

LUMBER, PULP AND PAPER

PULP BURNS.

The 8,000-cord pile of pulpwood at the Norfolk, N.Y., plant of the Remington Paper & Power Company, valued at about \$125,000, has been consumed and the company's sawmill by fire.

OUR FOREST PRODUCTS.

Canada's export of forest products during the twelve months ending January were valued as follows: 1917, \$55,676,911; 1916, \$51,211,820; 1915, \$41,513,344.

PULPWOOD PRICES.

Pulpwood is being shipped in large quantities from the Townships at the various shipping points along the railways. The price keeps high, with a good demand. At Scott's Station, on the O. C. R., farmers are being paid at the rate of \$12.50 per cord.

PORT ARTHUR MILL.

Despite its failure to get the Black Sturgeon pulp limit, the Port Arthur Pulp & Paper Company, composed of Toronto capitalists, is going ahead with its plant. Offices have been opened in the city, and it is announced construction will start the first week in April. The pulp supply will be procured from independent operators and farmers.

A. G. McCormack has resigned as Secretary of the Board of Trade and Manager of the market, to join the Port Arthur Pulp and Paper Company.

SAVING THE BIG TREES.

Some of the biggest trees in the Sequoia national park have remained in the hands of private owners until recently. Congress appropriated \$50,000 to purchase the trees and the land on which they stood, but \$20,000 more was required to settle other claims. The \$20,000 has been provided by the National Geographic Society for this purpose, and the entire tract will become the property of the government. Some of the trees thus acquired are believed to be 4,000 years old.

ACTION OF ALKALIS.

It is well known that in the manufacture of wood pulp alkalis are used for the reduction of wooden chips to the wood pulp form by the softening and separation of their fibres. The same action is very noticeable in the alkali soils of the West where brooming occurs at the ground line. Fence posts or telephone poles of cedar often broom at this point to double their normal diameter. In that region posts of peeled cottonwood or pinon resist this action better than cedar. A waterproof coating of some sort such as the application of pitch or coal tar to this part of the post is desirable. American Lumberman.

THE FORESTS OF CANADA.

In a recent address given in Montreal Mr. G. C. Piche, of the Forestry Department of the Province of Quebec presented some interesting statistics regarding the forests of Canada.

Mr. Piche gave some figures on the forest richness of each of the provinces, naming them as follows: Prince Edward Island, negligible; Nova Scotia, 5 million acres; Ontario, 70 million acres; Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, 100 million acres; British Columbia, 100 million acres.

This meant, said Mr. Piche, that there was in Canada 414 millions of acres of forests, but this supply, he believed, would not last beyond fifty years, unless precautions were taken. The methods to be followed for the preservation of the forests were as follows:

Systematic cutting, based on the maturing growth of the forests;

Proper prevention of forest fires;

Preparation of proper forests reserves;

Reforestation of lands destroyed by fire, or denuded forests through other means;

Cooperation of all interested for the protection of the forests, and the employment of forestry engineers to deal with the matter of forests.

UNITED STATES NEEDS OUR PAPER.

Arguing that the United States is too dependent upon Canada for its supply of newsprint paper, D. F. Houston, Secretary of Agriculture for the United States, has issued a statement urging the Government at Washington to enter into the manufacture of print paper. He advises that, at least, the Government should permit the sale of timber from public lands to private paper-makers for the purpose of increasing the supply of newsprint. The statement says:

"The estimated demand for newsprint for the first six months of 1917 is 850,000 tons. Against this is placed an estimated supply of 930,000 tons. As if this balance was not peril enough, there is the added fact that the United States depends upon Canada for a third of its newsprint paper, either in the form of finished product or raw material. This proportion is increasing rapidly. The pressure of economic conditions and lack of foresight in cutting forests have so depleted the available private supply of pulp woods in many of the paper-manufacturing States that there is not enough left to last more than ten or fifteen years. As a consequence Canada is more and more called upon for pulp woods. American manufacturers are showing an increasing disposition to slip across the border into the virgin forests of the Dominion.

DEPENDENCE ON CANADA.

"It is this condition of dependence that should be ended. Changes in the Canadian policy might at any time cut off our newspapers from this source of supply, or make it available only at excessive costs. On the other hand, our own forest resources are ample to meet all the paper requirements of the country. Aside from the waste materials produced in the manufacture of lumber and the possible growth on 65,000,000 to 70,000,000 acres of cut-over forest lands in the northern States, the publicly-owned forests contain enough pulpwood to supply the entire needs of the United States for the next eighty years. Cut intelligently, it constitutes virtually an inexhaustible supply for all time.

