

troversy that has been going on for years before it was possible to persuade parliament to protect the industry against fraudulent manufacturers. For a long time, city manufacturers, who never went near a maple bush, have been putting up a mixture of cane, sugar and water flavored either with a small percentage of maple syrup or with an essence called "Mapleine." These syrups and sugars were labelled with such names as "Maple flavor syrup," "Maple compound," etc., while many were not labelled at all. From the following table will be seen the extent to which this systematic adulteration has injured the maple industry, more especially since 1890.

Years.	Production of Sugar lbs.
1850-60 .....	135,000,000
1860-70 .....	175,000,000
1870-80 .....	190,000,000
1880-90 .....	225,000,000
1890-1900 .....	212,000,000
1900-10 .....	196,000,000

#### *Adulteration Stopped.*

In 1900 the first steps were taken in protest. In that year, 2,000 sugar makers signed a petition which they presented to the Hon. Sydney Fisher, then Minister of Agriculture. The difficulty at that time was the impossibility of obtaining chemical tests whereby cane and beet sugar could be detected in the maple product. In 1904 the Agricultural Department of the State of Vermont discovered that by using subacetate of lead they could determine if maple sugar or syrup were adulterated. This was of material assistance to our Inland Revenue Department, and in Feb., 1915, a bulletin was issued giving the results of chemical tests on a number of syrups and sugars. It was found that 76 per cent of this collection was adulterated and only 24 per cent pure. The publication evidently had a beneficial effect for in May of the

same year, a second test was made which showed a decided improvement, only 34 per cent being adulterated. From that time the Department has issued annual bulletins, but, finding it impossible to stop adulteration, the act already referred to was placed upon the statute books. A most gratifying result is shown in Bulletin 325, just recently issued although dated October, 1915, according to which only 15 per cent of the samples were found impure. On looking over these pamphlets from year to year the names of the same offenders occur again and again. Evidently the policy has been to pay the annual fine and proceed as before. Prior to April, 1915, the fine was merely nominal, but under the new regulations it is to be hoped that an end will be put to the fraud.

#### *The Word "Maple."*

The amendment of the Adulteration Act prohibits the manufacture and sale of adulterated maple syrup or sugar, and restricts the word "Maple" to pure maple sugar or syrup, imposing a fine of from \$50 to \$500 and costs for wilful adulteration; and from \$50 to \$200 and costs for the sale of the adulterated article.

While the fight has apparently been won, it is felt that only by eternal vigilance will it be possible to protect the honest maker. Those who have been instrumental in bringing about these important reforms are naturally much encouraged and feel that the maple industry stands on the threshold of a great development, with the unlimited markets of Great Britain and the United States lying before it.

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Messrs. D. A. Macdonald and C. H. Morse, of the Dominion Forest Service, have been elected associate members of the Canadian Society of Forest Engineers.