

Mr. Samuel S. Dale, editor of *The Textile World*, Boston, Mass., writes the editor of this journal that he had read with much interest the article in our October 18 issue re imports of woolen goods into Canada, and had in type a note in which attention is called to the matter, and to the effect which such a rate of importation per capita would have upon the United States. It would result, he says, in the importation of \$143,000,000 worth of woolen goods into that country, or three times the quantity imported under the disastrous Wilson tariff, which nearly destroyed the woolen industry of the United States. He says:—"The woolen manufacturers in Canada have our sincere sympathy in their present embarrassing position; and it is a matter of regret that a country with the great possibilities which Canada possesses, is not under the same influences which have brought about such a development on this side of the line."

We are in receipt of a note from Mr. James M. Swank, general manager of the American Iron and Steel Association, in which he informs us that he and his staff are all busily engaged in completing a new edition of the Association's Directory of the Iron and Steel Industries of the United States, and in preparing its new Annual Statistical Report, both of which, it is expected, will appear before the close of the year.

According to the assessors there has been during the past year a notable appreciation in the value of Toronto's real and personal property. The figures, it is true, have yet to undergo the sifting process, but, assuming that they will be somewhat reduced, they will still be sufficiently large to make a splendid showing for the city. The assessment indicates an increase for the year of \$7,609,877. It is significant that the principal part of this expansion is due to the erection of new buildings, at a cost of \$4,917,049. Land values are assessed at \$1,017,723 more than they were last year, and personal property shows an addition of \$1,428,149. Altogether the assessed value of taxable property in Toronto is placed at \$136,564,021. These figures are, however, merely the official confirmation of a fact that has been apparent to us all. Every evidence that can be given shows that the city of Toronto has entered upon an era of substantial and permanent progress. As the commercial and railway centre of a large and populous province, as the headquarters for higher education, as the seat of provincial government, and the home of many great industries, Toronto stands in an unrivaled position in Central Canada. Hence, during the past year we have added a large town to our population. The assessors report an increase of 6,844.—*The Mail and Empire*.

Mr. John Maddocks, of Bradford, Eng., who is largely interested in the Vulite Syndicate, Limited, of London, was recently in Canada, and during his visit was in this office. He has been touring in both Canada and the United States, and expressed much pleasure at seeing the prosperous conditions of business, and at the delightful climate of this country. Mr. Maddock is booked to sail for England on the SS. *Campania*, which leaves New York November 2.

Recently in the discussion in the House of Representatives of the new Australian Parliament on the Post and Telegraph Bill, Mr. J. Thomas, member for a New South Wales district, to illustrate some of his points, said:—

I have a paper here called *Australasian Hardware and Machinery*, which seems to me to be a very good technical

paper. I should think there is fully four times as much space devoted to advertisements as to ordinary news matter, although that matter looks to me to be of a very good class. But I would point out that it is impossible to run a good technical paper unless the advertisements preponderate over the reading matter. If there is any class of newspapers that we require it is these journals of a technical character, because, whether we are free-traders or protectionists, we should aim at extending and improving the technical training of our artisans. I know that in the country and elsewhere these journals are extremely useful and are read with great interest, and I see no reason why a man in the back blocks who wants his trade or technical journal should not have it sent to him under the same conditions as newspapers which are of far less value to him. . . . At a later stage, when I have an opportunity, I propose to move that all periodicals, no matter what they are, shall be carried through the post as newspapers. If it is intended to carry newspapers free, these periodicals should be carried free, and if newspapers are to be charged for, the issues I have referred to should be dealt with on the same scale.

The *Toronto Globe* publishes another communication regarding the Canadian woolen industry. Here it is:—

To the Editor of *The Globe*: The attention of Mr. Russell, Secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, having been directed to the questions propounded to him in your issue of October 4, with reference to the position of the woolen industry under the preferential tariff, he explains them in his letter published in *The Globe* of October 19. He says that his reasons for separating such articles as shirts, blouses and ready-made clothing from the other items, as he did in his previous letter, was not to create a wrong impression, but that he might deal only with the figures relating to those branches that appealed to the Government last year for an increase in the tariff, whose position was therefore open for discussion. It is to be noticed, however, that while his first letter was in the nature of an answer to an item in *The Globe* of September 19, which dealt with the total imports of woolen goods, he eliminated from his consideration very important items, which included knit-goods, ready-made clothing, etc. He says:—"Had I presented the figures for the whole industry it would have made still more apparent the inroads that have been made by imported goods under the preferential tariff." Let us see.

Mr. Russell chooses to base his comparisons of the figures of 1897 with those of 1901, but the preferential tariff did not go into operation until April 23, 1897, only a few weeks before the close of the fiscal year, and the trade and navigation returns for that year do not separate the imports of goods coming in under the preferential tariff from those coming in under the general tariff, as is done in subsequent years. The separation was begun in 1898, with which year it is only fair that the comparisons with 1901 should be made.

The total imports of woolen goods into Canada in 1898 were valued at \$7,985,847, of which \$7,127,333, or about 89 per cent. came in under the preferential tariff, and \$858,514, or about 11 per cent. under the general tariff. The total imports in 1891 were valued at \$9,914,115, of which \$7,339,543, or about 73 per cent. came in under the preferential tariff, and \$2,604,572, or about 27 per cent., under the general tariff. The total increase of imports in 1901 above those of 1898 was \$1,958,268, of which \$212,210, or about 10 per cent., was under the preferential tariff, and \$1,746,658, or about 90 per cent., under the general tariff.

It does not seem, according to these figures, that "the inroads that have been made by imported goods" upon the Canadian industry have been caused by the preferential tariff, as Mr. Russell thinks, and he must go further for an explanation.

*Toronto, Oct. 21.*

INQUIRER.