

South of the Sauk river in township 68, ranges 5 and 6, west of the 5th meridian, is a slope of gradually rising poplar country, which has areas of good land. This region is, however, too isolated and surrounded by impassable muskegs to be of any value agriculturally. Three main timber-types occur in this district:

1. Poplar-pine.
2. Poplar.
3. Spruce.

The poplar-pine type occurs over all the district north of the Sauk river. It is mostly pole stuff of lodgepole pine, jack pine, and poplar from two to eight inches in diameter at breast-height. Muskeg occurs in spots between ridges. The percentage of species is about 50 per cent poplar, 35 per cent lodgepole pine and 15 per cent jack pine. This timber is mostly rather small for pulp yet, but will cut five cords per acre over 72,000 acres, or 360,000 cords.

South of the Sauk river is the poplar type. This is the ordinary type seen in the north slopes district, i.e., poplar with slight admixture of spruce, and, here, pine, also. It will run about 7-2 cords per acre, the same as the rest. There are some 60,000 acres of this type, or 432,000 cords in all.

Several areas of spruce occur in this district, the largest being in the valley of the Sauk river, mostly in township 68, range 6, west of the 5th Dominion meridian. This timber is a narrow strip along the river with a wide patch at the east end, at the junction of a tributary coming from the north. The tract is very hard to get at and was not cruised, but there will be at least 5,000 acres running 10,000 feet, board measure, per acre, or 50,000,000 feet in all.

The southeast corner of the district has a small area of timber, about 200 acres, and running 10,000 feet, board measure, per acre, or 2,000,000 feet in all. Where the Prairie Creek trail crosses the Sauk river is another small area of ten acres, running 10,000 feet, board measure, per acre, or, altogether, 100,000 feet, board measure. One and a half miles northeast of this spot is another small area containing about 50,000 feet, board measure, and one mile still farther northeast, is a slightly larger patch of some 100 acres, containing about 1,000,000 feet. In the northeast corner of this district are two other small areas of spruce. These two will total about 300 acres at 10,000 feet, board measure, per acre, or 3,000,000 feet in all.

All this timber is practically inaccessible for the present at least, because the Sauk river, especially in the upper part, is not drivable, unless a good deal of time and money were to be spent on improvements. The bed of the river is a succession of gravel-bars, covered only by very high water. Most of these bars have huge accumulations of driftwood which sometimes form jams across the river.

TABLEAU STATEMENT OF TIMBER.

Type.	Area.	AVERAGE PER ACRE.			TOTALS FOR DISTRICT.		
		Ties.			Ties.		
		Cordwood Timber.			Cordwood Timber.		
	Acre.	Pieces.	Cords.	Ft. B.M.	Pieces.	Cords.	Ft. B.M.
Poplar-pine	72,000	.....	5	.....	.....	360,000	.....
Poplar	60,000	.....	7.2	.....	.....	432,000	.....
Spruce	5,000	.....	.....	10,000	.....	.....	50,000,000
	200	.....	.....	10,000	.....	.....	2,000,000
	10	.....	.....	10,000	.....	.....	100,000
	5	.....	.....	10,000	.....	.....	50,000
	100	.....	.....	10,000	.....	.....	1,000,000
	300	.....	.....	10,000	.....	.....	3,000,000
						792,000	56,150,000