

to the new situation? It is one of the purposes of a college of textiles to assist in working out such problems, and we are glad to note that the Toronto Globe comes into line with these views in discussing the woolen situation. Some of our contemporaries are too blindly partizan to admit that the Canadian woolen manufacturer is suffering from a discrimination, when compared with the position of other home manufacturers, under the preferential tariff, but the Globe, while it apparently feels bound to make a show of defending the Government, on the tariff question, has at least enough patriotism to endeavor to find some other means of doing justice to this injured industry if it will not make an out-and-out demand for tariff reform. Regarding a textile school, the Globe says:

"Men of wide experience in textile industries are of the opinion that Canadian wool can be used in the manufacture of fine tweeds and dress goods, the only requisite being suitable machinery for handling and working it. But we have no manufacturers who could find it commercially profitable to undertake experiments with a view to devising efficient machinery. At present both the clothing, or short wool, and the combing, or long wool, are suited to lines of manufacture carried to the best pitch of development in the United States, and our wool growers and dealers feel the evil effects of the American tariff of twelve cents per pound. That tax is almost commercially prohibitive, and has so cut down the price in Canada that our sheep raisers pay little attention to wool, while such as has been marketed is lying in warehouses waiting for more favorable conditions. The price is generally regulated by the British market, but in shipping to Britain the competition of the Irish product would cut prices to an unprofitable level. The closing of the American market has been a real misfortune for Canadian wool growers, and the lesson of the situation is the urgent need of devising methods of using Canadian wool in our own textile industries. Such an innovation would also improve the condition of the local woolen industry, as it would make a new and comparatively cheap line of raw material available. To that end it may be necessary to develop the woolen industry by the establishment of a school of textile manufacture and design. A similar service has been effective in the cheese-making and dairying industries, both being put in a position to withstand the world's competition by the knowledge gained through experiments and instruction under Governmental supervision. It is reasonable to believe that there is an opening for similar development in the woolen industry. We are now producing wool for export, and the closing of the only available market has had such a discouraging effect that that industry has been diverted to other lines of production. We are importing wool for domestic use, and the ways of transportation companies, in levying excessive charges

on local freight, have prevented the development of a local market. The English woolen manufacturer, when undertaking a contract, finds his raw material ready to hand, but in Canada there is no local source of supply. Our manufacturers do not know where they will be obliged to go for raw material when tendering, nor do they know with any degree of certainty how much it will cost them. The key to the situation will be found in devising methods of using Canadian wool to supply the local demand for yarns and fabrics. Experiments with that end in view would need to be conducted scientifically, until machinery could be designed for making up Canadian wool into fabrics suitable for our own market. Private enterprise will not be tempted into such experiments, as they do not hold out sufficient promise of personal gain. But a textile school could be made to serve the same purpose for the woolen industry that has been so well served by the School of Mines and the Agricultural College in other lines of productive industry. Our woolen industry must be relieved of the incubus of adverse railway discrimination, and the possibilities of Canadian wool in fine textile work should be tested by scientific experiments."

The Globe confesses to the injustice of the present situation by admitting that "there may also be room for improvement in regard to the duty on woolen mill machinery," but thinks that if the reforms alluded to "are effected, it is more than probable the woolen industry will not require a higher protection than 23 per cent."

The World takes up the subject and agrees that a technical school in textiles is needed, but argues for an increased tariff as more essential. To relieve the present situation, why not have both?

—The closing months of the year 1901 showed that employment in the spinning branch of the cotton trade, in the English manufacturing centres, was improving, but in the weaving branch there was a standing still. Employment in the woolen trade was good. In the worsted trade and in hosiery, there was an improvement. The British operative has cause to be much better satisfied with his condition than his German brother.

—The paper collar has come and gone, but now we are to have paper stockings. They will certainly never be worn on account of their comfort, for paper cannot be made as comfortable as cotton, wool or silk. However, they will be economical, and will require no darning. It is said that paper can easily be made into a sort of strong twine; this is roughened to give it a woolly look, and it is then knitted as though it were the real thing. They can be retailed at three half-pence per pair. We are not told how long they will wear, but if holes come in them, or they should dissolve in a couple of days, where would the economy come in?