

1910 Forest Statistics of Canada—I.

Lumber, Square Timber, Lath, Shingles, Pulpwood.

The publication of the statistics of wood consumption in Canada for the year 1910 has been somewhat delayed owing to the press of work at the Printing Bureau resulting from recent events in the political world, but the bulletins containing these are now all in press, and will appear shortly. In addition to the statistics of foreign products so far published, a bulletin has been compiled on the use of wood by industries which use, as their raw material, wood already manufactured to some degree; this will appear as Bulletin No. 24, and treats of wood used in the manufacture of agricultural implements and vehicles, furniture and cars, and veneer. The names and numbers of the bulletins are as follows:

Bulletin No. 21—Poles Purchased.

Bulletin No. 22—Cross-ties Purchased.

Bulletin No. 23—Timber Used in Mining Operations.

Bulletin No. 24—(Wood Industries of Canada), Agricultural Implements and Vehicles, Furniture and Cars, and Veneer.

Bulletin No. 25—Lumber, Square Timber, Lath and Shingles.

Bulletin No. 26—Pulpwood.

Bulletin No. 27—Cooperage.

Lumber.

The number of sawmills from which reports have been received has increased by 32.6 per cent (2763 firms operating nearly 3,000 mills sending reports) and the lumber out-put by 28.5 per cent, or 1,086,707,000 board feet. The average cut per mill reported in 1908 was 1,774,000 board feet.

The consumption of lumber per capita in Canada was 653 board feet, which is 170 feet more than the per capita lumber production of the United States for 1909. Ontario still holds the first position among the provinces in lumber production; it still produces over one third of the quantity of lumber cut in Canada. The 1910 cut shows an increase of 7.5 per cent over that of 1909.

British Columbia is again second in lumber production, and its 1910 cut was only 45,000,000 feet less than that of Ontario. Quebec again comes third and the other provinces, in order of importance, are New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba and Prince Edward Island. There is a very large increase in the number of small mills which have reported from Quebec this year, and to this, no doubt, is due the fact that this

province has the smallest annual cut per mill of any of the provinces, i.e., 71,400 feet. In British Columbia, at the other extreme, the average annual cut per mill is 7,297,000 feet—over 100 times that of Quebec.

The average price of lumber in Canada in 1910 was sixty cents per thousand less than in 1909, being higher only in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The average value in Ontario is nearly \$3 per thousand greater than in any other province, owing largely, no doubt, to the large cut of white pine, which constitutes over 50 per cent of the province's cut. Spruce decreased in price \$1 per thousand and Douglas fir \$1.14 per thousand. Almost all other woods have increased in price. Birch shows the largest decrease, namely, \$1.49 per thousand.

Spruce is the most important lumber wood in Canada, over one quarter of the total cut being of this species. The cut of white pine in 1910 was four per cent less than that of 1909, the decrease amounting to 42,163,000 feet. Several western species show remarkable increases. The increase in the cut of hemlock amounts to 51,000,000 feet and the increase in the case of Douglas fir to 47,000,000 feet. The cut of cedar has increased by 217,430,000 feet, or 114.8 per cent. Almost six times the quantity of yellow pine was cut in British Columbia in 1910 as in 1909; this increase makes it the sixth wood in quantity of cut for the year. The increase of 100,000,000 feet (140 per cent) in the larch cut in British Columbia brings that species to eighth place.

Softwoods comprise 94.3 per cent of Canada's lumber cut, the cut of hardwoods being only 5.7 per cent of the total. The total value of hardwood lumber produced in Canada in 1910 was \$4,958,450 (\$952,930 more than in 1909), and the value of the hardwoods imported into Canada, was more than fifty per cent greater than this.

The lumber production of the Dominion is also taken up by species used, twenty-six in number. The first six of these are spruce, white pine, Douglas fir, hemlock, cedar and yellow pine. New species reported this year are cherry, chestnut, tulip, sycamore and alder. Among the twenty-six species Ontario leads in the cut of seventeen, British Columbia in five, and Quebec in four.

Square Timber.

During 1910, 3,480 tons less of square