

not only a grower of long-wooled sheep, but raises a medium fine quality of merino wool also, the climate of Alberta and Saskatchewan having proved as favorable to merino and cross-bred sheep as Montana and Wyoming, so that under a system that would restore Canadian sheep raising to its former equality with other live stock five times ten million pounds of home-grown wool would in a few years be the normal consumption. This is reasonable to believe, seeing that Montana produces forty to forty-five million pounds of wool, while under our present tariff our neighboring Province of Alberta produces little over half a million—the official estimate of the Alberta Wool Growers' Association is 400,000 pounds. Such protection on wool would, of course, have to be accompanied by a corresponding protection on the manufactured goods and on fabrics such as clothing, otherwise the different branches of the industry would be—as they are now—a house divided against itself.

At present we have the anomaly that while practically every pound of United States grown wool goes into consumption in United States mills,

**Against Us** a large part of the wool of Ontario (the  
**Both Ways.** chief wool-growing Province) has to be exported instead of consumed in Canadian

mills. In the last ten years this export from all the Provinces has averaged nearly 2,000,000 pounds a year, and in 1897—one of the "free wool" years in the United States—it reached 7,499,949 pounds. This is because our tariff, by permitting tops\* to come in free and imposing only a small duty on some yarns while other yarns also come in free, effectually prevents the development of a Canadian worsted industry. Thus we see that the so-called protection to Canadian woolens not only ignores the Canadian raw material, but in some cases as completely ignores, and in other cases discriminates against, the primary process of manufacturing. What

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\* Tops are the first product of the worsted combing machine, being the longer of the fibres drawn from long wools and used in spinning worsted yarns. Noils are the shorter fibres of the same wool dropped from the comb to become material for spinning woollen yarns, etc.