

Laurentide's Increased Production

New Machinery Installed Adds 175 tons to Daily Capacity.

Mr. George H. Cahoon, jr., president of the Laurentide Company Limited, states that the new paper mill of the company is now in operation, the installation of the additional machinery having been effected ahead of schedule time.

The production of newsprint, Mr. Cahoon says, now approximates 400 tons daily at the Laurentide plant, the former capacity of 225 tons having been increased by 175 tons through the installation of the new machinery. The additional equipment, he said, was working in a highly satisfactory manner and the increased output would find a very ready market.

In respect to the latter, it will be recalled that Mr. Cahoon informed the shareholders at the annual meeting that the Laurentide Company had entered a five year contract with the New York Times for the additional output made possible by reason of the installation of the two new machines on terms particularly favorable to the Grand'Mere enterprise.

As to the outlook for the pulp and paper industry in 1921, Mr. Cahoon stated that this was exceptionally promising. "The present year was an excellent one," he said, "but the coming one promises to be even better."

CANADIAN TRADE CONDITIONS.

A mill representative in close touch with the newsprint situation, who was in Toronto this week, estimated the lessened production in the Canadian mills, during the last couple of months at about 9,000 tons, and the statement was made that November would show even a larger falling off, owing to the shortage of power caused by low water. Some of the mills were forced to close down for a time during the month and others, although hard hit, were greatly hampered in their production. As an off-set to the lessened production, although not affecting present conditions, it is pointed out that although paper stocks have been declining on the market active construction operations are proceeding on various paper mill enterprises in Canada. The Kamistiquia Pulp and Paper Co., at the head of Lake Superior, is pushing its work and will likely be in operation by the middle of December with an output of twenty four to thirty tons of ground wood per day, which will be shipped to the United States. A newsprint mill will eventually be added. Constructive work is also well advanced on the mill of the Port Arthur Pulp and Paper Company, and although building operations have been hampered by lack of carpenters, it is expected that the early spring will see the mill in operation. As will be noted, too, in our news notes, a new ground wood pulp mill is about to be established

at Cornwall, in addition to the Howard Smith proposition, and this will ultimately develop into a paper mill as well.

THE PULPING OF JACK PINE.

Some years ago the Wayagamack Pulp and Paper Company Limited, Three Rivers, Quebec, was equipped with complete apparatus for the purpose of experimental pulping of all the different species of wood.

Experiments have been systematically carried on for a number of years with the object of discovering what different species of wood were suitable for the different qualities of pulp required for the manufacture of all kinds of paper.

In the provinces of Ontario and Quebec there are enormous tracts of land timbered almost exclusively with what is known as Jack Pine, also called Banksian Pine, or Cypress.

For this reason, it was important to ascertain if Jack Pine could be used for the manufacture of sulfite pulp and ground wood, in spite of all the prejudice against its use for this purpose.

A preliminary examination of Jack Pine, with regard to its resin contents seemed to indicate that the resin was not present in quantities which would prohibit its use for the manufacture of sulfite pulp or ground wood, although Jack Pine seems to have had to carry the blame for all the pitch troubles which all paper mills suffer from, more or less.

If Jack Pine is cooked in a mixture with other wood, trouble is quite likely to result, because Jack Pine apparently requires a stronger acid and a longer cooking time than other species of wood.

If, however, Jack Pine is cooked alone, the company's experiments would indicate that Jack Pine will produce a sulfite pulp which is in all respects equal to Spruce Pulp. The fibre from Jack Pine was found to be about .25 mm. longer than Spruce fibre, which will make it particularly suitable for newsprint.

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