

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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Manitoba and the Territories

THE LUMBER INDUSTRY.

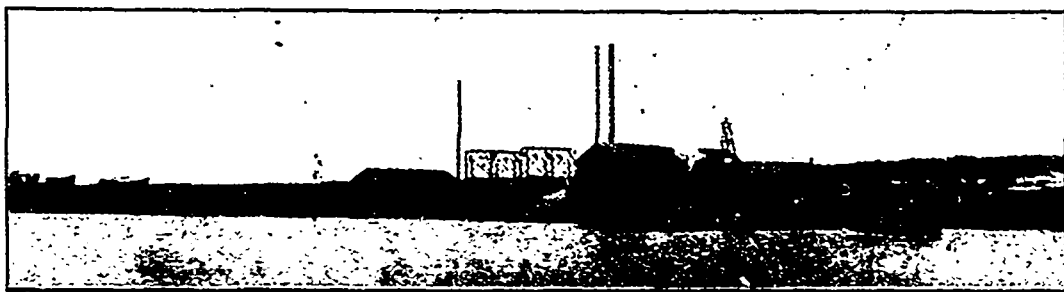
ALTHOUGH essentially an agricultural country, the province of Manitoba possesses a considerable extent of timber lands. Of a total area of 64,666 square miles, 25,626 square miles are said to consist of wooded land. A portion of this, however, is but sparsely timbered. The Northwest Territories, comprising the districts of Keewatin, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Athabasca, have an area of 2,371,481 square miles, or somewhat greater in extent than all the other provinces of the Dominion. Of this area 696,952 square miles are designated as forest land. The timber in Manitoba and the Territories is chiefly spruce and white pine, the latter being found in greatest abundance in the Lake of the Woods district.

There are under license in these provinces approximately 2,700 square miles of timber limits, divided in the different agencies as follows: Winnipeg agency, 1,198 square miles; Calgary agency, 1,048 square miles; Prince Albert agency, 342 square miles; Edmonton agency, 17 square miles. In addition, there are over 200 square miles under license in the Yukon territory. Among the large holders are D. E.

competition by tender. A rental of \$5 per square mile is charged for all timber berths, and in addition the following dues are to be paid: Sawn lumber, 50 cents per M. feet; railway ties, 1½ cents each for six feet and 1¾ cents for eight feet in length; shingle bolts, 25 cents per cord; all other products, 5 per cent. on selling price. Permits to cut timber are also granted by public

mills and large areas of standing pine timber in Northwestern Ontario. Other large mills in Ontario supplying the western market are those of Vigars & Co. at Port Arthur, Graham, Horne & Co. at Fort William, and Savanne Lumber Co. at Savanne. The only mill of importance situated in the city of Winnipeg is that of D. E. Sprague.

The lumber requirement of Manitoba and the



VIGARS & CO.—MILL AND LUMBER PILES AT PORT ARTHUR, ONT.

competition, except in the case of settlers who require the timber for their own use. The dues payable under permits are \$2.50 per thousand feet for square timber and saw logs of pine, cedar, spruce and tamarac, \$3 for saw logs of oak, elm, ash or maple, and \$2 for poplar saw

Territories is steadily increasing, and as settlers are now rapidly coming in from all parts of the world, it is only a question of a short time until the demand for lumber in these provinces will exceed that of any other province in the Dominion. The superior quality of wheat and other cereals grown upon the land, and the greater yield per acre, are now universally acknowledged. A yield of some 30,000,000 bushels of wheat and as much more of other grains from an area of 1,500,000 acres in itself speaks volumes for the future of Western Canada. There are within the provinces probably between 250 and 300 retail dealers in lumber, about 200 of whom are members of the Western Retail Lumbermen's Association.

Below will be found illustrations and descriptions of some of the saw milling establishments within these provinces.

* * *

VIGARS & COMPANY.

This firm was established in 1876, and own the only saw, sash and planing mills in operation on the shores of Thunder Bay. The capacity of the mill is 90,000 feet per day, and attached thereto are the requisite sash and planing mills.

The firm are the owners and lessees of large and valuable timber limits, and have special facilities for carrying on the lumber business, as they are able to bring in logs either by water or rail, with every opportunity of booming the same. They also have large and extensive piling grounds adjoining the mill, with the tracks of the Canadian Pacific, Port Arthur, Duluth and Western, and Ontario and Rainy River railways entering their yards. They are thus enabled to ship lum-



VIGARS & CO.—SAW MILL AT PORT ARTHUR, ONT.

Sprague, of Winnipeg; Hanbury Manufacturing Co., of Brandon; Peter McArthur, of Fairford River; H. T. Mitchell, of Selkirk; Mackenzie Mann, of Shoal River, and Peter McLaren, the latter controlling limits on Old Man river. The principal limits are on tributaries adjacent to the Assiniboine and Red rivers.

Licenses to cut timber are acquired at public

logs; railway ties 8 feet long, 3 cents each; telegraph poles 22 feet long, 5 cents each; shingles 20 cents per thousand.

A large percentage of the lumber used in Manitoba and the Territories is obtained from the Lake of the Woods district, being supplied by the Rat Portage Lumber Co. and the Keewatin Lumber Co., both of which own extensive