

**STAPLE TRADES  
AND  
INDUSTRIES. WOOL**

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Staple Trades and Industries. Wool by Frank Ormerod

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**FRANK ORMEROD**

**STAPLE TRADES  
AND  
INDUSTRIES. WOOL**



TO VINU  
AINBOULLAO



"THE LANDS WHERE MILLIONS OF SHAGGY-COATED SHEEP ARE BEING RAISED"  
*(Reproduced by courtesy of the Australian Government)*

STAPLE TRADES AND INDUSTRIES

*Edited by* GORDON D. KNOX

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# WOOL

BY

FRANK ORMEROD



NEW YORK

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1919

## EDITOR'S PREFACE

TO-DAY the world is faced with an expenditure so vast that only a rapid development of trade can restore prosperity. Various steps have been taken by the Governments to spread a greater knowledge of trading conditions all over the world. Government activity, however, has never succeeded in creating a nation's trade and must inevitably be dependent on the initiative of the trading community.

Every year, partly because of and partly in spite of the increasing specialisation of trade, the need becomes greater for the closest possible study of the national trade. And a study of the national trade involves a close knowledge of trade conditions throughout the whole world. Experience in every department of life has shown the weakness of purely *ad hoc* knowledge. Much has to be learnt by all classes of the community that has no direct bearing on their immediate concerns, and the penalty for not acquiring such knowledge is a narrowing of the outlook and a lessening of efficiency. In commercial life wide knowledge is equally essential to individual and

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national prosperity. The mistakes of the past—the whole history of the dye trade is only one of many glaring examples—are mistakes for which commercial men must share the blame with the politicians. New problems which can only be solved by those possessing that power of foresight which depends on wide, well-digested knowledge are continually arising and the old problems are perpetually requiring fresh solution.

Knowledge of this essential sort is lacking largely because it is not available in a form that can easily be appreciated by those without expert training in the individual trades. Yet the knowledge is vital to all those who have the interests of the nation at heart. Events have shown that the public dare not remain in ignorance. It is the duty of the individual citizen to realise the factors on which the prosperity of the country depends, to have exact knowledge as to the sources both of the raw materials and of the manufactured products that enter so largely into the life of the nation.

It is the purpose of the present series to supply this want. Each volume in it is the work of an expert, and in every case care is being taken to give an exact but general view of the staple trades as a whole. It is hoped that the information so presented will be of value to those who may be



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brought actively into contact with the industries concerned, that they will enable the nation as a whole to form a sound judgment on questions of commercial importance.

**GORDON D. KNOX.**



## AUTHOR'S PREFACE

Books on wool and the wool industry are many and of great value, but generally they are of sectional interest only, and incapable of being appreciated by any but those possessed of special technical knowledge. The present volume is intended to make a wider appeal, and, while maintaining strict scientific accuracy, to present a comprehensive survey of the subject in a more or less popular form. In other words, the object of the writer has been to bring together material upon which the general reader may form a sound opinion without being worried by detail and perplexed by technicality.

It is hoped, also, that the student will find much to interest, especially in those chapters which deal with the introduction of the wool trade into Great Britain—a phase of the subject which has hitherto hardly had the attention it deserved.

The writer has to tender thanks to the various authorities quoted in the following pages, and especially to the officials of the Commonwealth