

the presser and the push-down must help both of these. The cast-off burr must gently push the yarn up, and over the top of the needle, thus completing the stitch. Each wing should be exactly straight, for if not, it will strike some of the needles, thereby causing smashes and breaks. They should also be very smooth. Careful examination of these burrs and immediate repairing will greatly reduce bad work. The take-up must also be watched, for if it is too tight the yarn will pull out of the needles, and if it is too loose the needles will fill up.

The best friend the knitter has is the automatic stop motion, on round frames. That saves a great deal of bad work, but it is unfortunate that he cannot have an attachment that will stop the frame before the whole is made, or the needle breaks, and indicate the weak point. The nearest thing to this is the right-angled lever, attached to the presser, which throws the presser out of work the moment an end runs in. It also saves many seconds.

All these are preliminary stages, and at this point the manufacture of the cloth stops. Then follows an entirely distinct business, that of tailoring on a large scale.

A good cutter can keep out many seconds, for he can turn and twist the cloth so as to get the holes and smashes where they may be trimmed out. Great attention must be paid to the lengths of the garments. Uniformity is essential. The best method, at present, is a power cutter, by which half a dozen are cut at a time.

In dyeing goods, the washing is where many seconds are made. It is generally caused by using such soap as will not thoroughly rinse out. If the goods are streaked and spotted when they come from the dye-tub, the fault is not always chargeable to the dyer, as it is frequently the consequence of improper washing.

After the goods pass this point the greatest cause of seconds is oil. It gets on from the brushers, it drips from overhanging shafts and it flies from the sewing machines. It is, indeed, a problem how to cope with this "slippery" foe. When the brushes are oiled, all superfluous oil should be carefully wiped away and the bearings covered. If the goods are piled up in rooms or carried from one department to another in barrows, they should be covered with thick sheets, as this prevents oil from getting on from adjacent shafts. On the sewing machines, a so-called stainless oil should be used. This oil, although it will stain the fabric, is nevertheless susceptible to the influence of soap, and the stains caused thereby can be washed out.

In getting the trimmings on the goods, no seconds need be made, if the best materials, the best machines and careful operators are employed.

"Care and Cleanliness" are the most successful factors in the problem "How to prevent seconds." Observe those and the seconds will be greatly reduced. The total prevention of seconds will only come with the millenium, if it comes. All the only thing that the manufacturer of the present day can do is to keep the ways and means of prevention constantly in his mind, and that will reduce the per centage of seconds to a minimum.—*Hosiery and Knit Goods Journal*.

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EVERYTHING points to a revival of poplins, or at least of dress goods with poplin grounds. Many of the new plaids are made in this way, and the smooth hard finish of the famous Irish weave is much admired.

THE New York Silk Conditioning Works will cease business on Dec. 31st. Lack of proper support from the trade is the cause. It is much to be regretted that in a country which consumes so large a portion of the world's product of silk, says the *Dry Goods Economist*, the single conditioning establishment existing here should, after a struggle extending over a number of years, be finally forced to close its doors.

"INDIGO SALT," the newest substitute for a valuable dye, is said to possess the property of being converted into indigo by means of caustic soda. In dyeing, all that is necessary is to treat the cotton in a bath of the salt, and then pass the treated cotton into a solution of the soda; and in printing it suffices to thicken a solution of the salt with dextrine; print this on, and pass the printed fabric through the caustic soda.

THERE is no abatement in the discussion, amongst both retailers and wholesalers, of the cotton print agreement. The question is not on a settled basis yet, in the opinion of a leading wholesaler. Another firm, which handles the Magog goods, told the *Review* that orders were holding back, and this they attributed not so much to price as the provision in the agreement to sell to certain large retailers.—*Dry Goods Review*.

CHEMICALS AND DYESTUFFS.

The volume of business is small, not many enquiries being made, but an improvement is looked forward to at an early date. The following are current quotations in Montreal:

Bleaching powder.....	\$ 2 25	10 \$ 2 50
Bicarb soda.....	2 25	" 2 35
Sal soda	0 70	" 0 75
Carbolic acid, 1 lb. bottles	0 25	" 0 30
Caustic soda, 60°	1 90	" 2 00
Caustic soda, 70°	2 25	" 2 35
Chlorate of potash.....	0 13	" 0 18
Alum	1 40	" 1 50
Copperas	0 70	" 0 75
Sulphur flour	1 50	" 1 75
Sulphur roll	1 50	" 1 75
Sulphate of copper.....	4 00	" 5 00
White sugar of lead	0 07	" 0 08
Bich potash	0 10	" 0 12
Sumac, Sicily, per ton	65 00	" 70 00
Soda ash, 45° to 55°	1 25	" 1 50
Chip logwood	2 00	" 2 10
Castor oil.....	0 07	" 0 08
Cocanut oil	0 06½	" 0 07

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