

CANADA'S INDUSTRIES

The Canadian Government reports the best crop conditions in the Dominion since 1904. Owing to shortage of labor, the acreage is not as large as usual, but heavy crops are expected. A considerable amount of last year's wheat is still in storage awaiting export.

A notable expansion has taken place in the Canadian pulp and paper trade during the last few years. Production of newsprint increased from 532,250 short tons in 1916 to 683,088 tons in 1918. For the first nine months of 1919, the output was 561,911 short tons. It is estimated that 150,000 tons of newsprint will be added to Canada's production this year, and that within the next ten years the annual output will be 2,000,000 tons.

The formation of the Great Eastern Paper Company was announced recently. The company owns 300,000 acres of timber land, a barking mill, a saw mill, a ground wood pulp mill, a hydro-electric power unit, and a railway from the plant to the St. Lawrence River.

A \$6,000,000 pulp and paper plant, to be erected near Port Arthur, will have an annual capacity of 37,500 tons of pulp and 33,000 tons of newsprint. The first unit is expected to be finished by December, 1920.

The reported discovery of potash on Vancouver Island will be of great importance to the Canadian fertilizer industry and to the country's agriculture in general if the deposits are in a form to be easily mined.

Canadian automobile factories manufactured 94,000 motor vehicles last year and sold more than \$100,000,000 worth. Automobiles registered in the Dominion numbered 325,000, compared with about 90,000 in 1915. The demand for motor trucks is increasing.

CANADA'S SANE FINANCING

Canada has courageously adopted the "pay-as-you-go" policy. In preparing the 1920 Budget, the Minister of Finance was confronted with a very difficult task. Two courses were open to him,—to follow the line of least resistance by carrying on national financing by means of further loans, or to make Canada pay as she goes and strive where possible to improve her position. Wisely, he chose the latter course.

The effect of this policy upon our national standing is great indeed. With the knowledge that Canada has finished borrowing her Government bonds ranks higher than ever before. The Dominion is to be congratulated upon the course it has pledged itself to pursue.

Prevalence of Unlicensed Automobile Insurance

The Chronicle is this week in receipt of a communication from Mr. G. D. Finlayson, Superintendent of Insurance, Ottawa, regarding unlicensed Automobile Insurance. There can be little doubt that the representations made to the Department are correct in this connection, and enquiries made by The Chronicle among various companies, would indicate that there is open solicitation by some Montreal brokers, on behalf of unlicensed Underwriters. The licensed Companies records are subject to rigid inspection by the Insurance Department, and there is no reason why (if the Department has the requisite powers) an inspection of the Insurance Broker's books, should not be made, or at least an affidavit obtained from each licensed broker testifying what proportion of his business was placed with unlicensed Companies or Underwriters.

The matter of stopping these malpractices is not insuperable, although difficult, and may be safely left in the hands of the very able and energetic Superintendent of Insurance. We propose to refer to this matter in future issues. There are some sixty licensed companies writing automobile insurance in Canada, and there is absolutely no occasion or argument for unlicensed automobile insurance. All brokers worthy of the name, must be aware of their obligations under the Insurance Act.

The following is a copy of Mr. G. D. Finlayson's communication above referred to:—

Department of Insurance.

Ottawa, July 20, 1920.

The Chronicle,
Montreal.

It has been drawn to the attention of the Department that a considerable amount of insurance is being effected on automobiles in Canada in British or foreign companies or Underwriters not licensed under the Insurance Act.

Such insurance on automobiles is subject to the same requirements as insurance on real property in unlicensed insurance companies, and is permitted only if effected outside Canada and without any solicitation whatever, directly or indirectly on the part of the company or underwriters, otherwise any person inspecting the risk or adjusting the loss in Canada, is subject to the provisions of the Criminal Code.

Every person so insuring an automobile is required to make a return thereof to the Department, the form for which can be obtained on request.

(Sgd.) G. D. FINLAYSON,
Superintendent of Insurance.