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The finishing and processing of wool

In addition to numerous spinning mills and cloth mills, we also find in Switzerland a certain number of concerns devoted exclusively to the finishing of wool, and who work to order for manufacturers; moreover a great number of spinning mills and cloth mills carry out their own finishing. This subsidiary industry — whether working independently or as part of manufacturing concerns — has achieved a very high degree of technical development.

Finishing or processing is carried out at all stages in the treatment of the fibre, on the clean raw material, on the tops and yarns (in hanks or in cones), as well as on the finished products, such as fabrics, knitted fabrics, stockings, etc. The programme of work includes the whole range of operations, that is to say first of all the washing, the bleaching and the dyeing. This is carried out in both ordinary and fast colours. Swiss dye-works are famous for the great conformity of their shades.

Let us mention here the treatment to which the fabrics and knitted materials are submitted: milling, raising, cutting, etc. There are moreover a certain number of relatively modern treatments which, applied to wool or wool articles, are destined to increase their value by conferring new qualities on them. We wish to speak here particularly of the operations intended to prevent the shrinking and felting of wool, and of mothproofing and waterproofing.

If fabrics of wool, and especially knitted fabrics, have a tendency to felt or become matted, it is because the surface of the wool fibre is covered with small scales whose jagged edges stand out and tend to catch on each other, particularly under the action of hot water and the effects of rubbing (in washing). It is to this property of wool that the formation of felt is due. When woollen knitted goods felt, they shrink, become thicker and lose their suppleness and elasticity, which reduces their value considerably. As even the greatest care taken in washing is not sufficient to prevent felting altogether, Swiss manufacturers have looked for means of overcoming this tendency of wool to felt. In this field they have achieved interesting results, and for a long time now there have been knitting wools and knitted goods of Swiss manufacture on the market in unfelted and unshrinkable wool (articles for babies and children, underclothes, etc.). This kind of anti-shrink and anti-felting finishing is based on the use of chemical processes which modify the

wool fibre by getting rid of its roughness, and thus prevent the hairs from catching on each other. Naturally this transformation of the textile must not be harmful in other respects, and the treatment must be applied individually in each case depending on the material to be treated, the purpose for which it is intended and the results expected.

The different processes employed in Swiss finishing establishments naturally conform to the most recent results of scientific research on the subject and are inspected as to their efficiency and their harmlessness to wool by the laboratories of the establishments which apply them as well as by the official laboratories.

We do not wish to dwell at any length on the curse of moths. It is well known that moth grubs, feeding on wool, cause a terrible amount of damage all over the world, not so much because of the quantity of wool they consume, but because an article attacked by them very often becomes useless or at any rate loses a great part of its value. The fight against these pests is of the greatest interest not only to consumers, but also to manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, and in fact to everybody who uses or deals with wool or wool articles. The Swiss chemical industry has succeeded in perfecting several products which are efficient protection against the attacks of the grubs of moths or other destructive insects. Experiments methodically carried out have made it possible to discover the habits of moths, their preferences and the efficiency of the protective products used under given conditions and corresponding to practical requirements. To-day, finishing establishments can protect wool and wool articles against the ravages of moths in a manner which is wholly efficient and lasting, that is to say whose effects make themselves felt beyond the time during which the articles treated are to be used.

We have already spoken in these pages (see *Swiss Textiles* No. 3, 1949) of the waterproofing of fabrics. We therefore only wish to remind our readers of this aspect of finishing which can be applied to woollen and worsted fabrics, in particular for sportswear (gabardines), raincoats and other similar articles.

These few examples, we think, show sufficiently the role played by the textile finishing industry in the Swiss wool textile industry, and the practical importance it represents for consumers of wool articles.

