

CANADA'S WOOL AND WOOLENS.

The time may come when the nations of the world will see that it is in their best interests to raise the revenues of Government by direct taxation and allow all international trade to be free. In such a relation we should find each nation making the most of those industries for which its native talent and its own natural resources best fit it.

Meantime we are confronted with the fact that the strife of both young and old nations in this age is toward industrial as well as political independence. This ambition to wear the badge of national manhood is nowhere more manifest than among the people of Canada. When we appreciate this ambition we must realize that the right settlement of the textile problem means more than the success or failure of the woolen manufacturers, who are now asking greater protection from outside competition.

In the economy of this country there are three primary needs—food, clothing, and fuel—and if Canada is to be self-dependent we will have to

Our First be in a position to fill these primary
Three Wants. wants from our own resources and within our own borders. A good Providence enables us to raise foodstuffs in abundance for all our wants and plenty to spare for other nations. We are also approaching the time when we can, if called upon, supply ourselves completely with fuel from our own mines, leaving our forests and wood supplies for other requirements. As to clothing for our bodies, the climate of Canada makes it necessary that we should have wool or fur as the raw material. Of these two materials wool only is available for general use; but unfortunately the production of wool in Canada has for many years been declining, while in more recent years we have more than a corresponding decline in woolen manufacturing.