

and RN, are first displayed, followed by some good orange shades, old gold, various reds, browns, blues, etc.

Naphthamine Browns on Cotton Yarn.—Naphthamine Brown 4G, 2G, RE, R2B, and 6B, are shown on this card, dyed direct and treated in various ways. For instance, the R2B brand is shown on samples of cotton yarn dyed direct with 2 per cent. dyed with 2 per cent. and treated with chromium fluoride, dyed with 2 per cent. and treated with diazotized paranitraniline, dyed with 2 per cent. and diazotized and developed with beta-naphthol, and dyed with 2 per cent. and diazotized and developed with metatoluylenediamine.

NEW WAY TO DYE WOOL.

A new method of using indigo on wool is described in Hermbstadt's *Magazin für Farberei und Zeugdruck*. Raw, uncleaned wool is stratified in a vat with powdered indigo. The bottom and top layers must both be of indigo and the layers of wool must be uniform. About 1-lb. of indigo is required for each 24-lb. of wool for a dark blue. The whole mass is next covered with a solution of carbonate of potash of 3 deg. Tw., which must be poured in warm, but not too hot. The wool is then thoroughly worked, that it may be thoroughly soaked with the liquid. The vat is then kept warm for a week, the wool being frequently turned over during the period; the oftener that is done the better will be the result. Nothing then remains but to rinse and dry the wool. The remaining liquid can be used to dye light blue, or light blue can be dyed from the first by using less indigo. All expense and loss of weight from cleaning the wool is avoided, and the color is said to be as permanent and as beautiful as can be got with wool.

Foreign Textile Centres

Manchester.—The demand for seasonable goods is fair and the last quarter of the year promises to be more satisfactory than at one time appeared probable. Manufacturers of the finer classes of goods are not meeting with much support. Coarser goods are still being turned out to a fair extent, but, without further Government orders slackness is threatened in this branch. There is a good deal of machinery only partially employed, and producers say that until values are on a lower basis an extensive turnover is impossible. On the other hand, with spinners talking of stopping more machinery, cheaper cloth seems unlikely at present. The New York trade, however, is holding up fairly well, and linen agents here are hopeful of an early change for the better in the home market. Disquieting reports come from the United States respecting the cotton crop. It is said that the frost has been severe enough to check the development of the plant in a considerable section of the South. On the other hand, it is affirmed that the crop may reach 11,500,000 bales, and that, as a smaller proportion than usual has been received to date, large movements may be expected later on. Any increase likely to result from enlarged area of planting has been wiped off, and the season will need all it can do to equal the results of last year. The market is now receiving supplies of yarn from the mills which have been completed of late, and when those in course of construction are finished, the increase in the number of new spindles in Lancashire will be considerable. The advent of such competition at the present moment is unwelcome, as spinners are getting low prices in the face of comparatively dear cotton. Statistics respecting cotton would

seem to justify belief in higher prices, but buyers refuse to be influenced by the fact, owing to their belief in the continuance of improvement in the growing crop, and a continuance of open weather in the Southern States.

Nottingham.—Buyers of lace and curtain yarns place their orders sparingly. There is no pressure for the delivery of goods, and an impression prevails that there is nothing to lose by delay. Merino and cashmere yarns are in good request, and prices are firm, with an upward tendency. The demand for spotted nets exceeds the supply, and prices are against buyers. Fine millinery laces and nets are in request, and some fairly good orders have been placed for cheaper goods for export. The competition from Germany, which has been growing of late years, makes itself felt more and more.

Kidderminster.—Business is increasing steadily. In spite of the lack of demand for the past two months there has been very little jobbing, or selling off stocks of carpet. Buyers are now beginning to place their season's orders, but it is not to be expected that the trade will be fully busy for a few weeks. The yarn trade keeps the slight improvement of the first of the month, but is still quiet. Business and prices in finer counts of worsted are a little better, and the indirect effect on carpet yarns, though slight, is quite noticeable. Spinners have grown cautious in the face of a firmer wool market and a wider enquiry for yarns of various sorts.

Belfast.—The linen market is steady, but quiet. Buying all over is restricted to immediate needs as far as possible. Best Irish flax is readily bought, but inferior descriptions are slow of sale. Current business in spun goods, coupled with old orders, keep stocks from increasing, and sales are not being forced by producers; prices are unchanged. The manufacturing branch is rather more than maintaining its position, with production increased a little. The home demand for white goods is quietly regular, but there is no briskness. Cotton makes of handkerchiefs are in better request, but linen handkerchiefs keep rather quiet. Handloom linens for bleaching remain dull. There is an easier demand for bleached and finished linens. United States orders keep coming forward steadily and to a fairly substantial amount. Trade with the Continent is a shade better, but business is only moderate. Canadian trade is quiet.

Leeds.—The business done on winter account is unsatisfactory. Cheaper woollens have improved, and serges and venetians, chiefly for women's wear, are being disposed of from stock in larger quantities. There are also indications that unions are more popular on the home market, and the demand is now running on low woollens. There is no improvement in the shipping branch, and most of the oversea markets are unprofitable. The Royal tour has materially stimulated demand in Australia and Canada. At the mills worsted looms are fully employed on spring orders, and it is considered that the delivery of the finer qualities will be up to the average. The orders for the medium and lower class makes are less satisfactory. Manufacturers who have to buy wool complain that the price obtained for the manufactured article leaves them little profit, in face of the severe competition.

Leicester.—The yarn market is active, with small stocks and a full output. The deliveries both on home and export account are on a large scale, and spinners are in a position to insist on better prices. The hosiery trade is more active, the deliveries are well up to the average, and the decline in South African orders is compensated for by the larger contracts for army and navy purposes.