

THE PAPER SITUATION.

The destruction by fire of the extensive mills of the E. B. Eddy Company at Hull, Que., created a partial paper famine in Canada. The situation was further complicated by the destruction, one week afterwards, of a portion of the mills of the Laurentide Pulp Company at Grand Mere, Que. The Minister of Customs was requested by some of the newspaper publishers to suspend the duty on paper coming into Canada until such time as the demand could be supplied by the Canadian mills. It was claimed by the advocates of this action that the remaining mills were overcrowded with work, and that they could not supply the trade. The Minister of Customs, however, refused to remove the duty, on the ground that it would be an injustice to the Canadian paper-makers and might bring about unlooked-for complications. This decision will no doubt prove to have been a judicious one, as it is said that already the supply is almost equal to the demand.

TO MAKE PULP FROM SHAVINGS.

A patent, covering a process of making pulp from shavings, has been issued to Joshua Norton, of Boston. The inventor says:—"My invention consists in utilizing shavings by subjecting them to a water-pressure sufficient to thoroughly saturate and soften them and then directly subjecting them to the beating treatment of an ordinary beating-engine without any intermediate reducing treatment whatever. No attempt is made to destroy or remove the gum or other constituents from the shavings in this operation."

I am aware that attempts have been made

to make fibre from sawdust and shavings by cooking in alkali, and my patent No. 496,275 treats sawdust, shavings and waste by both the alkali and sulphite processes; but I am not aware that pulp or fibre has been made from shavings by saturating and softening such material by water pressure and directly, without intermediate manipulation, introducing the same to the action of the common-beating engine."

PULP NOTES.

The Mayor of Parrsboro, N.S., states that London capitalists are still considering the erection of a pulp mill at that place.

Mr. George Johnson, statistician for the Dominion government, is engaged upon a voluminous report of the pulp wood resources of Canada.

Over two hundred men engaged in building the paper and pulp mills of the Lloyd Paper Company at Sturgeon Falls, Ont., struck for higher wages recently.

Arrangements are reported to be nearing completion for the purchase by, Montreal capitalists, of James Reid's paper mills at Lorette, Que., and their transformation into ground and sulphite mills, at a cost of \$1,000,000.

A meeting of the Labrador Electric and Pulp Company was held at Montreal recently, at which Raymond Prefontaine, Q.C., was elected president, Hon. A.H. Flabaudau vice-president, and Mr. A.V. Boivin secretary-treasurer.

Incorporation has been granted to the Nipigon Pulp Company, with a capital of \$250,000. Messrs. John Flett, W. N. Rowell and J. G. Shaw, of Toronto, F. S. Wylie, of Port Arthur, and Paul Weidner, of Detroit, are the provisional directors of the company.

Rumors are afloat that New York capitalists have purchased the option of a valuable water power at a point on the famous Saguenay river from its source at the Grand Discharge, at the foot of Lake St. John, to Wilson's Power, about twelve miles above Chicoutimi. It is

believed that the erection of a pulp mill is under consideration.

Previous to the destruction by fire of a portion of the Laurentide pulp works at Grand Mere, Que., the company had placed an order with the Bagley & Sewell Company for a 120-inch news machine. This machine, it was expected, would bring the product of the mill up to 80 tons of paper per day.

The Spanish River Lumber Company are laying out the site for their proposed pulp mill on the Spanish river. They have also had surveys made for a railway to connect the works with the Soo branch of the C.P.R. The works will be located near Webbwood, where there is a fall of sixty feet, capable of developing, it is said, twenty thousand horse power.

A meeting of the paper manufacturers of Canada was held in Montreal on May 18th, at which questions affecting the trade were considered. Although the press was not admitted, it is understood that the question of making an advance in the price of paper received some attention. Two committees, one for the west and one for the east, were appointed to make arrangements to entertain the delegates of the Paper Makers' Association of England, who will make a tour of the United States and Canada during the summer months of this year.

In a communication to the CANADA LUMBERMAN, the editor of Paper and Pulp, London, Eng., states that the term "moist pine" as used in Great Britain means ordinary mechanical pulp containing 50 per cent of moisture in which form the great bulk of mechanical pulp is shipped to that country. "Dry pine" is the same pulp in an air-dried condition. He says further: "Most of the mechanical pulp used here is imported from Norway, the quantity received from Canada being insignificant compared with the total. Canadian mechanical pulp has the reputation here of being better than that from Scandinavia, but it does not as a rule realize higher prices, so that the quotations in our market reports apply equally to Norwegian and Canadian. There is a great scarcity at present, and high prices are being realized, but for delivery onwards from July it is being quoted at from 60 shillings to 65 shillings per ton, 50 per cent. moist."

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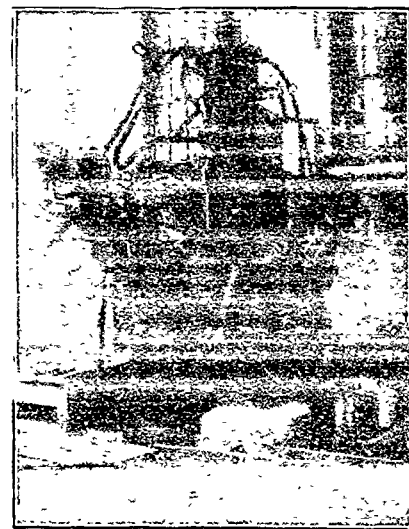
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