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Wollhändler	Wool traders		Négoce de la laine	Negocio de la lana
René Aubert	Zürich		Ernst Obrist	Zürich
Bauhart AG.	Basel		W. Schellenberg S. A.	Lausanne
E. Baumann	Küsnacht (Zürich)		Gebr. Schmid AG.	Basel
Compagnie Lainière S. A.	Lausanne		Simonius, Vischer & Cie	Basel
B. Fabian & Cie	Basel		Société Commerciale de Laines S. A.	Genève
K. Frey & Cie	Zürich		August Spindler & Cie	Basel
Ernst Fuchs	Zürich		T. Trudel & Cie	Zürich
A. Grollmund & Cie	Basel		O. Vaterlaus	Zürich
A. H. Guggenheim AG.	Basel		Wollhandel AG.	Basel
K. Gysling	Zürich		Wollimex AG.	Zürich
Hans Hörting AG.	Zofingen		Woll-Import und -Export AG.	Basel
Albert E. Lademann	Weesen		S. Wuhrmann AG.	Basel
J. F. Müller & Co.	Basel		Zürcher & Co.	St. Gallen
Noz & Praedikow	Zürich			

Kunstwollfabriken	Shoddy	Laine renaissance	Lana emborrada
H. Daetwiler & Cie	Windisch-Seon	Walter Vetsch	Sennwald (St. Gallen)

Kammgarnspinnereien	Worsted spinning mills		Filature de laine peignée	Hilatura de estambre
Angoraspinnerei AG. Münchenstein	Basel		Fritz Landolt AG.	Näfels (Glarus)
Bebié AG.	Linthal		Neue Kammgarnspinnerei	
Chessex & Cie	Schaffhausen		Interlaken AG.	Interlaken
Filature de laines peignées d'Ajoie S. A.	Alle (Bern)		Société Anonyme de Filatures de Schappe	Kriens
Floretspinnerei Ringwald AG.	Basel		Société de la Viscose Suisse S. A.	Emmenbrücke
Gyr & Cie	Frauenfeld		Textilwerk AG.	Gossau (St. Gallen)
Industriegesellschaft für Schappe	Basel		Vereinigte Kammgarnspinnereien	Schaffhausen und
Kammgarnspinnerei Bürglen	Bürglen (Thurgau)		Schaffhausen und Derendingen	Derendingen
Kammgarnspinnerei Herisau AG.	Herisau		Wollspinnerei St. Jakob AG.	Basel
Kammgarnspinnerei Langenthal	Langenthal			

Streichgarnspinnereien	Woollen spinning mills	Filature de laine cardée	Hilatura de lana cardada
Bebié AG.	Linthal	Textilwerk AG.	Gossau (St. Gallen)
Schafroth & Co. AG.	Burgdorf	Vigognespinnerei Pfyn AG.	Pfyn (Thurgau)

Wollgarn- und Effektwirngarnfabr.		Laine mercerie, fils fantaisie	Hilos para hacer punto, hilos fantasía
Hand-knitting wools, fancy yarns			
A. Baumann	Amriswil	Lang & Cie	Reiden
Bürgin AG.	Hölstein (Baselland)	Schaub & Co.	Zofingen
H. Ernst & Cie	Aarwangen	Emil Wild & Cie	St. Gallen
Färberei Güttingen AG.	Güttingen (Thurgau)	Fischer's Söhne	Dottikon
A. Froehlich AG.	Wiesenthal b. Dietikon		

Kammgarnwebereien	Worsted mills		Tissage de laine peignée	Tisaje de estambre
Appenzeller-Herzog & Co.	Stäfa		Vereinigte Kammgarnspinnereien	
Gyr & Cie	Frauenfeld		Schaffhausen und Derendingen,	
Kammgarnweberei Bleiche AG.	Zofingen		Abteilung Weberei	Derendingen
Paul Reis & Co.	Zürich		Weberei Aarau AG.	Aarau
Rob. Schmid's Sohn AG.	Gattikon (Zürich)		Wollweberei Rothrist	Rothrist
Seidenstoffwebereien			Wollweberei Rüti AG.	Rüti (Glarus)
vorm. Gebr. Naef AG.	Zürich		Wollweberei Zofingen	Zofingen



Tuchfabriken

Aebi & Zinsli
H. Berger S.A.
Bündner Wolldeckenfabrik
Hch. Schwendener
Gugelmann & Cie AG.
F. Hefti & Cie AG.
Meyer & Cie
N. Pedolin's Erben AG.
Pfenninger & Co. AG.
Schild AG., Tuch- und Deckenfabriken
Schweiz. Decken- und Tuchfabriken
Pfunggen-Turbenthal AG.
Spinnler & Co.
F. & E. Stucki's Söhne

