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**Last Day for
Tax Returns**

is April 30th. But we suggest that you do not wait until then to obtain and fill out the proper forms.

Do two things now. Send to the Post Office or your local Inspector of Taxation for the Income Tax forms, and write for our pamphlet: "The Income Tax and the Average Man."

Its contents will enable you to fill out the forms more accurately. It will be sent free for the asking.

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The Pulp and Paper Industry

Pulp Prices Still Going Higher

Jobbers Short of Krafts and Manilas.—Coated Bristols off the Market.—Manitoulin Island to Supply Quantity of Poplar

Ascending prices continue to feature the pulp and paper trade, while there has been no relief in the situation as far as the shortage in raw products is concerned. Unbleached sulphite is showing an upward tendency and this presages another advance in the lines of paper in which the bleached commodity is used. Another one cent a pound was added this week. One mill sent up the price of tissues 10 per cent and toilet papers 15 per cent but these advances have not yet become general. Most of the available supply of groundwood pulp, has been gobbled up by the mills and the shortage of newsprint continues. During the past week a Toronto pulp user told of a case where as high as \$80 a ton had been offered by one firm for groundwood pulp, f.o.b. shipping-point and payment to be made with U. S. funds. It was an attractive order but it could not be filled.

The shortage in krafts and manilas continue to worry the jobbers as well as the consumers and the demands for book papers and card boards is far in excess of the supply. Coated Bristols are off the market entirely. The "insides" of the bristols came from the States but they are coated in Canada and very little coating is being offered by the mills which are behind with their orders in this and practically all other lines as well.

According to reliable advices the supply of pulpwood is much less this year than last, some of the dealers placing the discrepancy as high as fifty per cent, although more conservative estimates place it at from twenty five to thirty five per cent. The price of peeled pulpwood has advanced steadily since September of last year and may be said to be on an average of \$6 to \$7 per cord higher. The present price of 4-foot peeled pulpwood varies from \$17 to \$18 on the G. T. R. and Quebec Central points, to \$13 to \$14 per cord in Eastern Quebec and New Brunswick where freight rates are higher. These are prices paid to the farmer.

The demand for peeled spruce and balsam pulpwood is very great and there has been no difficulty in placing the wood at attractive prices, nor has the demand been any where near being met. A considerable quantity of rough wood has been got this winter and although the demand is not so great for it the dealers paid \$5 more for the rough stuff than they did last year for the same class of wood. From present indications the 1920-21 production of peeled pulpwood is going to be large as the high prices are likely to prove attractive to the contractors. Shortage of cars is proving a very great difficulty in getting wood to mills. In fact one mill in Ontario had to close down part of its operation for lack of wood.

The Thompson-Hyland Lumber Company, head office Toronto, reported that spruce had been pretty well cleared out of the northern woods and that they are now going after poplar which is used largely in book and writing papers. Mr. Hyland has just returned from Manitoulin Island, where he has completed arrangements for the taking off of poplar on a large scale. The island and vicinity abound in the wood, which is peeled by the farmers. It is the firm's intention to take the wood by boat to Erie, Penn., and ship it from there to its destination. There has been

no over-production in poplar for a long time and it is believed that the market will absorb all of it that can be produced. Although there has been considerable difficulty in getting cars, the transportation facilities have improved somewhat with the advent of mild weather. The price being paid for poplar by the contractors is from \$11 to \$12 f.o.b. cars.


All branches of the paper industry continue to enjoy an era of unprecedented prosperity and practically all the jobbers are doing business without price lists. The paper box industry is experiencing the greatest difficulty in filling orders, so great is the demand, while there is also considerable shortage of material from the mill to the manufacturers. Paper box dealers are only accepting orders for delivery at prices prevailing at time of shipment and as one manufacturer put it, "we are building for the future and are taking new orders, knowing that the time will come when business will not be so easy to get. We frankly explain the situation to both our old and new customers in regard to the shortage of raw stock and the fluctuating price list and although naturally we endeavor to fill the orders of our old customers first, we also do our best to get goods to any one who asks for them. By treating the latter class considerably we are developing a trade that is going to benefit us when the reaction sets in."

While the rag and paper stock dealers are still busy they predict no permanent drop in prices although they are running into a temporary slump and in a few weeks it is anticipated that there will be a downward revision of the price lists. They have been advised that a lot of shipments that had been held up owing to the rough weather are now getting through to the mills, which will stock up the mills fairly well and buying will not be so active. In the meantime, collections and stocks are low at the warehouses and some of the cheaper grades are being offered at slightly lower price than has prevailed in the past few months.

Ploughing has been under way in the Fraser valley for some time now and is expected to be general at the end of the week. Chinese gardeners on the truck gardens of Lulu Island had potatoes planted before the beginning of the month.

The lake fishing industry is making great progress in Alberta. During the winter season 1,650,000 pounds of good white fish have come down from Buffalo Lake for Edmonton and the eastern Canadian markets. A single consignment of seven cars for Winnipeg and Toronto accounted for 231,000 pounds.

In 1919, 500 tons of strawberries were harvested in the districts of Gordon Head and Keating, Vancouver Island, bringing approximately, according to government estimate, \$195,000 of outside money to these districts. In addition about 50 tons were sold in small lots. This represents a mere tithe of what the island is expected to produce, for the strawberry thrives in many parts of this island, and the market is much larger for this fruit than any other grown.

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