

7,8774,000 pieces; 1912, 97,036,000 pieces; shingles, 1911, 56,250,000 pieces; 1912, 62,735,000 pieces. The value of last year's cut in the Ottawa valley represents fully \$13,000,000 at a very conservative estimate.

The Georgian Bay district which took such a wonderful rise as we have noticed following the depletion of supplies in Michigan and Wisconsin, still produces a great proportion of Ontario's lumber. The Herman Hettler Lumber Company at Midland give employment to some 200 men, and produce close on to 30 millions of timber annually. Firstbrook Bros. and the C. Beck Manufacturing Company at Penetang, the Jas. Playfair Company at Midland, all produce over 15 millions a year. They are drawing on a district noted for its white pine. A mill in the southern part of the province which is conducting large operations, mainly on account of its ability to cut all the year round, is the Cleveland-Sarnia Sawmills at Sarnia, with an output of 35 million. In the northern part of the province there is a group of mills whose growth is doing much to bring wealth into north-western Ontario. At Fort Frances in the Rainy River district is the mill of the Shevlin-Clarke Co., whose output of over 50 million a year stands at the high water mark in this district. The Spanish River Lumber Company at Spanish River, and the Pigeon River Lumber Company at Port Arthur, are both supposed to be cutting over 35 million a year. The Thessalon Lumber Co. at Nester-ville, Ont., with an output of something over 20 million annually, and the Wolverine Cedar and Lumber Company whose main office is in the United States, both cut about 20 million. The Lake Superior Paper Company at Sault Ste. Marie, the Eddy Company at Blind River, the Tomico Mills, Limited, at Tomico, Ont., and the Moulthroppe Lumber Company at John Island, are all making the country richer to the extent of 15 to 20 millions of lumber, mainly white pine, every year. Much of this finds its way to the large markets of the Central West, where the demand is continually on the increase.

One of the most vital questions in the Province of Ontario today is the maintenance of her timber heritage. Reliable estimates as to the forest productivity of the provinces are hard to obtain. Dr. Fernow assigns the various areas of forest type and their potentialities as follows:

What Remains to Work On.

Taking Ontario alone with a total land area of 126 million acres, of which 80 million are still unsurveyed, we find that the distribution of these lands among three types of forest country occupied by the province, gives 30 million acres to the southern hardwood type, 50 million acres to the central southern Laurentian type, and 46 million acres to the northern forest. Not quite 25 million acres are disposed of to private owners. From the assessment lists we learn, that of these, 14 million acres are cleared, of which 12.4 millions are in the peninsula, Lake Ontario and in St. Lawrence valley, and 1.7 million in the Southern Laurentian plateau. The wood-lots on these farms are assessed at 5.5 million acres, nearly 2 million acres are reported as slash, and 2.8 million as swamp and waste (2.4, 2 and 1 million of the latter respectively in the three sections).

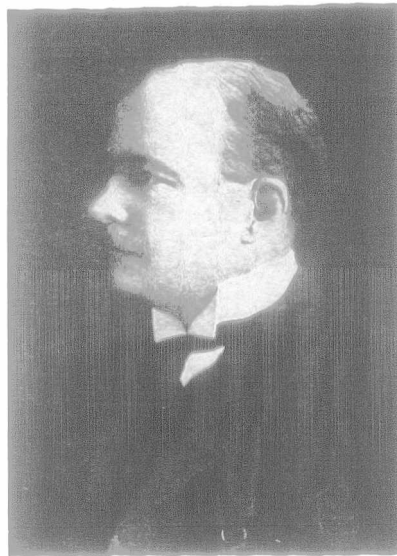
Applying a general experience figure for waste land incapable of recuperation, we would come to the conclusion that 85 million acres or two-thirds of the province will always remain in woods except so far as it may be turned into grazing lands.

Mr. Whitson of the Crown Lands Department, one of the best informed men on these matters, places the figure as at best 70 million acres productive forest area, and the stand of pine outside of licensed lands (12.5 million acres are licensed and were some time ago estimated to contain 24 billion feet, the annual cut being around 800 million feet) and of forest reserves (10 million acres) at 10 billion feet B.M., and the pulpwood at 288 million cords. He also states that of the jack pine not 10 per cent. is fit even for railroad ties.

THE CENTRAL WEST.

Forest Conditions.

The great proportion of the country lying west of the Lake of the Woods and east of the Rocky Mountains is the agricultural area which has produced such tremendous crops of wheat in the past and is looked to today as the main resources of the Dominion. However, over a great part of the western provinces there was once a good growth of timber which has served in the past to make houses for the settlers. The Riding, Duck and Turtle Mountains all bore excellent stands of trees. Unfortunately, these have suffered through the advent of civilization. The chief of the destructive agencies has been the forest fire, which has cleared away hundreds of square miles of excellent timber growing close to the farming district. Whereas, in some places there used to be trees of a diameter of from four to five feet, there is now practically no timber growth, and for supplies the settlers are forced back from the distinctively prairie regions to the timber belt lying north of the provinces. In Manitoba this timber belt reaches almost to the City of Winnipeg on the north, and runs in a direction almost



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due north-west from the city, until at the western boundary of Manitoba the prairie country reaches north practically two hundred miles from the United States boundary before the timber belt is reached. Through Saskatchewan and Alberta the timber belt gradually works to the north until it reaches the mountains. The timbered area is solid and runs north to Hudson Bay or until the high latitudes make it impossible for timber to grow.

The Canadian Northern Railway, running from Winnipeg to Prince Albert, through Dauphin, Swan River, Hudson Bay Junction and Melfort, pretty well marks the southern boundary of the timber area, which is known as the "Spruce District" of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The last of the operations in the Province of Manitoba are now being carried on, except in the North adjacent to Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg, where there is a considerable quantity of timber left. When the western mill man refers to the "Spruce Mills" he means those mills which have been established within the last few years in northern Saskatchewan from its eastern boundary west for a distance of two hundred and twenty-five miles, terminating in what is known as the "Prince Albert" district.

This spruce district has played no small part in the development of the agricultural areas to the south. With large timber, numerous water courses and good