

have seen from the east. The way it was accomplished was this: Special new styles that are to come into the market, from Paris, of course, for fall wear, were obtained, and the mill superintendent instructed to follow them in dress flannels. The superintendent is a clever workman, and obeyed orders to perfection. Delicate shades and figures and novel styles in extensive variety were produced and submitted for critical examination. The result was that the styles were pronounced just the thing, and the mill put to running on the selected lots. The ladies who exhibit the best taste and have the most attractive styles in dress flannels the coming autumn and winter will be those who wear the Utah-made article.

At the present time the Provo Woolen Mills have on the pay roll, exclusive of superintendent and other officers, 105 employees. From this may be understood the importance and magnitude of the institution as a home producer and employer. Home wool is used, and home workmen perform the labor and draw the money, which is thus kept at home. In the new line of goods, if customers want the best, merchants will be compelled to leave the eastern article on the shelf or not buy it.

As to the price, the manager of the mills was asked today if he could meet the outside article. His reply was, "Yes. There is no question about the price. We cannot always get below the imported goods in the matter of cost, but we have succeeded in this instance in getting down to bottom figures for competition."

THE MILLERS.

The local combination between the various flour mills has not yet been perfected. The reason for the delay is that several of the mills had entered into an agreement with a New York syndicate, contingent upon certain conditions, to enter into a combination which would bring in a large amount of outside capital. This agreement has now terminated. The eastern people have made a request for its renewal, but if that is done there will have to be some change in the arrangement. The Utah men gave bonds that they would enter into the compact if certain conditions were complied with. The syndicate did not meet these, the reasons for the failure being, however, satisfactorily explained by the representatives of the capitalists now in this city. When a renewal of the negotiations that had been entered into was asked for, the millers declined unless the syndicate would put up a forfeit. That is the way the matter stands at present, and a final determination of the project one way or the other is expected in a few days. If the syndicate fails to come to terms the local combination will be effected, and may be anyway, pending negotiations with the other.

One reason, and probably the chief one why the local millers favor the proposition of the eastern syndicate is that by bringing in a greater amount of capital milling can be done cheaper and better than it is being carried on at present. The proposition in the main is for all the mills in the Territory to sell to the

combination, the former mill owners to take up a large proportion of the stock of the new corporation. In some few cases where the mills are encumbered or their owners want to go out of the business they will be bought out.

The corporation thus formed by combination would have about \$2,000,000 capital stock. To this would be added at least another million by the syndicate, for the establishment of mills with more extensive facilities. Some of the smaller mills would doubtless be closed, and the work mostly carried on in the large mills, as that is the most economic plan. The largest mills in Territory now have a capacity of about 200 barrels per day. The new combination would have one or more mills with a capacity of 2500 to 3000 barrels per day, and would manufacture granulated flour as well as dust flour, the former being an improvement upon anything now in the Western market. This would enable the milling company to compete in outside markets to a large extent, instead of in the small way that business is now done. It would also create a home market for grain.

In this connection there is one feature to which Utah farmers should give attention. Utah fruit and potatoes used to be regarded as the best in the market. Now, chiefly through lack of proper cultivation, they are second and third rate in many instances. Grain is getting into the same unfortunate condition. There was formerly no better wheat than that raised in Utah, and at the present the dry bench wheat of the Davis county sandridge and the Box Elder benches has no superior. But irrigated wheat has been retrograding for several years. An exception to this rule must be noted in the case of Cache Valley, where the farmers have generally kept up the standard by being careful in irrigating. But other parts are complained of by the millers, who say that in many cases even the miserable Kansas wheat is as good as the Utah grain. Sanpete county is pointed out as the most important place where this falling off in quality is to be noted. A leading mill man was asked today why this was, and he replied: "It is because of improper irrigation. In the main the wheat is irrigated too much and is made soft. Some of the farmers think they can just run the water in, the more the better, and it is all right. But that is a mistake. As a rule we avoid Sanpete wheat except for second grade because it is irrigated too much, or is carelessly cultivated and full of smut and cockle, making dark and unpleasantly tasting flour. There are exceptions, but this is the rule."

This year is phenomenal in the price of wheat in Utah. For the first time in many years the price of wheat is lower in May than it was at the close of the preceding harvest. In the northern part of the Territory most of the surplus has been sold off, even at the reduced rates. In the north end of Cache Valley wheat was bought from farmers at about 40 cents a bushel. In Sanpete, however, the people were in a position not to sell at such a low price, and the result is that very little wheat has been shipped from the Sanpete valley this season.

The people are wisely holding on for better prices, which are likely to be realized before this time next year. Meantime the flour mills in Utah are running on short time until there appears a better market for their products.

THE SUGAR WORKS.

"We have got at least two thousand acres of beets sprouting now," said Manager T. R. Cutler, of the Utah Sugar works, today. "Everything points to a most successful run this year. We have to work close under the present conditions, but I feel certain we will come out all right the present season. We are trying to force the season a little bit, and will endeavor to start the mill by the first of September instead of the last, as in 1892. Our output last year was ten thousand tons of sugar. This year we expect to make twenty-five thousand tons. That will be pretty good for Utah. If we can get a continuation of the support we have had thus far from the people there will be no cause for complaint, and we will be able to keep running successfully a home industry of which the Territory may well be proud. Twenty-five thousand tons of sugar made at home means keeping in the Territory for circulation among the people a considerable sum of money, and we hope to do it this year and right along."

BOWMAN ASSIGNS.

The joint city and county building committee held another meeting late yesterday afternoon. In compliance with the recommendations that Contractor Bowman be asked to transfer to the Mayor, by open order, the estimates of May 5th, also all other estimates which may be submitted hereafter, the order contemplating that the Mayor be made disbursing agent, the following assignment was made:

To the Honorable the Joint City and County Building Committee:

Gentlemen—In accordance with the request of the honorable committee of the joint city and county building, hereto attached, I now transfer and turn over to the Mayor of the city of Salt Lake the monthly estimate of May 5th, and all future estimates which may be submitted by the supervising architect of the joint city and county building and hereby authorize the Mayor to pay direct to the material men 90 per cent of the value of their respective materials furnished for the construction and completion of said building as shown by the payroll and time-book as kept by the inspector, and charge the respective amounts of moneys so paid to my account and contract. However, I reserve the right to cancel this assignment at any time after I can show to the committee that I can and do pay all current expenses in the future progress of the work on joint building.

Respectfully, J. H. BOWMAN.

IF THE civil service rule of competitive examination, or any other method by means of which the fitness of candidates for office and officeholders was determined, were in vogue in Salt Lake City, there would all at once be as sound as the rushing of many waters caused by the outward march of retiring incumbents and ablinking applicants. It would be even such a flood on a small scale as Watermaster Harvey seems unable to prevent on a large one.