

On ladies' bicycles the guards are as often of wood as of metal. The metal guard has come into wide use during the past year or so, and about fifty per cent. of ladies' wheels now being turned out are supplied with these.

Bamboo tubing is said to have been made, but a well-known bicycle man, whose experience goes back over many years, says he never has seen it, and believes that if such a tubing was ever put upon the market it was some other wood finished in bamboo style for a "talking point."—"Hardwood Record."

CARE OF BOX LUMBER.

The receiving, sorting and piling of box lumber on the yards looks like a job anybody could do and one not calling for the exercise of any more judgment than is necessary to build straight lumber piles. Still, the receiving and disposing of lumber is getting to be quite a fine art in connection with box manufacturing, and the whole thing may eventually reach the point where the saw mill man in the woods will take note of the situation and begin to sort his own lumber with careful detail so as to realize more out of it. At present, however, the mill man has a habit of piling his low-grade lumber, without regard to width, length or exact thickness, into a general conglomeration for shipment to the box factory trade. He has done his careful selecting among the upper grades, and doesn't generally spend any great amount of time in the sorting of the lower grades. To the casual observer, too, it looks like this is all there is to do with it, and it is just about as good luck as not to take the most convenient lumber when it comes to getting out stock for boxes.

What the wise ones in the box factory trade are doing, however, is to sort this lumber as it is received with probably more care than is given by the mill man in sorting and classifying his upper grades. Naturally it is sorted for lengths and widths for the sake of convenience in piling and so that a man when he wants stock for a given size box can get the width desired without having to pull down a lot of lumber that doesn't apply. The sorting of widths, however, is only the beginning. Another thing, and the thing they watch more closely, is the matter of thickness. In the general run of box stock there may be found nearly everything from $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch to 6-4-inch. The box man may kick if there is too much thin stock but he never kicks if there is too much thick. He carefully sorts out all his thick boards because they enable him to resaw and get some stock a little thicker than would be practical with all the boards just 1-inch. He can resaw and make boards $\frac{3}{4}$, generally from the regular run of inch stock. Quite frequently a box man is anxious for some half-inch boards, and then the extra thick boards found here and there in a carload of lumber come in mighty handy. So he sorts them out carefully as the lumber is unloaded and piles them apart for use in taking care of orders specifying a little thicker stock than is possible to get out of 1-inch stock. Also he takes the thin boards out. There he is likely to make a claim on against the manufacturer and strike for a reduction of the invoice. Of course at the same time he won't say anything about the thick ones and the advantages that accrue from them, which is natural. Although these thin boards do represent an actual loss to the box man, yet they do come in handy once in a while, when there is a call for $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch stock or something of that class. This is too thick to get by resawing, and it is a waste of material to work down inch stock into $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch. Where a man by sorting can get it, it saves him buying special stuff. If he can't there come times when 5-4 and 6-4 inch lumber is needed to fill orders. This kind cut to order costs more than the general run of culled out

boards from the better grade of inch stock. Therefore, there is quite a saving to be effected in carefully sorting box lumber for thickness.

In sorting for widths, too, the box men have begun to draw the line much more closely than formerly, and not only sort for 6-inch, 8-inch, 10-inch and 12-inch widths, but also sort for the odd inches, and some of those who are getting the system habit down fine even sort for $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch and $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch, so as to reduce the waste items at the factory and have the exact widths on hand. It is found that the best way to save waste is to prevent it, and the place to start in preventing waste is in the sorting and piling of lumber as it is received at the factory. If it is carefully sorted and piled both as to thickness and width, taking note of the odd inches, and even fractions as well as the standard two-inch variations, it enables the box man to work much closer on his waste items and still not have to spend too much time at it in the factory. So it will be seen from this that the sorting of lumber is one of the most important duties in connection with the operation of a plant.

The importance of caring for, sorting and arranging the lumber so that each thickness and width will be readily obtainable, while it is probably the most important item, is not by any means the only one to remember in the care of box lumber. The better the foundations are made, the more carefully the piles are laid, the better condition the lumber will be kept in generally. Even lumber that is very badly twisted and warped when received may be straightened out somewhat by careful piling and improved both in appearance and in workable qualities. If lumber has been allowed to warp considerably it is sometimes found advisable to pile several layers solidly one board on top of another without strips. Then cross it over every six or eight layers with piling strips and repeat the operation, the idea being that this will assist in flattening out and straightening the boards in the course of time, and sometimes even after lumber is piled on the yard it is taken and repiled in this way for the sake of straightening it after it gets dried out; also it enables one to buy more lumber in less space.

Another point is to not only keep the lumber neatly piled all the time instead of scattered here and there, but to keep it clean, and if practical keep it under sheds. Some day when lumber gets valuable enough all factories will make a point of keeping their lumber stock under sheds. Some are doing it already, and the more of it is done the better it is for the lumber, and the easier it makes the work at the machines. Lumber standing out in the open accumulates dirt, cinders and grit. It gets beaten into the surface by rain, and it becomes difficult to get the planer to do nice work on it because the dirt dulls the knives rapidly. A lot of this can be spared by properly housing the lumber and even where this is not practical some of the poorest and roughest stock may be placed on the top of the piles to shelter the better stock to some extent. This may seem like going to a lot of trouble to take care of lumber, and lumber that in days gone by was of but little value, but the experience of those in the box business who have gone to some trouble in sorting and piling their box lumber furnish evidence that it is worth while and furnish an example that is a good one for many others to follow.—"Southern Lumberman."

Sutton village, Que., has granted a bonus to C. Manuel & Sons Company, of Richford, Vt., to aid them in establishing a veneering mill in Sutton village. The village by-law calls for a grant of \$3,000 cash and exemption from taxation for ten years, free water, a land grant of five acres, and a siding from the present C.P.R. siding to their mill.