

that while there is a diminishing quantity of cotton and woollen goods imported, the difference is more than made up by an increase in the imports of artificial silk piece-goods.

Piece-goods.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	£	£	£	£
Artificial silk	711,941	831,782	1,001,569	1,211,335
Woollen	813,537	787,986	785,593	742,649
Cotton	1,881,372	1,726,923	1,791,685	1,776,661

Recently a leading drapery establishment in New Zealand featured a comprehensive exhibit of garments and other woollen goods, the object being to stimulate a demand for wool. The exhibit was opened by the Prime Minister who emphasized the importance of the community purchasing as far as possible woollen goods, and more especially those which are the product of New Zealand mills.

Printing and Publishing.

Official statistics, year ended 31st March :—	1927.	1928.	1929.
Establishments (number)	344	346	358
Employees (number)	7,874	8,053	8,322
Wages paid	£1,752,291	£1,805,690	£1,838,262
Value of output	£4,527,696	£4,411,052	£4,642,725
Value added by manufacture ..	£3,421,672	£3,276,179	£3,476,787

The statistics above show that the decline recorded last year has been more than regained by the figures for 1928–29, value of output recording the substantial increase of £230,000. Reports from leading houses in the Dominion advise a general improvement in trade secured. The quality of the work now turned out by leading printing houses is of an exceptionally high order, and compares very favourably with imported printed matter. Orders which were previously sent overseas are now being placed locally for high-class work.

Brush and Broom Making.

Official statistics, year ended 31st March :—	1927.	1928.	1929.
Establishments (number)	12	9	10
Employees (number)	238	223	215
Wages paid	£42,571	£38,192	£40,332
Value of output	£130,287	£120,130	£111,898
Value added by manufacture ..	£74,777	£65,046	£67,074
Imports, calendar years—			
Brushes, brushware, and brooms..	£64,723	£76,291	£81,963

Reports from those engaged in this industry state that the condition of the industry is unsatisfactory. Imports again show an increase of approximately £5,000, while the value of output from New Zealand factories has declined by £8,000. The increase in competition from overseas is mainly from the United Kingdom. Local competition is also keen to obtain the business offering in this class of goods.

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given; printing (1,250 copies, including graphs), £43 10s.

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