

which Canadian wools are specially adapted, Canadian sheep-raisers have to export to the United States the wool, under the handicap of the United States duty, which should all be worked up in Canadian mills. In one year this export reached over 7,000,000 pounds. If conditions were right for these industries in Canada there would be a market for the consumption of over 26,000,000 pounds of raw wool more than is now consumed, which would mean an average annual amount of \$4,700,000 in the pockets of Canadian farmers which now goes abroad." This is taking wool at the present price, but under such a policy the Canadian farmer would get a better price for his wool, and, as is the case in the States, all his wool would be consumed in the home market.

"The benefit of a thriving sheep industry is not confined to these aspects of the case, for we have the enormous possibilities of the export trade in mutton to foreign countries. Every year the Argentine Republic alone gives to the British market nearly one and one-half million hundredweight of frozen mutton, while Australia ships still greater quantities to the Motherland, the exports from the Commonwealth and New Zealand being 2,000,000 cwt. in 1905, and over 2,800,000 cwt. in 1907. The last-named item alone amounts to over \$25,000,000 in value, so that our farmers scarcely yet realize the prospective importance of this trade when combined with the worsted and woollen industries."

The third proposition should be self-evident, but it may be well to point out that of all fibres, animal or vegetable, wool is not only the greatest retainer of heat, but it excels all other fibres in the capacity for both absorbing and conveying away the perspiration of the body or other moisture with less danger to the health. The importance of wool clothing in a country like Canada, having extremes of heat and cold, will not be questioned. Moreover, wool manufacturing in its various branches forms a suitable permanent indoor occupation for the Canadian winter months.

As the keeping of sheep was an occupation of the very first human family, so wool, on or off the pelt, was one of the first materials of human clothing, and it will no doubt continue to be essential to the end.