

Canadian made venetians, homespun, and friezes are in good demand for fall and winter wear, much better than last year, although that was a particularly brisk one. Some tradesmen state that trade will be double that of last year. Blacks are as popular as ever for both men's and women's wear and greys are also selling well.

Vienna is threatened with an invasion of American dress-makers. The leading modistes are not seriously disturbed, as they say the American characteristic is uniformity, whereas Vienna houses deal in specialties, while many Americans prefer the Viennese style. The chief novelty which the Americans will introduce is a skirt that clears the ground.

The Dominion Compressed Air Dustless House Cleaning Co. has been incorporated, with a capital of \$99,500, to carry on the business of cleaning, renovating, decolorizing and disinfecting carpets, tapestry, furniture, fabrics, etc. J. B. Kay, of Toronto, the well known dealer in carpets and upholstery goods, is one of the chief promoters.

Amos B. Musselman has been elected a director of the Williams, Greene & Rome Shirt Mfg. Co., in place of W. A. Greene, Jr., retired. He also becomes secretary-treasurer. Mr. Musselman entered the employment of the firm seven years ago as invoice clerk, and since then has steadily worked himself up, and during the last three years has been the accountant of the company at Berlin, Ont.

There has been a remarkable increase in the growth of flax in the Northwestern States. Last year Northern Dakota produced more than half the total flax crop of the United States, or almost 15,000,000 bushels. The Dakota farmers, who are immigrating into the Canadian North West, say Canada is better for growing flax than Dakota. We should be as well known for growing flax as wheat.

There are evidences that the natural waist is coming in, and therefore a corset which will conform to Nature's model, instead of the present coat of mail style. The world is drifting towards the Greek models and ideas in woman's apparel. Even the costliest gowns are marvels of simplicity, compared to the complex, profusely embellished creations of a few years ago. The curves of feminine beauty are brought out in graceful relief instead of being hidden under mountains of flounces and ruffles.

An event of not a little importance will be the annual convention of the United Textile Workers of America, which will open at Washington on October 21st. This organization has been in existence only a year, but as it pays a per capita tax to the American Federation of Labor on the basis of 12,700 members, it will be seen that it has already made considerable progress. Its name explains the nature of the organization. The aim is to unite all the textile operatives of America in a manner to admit of the highest effectiveness in promoting the interests of every worker in the cotton, woolen, flax and silk mills of the country.

The Oriental Silk Co., with a capital of \$20,000, has been incorporated in Canada. It is to take over as a going concern the business known as the Oriental Silk Company, now carried on at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and to pay for the same \$10,000 in stock fully paid up at par; and to continue the business consisting of the manufacturing of and dealing in silk thread, silk fabrics and all kinds of silk goods, the operations of the company to be carried on throughout Canada and elsewhere. James C. MacGowan, manufacturer, Pittsfield; J. D. Kuppenheimer, merchant, of New York; Samuel Abrahams, agent; Leon Garneau, advocate, and Henry Winfield, student at law, all of Montreal, are the incorporators.

It is stated that there are many bales of threshers' blankets still undelivered in Manitoba and the Northwest, and according to the present outlook, the factories will not be able to get them into retailers' hands until too late for use this season.

The semi-annual meeting of the New England Cotton Manufacturers' Association convened at New York, Oct. 1. It is proposed to enlarge the scope of the association by changing its name to the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association.

The factory girls who have been on a strike in Kewanee, Ill., for several months have procured articles of incorporation as the Union Girls' Manufacturing Company, and will begin making mittens, overalls and gloves in competition with their former employers.

The English Sewing Cotton Company, which controls the American Thread Company, reports for its fiscal year a loss of £127,006. Trade was reported had owing to the high price of cotton and an unsatisfactory market for thread. No dividend was received from the American Thread Company common stock.

The plant and stock of Breslin Bros., manufacturers of workmen's shirts, Toronto, was recently turned over to Simon Simonsky, a pawnbroker. A meeting of the creditors had just been called, and after disposing of the stock the members of the firm, Hymon, Charles and Solomon, disappeared. There are over 100 creditors, including a number of woolen mills, wholesale woolen goods' dealers, rubber goods companies, etc.

While the northern portion of the continent has suffered from cold and rain, the southern part has experienced unusual heat and drought. The result is that the cotton crops are unusually poor. Texas and Alabama report the lowest yield ever obtained, while in Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi it is very much below the average of the last ten years. Recent rains have started much of the cotton to growing and fruiting at the top, and with a late frost a fairly good top crop is in prospect. The worms may destroy this last hope, as the cotton caterpillar has made its appearance in unlimited quantities on the lowlands in Alabama.

The silk traffic on the Canadian Pacific route from the Orient is assuming huge proportions, and the Canadian Pacific steamer Tartar, which left Yokohama on the 20th ult., is bringing one of the most valuable cargoes of raw and manufactured silks ever shipped across the Pacific Ocean. Her cargo consists of 539 tons of raw silk, as well as a considerable consignment of manufactured goods, all destined for New York. It will take a train of fifteen cars to carry this cargo across the continent, and as each carload is valued at over \$100,000, it will be seen that the consignment is worth nearly \$2,000,000. The silk will be ferried across at Ogdensburg.

R. R. Stevenson, selling agent of the Montreal Cotton Company and the Dominion Cotton Mills Company, who accompanied Mr. Tarte on his visit to the mills at Montreal, states that the Dominion Cotton Mills Company lost \$3,000 last year, and the Merchants' Cotton Company \$100,000. Both companies have always been economically managed, but their directors do not expect to declare a dividend so long as the present preferential tariff of 16½ per cent. net is maintained against them. The Montreal Cotton Company at Valleyfield continues to pay 9 per cent. dividend, simply because this mill has always confined itself to the manufacture of a patternless article, which is not subject to the caprice of fashion, and the great proportion of goods manufactured there is composed of dyed merchandise which is protected by a tariff of 23¼ per cent.