

WOOD PULP ~ ~ DEPARTMENT

THE PULP MARKET.

The following pertinent remarks concerning the general market for pulp are found in the last issue Paper and Pulp, of London, England.

It is evident that the market for all classes of pulp is in a very unsettled state at present, and it is difficult to say exactly how it stands to-day, or what the prospects are for next year. There can be no doubt that recent prices are still being quoted, but that there are buyers at these figures is open to doubt. As regards sulphite we have received very conflicting reports, one stating that there are no buyers, and the other that several mills are uncovered for the second half of the year.

For next year it is reported that some sales have been made at high prices, but on the other hand a correspondent who is in the best position to know, writes: "I cannot see how sulphite and soda pulps can be much longer maintained at their present high prices. The war is practically over now, and the buyers who pay more than £8 15s. to £9 5s. for 1901 deliveries of sulphite, and £8 10s. to £8 17s. 6d. for sulphates, will probably live to rue the day they paid more." Another authority writes: "In my humble opinion chemical pulps are likely to be scarce for all

this year and well into next spring, and I do not expect the market for next year to go below £9 10s. c.i.f. for bleaching sulphite, and £9 for other qualities, and the average may even rule above these figures. As the production of soda pulp is below the consumption, prices ought to be maintained at from £9 10s. to £10." It is reported, but with what truth we cannot say, that some makers, although quoting high prices, are quietly accepting comparatively low ones. There is, so far as we are aware, very little soda offering for prompt delivery, and what little there is, is being quoted at prohibitive figures. We have not heard of any sales for next year having taken place yet, as buyers and sellers evidently are so wide apart in their idea that they will not talk business. Mechanical is still scarce for prompt shipment, and it is expected that prices will reach 70s. c.i.f. for the latter half of the year. Farman reports that sales have been freely made for next year at 49s. and 50s. f.o.b., and as mentioned in our last issue the Scandinavian Mechanical Association stated that over 100,000 tons had already been sold. Reports from both America and Scandinavia state that fears are already entertained of the drought during the coming summer and autumn curtailing the pro-

duction, and there can be no doubt that the look for mechanical is more serious than for chemical.

Average current prices c.i.f. U. K. ports

Moist pine.....	£ 3 7 1/2
Dry ".....	7 1/2
Moist brown.....	3 1/2
Dry ".....	6 1/2
Sulphite, ordinary.....	10 1/2
" best.....	11 1/2
Soda.....	10 1/2

THE WOOD PULP OF CANADA

The above is the title of an attractive pamphlet issued by the Dominion government descriptive of the pulp wood resources and powers of Canada. It was compiled by George Johnson, Dominion Statistician, intended for distribution at the Paris Exposition. The work outlines briefly the steps that have been taken in the past five centuries in the evolution of pulp and paper making, and besides contains much information as to the natural resources, and water falls. Mr. Johnson says:

In 1891 there were in Canada 24 pulp mills, representing \$3,000,000 capital, employing 1,025 persons, and having a total capacity of 1100 tons a day. To-day there are 35 pulp mills, with a total capacity of 1100 tons a day. The largest has a capacity of 250 tons a day. The amount of capital invested is between \$10,000,000 and \$20,000,000. This development attests the fact that Canada is the possessor of the largest spruce forests in the world. The United States imported \$1,500,000 worth of pulp from Canada. Britain imported

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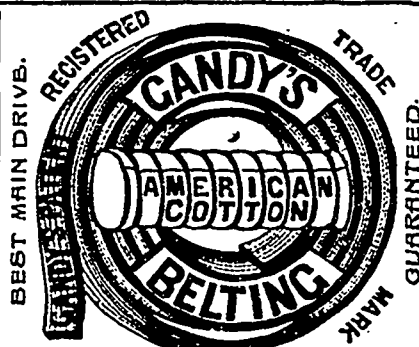
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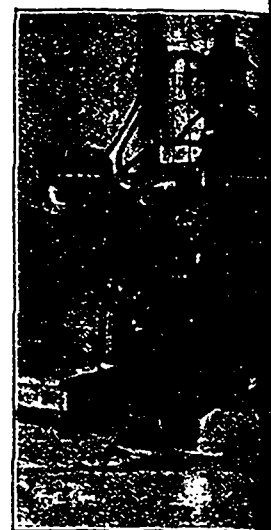
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