

# CANADIAN Journal of Fabrics

THE JOURNAL OF THE Textile Trades of Canada.

Vol. XXI.

TORONTO AND MONTREAL, JULY, 1904.

No. 7.

## Canadian Journal of Fabrics

A Monthly Journal devoted to Textile manufactures and the Dry Goods and kindred trades.

Subscription: Canada, United States and Great Britain, \$1.00 per year Foreign, 5/6. Advertising rates on application.

Offices: 18 Court St., cor. Church, Toronto, and the Fraser Building, Montreal

**BIGGAR-SAMUEL, LIMITED, Publishers**

TRAVELLING REPRESENTATIVE: A. W. SMITH.

Toronto Telephone, Main 4310 | Montreal Telephone, Main 2589

Business correspondence should be addressed to Montreal; but cuts, news items and editorial correspondence to Toronto; cuts from abroad should be sent by post wherever possible, not by express. Changes of advertisements should be in our hands not later than the 1st of each month to ensure insertion.

Page	Page
Among the Mills .....	Literary Notes .....
As Viewed from Across the Border.....	Manufacturers' Association on the
Australian Wool Growing.....	Tariff .....
Behavior of Fibres Towards Dye-	Personal .....
stuffs .....	Prospect for Textiles in South Africa
British Wool and Textile Markets.....	Quilina and Its Uses .....
British Textile Centres.....	Kann for Knitting Purposes .....
Canada Woolen Mills, The Case of	Reindeer Hair .....
the .....	Southern Cotton Manufacturing .....
Canada Woolen Mills, Limited .....	Storage of Dyes and Chemicals .....
Cotton in Egypt and the Soudan .....	Tariff Modifications .....
Cotton Manufacturing in Russia .....	Testing Fibres in Cloth .....
Cotton Growing in the Empire .....	Thick and Thin Places .....
Comparative Oil Test .....	Textile Designs .....
English Wool Clip .....	Wool Markets .....
Fibre Industry in the Philippines .....	Woolen Tariff, The .....
German Progress in Textiles .....	Wright, Dr. Carroll D., on Techni-
Hemp Manufacturing in Japan .....	cal Training .....
Knitting Mill Equipment .....	

### THE WOOLEN TARIFF.

Upon its first announcement some of the Canadian woolen manufacturers thought that the new tariff providing for a minimum duty of 30 per cent. on woolen cloths brought in under the preferential tariff would prove a substantial gain; but apart from the fact that heavy importations are being rushed in under the provision extending the date of the change to the end of August, the position of our woolen mills will be very little improved. Many of them regard it as a case of asking for cheese and receiving chalk. We do not think this last criticism is just to the Finance Minister, who should be credited with the intention to render justice to the woolen interests, though that justice may have been delayed to the incalculable injury of a great native industry. The

difficulty is that the Finance Minister has not given the problem sufficient study. That he has not grasped the bearings of the change upon other nearly related trades is apparent from the provision made, but since modified, as to the importation of neckwear; and from the provision he failed to make to guard the interests of the clothing manufacturers. There is a chance that a maturer study of the situation will lead him to place the woolen interests on a better footing by making the duty on low class imported goods a specific one instead of an ad valorem one. As a matter of fact, the increased duty which will have to be paid under the new tariff on goods costing 25 cents a yard only amounts to 13.5 cents per yard. Clothing manufacturers and tailors have already expressed the belief that the duty will have no effect on the importation of medium and low class goods, and since it is against these that complaint is made, the Canadian manufacturer will be where he was before. This is evident from the fact that buyers for clothing manufacturers and other consumers of low grade goods are going over to England to make their purchases as if nothing had happened. What a situation is created for the Canadian mills may be realized from the simple statement that whereas before the preferential tariff 90 per cent. of all the woolen cloths used in our Canadian clothing factories was the product of Canadian woolen mills, now 75 per cent. is supplied by British and foreign mills and but 25 per cent. by Canadian mills. This is a lamentable change in what was one of our most promising industries, without any compensating gain to any other industry or to the consumers of the goods in question.

The objections to the tariff taken by the Toronto branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association are quoted elsewhere. A cog or two appears to have broken in the logic of the Association when the decrease in the preference in woollens is deprecated on the ground that the change is likely to be misunderstood in Great Britain; and that it would have been better to have increased the general tariff and let the ratio of preference stand. There is too much politics and too little business in this argument. Inasmuch as English goods are the goods chiefly affected by any method of raising the tariff on woollens one process of extension will be just as unwelcome to the practical Englishman as another. If a man is to be hung it will not matter much to him whether the rope used is