

STROUD NEWS
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Stroud To Be A Wool Centre

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

“OLD LADY MILL” TO OPEN SHORTLY

THE Stroud district is to become a wool centre again. The Market House at Minchinhampton is a relic of the days when wool was stored there, where clothiers from the valleys met farmers from the hills to see the wool in bulk and make their bargains. Now history is to repeat itself—in Threadneedle Street, Stroud.

Nearly 100 years ago, in 1885, Threadneedle Street acquired its name from the large factory established there by Holloway Brothers for making clothes by the then newly invented patent sewing machines. Nearby was Freebury's Orchard, afterwards known as Kendrick's, a member of the Kendrick family later disposing of it for building lots.

Now Holloway Brothers' factory is to be known as Old Lady Mill. The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street is coming to life again: scaffolding bears witness to the alterations that are about to make Stroud a wool centre once more.

When the alterations are complete, Shilsons (Abergavenny) Ltd. will open Old Lady Mill for the collection and grading of wool on behalf of the British Wool Marketing Board. The firm are authorised “A” merchants under the Board and they will also operate on behalf of Bomford, Pollard and Co. Ltd., of Bradford, and the Dinsdale Wool Co., of Bradford.

One of the objects of the Wool Board is that wool growers should have every facility for knowing exactly the out-turn of their clip and the depot in Stroud will prove to be of great advantage to those whose wool is allocated to any of the above-mentioned firms. Henceforth clips will be valued as a whole at a “round” price, but each grade will be valued and paid for separately.

Under regulations laid down by the Board no clips this year can be accepted other than those allocated by the Board. It has already been arranged that wools allocated to Bomford, Pollard and Co. Ltd. from as far south as Dorchester will be coming to Stroud.

Stroud, already famous for the diversity of its industries, is once more on the agricultural-clothing maps.