

ing almost entirely the needs of our country to the virtual exclusion of foreign products, at prices as low, or lower, than elsewhere.

We have large and well-equipped factories producing electro silver plate goods, peculiarly suited to the requirements of this country, and of better value and appearance than can be purchased in foreign markets.

The manufacture of sterling silver goods—a comparatively new industry in our city—was perhaps the most notable addition to our manufacturing enterprises, and has been one of the most active during the past year, this activity being produced by the unprecedentedly low price of silver, coupled with the ability of our factories to produce goods at a rate saving nearly the whole duty to the consumer.

Toronto early took the leading position in the manufacture of jewellery, and its many factories now produce a distinctly national line of goods well suited to the wants of the Canadian public, both as regards reliability and artistic merit. The continued decline of our importations proves conclusively the ability of our manufacturers to supply the needs of the country.

Our Section of the Board of Trade is certainly an important factor in the great work of making Toronto the leading distributing centre of the Dominion.

During the past year alterations were made in the tariff upon goods imported in our several lines. Certain anomalies existed in the old tariff respecting classifications fixed by the rulings of the department, which were vexations to our importers. Representatives from our Section interviewed the ministers when present at the Board of Trade, and we are now pleased to state that these grievances have been removed.

The tariff upon jewellery was raised 5 per cent., upon sterling silver ware 10 per cent., and upon clocks (which were passed as separate parts, the cases and movements upon different rates), the duty has been made upon the complete clock, practically leaving it to average as before.

The members of our Section appear to be satisfied with the changes, as no complaints have been formulated against the alterations.

Our Section strongly urges upon the council of our Board, continued efforts towards securing a Dominion Insolvent Act. Efforts should be made to secure the combined action of all Boards of Trade in the Dominion towards securing this much needed legislation.

Our Section has felt—along with other Sections—that it would be advantageous to have representatives of each section upon the council, so that it would be thoroughly representative of all branches of commerce in our city, and would suggest some steps being taken to make this possible by the new council for 1895. Individual interest has been greatly stimulated by the establishment of trade sections, thus infusing life and vigor into the general work of the Board.

EDGAR A. WILLS,
Secretary-Treasurer.

M. C. ELLIS,
Chairman.