

the past. To this end I am glad to pass on the suggestion of the Provincial Forester that all shanty books be serially numbered so that they may be all readily accounted for at the end of the season. Also, they should be paged so as to prevent the possibility of removal of pages containing original records. The desirability of the record being made daily, and the affidavit being taken as provided by statute and Departmental Regulations has been forcefully pointed out by the Timber Commission.

(4) Re Measurement of Pulpwood.

Already a considerable proportion of the pulpwood of the Province is being measured by cubic volume because of the greater convenience to all parties of this method of measurement.

The determination of a converting factor which will accurately express the wood volume relation between the cubic foot unit and the standard cord of stacked wood measuring 8 feet long x 4 feet wide x 4 feet high, and containing 128 cubic feet of wood, bark and air spaces, is of course a simple matter, and can probably be obtained from measurements already in the Department. The writer made a number of careful measurements with different sizes of pulpwood in Northern Ontario some years ago, but has not now the results at hand. The study, however, indicated that a correct converting factor for different sizes of pulpwood ranged from about 85 to 98 cubic feet per cord; a converting factor of 100 cubic feet per cord would be a conservative and a very convenient converting factor. The 115-cubic-foot converting factor now in use is from 15 to 25 per cent. above actual wood volume.

(5) Re Method of Selling Timber.

Prior to 1906 sales of timber limits were conducted on the basis of inviting bids for a lump sum, known as a "bonus" which was to be paid in cash at the time of the sale, this bonus being the sum which the purchaser was willing to pay over and above the regular Crown dues, which in all cases are paid as the timber is cut.

Since 1906, the bids have been invited on a per M. foot basis; the amount bid to be paid together with the Crown dues as and when the timber is cut. The payment of the entire purchase price as and when the timber is cut has many advantages over the former system. Perhaps the greatest advantage is the better prices which are realized under this plan of sale. The fact that higher prices may be realized is due, in part, to the fact that a much larger number of lumbermen can compete at a sale where the timber is to be paid for as cut, as purchases under this plan are much more easily financed. It also implies a much less expensive examination of the tract by the prospective purchasers in advance of the sale, in as much as this examination would confine itself chiefly to the quality of the timber and the cost of logging, a knowledge of the approximate amount of the timber being sufficient when the payment is to be made on a measured basis as the timber is cut.

It has been urged by some that the former system of a lump sum "bonus" was desirable from a standpoint of immediately interesting the lumbermen in a larger financial way in the tract, and thus enlisting his very especial interest in protecting it from fire; also that the comparatively small payment for the timber as it was cut presented but little temptation to improperly influence the culler in the measurement of the logs. As regards honest measurement, it may be admitted that in lessening the amount that a thief can get, one somewhat decreased the risk of theft. The thing to do, however, in the measurement of wood sold by the Province is to make it impossible for anyone to steal it and get away with it. The improvements suggested in this report in conjunction



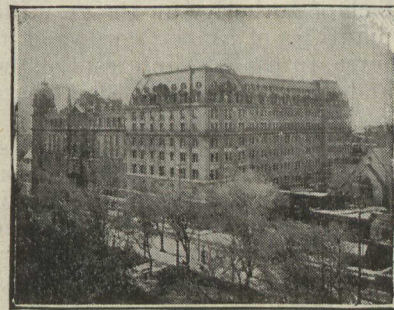
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