

BOOTS AND SHOES

THE CONDITION OF TRADE.

JOBBERs speak favorably of the situation in boots and shoes. Orders for Spring are considerably in advance of last year and the trade are buying with more freedom than for some time past. Though travelers have only been out for about two weeks, their returns have been most encouraging, and the wholesale trade look forward to an exceedingly good season.

No advance has taken place in leather, because the immediate demand is not great, but if repeats should increase, an advance will undoubtedly take place.

Speaking of the American trade, an exchange says: "Business is especially good with the jobbers and manufacturers receiving more orders for Spring goods, with a large sprinkling of demands for duplicates of heavier specialties. The call for duplicates and size-up orders is particularly encouraging and shows that the retail trade is in a very satisfactory condition."

A NEWLY INVENTED SHOE.

John E. Kennedy, of Montreal, at one time advertising-manager of the Slater Shoe Co., has invented a new shoe, which he claims will thoroughly ventilate the foot. It has a collapsible centre sole of elastic, which sinks under foot pressure in walking, and not only adds to the comfort of the wearer, but also pumps air into the shoe, keeping the foot warm and dry. The shoe, which is registered under the name of "Respira," is made in several shades of black and tan and in all sizes. It is not sold to the trade, but is retailed through "Fit-Reform" clothing agencies.

A SNARL AT US.

Canadian shoe and leather men are opposed to any reduction of the tariff on shoes and leather made in the United States. Our Canadian competitors fear that with reduced duties only Yankee-made footwear would be worn in Canada. Well, it would not be surprising, considering the superiority of goods sent from this side of the border.—Boot and Shoe Recorder.

NOTES.

Filion & Dion, boot and shoe manufacturers, of Quebec, have dissolved partnership.

Robert Lipsett, a well-known boot and shoe dealer, of Brockville, Ont., has retired from business. Mr. Lipsett has been actively engaged in business in Brockville for over 43 years.

NELSON B.C.'S FINE STORES.

The merchants of Nelson, B.C., are making great preparations for the winter trade, not only by getting in large stocks of goods, but fitting up their premises in attractive style. The new brick block erected on Baker street gives increased space to business firms to display their goods. Desbrisay Bros., grocers, have moved into the new block and are getting a large complete stock on their shelves. The store is well lighted and the shelves and counters of the latest design, with a well-equipped business office in the rear.

Lillie Bros., boot and shoe dealers, have also moved into the Aberdeen block and are engaged in filling their shelves with new stock, and are determined to make it one of the most attractive stores in British Columbia.

In the Victoria block, across from the Aberdeen block, are located the drug store of W. F. Teetzel, the men's furnishing store

of F. Irvine & Co., and The Nelson Hardware Co. Large plate-glass fronts have been put in the stores.

The Lawrence Hardware Co. have moved to their three-storey brick block on Baker street. The offices of the firm have been fitted-up with every convenience for transaction of Business. Hebden & Hebden, hardware merchants, have also moved into their new brick block on Baker street, and are fitting it up in first-class style. Other business firms are making extensive improvements in their premises preparatory to increased business during the winter months. The solid character of the business blocks, and the large stocks carried by the business houses is a surprise to the visitors to the city, who have not been slow to express their wonder that stores so attractive and so completely stocked should be found in a city the size of Nelson.

GINGHAMS FOR NEXT SUMMER.

Not for many years have gingham commanded such attention from buyers as for the coming Spring season.

For some time past there has been an increased inquiry for these goods, and, in view of this fact, the manufacturers have made special preparations to supply the demand. To attempt to describe the different styles and appearances of these fabrics would be impossible, but sufficient styles and colors can be found to suit all tastes. One of the most attractive features about gingham is the depth and richness of color which the process of dyeing and weaving allows. This, of course, has the effect of making these goods more popular, and superior for many uses over other fabrics.

NOVELTY CURTAINS.

Boulter & Stewart are showing a range of novelties in white and colored mull curtains to retail from \$2 per pair up. The patterns are endless in variety, and the materials in weaves not heretofore shown. They claim to show the largest range in art draperies in Canada, and this season their samples contain many new lines.



GONE INTO MANUFACTURING.

Boulter & Stewart, who, for several years past, have been representing American makers in ladies' ready-to-wear goods, have now established themselves as manufacturers of ladies' blouse waists, cloth and wash suits, separate skirts, fancy underskirts, bicycle suits and skirts, etc. Their travelers are now on their respective routes, and all merchants desirous of securing the latest ideas in each of the above lines are invited to examine their samples before completing their purchases for the coming season.

LARGE ADDITION TO A MILL.

The C. Turnbull Co., of Galt, have nearly completed the large addition to their already extensive factory, adding a building 60 x 134 feet, four storeys high. They expect to occupy part of the new addition this fall.