

Conrad Becker has purchased the flax mill property at Wellesley, Ont., and intends to convert it into a sash and door factory.

Thos. Chambers, who was for many years in the employ of the Rosamond Woolen Co., is leaving Alnonte for Toronto, to reside with his son, David Chambers.

The report that the Dominion Cotton Mills Company's building in Brantford had been leased by the Penman Mfg Co., of Paris, is denied.

H. H. Lang, of Ottawa, is negotiating for the establishment of a knitting mill and glove factory at Morrisburg, in the Miller foundry building. Rumors of a carpet factory in the same town are also rife.

Lucien Marcan's Successors, Bradford, Eng., have taken over for Canada the agency of Ira Ickringill & Co., Limited, of Keighley and Bradford, one of the largest spinning concerns in the world. T. A. Wood, of Lucien Marcan's Successors is now visiting Canada in the interests of his company.

James Riley, a young man, met his death in the Stormont cotton mill, Cornwall, last month, while putting on a belt to start one of the machines. No one saw the accident, but it appears he must have fallen on the rope pulleys running the rope drive gear and was carried to the big pulley in which his body was mangled and his face smashed beyond recognition.

On the 15th ult., a fire broke out in the spinning department of the Canada Cotton Mill, Cornwall, the supposed cause being friction in one of the mules. The fire brigade belonging to the mill was quickly at work, and with the assistance of the hook and ladder company of the town brigade, succeeded in extinguishing the flames. The fire and flooding of the lower stories caused damage to machinery and stock of over \$20,000, which is covered by insurance.

Last month a deputation from the Live Stock Association waited upon Hon. Sydney Fisher, at Ottawa. According to press reports "C. W. Peterson brought forward the subject of the woolen trade. He read a memorandum showing that shoddy was very largely taking the place of wool in the manufacture of textile fabrics, and, in consequence, the demand for wool had fallen off and prices were very low. In British Columbia the price was five cents a pound and in the Territories five to ten cents. A regulation was asked for which would require the manufacturers and dealers to state whether textile fabrics were wholly of wool or not. It was also requested that the sale of substitutes for wool as 'all wool' should be made an indictable offence."

The affairs of the Empire Carpet Co., formerly of St. Catharines, and latterly of Dundas, Ont., are in a bad mix-up. The business was to have been sold on the 21st March, but the sale did not come off. There was a chattel mortgage nominally for \$10,000 against the plant, and as little fresh capital was put in when the concern was moved to Dundas, it could not fulfil the conditions on which the bonus was granted by the town. Affairs came to a climax very soon after the factory got running, and then it was discovered that there were other chattel mortgages, and each creditor claimed to be a preferred creditor. Action in winding up the estate is now deferred, in the hope that some competent man will turn up to take hold and form a new company.

It has been a long time since there was a serious woolen mill strike in Massachusetts, and a prolongation of the present strike at the Arlington mills, Lawrence, would be unfortunate, and probably of more injury than benefit to the strikers. The Arlington has been a remarkably successful corporation and has maintained a high schedule of wages.

While there is evidently no lack of prosperity now, the lines of competition have drawn closer and closer, each year, and to a corporation employing as many persons as the Arlington mills, the payment of five per cent. higher wages than other manufacturers pay, represents a sum that it is hard to make up under present conditions of the trade. The question for these 500 strikers to decide for themselves is whether or not the risk of losing their positions, besides the loss of pay, is warranted by the possible outcome of the strike.—Wade's Fibre and Fabric.

Fabric Items

Ten carloads of silk passed over the C.P.R. a few days ago for New York from Japan.

Alx. Maclean, who is going to Japan as Canadian trade commissioner, states that there will be a good market in that country for Canadian cotton and woolen goods.

A corset factory of Toronto, employing 40 hands, has approached the council of Cornwall, Ont., with a view to moving to that town, in consideration of a loan of several thousand dollars, secured by a mortgage on the plant.

The large retail dry goods business of John Murphy & Co., Montreal, has been turned into a limited company, called the John Murphy Co., with a capital of \$452,000. The incorporators are: John Murphy, Hugh Henry, Duncan Devine, and Louise Isabel Murphy, of Montreal, and Samuel Gamble, of Ottawa.

H. A. Hagen, who has been connected with the Berlin Shirt & Collar Co. for years, has disposed of his stock to J. Wiegand and Aaron Erb. It is Mr. Hagen's intention to start a shirt and collar establishment in the second and third flats of the new Pearl Steam Laundry rearing completion. He expects to commence operations in May.—Waterloo Chronicle.

V. de V. Dowker, of the Crescent Manufacturing Co.; Charles B. Gordon, of the Standard Shirt Manufacturing Co.; Ben Tooke, of Tooke Bros., Limited; and F. Skelton, of Skelton Bros. & Co., all of Montreal, went to Ottawa last month to make representations in behalf of the shirt and collar industry, which it is claimed was promised tariff changes about three years ago by Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

The various departments in the new clothing factory of I. W. Peck & Co., Montreal, will be operated by electricity from motors of different powers distributed around the building. The electric current, however, will be generated by steam, it having been demonstrated that current can be more cheaply generated by steam than to obtain it from the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Co., under the present high rates, which are nearly double those charged in Toronto. This is the result of the watering of stock in the amalgamation of the different power and light companies.

The case of Wm. A. McDougall, London, Ont., charged with obtaining goods by false pretences from Herman H. Wolff & Co., dry goods importers of Montreal, has been concluded. McDougall had submitted a statement of his position showing a credit balance of \$10,686, and on the strength of this, he assigned with liabilities of \$16,000 and assets of 80 cents, after paying expenses of winding up. It appeared from a petition, signed by the prosecutors and other creditors, that the defendant was "not as bright as he might have been," and was very ignorant of business methods. Hence he was liberated on suspended sentence on giving a bond of \$500 for good behavior.