until the dinner time. In the meantime “the accident” could be reported at the Trades Union record and the trap laid for the employer. He goes to his work, nobody being aware of the cause of his absence. In the course of a few days another turns up and enquires if there has not been an accident. Every official, from manager down to the piece-hooker in the warehouse, is quite unanimous and says “no accident here.”

But the inspector is wiser than they are; out comes his memorandum book, with a record of time, place, and witnesses—a lack of circumstances—be fairly acquainted, like the policeman’s, “from information received.” Investigation is made, the injured person is called, and there surely enough is the compensatory evidence in a bit of sticking plaster over a small cut, or a blackened finger nail. The majesty of the law must be upheld, a summons is issued, and the minimum fine of “one pound and costs” is inflicted. This is no fancy picture; something very like it has recently occurred in East Lancashire, even under the present law. And what, we ask, would it be if the proposed amendment became law?

Clause 10 of the Bill, which comes next, extends the application of section 36 of the existing Act, which it has already touched before, and which never in the history of at least of the cotton manufacture required it less than they do now, and it brings in with this complex piece of engines a mechanism to ensure its application. The only reason we can find for this being dragged in is that the existing Act cannot do it. In any conceivable means be twisted into an instrument of torture for the back of the employer. It is the clause relating to the generation of dust.

We have now reached section 11 of the Bill, which first renews literally clause 62 of the existing Act, which is simply a restricting clause, excluding the application of the Act to flax or other mills. So far so good. But opportunity is taken here to interpret a proposed amendment, which is utterly outside the scope and purpose of the Factory Acts. It is the introduction of a principle and feature entirely foreign to this class of legislation from the beginning to the present time. It is such a departure from Trades’ Union tyranny that we reprint it in full:

62 (a.) Every person engaged as a weaver in the cotton trade, or as a sawyer, or reeler, in the cotton trade, who is paid by the piece, shall have supplied to him or her with each piece of work an additional number of threads in the warp, the number of threads for each piece of work being fixed by the Factory Act. The counts of twist and so forth, while eliminating the thickness thereof. The length of cloth in yards (Standard measure), except where it is the cause to pay by the length of warp, and in that case, the length of warp shall be given instead of the length of cloth. Together, with the price to be paid for the wearing thereof, to the Winder: The counts of twist. The weight of each inch or yard of cloth. Together with the price to be paid for the wearing thereof, to the Reeler: The length of each piece of cloth, excluding the thickness thereof. In the event of any contravention of the provisions of this Section the employer or the factory in which the offence is committed, or any person who shall be found to have been in any manner or to have given him those particulars. By this means a number of the workers are enabled to leave their work and earn the entire portion of their earnings, and in many instances have found this to be done to the extent of 10 per cent. As unprincipled person might say that the workers could only do this for themselves, but this is not so. A winder cannot tell the counts of the twist in winding; a weaver, the number of threads in the warp; a reeler, the number of threads in the piece, which in some instances go from 20 to 200 yards. We are certainly surprised at the insinuations conveyed in this statement. To the amount of 90 per cent. of their number and extent they can only be characteristic of the letter and spirit. A winder of very little experience can tell to a half the counts of yarn she is winding. The working of a warper, who follows after, is mechanism combined with the greatest accuracy, and by that measurement she is paid. The same occurs in the case of the winder. The next is the drawer-in or the twist, and he is paid by the number of threads in the warp, which is always stated upon the ticket. This ticket goes down to the winder, and furnishes the winder with the particulars of the warp supplied to him. These consist of the width of the cloth to be made, the length of the piece, and the counts of the reed. The remainder of the information, such as the counts of the weft, the number of picks, and the description of the “heading,” by which the piece is afterwards recognised as consist of the said particulars through the further handling in the mill, and also in the knowledge of the agent and merchant, is given to the weaver by the overlocker. The counts of the reed are all marked upon the reed, and the weaver therefore has the means at command every moment at which he is at work of ascertaining the number of threads in his work, and the number of picks per quarter inch he is putting into his cloth have been given him, and the accuracy of the statement he can test any moment by counting the teeth in his chasuble, which is measured upon the lower cloth. Therefore, that there is absolutely no need for this clause, because any attempt to falsify the particulars of the work would lead to inscrutable confusion, which would entail far greater loss than any gain therefrom would compensate. If there be such cases of falsification as is alleged, Mr. Birtwistle and his union are sufficiently powerful to punish them to their hearts’ content without placing the whole trade under such grossly arbitrary regulations, which would enable every competitor at home and abroad who should be desirous of imitating our manufacturers to accomplish his purpose with perfect ease. The clause stands utterly condemned as the most ridiculously absurd and unnecessary provision which the irrationalism of Trades’ Unionism has yet conceived and propounded.*

