

WOOD PULP DEPARTMENT

MANUFACTURE OF SULPHITE PULP.

A FEATURE of the paper making industry of Canada that has become very marked is the increasing production of chemical pulp. That, says the Canadian correspondent of the Paper Mill, is a departure of quite recent date. When the chemical mills of Chatham, N. B., were first started they appeared to have fair prospects, but, as a matter of fact, they had to pass through a comparatively long period before they began to earn a return on the capital invested. But their turn came at last. A new and more prosperous era opened for them some time before they were acquired by the company that now owns them, and has continued ever since. From a matter of merely domestic requirements, the demand expanded into one of large dimensions on export account.

The enterprise of the Chatham manufacturers secured so much British custom that they could scarcely attend to it all, and at the same time meet the call of paper mills at home. Having once turned this way the British demand opened out generously. The large capacity and good prices of the English market soon tempted other manufacturers into the business of making pulp sulphite. The several mills projected at St. John, N. B., and at other points in the maritime provinces are to make sulphite pulp. All aim to serve the British market.

Next the Ontario and Quebec manufacturers of sulphite pulp found that they, too, could ship to England at a profit, and they have been doing so. Then, to their surprise, a good healthy demand announced itself from the United States, and they were able to sell to customers in that market at a price which showed a long net advance in the values current at home. Hence, there has lately been a good deal of sulphite pulp manufactured in Ontario for export, both to England and to the United States. For example, the Riordon Paper Company, at Merriton, Ont., has for some time been giving special attention to the manufacture of chemical fibre. Its chemical mill has been greatly improved, driers have

been introduced and the most approved means of manufacture have been utilized, with the result that a very choice article has been placed on the market, an article, too, which it is paying the company handsomely to turn out.

The manufacture of sulphite pulp has proved far more profitable than the turning out of news. Sulphite pulp yields a big profit, news does not. Certain it is, however, the Riordon Paper Company is going into the manufacture of chemical pulp on a large scale, and it is agreed on all hands that this product pays better than ground pulp or news. Further, so satisfied is Mr. Charles Riordon that there is money in the manufacture of sulphite pulp that he is contemplating a still greater departure into it. He has just returned from the province of Quebec, where he has been prospecting along the left bank of the Ottawa river to find a site for a big pulp mill. What he wants is a large tract of the right kind of timber, with a conveniently situated water fall. Mr. Barber of the Georgetown paper mills, is associated with him in this quest.

THE CUSHING PULP MILL.

THE prospectus of the Cushing Sulphite Fibre Co., Limited, of St. John, N. B., has been issued. The directors are Joseph Allison, Thos. McAvity, W. H. Murray, George S. Cushing and Geo. S. Baird. With them as incorporators are George McKean and James Fleming. The solicitor and secretary is L. A. Currey, the consulting engineer James Beveridge, of London, Eng., and the bankers the Bank of Nova Scotia. The capital stock is \$500,000.

The incorporators have subscribed \$30,000 and as soon as the balance of the \$250,000 now sought is subscribed the erection of the mill at Fairville will be begun. Steps have also been taken to introduce the stock in the United States and in England, with what are believed to be excellent prospects of success.

It is announced that when the stock is subscribed buildings will be erected to accommodate plant to produce fifty-six (56) tons of dry pulp per day; but in the meantime machinery for twenty-eight (28) tons per day only will be put down. The company have now made satisfactory arrangements with the City of St. John as to water supply, and are ready to proceed with the work of construction as soon as they are financially in a position to do so.

PULP NOTES.

A meeting of the Nova Scotia Wood Pulp and Paper Company was recently held at Halifax, N.S., to consider the best method of paying off the present debts of the company.

Mr. Drew, a New Hampshire man, has purchased the seignior of Mille Vache, below Tadoussac, on the Saguenay, in Quebec, and will erect a pulp mill there. It is a splendid point for shipping.

The Chatham Pulp Company has asked the town for a bonus of \$30,000, in consideration of which they agree to build a large sulphite pulp mill, in addition to their present mill. They agree to expend in all some \$250,000.

It is announced that negotiations with the view of erecting a very large pulp and paper mill at Keewatin are pending, with a probability that before many months operations may begin on a plant that will produce 100 tons daily.

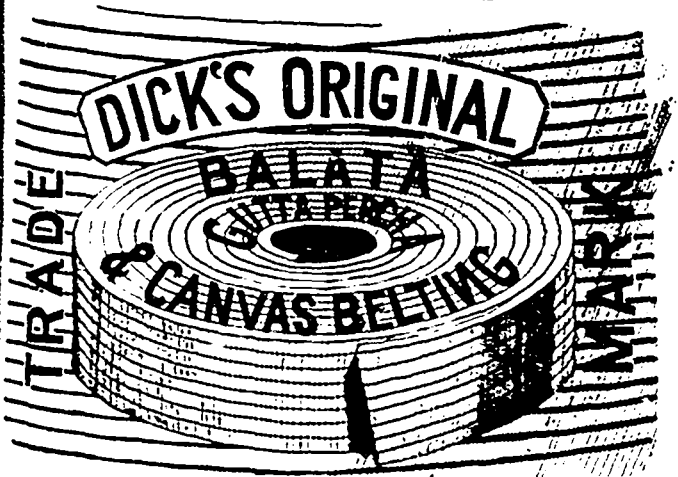
The Scandinavian market for pulp is very firm, which is attributed to a large extent to the hostilities now going on between the United States and Spain, it being considered likely that the exports from the former country will drop off considerably in the future.

Quebec and Montreal capitalists agreed to expend \$4,000,000 in establishing industries at Shawenigan Falls, Que., within thirty months from June, 1897, in return for certain water power privileges. Engineers are now surveying sites for new works, which may include pulp and paper mills.

It is said that Mr. Donald Fraser, of Fredericton, N.B., who is now in England, will endeavor to interest British capitalists in the establishment of a pulp mill near that city. Mr. Fraser has acquired considerable information on the subject, and feels satisfied that such an undertaking would prove a profitable investment.

The new pulp mills of the Laurentide Pulp Company at Grand Mere, Que., are expected to be completed about the first of July. An inspection of the buildings was made last month by Sir Wm. Van Horne, Mr. T. G. Shaughnessy, and others. The iron flume for conveying the water power to the mill is nearly completed. It is 14½ feet in diameter.

The German papers are interested in the discussion as to quality of "news" and the relative values of the different blends of sulphite pulp and mechanical wood pulp, with some filling added if necessary. Some take 15 to 20 per cent. of strong sulphite, and remainder mechanical pulp, while others favor 30 to 40 per cent. cheaper sulphite and remainder mechanical. Some add 8 to 15 per cent. cotton waste to give more softness to the paper.



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