity, compared to the high cost of dried fruit, will materially assist their consumption.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Japan tea has again advanced in price, this time to 10 per pound.

Fiberts advanced in price again last week at producing centres.

Canadian importers of figs are in some cases already sold out of new crop goods.

Cable advices on Sultana raisins have been very strong and prices have advanced 5c.

New York reported a second decline of 1lb in refined sugar late last week, but this did not affect Canadian prices.

Jobbers in Eastern Canada have been importing canned tomatoes from Baltimore to fill orders for which Canadian stock could not be found. They have been able to pay the duty on these and sell them at \$1.50 per dozen.

According to cable advices from Denia, the tone of the market for Valencia raisins is strong owing to the scarcity of fruit, and prices have advanced 1c. 4d. There has been some sentiment for selected fruit and purchases direct have been made at 31s. 6d.

It is estimated that the total quantity of Valencia Raisins imported into Canada this season has not been more than 200,000 boxes, while the annual consumption is put at 400,000 boxes. The impression is, therefore, that fruit will be a scarce article before the holiday season in high demand.

Another sugar war has been started in the United States, and it is said that all the companies are into the trouble. They have cut prices in all parts of the country, and will make further cuts unless settlement is arrived at. What they are fighting about has not been given out.

Hardware Trade Notes.

Eastern advices note large shipments of hardware west in anticipation of the close of navigation.

The United States window glass trade is in a demoralized condition owing to price cutting on the part of manufacturers. These cannot agree as to prices or anything else, and there is a war going on among them which prevents the trade from reaching a normal basis. Notwithstanding this war, however, prices for window glass in the United States are high as compared with those prevailing in Canada.

Implement Trade Notes.

The Massey-Harris Co. contemplate the erection of a large tract warehouse building in Winnipeg next year.

The Northwest Thresher Company, of Stillwater, is taking possession of the premises now occupied by the Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company, on Dec. 1. The latter company moves to new quarters on Dufferin avenue, this month. Thos. Rooney becomes manager of the Northwest company on Dec. 1.

The belief is steadily becoming stronger in jobbing circles that next year is to see a considerable drop in the price of binder twine on this continent. Makers say that the war price is past and that they will see the price put down next year even less than it is at the present time. The International Harvester Company is credited with this intention.

Dairy Trade Notes.

The summer season of the Innisfail, Alberta, creamery closed, Oct. 31, was a very successful one. The output for the season was only slightly less than the 100,000 pounds. The season's operations appear to have been very satisfactory.

Labor Notes.

A women's protective union has been formed in Winnipeg. The object is to secure for working women better wages and better hours.

The rates over the Pacific cable from all points in Canada to all points in Australia and New Zealand is two shillings and four pence a word, or nearly one-third the charge made by the existing line of communication.



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