

Paper AND Pulp News.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF CANADIAN PULP AND PAPER MAKING.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS HERE

TWO special officers from the United States Customs Department have been spending some time visiting the pulp and paper mills in Canada. It is understood they are trying to arrive at the value of pulp for export to the States. Some Canadians have pointed out that it has no established value in this country. If some quotations we have heard of lately may be taken as a criterion, they will have some difficulty in establishing a correct valuation. We heard of one sale a few days ago at six to eight dollars below the prevailing prices asked by other pulp makers.

THE SITUATION REGARDING PULP WOOD.

The pulp and paper men are awaiting with some interest the result of the Presidential election in the United States, as upon the success of one or the other of the great political parties may depend the trend of legislation affecting the trade of the Dominion. Pending the receipt of the returns, some of the pulp men do not feel disposed to take any active steps toward pressing upon the Dominion Government the advisability of imposing an export duty upon spruce logs. They argue that if the Republicans gain the victory changes in the duty on lumber may be made which will render it impossible for the Dominion to avoid placing an export duty upon logs. The result will soon be known now, and when the election returns are received no time should be lost in getting the manufacturers together and discussing the matter. Whatever is done must be done quickly, as it is but a few months before Parliament meets again. It must be remembered that it is during the recess that the Liberal Government will consider the tariff question and formulate those measures for tariff revision which it intends to pass into law at the next session. The question of placing an export duty upon spruce logs is one of policy and expediency, and one that the Government will doubtless desire to consider in connection with their general trade policy. It will also have a material bearing upon the revenue of the country, at all events for a year or two, until the business settles down into the new and natural channels which the advocates of the export duty are sanguine it will provide.

There is an apparent unanimity of opinion among those engaged in the trade as to the desirability and necessity of an export duty upon pulp wood, but there is some difference of opinion as to what might be regarded as a satisfactory quid pro quo from the United States for the continuance of the present state of affairs. Some are of the opinion that if the United States will throw off the duty upon wood pulp it will be satisfactory; others again want reciprocity in paper as well as pulp wood and wood pulp. In order to make any application to the Government effective to the greatest degree the trade should

endeavor to arrive at some common line of action which would be satisfactory to all concerned, and then appear with a united front to press their claims for consideration.

The question is one which is receiving no little attention from the Canadian public, and several of the leading daily newspapers have deemed it of sufficient importance to deal with it editorially. It is not as a question of protection alone that it presents itself to the average citizen, but as a matter of utilising to the best advantage, and to the fullest extent for our own benefit, the natural wealth with which we have been blessed.

THE HOME MARKETS.

The local manufacturers report a fair demand for news paper and prices range from $2\frac{3}{4}$ to 3c. according to quantity. No daily is paying more than 3c. at present. Some of the weeklies are paying as high as $3\frac{1}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ c. for small quantities of rather better quality.

The demand for book is a little lighter than usual, but shows a slight improvement and the manufacturers and dealers are hoping for a further change for the better. Prices are fairly well maintained, with the exception of one firm, to which reference is made in another column.

Taken altogether, the prospects for the fall trade are fair, the stocks on hand at the mills and in the warehouses being very light.

The failure of the water supply which has caused many of the pulp mills in the Wisconsin district to shut down, has proved most beneficial to the pulp mill at Sault Ste. Marie. The new pulp mill which the Sault Ste Marie Pulp and Paper Co. are erecting will, it is expected, be completed and running by the new year. The two mills will then be able to turn out 200 tons of pulp daily, dry weight.

THE UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK.—Business is moving along in a routine manner, a slight improvement being reported in some quarters, but the market is entirely devoid of any unusual feature. Writings are moving more freely, book is receiving greater attention, manillas are being moderately called for and news is in fair demand.

The demand for ground wood pulp is quite strong. Prices vary materially with locality, from \$15 per ton upward.

The market for sulphite and soda fibre is moderately active. Domestic sulphite, $1\frac{5}{8}$ to 2c., for unbleached; $2\frac{3}{4}$ c. for bleached; domestic soda, 1.85 to $2\frac{1}{4}$ c. for bleached. Foreign fibres are: Unbleached pine, soda process, $1\frac{3}{4}$ to $2\frac{1}{8}$ c.; bleached do., 2.30 to $3\frac{1}{4}$ c.; unbleached, sulphite process, 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ c.; bleached do., 3 to $3\frac{3}{4}$ c.