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## Canadian Journal of Fabrics

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### THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures of Canada, with lists of manufacturers' agents and the wholesale and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion; to which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades. Fourth edition. Price, \$3.00.

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### SUBSTITUTES FOR WOOL.

In this issue will be found an article prepared for the Textile World, commenting very severely on the Grosvenor Shoddy Bill, now under consideration in the United States. The writer perhaps overdraws the picture of the difficulties of carrying out the provisions of the bill should it become law, but that there will be difficulties is beyond question. Nevertheless the extent to which shoddy and other substitutes have taken the place of pure wool calls for some protection for the

public, and an act providing that people shall know what they are purchasing is in the right direction.

In England, the effect of wool substitutes in reducing the price of wool is being severely felt. At a recent meeting of sheep owners, Mr. Mansell, of Shrewsbury, pointed it out. To the farmer the decline is incomprehensible, in view of the continually increasing population. Foreign supplies do not account for it. Mr. Mansell contends that the wool market has been destroyed to the producer simply by the extent to which it has been superseded in the manufacture of so-called woolen goods by other raw materials of less value. In the heavy woolen district of Yorkshire there are dozens of manufacturers who never buy a single bale of raw wool, and yet are known and acknowledged as influential manufacturers of woolen goods. In the United States, owing to the heavy tariff rate on wool, the situation is still worse. In 1900, 71,000,000 pounds of shoddy were used, displacing 222,000,000 pounds of wool, or equal to 72 per cent. of all the wool in the United States in that year. The shoddy used in that year was equal to the product of 42,990,000 of the 61,415,000 sheep in the United States. Besides the old material used over once or oftener, cotton is mixed with wool to an increased extent.

The passing of such an act will not, nor is it intended it should stop, the use of substitutes in the manufacture of woolen goods. Many persons are quite content to wear cloth made from shoddy. The object of the law is to prevent the public being deceived, and to that extent we cannot help regarding the proposed act as a good one.

—As an evidence of what technical education and the patient application of scientific methods to the industrial arts can accomplish, the reports issued by a German chemical society on the operation of chemical companies in Germany, for 1901, are very instructive. From these reports it appears that in the midst of an almost unparalleled depression in general trade in Germany, 120 chemical manufacturing companies there, having a paid-up capital of £17,500,000, distributed £2,168,000 in dividends. Makers of alkalies and acids declared