

## The Week's Commercial Summary.

Minneapolis is showing enormous shipments of flour.

The world's visible supply of wheat decreased about 3,000,000 bushels last week.

The trade returns for nine months of the present fiscal year were \$184,734,000, nearly ten millions better than last year.

Statistically, the wheat situation is very strong. There is a decrease of about 750,000 bushels in the visible supply in United States and Canada, and a decrease of 1,440,000 bushels in the amount afloat to Europe. Taken together the total is 53,500,000 bushels, or about 32,000,000 bushels less than a year ago.

Of the 382,300 square miles which form the area of the Pacific Province, about 285,000 square miles of these are wood lands. In her timber wealth, British Columbia has almost as rich an asset as in mineral resources. There are forty varieties of timber in the forests of British Columbia. The Douglas fir has obtained the widest fame of the British Columbia woods. Dr. Nansen, whose vessel in the recent famous Arctic expedition, the "Fram," was constructed of Douglas fir, gives to this wood the highest encomiums for strength and elasticity. The red cedar is another famous wood of the Pacific coast and is used chiefly as an interior material. The yellow cedar is also a staple product. Cypress is grown on Vancouver Island and the North Coast. White spruce finds a use in wood pulp manufactures, as well as in making packing cases, of which the salmon canners use, each year, an enormous supply. Among the many excellent cabinet woods in the province are white pine, maple, alder and the arbutus. It is unfortunate that so much of the wood is sent from British Columbia—and this applies almost equally to other parts of Canada—in a comparatively unmanufactured condition. Timber suited to the construction of buildings, public works and other similar uses, must of necessity be exported in a rough condition. But there are many wood products which could be made advantageously in Canada if manufacturers could obtain the necessary information of the market's requirements. —Monetary Times.

The remarkable light which has been brought forward in Germany and known as the Durr light is declared to be equally capable of use for interior illumination. It is originated by automatic evaporation and overheating of the vapors from ordinary lamp petroleum. The vapors, being converted into gas, when burned yield a light of from 3,500 to 14,000 candle power. The apparatus consists of a tank containing the supply of petroleum, which is removed sufficiently from the burner to avoid all danger of fire from the flame. The oil is conducted by drops into a burner of special construction, after the latter has been heated for about five minutes by means of oil which is burned in small heating pans furnished with the apparatus. Behind the burner from which the flame issues there is a second burner, which, after the heating of the pans has been removed, continually produces the vapors and heats them to a high temperature, at the same time completely surrounding the first burner with a strong flame. This arrangement is said to make the extinction of the light an impossibility, even in the strongest wind. Fresh air is drawn in between the burner and the external cylinder by the force of the flame rushing out, and by using this air in the burner a smokeless flame results on account of the air supply being heated. The oil used is ordinary 100 proof coal oil, the consumption of which is about  $1\frac{3}{4}$  pints per 1,000 candle power.

## Human Oddities.