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as soon as their valuable stocks are exhausted. I find we get on an average no less than three a day. Five years ago we never so much as saw a foreign traveller.

Take, too, the silversmiths' craft. From time immemorial Englishmen have been the finest silversmiths in the world. Now thousands of ounces of German manufactured silver are brought into this country without a penny duty—a great quantity of it made by women and children. Let anyone who cares look into the windows of provincial and seaside shops and see the stuff—windows full of it.

I am often asked how Tariff Reform will benefit our clerks. May I suggest one very obvious way? In all the branches of our applied arts there are strong Trade Unions which prevent more than is considered a sufficient number of lads being made apprentices. They are able to judge the amount of work and the number of men needed for each branch. Now I ask, remembering that all these trades or crafts are highly paid, how many more lads might not be apprenticed and employed in this way, instead of "clerking." You cannot blame the Trades Unions for preventing the taking in of apprentices when there is only just enough for the present numbers to do. I say, without fear of contradiction, that hundreds more workshops might be started and thousands more employed if all the stuff made abroad were made here, and it could be.

Again, are not lady clerks competing against men by doing their clerical work. How much better off the women themselves would be and our unemployed clerks if the tens of thousands of pounds worth of high-class gowns and frocks imported every week from abroad were made here. Our own dressmakers, in order to compete with the foreign shops and agencies which may be found in every West End street, have to adopt "Madame" or some un-English name to retain their fashionable patrons. Let the Paris and foreign models be made here or pay their fair share for the upkeep of the country. Did not the Premier's wife open her drawing-rooms to display dresses and gowns made abroad when she should have been seeking to find work for her less well-off English sisters?

May I point out in closing that my opinion is not biased. It makes very little difference to me personally in selling jewellery and silver where they come from—probably the benefit to me lies in having the largest variety of goods to offer—but as an Englishman, knowing the state of unemployment in the country, I cannot but point out what a benefit Tariff Reform would be to our workpeople.—Yours, &c.,

Jan. 14.

A BOND-STREET JEWELLER.

THE GLOBE,

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 1910

HOW JEWELLERS ARE HIT.

A Bond-street jeweller writes:—

"Within a stone's throw of New Bond-street there are upwards of twenty shops which have been opened within the last two or three years by foreigners, who sell exclusively foreign-made goods. Anyone who cares to walk down Bond-street can read for himself the names, and also that they are branch shops from leading foreign business centres. At the present time there are tens of thousands of pounds' worth of French and German-mounted jewellery coming into this country, of which there is no Board of Trade record whatever, as it is all brought over personally, or being of very small compass, is sent by registered post. I, who have been for many years in the West End, have noticed the premises once occupied by good old English firms taken over by foreign firms.

"Foreign travellers come over, stay at an hotel where they pay I suppose about 4s. 6d. a night, and go away as soon as their valuable stocks are exhausted. I find we get on an average no fewer than three a day. Five years ago we never so much as saw a foreign traveller."

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