"The one problem to be faced is that of the best means of utilization. The first plan is that of public sales of raw material to the manufacturers. This already is being done to some extent. During the last year national forest timber sales to lumber companies amounted to \$1,795,000. The plan calls for contractual relations between the Government and private capital. New mills might be erected in Alaska, the Puget Sound country, or the Rocky Mountain region, under agreements with the Government for a long-term supply of raw material, guaranteed under an equitable adjustment of prices from time to time. This is already being done in case of certain saw mills.

"The fundamental problem is to build up paper production in the United States to keep pace with a growing demand and afford a sufficient supply at all times to hold prices at reasonable levels. To the extent that private enterprise will do this, it would appear unnecessary for the Government to undertake it, particularly if the publicly-owned forests can be utilized for the purpose under conditions which give the public control of industrial organizations. In the event that private capital cannot be enlisted, however, to meet the needs of a larger paper supply available at fair prices, it may well be that the Federal Government should enter the industry as a direct method of controlling the situation.

HUGE WASTE ANNUALLY.

Mr. Houston said under all circumstances greater economy in the use of natural resources was necessary if the pulp supply was to last for a long period of years. The Forestry Service estimated, he asserted, that something more than 60,000,000 cords of wood were wasted annually in the manufacture of lumber. Experiments had shown that much of this refuse wood could be turned into wrapping papers, fibre boards and other pulp products. An aggressive public forestry policy was needed, the Secretary continued.

Experts report that newsprint may be made in Alaska, according to Mr. Houston, and delivered in New York through the Panama Canal at a cost of not more than \$35 a ton. When it is considered that recent prices have ranged from \$60 a ton upward, it is evident that an excellent competitive basis exists for the introduction of Western papers. The Forestry Service estimates that the national forests contains 300,000,000,000 feet of pulpwood. This is

equivalent to 600,000,000 cords, and 7,000,000 cords supplies the United States with paper yearly. Western raw materials are cheaper than the pulp produced in the East, but long-distance transportation and the large investments tied up in paper plants, the statement asserts, necessarily will retard the Western expansion, but the time must come when these supplies must be drawn upon.

RUSSIAN CROWN LANDS.

The Russian Minister of Agriculture has been given power to create on Crown lands reserve areas for the preservation and breeding of fur-bearing animals and of birds.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL FOREST RECEIPTS.

The income from the United States national forests last year was \$2,800,000, of which \$1,400,000 came from timber, \$1,200,000 from grazing receipts, and \$100,000 from water power rentals. The loss from forest fires was comparatively small. The total expenses of the Bureau were \$5,275,000.

THE REFORESTATION MOVEMENT.

J. Laughland, B.S.A., District Representative of the Ontario Department of Agriculture in Simcoe county, reports that a number of farmers in his county are becoming interested in the question of reforestation. Four acres of land adjoining a school have been donated for the purpose of reforestation. The Township Council assisted by closing up certain streets between the land to be planted and the school, and voted a sum of money to assist in planting the trees. Farmers in this school locality are also giving assistance in preparing the land for planting.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FOREST OUTPUT.

The forest production of British Columbia, as a result of an increased cut and higher prices realized, reached a new record in 1916, the value of all products of the forest for that period being \$35,528,000, slightly under two million dollars more than in the last record year, 1913, and over twenty per cent more than in 1915.

The figures submitted by Chief Forester Grainger to the Minister of Lands, Hon. T. D. Pattullo, shows a great increase in the output of shingles, the worth of which for the year amounted to \$4,500,000. There was also a considerable growth in the production of mining props and posts, and the demand for boxes for munitions led to the value of that item, which first appeared last year, rising to nearly two million dollars.

In the cut of lumber, while it is less than in 1913, there is an increase in value of about thirty-five per cent over 1915. There is a slightly higher production of pulp than there was the year before, but for the past four years this figure does not show much change.

EXTENSION OF FOREST PROTECTION.

The completeness and efficiency of forest protection work in western Quebec is to be very greatly increased as a result of action decided upon at meetings of limit holders recently held in Ottawa. As a result of this decision, the territory of the Lower Ottawa Forest Protective Association is to be extended westward to cover the area between the Coulonge watershed and the western boundary of the province, extending north to approximately the National Transcontinental railway. The present territory of the Lower Ottawa Association covers the Lievre, Rouge, Gatineau and Coulonge watersheds, a total of 13,269 square miles. With the increased territory now to be added the area will be approximately 29,000 square miles. An adequate staff of fire rangers and inspectors will be provided under the supervision of the present manager, Mr. Arthur H. Graham. It is anticipated that a co-operative arrangement will be made with the Provincial Government providing for the patrol of unlicensed Crown lands, in addition to the large area of valuable timber limits now held under license.