

cent.; while in contrast may be mentioned: Switzerland, 7 per cent.; China, 5 per cent.; and Holland only 3 per cent.

Yet, in spite of this, we send into the United States £53,240,325; into Russia, £15,942,057; into Germany £33,600,000, and into France £28,784,829.*

The explanation, no doubt, partly is that, firstly, manufacturers in these countries take advantage of their own countrymen, raise prices to the extent of the duties, and put the money into their own pockets at the expense of the community. This enables our manufacturers to pay the duties and yet compete with them.

And, secondly, no country produces all that it requires. It is impossible to protect manufactures which do not exist. If a country requires anything which it cannot, or does not, produce—some metal, some machinery, woollen or cotton or linen goods of some special pattern or texture, and a hundred other illustrations might be given—it must import them and pay the duty. So enormously varied are the requirements of civilised men (and women) that even now, in spite of the ingenuity of lawmakers and the multiplicity of duties, a considerable proportion of our exports are of non-dutiable products.

These considerations seem to me to relieve us from the apprehensions felt by some of our states-

* Stat. Abs., United Kingdom, 1907 (Cd. 3691), p. 65.