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THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures of Canada, with lists of manufacturers' agents and the wholesale and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion, to which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades Fourth edition. Price, \$3.00.

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THE WOOLEN SITUATION.

The memorial laid before the Government at Ottawa the other day, by the woolen manufacturers' section of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, and reprinted in nother column, presents the case of the Canadian woolen mills very ably, and yet much more might be said. For instance, it has not clearly been brought home to the Government that of all lines of home manufactures, adversely affected by the preferential tariff, the woolen manufacturers are singled out for the severest competition, not only by reason of the peculiar advantages of the British manufacturers in this line, but by reason of the extent to which German goods can be smuggled to Canada, through Great Britain, under pretence of partial manufacture in England. The other departments of the textile trades are relatively untouched by the preferential tariff. The Canadian silk trade, for example, is not hurt by the

British preference, because our imports are principally in those lines not made in England, and, as we know, the British silk manufacturing industry has been a declining industry not likely to be revived by all the help Canada can give it. The linen trade is unaffected by the tariff, because there are no Canadian linen manufacturers to protect; except the two or three twine factories, which are able to hold their own. So with the jute trade, there being no jute weaving done in this country, and the makers of jute bagging in Montreal and Toronto being protected by a special provision in the tariff for the free importation of their raw material—the unfinished jute cloth. The binder twine industry has nothing to fear from England. Even the cotton trade is comparatively safe, for the classes of cotton goods now coming into keenest competition with the products of Canadian mills are those of the United States, rather than Great Britain. English goods selling most largely and freely in Canada are, generally speaking, of classes not made by the Canadian mills at all. Even if it were otherwise, the case would not be so serious from a home producer's point of view, since the raw material of a cotton mill is a foreign product, while that of the woolen mill is in great part—and in some cases wholly—a Canadian product.

Another point not taken into account is that the crippling of our home woolen industry is going to have a serious affect on the Canadian clothing manufacturing trades, such as men's and boy's clothing, ladies' cloaks, and tweed wrappers, etc., for it is only just to say that the wearing qualities of the goods turned out in such large quantities by these factories are largely due to the excellent raw material furnished to them by the Canadian woolen mills. These are facts which should be fully and fairly considered by the Government before they decide the grave question now before them.

Although the woolen industry will only be remotely affected by the question of direct shipments, the proposition made the other day at a meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to allow the preferential rate of duty only to such shipments of goods as come from Great Britain direct to a Canadian port, is a politically sound one, and should be acted on. This would throw all the importing business to Mont-