

Velvets	23,538	50,022
Other lines of silk and manufactures of	19,312	19,522
Umbrellas, parasols	4,745	2,402
Furs, skins, wholly or partially dressed.....	175,854	359,019
Gloves and mitts	176,829	165,848
Hats, caps and bonnets	3,936	826
Buttons ..	21,952	37,334
Carpets, rugs, etc	2,577	9,097
Collars and cuffs	6,852	16,375
Fancy articles—		
Band ornaments	4,491	7,243
Boxes, fancy, ornamental, cases, etc.	6,549	14,266
Braids, bracelets, cords, fringes, etc ...	85,176	109,366
Laces, lace collars, etc.	50,015	84,126
Toys and dolls of all kinds.....	110,664	160,828
All other fancy goods	17,642	16,532

\$1,857,422 \$2,483,329

The surtax came into effect of course as soon as the budget speech was delivered, but provision is made for importation, at the old rate, of goods ordered previously and which are brought in by the 30th of June. The latter date may possibly be extended, as it may be impossible to make delivery by that time of all goods ordered previous to the announcement of the change, and it would be unjust to subject goods contracted for under the old regulations to the increased tax.

It is likely that Germany will retaliate. Already means are being considered for doing so. There is a provision in the German tariff for the imposition of a duty equal to the full value of the goods in the case of countries which discriminate against German goods. This will probably be employed against Canada, but as we buy five times as much from Germany as we sell to her the balance of injury will not be against us. If our natural products are shut out of the German market we can readily find new markets. We have learned this by experience in recent years and we do not need to worry. Our imports from Germany are a little over \$10,800,000, of which all but \$1,744,611 are dutiable, while our exports to Germany are a little over \$2,600,000. One of the effects of the surtax will doubtless be to increase our trade with the Mother Country, and it will have a tendency to exclude German wares which now enter into competition with our home manufactures.

In the matter of binding twine the manufacturers asked to have the duty which was taken off in 1897 re-imposed. Relief is afforded in another way. Binder twine is made principally from two materials, manila and sisal. The former comes from the Philippine Islands, the latter from Mexico. Both enter free of duty. Upon the manila used by Canadian manufacturers there is, however, a substantial impost. The United States, true to the ingenious protectionism which manifests itself in their every enactment, have utilized their possession of the Philippines to give American manufacturers an advantage. An export duty of three-eighths of a cent a pound has been imposed, and a rebate is allowed to American manufacturers equal to the duty. This practically amounts to a bounty to the American manufacturer to the extent of that duty. In the case of binder twine manufacturers in Canada this works a particular hardship. While he has no advantage whatever in our tariff, the American competitor, besides being aided by this bounty, has free access to our market. This is a condition of affairs which calls for some action, and the Government announces that before the close of the session legislation will be introduced by which Canadian binder twine manufacturers will be compensated for the disadvantage under which they suffer on account of the export duty on manila.

In some other respects relief is to be afforded to Canadian manufacturers but we have indicated as above those relating to textiles.

While the budget speech brought a measure of disappointment, the Government has contrived, without disturbing the tariff, to give a certain measure of relief, and so far the effect of their action is in the right direction.

The Almonte Knitting Co. has added a new knitting machine to its plant.

Foreign Textile Centres

Belfast.—Little actual change in demand or value, but market characterized by well-sustained buying in all departments. Flax sowing late. Spinning end firm and product promptly bought up. Damasks and dress linens in improving request. Manufacturers doing a good business in most descriptions. Prospects good.

Dublin.—Irish poplin industry is expecting to benefit by the approaching royal visit, as it did when the late Queen visited Ireland. A command was issued then that the ladies who were to attend the Drawing Room should appear in poplin, and it is confidently expected that the same thing will occur again. Manufacturers are preparing for it.

Dundee.—Market for jute without any movement of importance. Jute on the spot without change in value, and sellers of new for Aug.-Oct. are not pressing, as reports from Calcutta tell of drought. Yarn market flat. Heavies unchanged. Fancy, in twists and goods better. Hessians dull but best qualities firm. Orders though not large are numerous. Flax of good quality a shade firmer. Tows scarce and dear, with lower qualities cheaper. Tow-yarns market better and large business doing. Flax yarns little enquiry. Linens in slightly better demand.

Kidderminster.—Business fair. Prices unsatisfactory in advance in raw material leaves little margin for profit. Special goods for spring trade have kept those who received them well employed. Spinning trade dull, so far as new business is concerned, as buyers will not listen to advanced prices which spinners are forced to ask for yarn. Indications point to higher prices.

Kirkcaldy.—Linoleum and floorcloth makers doing a good amount of business, and the position of the industry is encouraging. Owing to dearth of raw material, yarn prices, at present high, are on the increase, and, even in such small advances as linen manufacturers have been able to secure, margin of profit has been reduced to a very fine point. In present state of things United States and Canadian buyers hang back, and the home market is also very dull.

Leeds.—No material improvement in the woolen trade, and all the more important branches are lacking orders. Probable that merchants will presently be more disposed to operate, as wool values have an upward tendency. The clothing factories are in want of work. Consumption of ready-mades in some of the larger industrial fields has materially fallen off. In the shipping branch there is little to compensate for dullness at home. Canada is the best overseas market. Australia's wants are comparatively small. Less business in being done with the Cape in ready-mades.

Leicester.—Hosiery is active, Colonial requirements are above the average. There is a full average trade in yarn, and new contracts are at higher rates.

Manchester.—Active market in cotton. American futures advanced 3 to 4 points. Egyptian futures declined 6 to 7 points. Yarn in abundant supply but prices hard to maintain. Considerable enquiry from abroad for cloth but prices irregular. Substantial improvement required before manufacturers will be getting back their own with any surplus.

Nottingham.—Hosiery trade bad in almost all departments. New orders coming slowly. Prices against manufacturers especially in lower kinds of hosiery wool. The coming advent of paper stockings, to replace the knitted article, which has been foreshadowed by newspaper paragraphs,