

directly affected in a beneficial manner other manufacturing industries and the farming community at large.

BEFORE THE MINISTERS AT OTTAWA.

The Woolen Industry. Mr. B. Rosamond, M. P., of Almonte, was spokesman of the woolen manufacturers who were heard privately and who, it is said, stood for the present tariff.

The knitted goods mills were represented by Mr. Penman, of Paris; Mr. Ellis, Port Dover; Mr. Anderson, Guelph; Mr. J. B. Henderson, Paris; Mr. Hewton, Kingston; Mr. McKay, Toronto; and Mr. Forbes, Hespeler.

Mr. Penman, on behalf of the deputation, pointed out that the industry could not stand any reduction in the tariff. In 1894 considerable reductions in the tariff were made, and it was then put down to the lowest notch. Protection was essential to the maintenance of the industry. About half of the wools used were imported. The wages paid at the Canadian mills were higher than those paid in Germany and England. Thus 326 persons received in the Canadian mills \$101,730 in a year. These would be paid \$73,950 in England, and \$52,400 in Germany. The expense of equipping a mill was greater in Canada than in England. Thus a mill that cost \$300,000 in Canada would cost \$200,000 in England. The interest on this money meant a saving of \$12,750 in favor of England. The deterioration allowance made a difference of \$10,000 a year in favor of England. Another element that increased the cost of production was the great variety of lines into which they had to go. The greatest competition was from Germany. Even England was being injured from this competition. If in her home market Great Britain was unable to compete successfully with Germany, how could Canada? To show the magnitude of the trade in Canada he gave the following statistics:—Capital invested, \$4,000,000; number of employes, 4,900; wages paid, \$1,250,000; fuel used, \$56,500; freight, \$58,000; duty paid, \$60,000. They ask that the duty of 35 per cent. on knitted goods, and 35 per cent. and ten cents a dozen on hosiery be continued. The specific duty was of special value, as it operated against the cheap goods of Germany. That Canadian goods were equal to the imported article was shown by the fact that one Toronto firm had Canadian goods "made in Nottingham," and sold them to his best customers as imported. If the tariff were reduced the Canadian manufacturers would be compelled to reduce wages. He also asked that there be no reduction of the duty of 30 per cent. on yarns. A lower tariff on yarns would mean less employment for skilled labor. As to the yarn called worsted, he contended that there was no reason why French worsted could not be made in Canada. But for the uncertainty of the tariff the industry would have been started ere now. The multiplicity of small ports tended to undervaluation.

The Cotton Men. The cotton industry was represented by Messrs. A. F. Gault, A. A. Ayer, Louis Simpson, J. H. Parks, R. R. Stephenson, Alex. Ewan, D. Mornice, Jr., and S. H. Ewing. The duty on cotton, as it was rearranged by Mr. Foster, is 30 per cent. on colored goods, 25 per cent. on whites, and 22½ per cent. on greys. The cotton interests represent an investment of \$15,000,000, and their yearly production is \$10,000,000; 9,675 hands are employed in the factories, drawing \$2,590,816 in wages annually, and besides this the companies pay yearly \$260,500 for their coal supply, \$1,004,000 for supplies and stores, \$502,400 to railway companies on freight charges, \$85,850 in duties on machinery and supplies, and \$607,200 in local plant and improvements. The deputation are understood to have urged that any reduction in the tariff would simply wipe them out. The profits have been unreasonably low for the last two years, especially on account of Canada being made a slaughter market for American goods. There was a cut of 10 per cent. in prices on Canadian-made goods last summer, and another cut may have to be made to

keep our products before the public. Canadian cotton manufacturers would like to go into the making of the finer lines, such as dress goods and yarns, but to do so they would need a duty at least 5 per cent. higher against foreign competition.

Shirts, Collars and Cuffs. The representatives of the shirt, collar and cuff industry included Messrs. B. Tooke and F. C. Skelton, of Montreal, and W. A. Greene, of Berlin. The present tariff is: On shirts, blouses and shirt-waists over \$3 a dozen in value, 25 per cent. and \$1 per dozen; others, 35 per cent.; on collars, 25 per cent. and two cents each; on cuffs, 25 per cent. and four cents per pair. They asked that the 35 per cent. class be abolished and that all grades of shirts and blouses pay \$1 a dozen and 25 per cent. ad valorem, and that the 1890 tariff on cuffs and collars be restored, viz., 30 per cent. ad valorem, instead of 25 per cent., with the same specific duty. Also that separate collars and cuffs accompanying shirts or blouses be rated as collars and cuffs. They urged the continuance of the specific duties in order to be protected against the pauper labor of Europe and the jobbing of American goods. They were prepared to meet the Americans on even terms for raw material and the two markets opened without restriction. Capital invested, \$1,250,000; hands employed, 8,000; output, \$2,500,000; wages paid, \$1,500,000.

THE HEARINGS AT HALIFAX.

Wholesale Dry Goods. Mr. A. M. Payne, on behalf of the trade, favored revision and the abolition of specific duties, as well as a better classification. Three months' notice should be given of any changes.

Mr. A. P. Silver argued for a simplicity of classification, an equitable readjustment, a stable and permanent tariff, elimination of specific duties, the reduction of the number of inland ports of entry in places where there is very little business and where of necessity the Customs work is performed in a lax manner.

Mr. E. J. Clayton spoke in reference to duties on dressed serges, that duty levied here at 25 per cent. and 5c. a pound was levied elsewhere at 30 per cent., to disadvantage of their trade. The impression here is that the tariff is arranged in the interests of the upper provinces. He did not think it right that the amount of duty should be left to the view of the appraisers, good and honest as they might be. There were too many opportunities for discrepancies in the amount charged.

DRIVES IN HOSIERY.

James Johnston & Co. are offering the following exceptional values in ladies' and misses' cotton hose: Stainless black, seamless, cotton hose at \$1.08 per dozen; full-fashioned cotton hose, French toe, in stainless blacks, also new tan assortment at \$1.35 per dozen; extra weight, full-fashioned, 40 gauge, stainless black cotton hose at \$2.00 per dozen. Misses' sizes in all the above at proportionate prices. Stainless black lisle thread hose, special value, \$2.25 per dozen. Two distinctive numbers in five gauge black cashmere hose at \$3.00 and \$4.50. These are all sure sellers and the values are undoubted. A full range of all sizes and qualities in the well-known lock stitch ribbed hose. These are shown in tans this season as well as black.

PERRIN FRERES AND CIE.

We are informed by Messrs. Perrin Freres & Cie. that their travelers are now out with the most complete set of samples of lined gloves and mitts for next fall delivery. They are showing goods of English, French, Austrian and domestic manufacture.

PRIESTLEY GOODS.

Messrs. Briggs Priestley & Sons have a very large range of black broches, canvas cloths and grenadines for spring wear.