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## THE SULPHITE COMBINE.

At the regular monthly meeting of the American Sulphite Manufacturers' Association held in Montreal, last month, arrangements were practically completed whereby all the Canadian sulphite pulp mills would join the Association and aid in maintaining prices on both sides of the Canadian border.

The following is a list of the Canadian mills which will join the Association. Riordan Paper Mills, Hawkesbury and Merritt, Ont., 105 tons; Laurentide Pulp Co., Grand Mere, Que., twenty-five tons; The E. B. Eddy Co., Hull, Que., twenty-five tons; Dominion Pulp Co., Chatham, N.B., twenty tons; St. John Sulphite Pulp Co., Mispec, N.B., thirty tons; Cushing Sulphite Fibre Co., St. John, N.F., 40 tons; Sault Ste. Marie Pulp & Paper Co., Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., forty tons; Maritime Sulphite Fibre Co., Chatham, N.B., forty tons; total, 325 tons.

Out of this total of 325 tons (including the Sault Ste. Marie product when it comes into the market) all but ninety-five tons is marketed abroad. Of the ninety-five tons about thirty-five tons are at present consumed in Canada. This leaves about sixty tons for importation into the United States, leaving the Sault Ste. Marie mill out of the calculations. Owing to the cheapness of the wood and the low priced labor in Canada, it is possible even with a duty of \$3.35 on unbleached fibre for the Canadian manufacturer to market his product in the United States at a profit. There have been instances, says the Paper Mill, where he has sold pulp considerably under the minimum price agreed upon by the members of the Sulphite Manufacturers' Association, which has resulted in unsettling quotations both for the United States and the Canadian manufacturer.

By the action of the meeting alluded to, the American Sulphite Manufacturers' Association now controls the selling price of the output of twenty-one United States mills, amounting to 700 tons, and of seven Canadian mills, amounting to 325 tons, making a grand total of over 1,000 tons per day.

## A POSSIBLE CANADIAN INDUSTRY.

The United States Consul at Lyons, France, writing to his Government says.—

I have had an interview with Mr. Leuret, the manufacturer of artificial pearls from fish scales. He will go to the United States and erect works there as soon as he hears of a locality where the right kind of scales can be had in large quantities. I suggest that a suitable place might be found on the St. Lawrence River, among the Thousand Islands. Some years ago, the State or national authorities cast quantities of spawn into Lake Ontario, among which was the spawn of some salt-water fish. The latter died before maturity, as soon as the water becomes warm. Every summer, many thousands of them are cast upon the shores of the river and islands. They are called by two names—menhaden and alewives. If these were tried and found suitable, works could be built and put in operation there in a short time. The scales should be small and have a silvery sheen. The brighter they are, the higher price they will command. The scales should be removed while the fish are alive, if possible. They should be packed with slime, very little salt being used (about five grams per pound of scales). All organic matter that may cause decay should be removed and the scales left suspended in a mosquito netting until the surplus slime oozes off; then packed in a zinc can of ten or twelve pounds capacity. Tin oxidizes where zinc will not. Scales will rust tin, but not zinc. The opening in the top of the can should not be larger than half a dollar. If larger, the scales will suffer from the heat of the soldering iron. Twenty-five thousand pounds of these scales can be used per year. It is anticipated that twice that quantity may be used in a few years. The price paid will be 80 cents to \$1.25 per pound, according to quality and the amount of shiny matter on the scales. The present supply is from a fish called the bleak or blay. Mr. Leuret thinks that a child twelve years old can easily remove four or five pounds of scales per day.

## A NEW APPLICATION OF POWER.

The astonishing performance of the two new British torpedo destroyers, Viper and Cobra, has called renewed attention to the availability of the steam turbine in large sizes for electrical generation. It is hard to understand why this machine should have been so little recognized as it has been for this use. For the driving of alternating current and polyphase machinery its rotary motion gives it an advantage over any form of reciprocating engine, whether gas or steam driven. It has lately been shown that by the use of a moderate degree of superheat in the steam supplied to it an extraordinary efficiency of operation can be secured, and this coupled with reasonable cost, light weight, small size and absence of vibration, seem to make it ideal for the driving of dynamos. It is true that the high speed at which the steam turbine normally runs makes it impossible to couple it directly to dynamos of the ordinary type, but one has only to remember the dynamo of ten years ago adapted for high-speed operation to recall the perfect ability of constructors to build machines, working with good efficiency and satisfactory output, on higher rotational speeds than those at present commonly in use. Now that the inductor type or the rotating field type of alternating-current generator is coming into general use there is no doubt that the makers of such machines would welcome a motive-power apparatus running normally at higher speeds than those of the reciprocating engine. It is not unreasonable to look forward to generating stations in the near future equipped with inductor alternators direct coupled to steam turbines, running silently and without vibration at high speeds and with great economy, the whole mechanism of the station being confined in much less space and requiring much less attendance than a station of similar output necessarily must have to-day.—Electrical Review.

Newly invented agricultural implements may be imported into Russia without payment of duty.

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