

The Pulp and Paper Industry

The 1920 Paper May Be \$90

Contracts Signed this Month will Probably be \$85 to \$90,
as Against \$70 to \$75 at Present—Coal Shortage a
New Factor in Situation

There has been absolutely no sign of abatement of the paper shortage on this continent up to date. American jobbers are reported to be offering ten cents a pound for stocks in store, and weekly papers on the other side of the line are in danger of losing their lives owing to lack of supplies. The great Christmas advertising campaign now under way will eat up everything in the way of a reserve that the continent still possesses. There has never been anything like such advertising before.

Returns from the sixteen leading cities of the United States show that during the month of September, 74,000,000 lines of advertising were carried, as compared with 48,000,000 lines during the same month of 1918. The resulting increase in the size of the leading papers has made it extremely difficult for some publishers to obtain enough paper. The effect which this situation will have on next year's contract prices is of considerable importance. Contracts for 1920 will, in most cases, be signed during the next few weeks and will probably be at from \$85 to \$90 per ton, as compared with the present contract price of \$70 to \$75 per ton.

A thorn in the flesh of paper manufacturers is the probable shortage of soft coal. Roughly speaking, it takes a ton of coal to produce a ton of paper and the quantity which some mills have on hand is not reassuring. Receipts of bituminous coal in Canada from the United States have been very small during the past two weeks. Much of that which has been in transit has been commandeered by the federal authorities and the situation has become so serious that, it is rumored, the train service on the railways may have to be cut down in order to conserve supplies. One leading paper firm has inserted a clause in all its literature to the effect "that all agreements and contracts entered into on orders taken are accepted contingent on strikes, accidents, fires or other causes beyond our control, including shortage of coal supply." The latter clause has been added recently. Another that has been incorporated is that all quotations are subject to immediate acceptance.

The production of Canadian newsprint mills during the first ten months of the present year exceeded those of a similar period during 1918 by eight per cent or 45,940 tons and with an almost similar increase across the border, the supply is still about twenty-five per cent shy. The question now arises, will the newspapers combine to curtail consumption and would advertisers give help by assenting to restrictions in space? If some move like this is not undertaken what will the future bring forth? Then there is a growing shortage of groundwood pulp and prices remain very high. Sulphite pulp is also in strong demand particularly bleached. All paper box factories are rushed; book and writing mills have all the business they can attend to for months ahead. Wrapping papers of all kinds are getting scarcer all the while and stocks with the jobbers lower. Demand keeps away ahead of production and the shortage is each week accentuated. Business with wholesale paper houses is now very lively and November has proved a record breaker with many of them in the volume of turnover.

Coated paper plants report that business keeps up remarkably well and toilet and tissue mills have all the orders they can look after for months ahead. Specialty mills are turning down business owing to lack of facilities for meeting requirements and other departments of production have the same story to relate.

Creamery Output of 1918.

A report by the Canadian Bureau of Statistics shows that the total production of creamery butter in 1918 was 93,266,876 pounds, value \$41,845,164, as compared with 87,526,989 pounds, value \$34,274,218 in 1917 and 82,564,130 pounds, value \$26,966,356 in 1916. Every province showed an increase over 1917 in the production of creamery butter.

The total production of factory cheese in 1918 was 174,881,957 pounds, value \$30,457,358, as compared with 194,904,336 pounds, value \$41,180,623, in 1917 and 192,968,597 pounds, value \$35,512,622, in 1916. Ontario and Quebec together produced 97 per cent of the total factory-made cheese in Canada. The average wholesale price of factory cheese for the whole of Canada in 1918 works out at 22½c per pound, as compared with 21c per pound in 1917 and 18c in 1916.

Royal Bank in Argentina.

The Royal Bank of Canada, which had already a wide connection in Central and South America has opened a branch in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The management will be in the hands of Mr. T. F. Dever, late manager of the bank's branch in Barcelona, Spain, and formerly supervisor of Cuban branches.

St. Maurice Paper Company Limited

Head Office
522-524 Board of Trade Building
Montreal

MANUFACTURERS OF
NEWS PRINT, SULPHITE,
KKAFT, GROUNDWOOD
also Sawn & Dressed Lumber

Paper Mills, Cape Madeleine, Que.
Lumber Mills, Charlemagne, Montcalm,
St. Gabriel de Brandon,
Three Rivers.

The Spanish River Pulp and Paper Mills, Limited

Sault Ste. Marie - - Ontario

Daily Capacity.

500 Tons Newspaper
400 Tons Groundwood
220 Tons Sulphite
35 Tons Board

MILLS AT—

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.
Espanola, Ontario.
Sturgeon Falls, Ontario.

Cable Address
Price

Codes Used
A B C and Liebers

Price Brothers & Company, LIMITED

MANUFACTURERS OF
Spruce Lumber, Lath, Cedar Shingles, Ties,
Pulpwood, Sulphite and Groundwood
Pulp, Newspaper, Cardboard, &c.

QUEBEC

SAW MILLS:

Batiscan Montmagny Cape St. Ignace Rimouski
Matane Salmon Lake Saguenay District

PAPER AND PULP MILLS:

Kenogami Jonquiere Rimouski