DICTIONARY OF TEXTILE TERMS.

(Continued from January issue.)

Combing (Commission): A branch of the wool trade. The commission comber is equipped with the plant, but receives his material from either the wool merchant or the grower, and delivers it in the form of top and rovings, simply receiving a commission for his work.

Drying: The preparing and combing of wool to which no oil has been added to facilitate the combing operation. Dry combing is said to yield better results in the dyed fabric.

Combing in Oil: The preparing and combing of wool to which oil has been added, with the idea of controlling the fibers and obtaining an easier passage through the pins of the gill box and comb.

Combing Machine: The type of machine most frequently used for combing wool is known as the Noble comb (so named after its inventor, James Noble) while the types of machines used for combing cotton are the Heilman, also called after its inventor, Josue Heilman), the Alsatian, the Naswath and the Momfort's comb, the latter being also named after its inventor.

Combing Wool: Of a length sufficiently long for combing purposes, say two inches and over. Whiteness of fleece is of less importance in the combing wool than in the clothing wool, provided it be free from gray hairs. Sometimes, however, the fleece has a dingy brown color, a winter state which is a sure indication that the wool is not in a thoroughly sound state. Such fleeces must be thrown out by the wool sorter, being suitable only for goods that are to be dyed black.

Come-back: A wool produced by the crossing of two breeds of sheep (to produce a half-bred) and then crossbreeding the half-bred with one of original breed. It is thus a come-back to the original breed. Merino Come-back is most commonly produced on account of the better qualities, and gain fineness and softness in wool grown.

Common Salt: The same made from rock-salt, brine, sea-water, etc. It crystallizes without water of crystallization, but ordinarily contains some moisture, and frequently some soda sulphate, calcium sulphate or magnesium chloride. The solubility of common salt is about the same at any temperature, and varies only between 35.5 parts common salt at 0 deg. C. in 100 parts of water. Little used in the textile industries; it is added to the bath in dyeing with azo dyes, as a fixative. For the latter purpose it is used with caution, since almost all dyes are injured by it, and being hygroscopic, it gives rise to formation of mould spots. Also called Sodium Chloride.

Common Wool: One of the lower grades of wool.

Compass-board: See Comber-board.

Complimentary Colors: Colors, the combination of which produce white light. A knowledge of the various complimentary colors is of great importance to every dyer and colorist, as it enables him to produce the finest effects of color harmony and contrast. It is also of much service in studying the various phenomena observed in matching colors.

Compound Twill: A twill composed of two or more weaves which weave well together, each weave, however, maintaining its individuality in its particular section of the design.

Compressed Bale: See Cotton Pressing.

Cotopul: Color of cotton which contains large quantities of leaf, etc., broken up into fine particles; of a brown tint, and fibres rather weak. Mean length of fibre ½ inches. Suitable for spinning up to 15's filling.

Condenser: That part of the finished card of a set of wooden cards which separates the yarn when it comes off the different tows, those small running strands, slightly rubbing them, in order to impart sufficient strength for handling them for spinning.

Condenser Yarn: Cotton yarn spun by the wool principle.

Condition: The hygroscopic character or moisture holding condition of textile materials.

Conditioning: All textile fibres contain moisture in their normal condition. Since this amount of moisture present can be increased or decreased in a consequent way, up to twice its normal percentage, in 1873 an international congress met at Turin, Italy, and when the following allowances or reprints were adopted as the normal amount of moisture allowable in all textile fibres: Silk 11 per cent; Wool—carded 17 per cent; Wool—combed 18½ per cent; Top—oil combed 19 per cent, dry combed 18½ per cent; Noil 14 per cent; Cotton 8½ per cent; Flax 12 per cent; Hemp 15½ per cent; Jute 13½ per cent. of the absolute dry weight of the fibres. To-day every prominent textile centre in Europe has a conditioning establishment, the standard is fixed in law. For the purpose of conditioning the skeins of yarn, after having been reeled, measured and weighed, at first together and then separately, are, for the purpose of conditioning, then dried in ovens, and when perfectly dry a certain amount of water is added to the yarn to obtain the permissible percentage (normal amount) of moisture, for each fibre previously referred to. The count of the yarn thus treated is termed its conditioning count. After which the worsted fabrics have passed through a process involving the application of dry heat (such as singeing) they are unnaturally dry, and as a consequence very weak. To give back the natural moisture, goods in such a condition are passed through a machine which sprays them, and thus causes them to quickly regain the moisture and often the strength lost.

Cone Drawing-box: One of the preparatory machines for preparing spun yarn. In a cone-box the material is positively wound on to suitable sized bobbins with practically no strain upon it, while in the case of the ordinary drawing-box, twist must be put into the sliver to give it sufficient strength to pull the bobbin round. A cone-box thus permits the slivers to be drawn more soft, as well as the larger bobbins to be used, resulting in better and more economical working.

