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The Pulp and Paper Industry

Great Future for Boxboard

Possibilities of This Branch of the Pulp Industry in Canada Are Unlimited—Best Possible Container for Shipping Purposes

For a number of years the principal development in the manufacture of paper has been in connection with newsprint and the growth of this branch of the industry in Canada has been truly remarkable. One of the reasons for this has been the fact that the power required and the raw material required have been available in close proximity over a large portion of the area of the Dominion and because the expansion of this industry on the American side in localities convenient to the large consuming centres is practically impossible.

The growth in the demand for newsprint paper is likely to be parallelled to a considerable extent by an increase in the production and the multiplication of uses for boxboard. There are many indications that we are at the beginning of what might be called the fibre container age and the basis for the manufacture of these products will also be found, like newsprint, in the forests and water powers of Canada. One of the most important recent developments along this line is the requirement beginning the tenth of December that packages weighing more than 25 pounds will not be accepted for transportation by the American Railway Express unless protected by a fibre or wooden container. For packages of ordinary weight the fibre box is without any doubt the best container to use. This is true not only of shipments of miscellaneous goods but even more particularly for standard products. The fibre box is no less useful for freight shipments than for express shipments and the mortality is surprisingly small. In fact an extensive test on a shipment of goods for the American army in Europe showed the loss of only 5.4 per cent of the packages against a usual loss in army transport of 15 or 20 per cent, and a considerable number of these could easily have been sent through to their destinations had there been facilities for making simple repairs, which in the case of the fibre box are often more easily accomplished than with the wooden case. The saving of freight, the saving of space and the convenience and rapidity of handling which are characteristic of the fibre container are all points of considerable importance to both shipper and

The newsprint mill is gradually coming to supplement the Canadian pulp mill and machines for the manufacture of other grades of paper are also becoming more numerous in the Dominion. These will, of course, convert our pulp, which is an intermediate product into the more valuable finished article in the shape of various grades of paper. Without looking very far into the future it can readily be seen that there is an excellent opportunity developing for an extension of some of the present pulp mills, particularly those manufacturing groundwood and sulphate pulp, into mills for the manufacture of cardboard, fibre board and containers. It is not unlikely that there will be a demand for the various classes of board that will necessitate the erection of new pulp mills to supply the raw material. For the present it is likely that a considerable proportion of these boards will be exported to the United States and Great Britain. In the course of time doubtless other markets will also be developed, in fact large quantities of knock-down

boxes are already being shipped to South America.

The pulp and paper industry is not the only one in Canada which is rapidly growing and the development of other industries all have an indirect effect and some of them a direct effect on our own. The one which is most likely to have a considerable influence on pulp and paper manufacturing is the preparation and packing of food products. This includes the enormous fish industry and prospects for important developments also in the export of canned vegetables and both raw and canned or preserved fruits. In addition to this we might mention that the fibre barrel is just coming to be a factor and will in time be an important factor in the transportation of cement, flour, colors and many other products. In addition to these we might mention that the fibre barrel is just coming to be a factor and will in time be an important factor in the transportation of cement, flour, colors and many other products. In addition to these uses for the large fibre container, a few of which have been mentioned, there are the innumerable uses and the increasing demand for the paper box in its multitude of forms, sizes and finishes.

One of the important factors in the future of the fibre container is the advance that has recently been made in process for rendering the maerial highly water resistent, if not actually water-proof.—Canadian Pulp and Paper Magazine.

Prospects are that the goat industry may assume some importance in the province of Saskatchewan in the course of the next few years if the number of inquiries which have recently been received by the department of agriculture is any indication. Many requests for information in this industry have been received and the department is considering the advisability of appointing an expert on goats to the staff.

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