Cloth mills

Sennwald (St. Gallen)
Eclépens (Vaud)

Sils-Albula
Langenthal
Hätzingen (Glarus)
Moudon
Chur
Wädenswil
Bern und Liestal

Pfunggen
Liestal
Steffisburg (Bern)



Fabriques de drap

Tessiner Tuch- und Deckenfabrik AG.
Tuchfabrik Belp AG.
Tuchfabrik Entlebuch AG.
Tuchfabrik Escholzmatt, Krest & Co.
Tuchfabrik Goldach AG.
Tuchfabrik Kirchberg AG.
Tuchfabrik Lotzwil AG.
Tuchfabrik Schaffhausen AG.
Tuchfabrik Sevelen AG.
Tuchfabrik Truns AG.
Tuchfabrik Vetsch AG.
Tuchfabrik Wädenswil AG.
Tuchfabrik Zürcher & Co. AG.
Walliser Tuchfabrik AG.

Manufacturas de paños

Locarno
Belp (Bern)
Entlebuch
Escholzmatt
Goldach (St. Gallen)
Kirchberg (St. Gallen)
Lotzwil (Bern)
Schaffhausen
Sevelen (St. Gallen)
Truns (Graubünden)
Grabs (St. Gallen)
Wädenswil
Langnau (Bern)
Sitten

Deckenfabriken Blanket manufacturers

Aebi & Zinsli
Blumer & Cie. AG.
Bündner Wolldeckenfabrik,
Hch. Schwendener
E. Girardet & Cie S.A.
N. Pedolin's Erben AG.
Schafroth & Co. AG.

Sennwald (St. Gallen)
Wald (Zürich)

Sils-Albula
La Sarraz (Vaud)
Chur
Burgdorf



Fabriques de couvertures Manufacturas de mantas

Schild AG. Tuch- und Deckenfabriken
Schweiz. Decken- und Tuchfabriken
Pfunggen-Turbenthal AG.
Tuchfabrik Vetsch AG.
Tuchfabrik Wädenswil AG.
Walliser Tuchfabrik AG.

Liestal

Pfunggen
Grabs (St. Gallen)
Wädenswil
Sitten

Teppichfabriken Carpet manufacturers

Knüppteppichfabrik AG.
Walter Nüesch, Waron-Teppichfabrik
Jacob Rohner AG.
vorm. Meier-Wepfer & Co.

Lotzwil (Bern)
Sennwald (St. Gallen)

Heerbrugg (St. Gallen)



Fabriques de tapis Manufacturas de alfombras

Schweizerische Teppichfabrik
Teppichfabrik Buchs, Wiederkehr & Co.
Teppichfabrik Melchnau AG.

Ennenda (Glarus)
Buchs (St. Gallen)
Melchnau (Bern)

**Möbelstofffabriken
Furnishing fabric manufacturers**

Aktiengesellschaft für Handweberei Ober-Arth

**Fabriques de tissus d'aménagement
Fábricas de tejidos para tapicería**

Jacob Rohner AG.
vorm. Meier-Wepfer & Co. Heerbrugg (St. Gallen)

Filzfabriken Felt manufacturers

Filzfabrik AG.
Schneiter-Siegenthaler & Cie Wil (St. Gallen)
Enggistein-Worb (Bern)



Fabriques de feutre

Filzwerke AG.

Fábricas de fieltro

Niedergösgen bei
Schönenwerd

**Filztuchfabriken
Felt cloth manufacturers**

F. Hefti & Co. AG. Hätzingen (Glarus)

**Fabriques de drap de feutre
Fábricas de tejidos afieltrados**

Conrad Munzinger & Cie AG. Olten

**Färbereien, Druckereien und Ausrüstanstalten
Dyeing, printing, finishing**

Basler Stückfärberei AG.
F. Blumer & Co.
Färberei AG.
Jenny & Cie
Joh. Müller, Aktiengesellschaft
Basel
Schwanden (Glarus)
Zofingen
Aarau
Strengelbach

**Teinture, impression, finissage
Tinte, estampado, acabado**

Schoeller & Cie
Schütze & Cie
Wollfärberei und Appretur
Wollfärberei Bürglen, Dr Jakob Cunz AG.
Zürich
Zürich
Bürglen (Thurgau)

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