

# Forest Statistics of Canada for 1909.

## Results of Work of Dominion Forestry Branch Synopsized.

The statistics of the lumber cut of Canada for 1909, lately published by the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior, show a total cut of 3,814,942,000 feet, board measure, an increase over the cut for 1908 of almost fourteen per cent. The value of the 1909 cut was \$62,819,477. The number of mills from which figures were received was 2,085, as compared with 1,409 in 1908.

The province of Ontario easily leads in the production of lumber, one-third of the total cut coming from this province. British Columbia goes up to second place, and Quebec drops to third. The other provinces occupy the same rank as in 1908, the order in point of production being as follows:—New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta, Prince Edward Island.

Of the different species the largest cut was that of spruce, namely 1,124,949,000 ft., nearly one-third of the whole. White pine was next, with 1,046,783,000 feet. Spruce and white pine thus make up nearly three-fifths of the entire cut. Douglas fir is in third place, 469,658,000 feet of that timber having been cut, an increase of over twenty-six per cent. over the 1908 cut. Hemlock takes fourth place with a cut of 302,721,000 feet, and cedar fifth with 189,391,000 feet; the latter shows an increase of fifty-four per cent. Woods whose cut show extraordinary increases over the cut of 1908 are beech, with an increase of 196 per cent., basswood, the production of which increased 188 per cent., tamarack, with an increase of 92 per cent., balsam, which shows an increase of 88 per cent., and ash, with an increase of 62 per cent.

The difference between the production of softwoods and that of hardwoods is striking. Over ninety-four per cent. of the total quantity of wood cut in Canada was softwood, and less than six per cent. of the cut was composed of hardwood lumber. The remainder of the supply of hardwood has, of course, to be imported, chiefly from the United States. Among the hardwoods produced in Canada birch takes the first place, with maple second.

Of the spruce cut, nearly one-third of the total was obtained from Quebec, but spruce of one species or another was cut in all the nine provinces of the Dominion—a statement that can be made of no other tree. In almost all provinces the cut of spruce showed an increase.

Ontario is still far ahead of all the

other provinces in the production of white pine, almost eighty-five per cent. of the entire cut being produced in that province. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia all greatly increased their cut of this timber in 1909 over that of 1908, while Quebec shows a decrease of fifty-seven per cent.

Douglas fir is cut almost exclusively in British Columbia, and shows a marked increase, though the cut is still small as compared with that in Oregon and Washington.

### Square Timber.

The total value of the square timber exported is less than a million dollars, namely, \$991,491, the total quantity exported being 41,442 tons. Between 1871 and 1880, when the trade in square timber for export was at its height, the quantity exported averaged 491,117 tons, and the average annual value, despite the smaller prices then prevailing, was over five times the value in 1909, namely \$5,139,111.

### Laths.

Of laths there were made 822,124,000, an increase over 1908 of over 150,000,000. Ontario leads in this line of manufacture with thirty-five per cent. of the total, New Brunswick has second place, followed by Quebec, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia in the order named. Spruce and white pine are the leading woods used for this manufacture, cedar and Douglas fir coming next, but far behind.

### Shingles.

In the manufacture of shingles British Columbia has an easy lead over the other provinces, making forty-three per cent. of the product. Quebec comes next and Prince Edward Island third, followed, in the order given, by New Brunswick, Ontario, and Nova Scotia. The cut in the other three western provinces is very small.

Seventy-five per cent. of the total number of shingles are made of cedar, and fifteen per cent. of spruce. White pine furnishes about seven per cent. of the shingles used, but no other wood produces even one per cent. of the total.

### Pulpwood.

There were 622,129 cords of pulpwood used in Canada during 1909. Of this the total value at the mill was \$3,464,080. In spite of a decline in the price of pulp-