

The figures for Canada are specified in the report before us. In the case of the United States, it will be borne in mind that the year was one of exceptional dulness in this branch, but it must be remembered that the States produce large quantities of textile machinery for themselves. Allowance being made for these two facts, and a third factor—the production of textile machinery in European countries like Germany, France and Belgium—the advance of the world in this sphere of industry is revolutionary, to say the least.

A NOVEL procession was witnessed one day last month in St. John, N.B. It consisted of ninety-two sleds, all gaily decorated with the Union Jack, and all fully laden with Canadian cottons. This represented the receipts of purely Canadian goods at Manchester, Robertson & Allison's warehouses. A large number of people turned out to witness the great display.

It is stated by a Manitoba journal that numbers of dogs that have run wild in the vast unsettled and wooded territory that lies north of the Lake of the Woods have become crossed with the wolves, and that a new and strange animal has appeared. The beast is peculiar in character, and the fur is much valued by American dealers, who eagerly purchase all the skins that can be procured. The article of fur is called by some high sounding name, and when made up is sold as something rare and odd.

THE recent investigations of Mr. Ogilvie, of the Canadian geological survey, show that the musk-ox will soon follow the career of the buffalo. The plain buffalo has been hunted to extinction, and the wood buffalo, of which there never were but a few small herds in the wooded northern regions, will soon be exterminated. The musk-ox, whose robes are highly valued, has escaped chiefly because of the remoteness of his habitat, but adventuring hunters are seeking his gore and hide, and he too will soon be chased off the earth. We heartily endorse the suggestion of Mr. Ogilvie that a close season for hunting this animal should be fixed, and even then it will be hard to preserve him.

SOME years ago the Government of Germany prohibited manufacturers from discharging foul water or refuse into the rivers and streams. As a consequence of this manufacturers set about to utilize their wash products, and the value of by products made up from what had hitherto gone to waste is greater in Germany than in any other country in the world. At the Chicago Fair one woollen manufacturing firm showed this by a number of glass cases, in which the wool was shown in all its processes. One showed the wool, another the dirt and refuse from it, and others exhibited the grease, soda, potash, salts, refined alkali, and other products made from this waste, and lastly, the pure water left as the last residue. All these were made at a profit, and it is evident from such an exhibit that the Germans have brought economy down to one of the fine arts.

IN conversation with a representative of THE JOURNAL OF FABRICS, John H. Parks, president of Wm. Parks & Son, Ltd., operating the two large cotton mills in St. John, expressed views on the tariff question which are rather divergent from those known to be held by many others interested in cotton manufacturing in Canada. Mr. Parks takes the broad ground that a duty put sufficient to prevent the Americans from making a common slaughter ground of the Canadian market is ample, and that any duty which does more is excessive. He thinks that an ad valorem duty of 35 per cent. on any line of goods now made in Canada is enough, and is willing to admit that in some lines there is now more duty than is needed in the home manufacturers' own interests. By improved methods the home manufacturers ought to be prepared for a gradual reduction in the tariff, and those manufacturers who could exist on a low scale of duty have a better foundation for future prosperity than if they depended for their existence simply on a high rate of protection.

IN speaking recently of the cotton crop estimates we alluded to the discrepancies in the calculations made of the total crop in the United States, and the probability of there being a far larger crop than even official estimates concede. The following extract from the letter of a New York house shows that this under-estimating, or to speak more plainly, falsification of the true condition of the crop in hand, is shamelessly general among the cotton growers: "We know from several country accounts that we get ourselves that the farmers are not to be relied upon. We had an instance the other day in which one man telegraphed the stock in Farmersville, Tex., as being only 300 bales, and two days afterwards a fire occurring in that place, 700 bales were burned, and they succeeded in saving 2,000 more in a different warehouse. From another country town in which they reported only 300 bales, a despatch was sent to one of our friends offering 1,900 bales." And yet it is upon such reports that a large part at least of the official statistics are based.

WE see it stated by some Ontario papers that the Ontario Government propose, during the coming season, to reduce the price of the binder twine made at the Central Prison to cost. There was a time when the price of binder twine was perhaps higher than the necessities of trade required, and this journal approved of the action of the Provincial Government so far as it went last year, but we cannot follow them in the policy now said to be initiated. The moral right of a Government to put its products of prison labor in competition with the free labor of the country is itself questioned by many thinkers, but without going into that problem, we think few would be found who would justify the Government in putting such a product on the market at cost. To do so under the circumstances would be neither good morals nor legitimate business, and we can only hope that the Ontario Government's plans have been wrongly reported. It is a most unfair method of competition against the outside industries