

THE CANADIAN POLICY.

SAYS The Paper Trade Journal: "Canadian paper and pulp interests are yet trying to impress upon the Dominion Government the necessity of adopting a policy which shall develop their industries. This policy is, of course, the levying of an export duty on spruce logs. It appears that the export of Canadian spruce to this country has not only reached very large dimensions, but is growing rapidly, and that the pulp industry in the United States is growing proportionately, while that of the Dominion languishes. It is not to be denied that there is truth in this statement, and that naturally it must have its aggravating side to loyal Canadians. It seems, however, that our neighbor has got a very fair foothold in English markets, having sent them 23,751 tons of wood pulp in 1894, and recent indications point to a very large increase of the trade this year. Instead of berating the United States, why not follow up this advantage energetically? The way to build up an industry is not by 'pitching into' others because they are active industrially, but by going to work one's self. So far as can be ascertained, the shipment of Canadian spruce to the United States is a perfectly legitimate business on both sides of the border, and in the absence of any other demand, or any home demand for their product, it is not plain wherein spruce loggers show any disloyalty in selling their timber to those who want it and can make use of it. It seems to have entered the Canadian mind that if the exportation of spruce to the United States can be cut off the pulp makers of the latter country will have to pull up stakes and move across the border. It is averred that 'the pulp industry of the States is developing rapidly, and new mills are building and old ones enlarging in the full expectation that Canada will go on supplying free raw material to the end of time. These mills would be erected here if our policy were amended.' This is altogether a matter of conjecture. It is not at all certain that American pulp makers, for such they would continue to be even though they removed their plants to Canada, would prefer to submit their manufactured product to a tariff duty than to pay an export duty on spruce logs. It is desirable to be as near to the source of supply of raw materials as possible, to be sure, but in many instances the disadvantages of such a location outweigh the advantages; anyway, we do not expect to be called upon very soon to witness any startling hegira of American pulp makers to Canada, not even if the threatened export duty materializes."

DEMAND FOR PULP WOOD.

To show that there is considerable pressure on the part of the wood pulp men to secure supplies of spruce wood, we learn that shipments have been made this fall of spruce wood from Nova Scotia to Baltimore, says an exchange. We also learn that Nova Scotia parties have been approached by pulp grinders in Connecticut, and in one or two cases in Maine, for prices for future delivery of spruce pulp wood. There are many pulp mills located in sections of the country where there are no supplies of spruce wood near by, and of course they can only be furnished with raw material from distant points. In many cases these mills never would have been built where they are now located if the original proprietors had supposed the paper business would finally depend upon spruce wood for grinding. However, with the expensive plants already constructed, it seems cheaper to the owners to bring the spruce to the mill rather than move the mills to the spruce.

CANADA'S POLICY IN PULP.

EDITOR PRINTER AND PUBLISHER,--May I ask permission to record my appreciation, as an interested person, of the editorial in your issue of September headed "Canada's Policy in Pulp."

You have stated the question from the Canadian point of view, sensibly, and your arguments showing the advisability of a Canadian export duty on spruce logs and pulp wood are absolutely indisputable. You are in error, however, in stating that our American cousins fully expect that Canada will go on supplying free raw material to the end of time. It is a fact that some of them have this impression, gained apparently from their connection with the U. S. lumber trade, in which the belief has long been prevalent (and certainly their experience would seem to justify it) that the U. S. lumber manufacturers could, through the U. S. Government's fiscal policy, force Canadian lumbermen to concede them anything they desired. Notwithstanding this, however, it is a fact that almost all of the leading pulp and paper manufacturers in the United States are at present strongly of the opinion that it is only a question of time when Canada will impose an export duty upon spruce logs and pulp wood, and most of them are very much astonished that Canada has not already done so. In fact, on a page or two further on, in your own issue before referred to, you instance the opinion expressed by The Paper Trade Journal of New York "that an export duty on Canadian spruce pulp wood is something which our paper and pulp makers may expect in the near future," and it only requires a short interview with each of the leading paper and pulp manufacturers of the U. S. to prove that this is entirely correct. For those of your readers who may not know it, the fact may be simply stated that The Paper Trade Journal as an exponent of the views of the pulp and the paper trade in the U. S. stands unapproached in that country by any other publication, and this journal has expressed the same opinion in more than one issue lately.

If any other argument were needed to open the eyes of our representatives in Ottawa, it would be found in the fact that the huge combination of "news" mills in the United States, which includes all of the leading makers east of the Ohio, considers its strongest safeguard to lie in the fact that it controls the most of the available spruce timber lands still remaining in the northern and eastern United States.

Let us make no mistake. Canada possesses by far the finest and largest area of spruce timber for paper making in the world, and has, moreover, the water powers which can alone make that material available. Nature has richly endowed us, but our legislators are doing their utmost to rob us of our heritage. It remains to be seen whether we shall continue to remain contented under the disabilities which they have imposed upon us.

Yours respectfully,

Montreal, Nov. 16.

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A PULP MILL FOR NEW BRUNSWICK.

Mr. Schilde, the pulp mill expert, has been in Richibucto, N.B., looking over the ground. He says that it possesses facilities for a pulp mill much better than that of any other he has seen, and thinks there would be no difficulty in raising the necessary amount of capital if the matter were laid before would-be investors.