Cone Duster: A machine used for freeing wool from impurities, such as ashes, dyestuffs, dust, etc., used more particularly with wools which are very dusty, excepting the very long-stapled carpet wools, which remain a longer time in the duster, and for a modification of it is used, by changing the character of the teeth and feeding device.

Cone-pulleys: A pair of pulleys set in opposed positions in the bobbin-and-fly frame which, in conjunction with the differential motion, change the speed of the bobbins as the latter fill up.

Congo Red: A member of a class of dyestuffs known as direct, or substantive, cotton colors, dyeing cotton, wool and silk without the use of mordants. Since it was the first artificial dye (discovered in 1884) known to have this property, dyes of the same kind discovered since, are frequently called Congo colors. It is a red-brown powder, readily soluble in water, its solubility decreasing as salts (sodium chloride or sulphate) are added, causing more of the dye to adhere to the fibres. Wool will exhaust the dye bath, whereas cotton will not, for which reason in the latter case the dye bath is used over again, always adding fresh dyestuff and salts after each dyeing.

Constant: A kind of short arithmetic mean, most frequently met with in cotton spinning, denoting a known dividend which at any time can be divided by some required quantity or condition, the quotient obtained being the gear, draft, twist, etc., necessary to be used to give the required condition; again, the converse of this rule may be used. For this reason, a constant number is a number which, if divided by any required draft will give the necessary change pinion; or vice versa, if divided by any change pinion will give the draft. A constant number for twist is a number, which if divided by any desired turns of twist per inch will give the requisite twist gear; again, if divided by any particular twist gear, will give turns of twist per inch put into the slubbing or roving. It will be readily seen that where a number of machines are running in a mill with certain gears that are seldom changed, while at the same time the counts of the sliver, slubbing or roving are frequently varied, that in this case constant numbers are very useful, it giving us a kind of short hand arithmetic, similar to the slide rule.

Constitutions: A standard variety of cotton, seen only.

Convent Cloth: An extremely light-weight dress fabric made with a silk warp and wool filling, the weave resembling that of figured cotton. It is a very light-weight, soft, and lustrous fabric.

Cook: A cotton plant. Originated by W. A. Cook, of Newman, Miss., from a single stalk found in a field of common cotton. Plant very vigorous and prolific; limbs irregular, not long;
bolls large and long, sometimes 2½ inches in length, maturing late; lint 26 to 28 per cent; staple 35 to 40 mm. Similar to the Allen, and one of the best varieties for rich, low ground. 

Coothay: A variety of striped satin.

Cop: The cylindrical coil of yarn accumulated on the spindle of a mule, or, in the case of two-fold yarn, at the top of the children's stockings.

Cop-bit is that part which is spun during the first few minutes after rolling.

Chase of cop is the length of top cone of cop.

Note of cop is the apex of the top cone.

Shoolder of cop is the joining of the chase to the thickness.

Body of cop is the distance between the top and bottom cones.

Crossing thread of cop is that part of yarn wound upon each cop at the beginning of each run-in, while the top fuller wire is descending from the highest to the lowest point of the chase.

Coping: A heavy cloth made of either worsted or woolen yarns for gentleman's wear, with various weaves and colorings applied.

Copier: A machine used for winding spun yarns from cobs or bobbins into hubs.

Cop Tube: Paper tubes on which the cop of yarn is wound in spinning.

Cop-winder: A machine which takes yarn from a skein and winds it upon a bare spindle in the shape of a cop, to be used in turn in the shuttle in weaving.

Coquille: Shell-like fluted or scalloped.

Coquina Fibres: A tall palm tree, a native of Chili, with rudimentary scale-like structures at the base of the petales. From the bark, a fibre of considerable strength is obtained, which is much used for cordage purposes. Cables have been made from these bark fibres, and are reputed to be more durable than hemp cables.

Corah Silk: A light, creamy-white, undyed, washable silk fabric.

Cord: A strong ribbed futian, corduroy.

Cord-de-Chin: A light fabric made from botany warp and silk filling in which two threads are combined as one to form a lightly defined cord lengthwise in the piece.

Corded Alpacas: A fabric showing cords running lengthwise in the piece, made with a cotton warp and alpaca filling, the latter producing the face and body of the cloth, the cotton warp forming the core of the cord or rib.

Corded Muslin: Muslin having in its texture thick, raised cords, forming striped patterns.

Cordillas: A variety of Kerseys.

Cordoncellos: A kind of common calico used largely by the Indian population of Mexico, for garments of the lower class.

Cordonnet: The somewhat raised edge in a point lace pattern.

Corduroy: A fabric of either braiding, knitting, etc. In its formation, four or eight threads are loosely twisted with a left-hand twist to form the minor thread of which are then twisted together with a right-hand twist, to produce the characteristic compound silk thread required.

Cordova Wool: A species of South American wool.

Cords: Rib effects in fabrics which run longitudinally, or in the direction of the lengths of the fabric. The opposite to rings in which the ribs run filling ways in the cloth. Simple cords are produced by running several threads of either warp or filling through a lace.