

—A German chemist has used X-rays for detecting weighted silk, both as to the quality and quantity of the adulterant.

—An expanding business in linoleums and floor cloths is reported from Kirkcaldy, Scotland, and nearly all the manufacturers are well booked with orders.

—According to the reports received from leading jobbers. "Soie Neemie," a new silk fabric, has met with instantaneous success. In order to obtain the "enleve" effect, which is the peculiar feature of this fabric, a tiny thread of wool is used, which ensures its retaining its characteristics.

In one of its latest sample cards, Wm. J. Matheson & Co., Ltd., New York and Montreal, call attention to their green and blue levelling colors for wool dyeing, which have aroused considerable interest on account of their good levelling properties.

—An exchange describes a recent excursion to the Paris Exhibition, given by Lever Bros., the English manufacturers, to 2,000 of their employees. It occupied in all forty-eight hours, of which sixteen were spent in Paris, from morning till midnight, seeing the Exhibition, and driving around the city.

—H. H. Donner, Chemnitz, Germany, has invented a parallel knitting machine, in which the needles to be thrown into and out of action in fashioning are carried on jacks, which have projections or heels and slots working on rods on the needle bed. By means of a slide having corresponding projections, the jacks and needles can be depressed or raised until the needle bits are out of or in range of the knitting-cams. This method of operating the needles may be used for fashioning with or without fashioning-points.

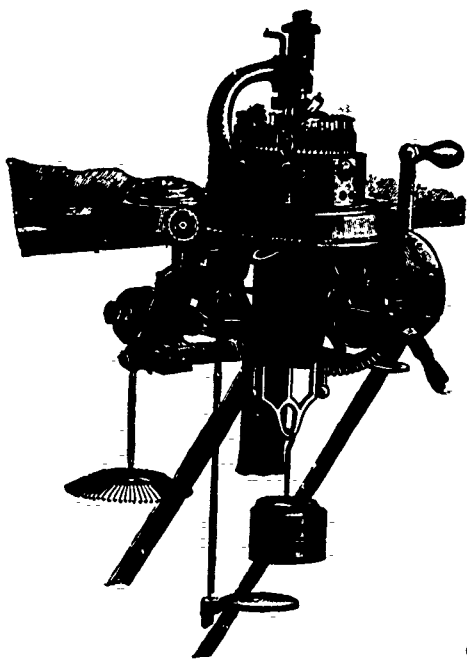
—A late number of The Hosiery Trade Journal, Leicester, Eng., gives the following explanation of yarn counts by the metric system: In the metric system of enumeration, the counts of yarn denote the number of meters that go to a gram, or kilometers to a kilogram, the length of the thread being fixed as 1,000 meters, with decimal subdivisions. In numbering cottons, however, the half kilogram is used—that is to say, the counts of cotton yarn indicate the number of times 1,000 meters are required to make up a standard weight of 500 grams (half a

kilogram). For example, No. 20 cotton yarn is one, 20,000 meters of which weigh 500 grams (half a kilogram). The following will give the weight in grams of 1,000 meters (1 kilometer) of cotton and worsted yarn for different counts: No. 1, cotton, 500, worsted, 1,000; No. 5, cotton, 100, worsted, 200; No. 10, cotton, 50, worsted, 100; No. 20, cotton, 25, worsted, 50; No. 40, cotton, 12½, worsted, 25; No. 60, cotton, 8 1-3, worsted, 16 2-3; No. 80, cotton, 6¼, worsted, 12½.

—Light, air and sunlight, says a writer in The Ladies Home Journal, are important factors in keeping the family and the house in a healthy condition. Nothing could be worse than the habit some people have of keeping the house in darkness from early morning until night. The house should be flooded with light and air for several hours each day. In the July number of the same journal Edward Bok maintains that the best intellects are nurtured and the best literary work produced by the fresh air of the country.

—A French patent has been taken out for the old idea of lustring wool and cotton by means of a solution of real silk in caustic lye. Soda lye of 36 deg. Be. is put into an earthenware vessel, and to it are added raw silk scraps, fragments of cocoons—in fact, any raw waste—to the amount of 3 per cent. of the caustic soda used. The solution obtained is diluted to 10 deg. Be. if it is to be used cold, to 3 to 5 deg. Be. if hot. The fabrics are then plunged in, and after about ten minutes' immersion centrifuged, scoured, rinsed and dried at a low temperature. It is said that the prepared fabrics can be dyed perfectly well.

—The Prussian Diet has adopted the bill for laying a special tax upon "department stores." The bill as finally passed fixes the limit at which the tax begins at a turnover of \$100,000 a year. The measure is regarded only in radical circles as the entering wedge of similar taxation upon a larger scale, and it is expected that efforts will be made in due time to impose special taxes upon the great banks and upon the enormous aggregations of capital in the iron and other industries. That this idea is not without foundation is shown by the statement of Minister Miquel that the law is merely an opening wedge for more legislation of this kind.



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