Section 12 of the Bill increases the stringency of the clause in the Act by making it penal for any one to obstruct the inspector or assist people out of the way of detection. We offer no remarks upon this.

Mr. Birtwistle’s manifesto concludes with the following:

* The importance of this matter warrants the reproduction of the following remarks in reference thereto, which appeared in The Textile Mercury of December 31st last:—

"Favourable to the Weavers. The bill demands here which would at once betray their whole trade into the hands of foreign competitors, and, provided by English law for the encouragement of industry, the United States Government has spent thousands of dollars in the study of its cotton, and has, very properly, failed? Does he know that having thus failed it is now trying on another dodge to effect the same purpose, namely, that instead of requiring the States to contain the particulars for which it is asking? We have not met with any one to show such want of enlightenment regarding the interests of the cotton trade, and not least of those of his own clients, as he exhibits when putting forward proposals of this kind."
promenade without the addition of a jacket. The cloth must be piece dyed in delicate neutral tints or very plain dark colours, such as navy blue, bottle green, and deep chocolate, the brighter colours being more suitable for indoor wear. A new colour is in vogue called "mushroom tint"; also light tan, grey, drab, tabac, ruby, bronze, olive, terra-cotta, fawn, salmon, rose, etc., claret, moiré, heliopore, would all be becoming and well adapted to give effect to this cord fabric. Violent contrasts, though fashionable, are not desirable; unless the fabric used be of the most costly nature. This design, on a 36-end draft, 22 to the round, may be made in 36, 48, and 60 ends. For the 48-end draft, 57 picks per inch., a soft cup well, picked at the rate of 9 oz. to the yard. Of course this is only a basis to work from, and the work might be varied in endless ways.

The round would then be 14 picks, 4 on the binders, 10 on the face. Many ways may be adopted for a variety of unions in this desirable cloth.

**NOVELTIES IN DOUBLE CLOTHS.**

*Designs 11 and 12 given last week are further supplemented by Designs 13 and 14. Design 15 is a stripe effect produced by allowing the woolen backing, if such it may in this instance be called, to weave plain partly on the surface instead of on the back as is usually the case. The following sett may be used:—*

**Work.**

2 threads 9 yds. worked for face. Same as warp.

1 thread 40s. woolen for back, 14's red 6's.

If the stripe, check, or twill formed on this principle be large, it may be desirable to tie the two cloths together other than by simple exchange of places.

**Design 14** is a stripe effect constructed with the same idea as the above, only there is one thread and pick of face to one thread and pick of back. This will necessitate either the reduction of the backing yarn in diameter or a reduction of the face yarn. This latter method will probably, for the type of cloth required, yield the best result, since the requirements are simply a contrast between coarse and fine work, and the contrast may be heightened either by introducing finer work in the case of the worsted yarn, or coarser in the case of the woolen yarn.

**WORSTED MANTLE CLOTHS.**

A type of cloth much used for short jackets, etc., is illustrated in Designs 15 and 16. Design 15 is a stripe effect developed in 8-end backskin, double plain and warp rib weaves. The buckskin forms the ground, upon which it is developed in double plain a broad stripe, which should form a slight contrast of analogy with the ground, while the 6-and 4 rib is introduced with the idea of applying stronger contrasting colour end and end.

The following should prove effective:—

**Work.**

24ths. 2/36's medium olive, 1 th. 2/36's dark red, 1 th. 2/36's dark brown, 1 th. 2/36's dark green.

24ths. 2/56's medium olive, Repeat for 16 threads.

18's red 6's.

**Warp.**

All 28's dark brown or olive.

Coarser yarns and a more open sett may be used if desired.

Design 16 is a similar effect, checked. The end-and-end contrast, however, giving equal surface to the two colours, will require attention, but the principle of construction is precisely the same, the same sets being suitable.