

"I think that the proportions of the present production of pine will not be fully maintained. There must be some diminution. If fire is kept out and the pine territory is preserved, I do not think that anyone can venture an opinion; but it will last for a very great number of years. Possibly fifty years, providing fire is kept out. Lumbermen are human just as other people are, and the lumbermen will very readily and gladly join in promoting the future of that asset for the province of Quebec, if it is understood that it is to be preserved; but you can understand very well that, if it is not to be preserved, lumbermen must get something out for their past years of labour and saving, and they will realise on what is most realisable. We are in our own case, as I explained, acting in the very opposite way. We are realising far less than we could realise. We could realise in four or five years as much as we will realise in fifteen years the way we are cutting, but we are doing that with regard to the future. Now, we act on that principle in the confidence that we are to be protected. So that you will observe that, not only as regards the question of fire, but also as regards the operations of the lumbermen themselves, the future of the lumber trade can be very greatly prolonged by careful cutting and careful manipulation on the part of the lumbermen on their own limits, and there is no doubt that can be done. I do not think there is any one single lumberman on the Ottawa River who to-day is possessed of any

wealth at all, but that wealth is invested in the limits and mills he possesses. The investment in mills and similar property is very large. The pine timber being exhausted, his mill property, in almost every instance the total asset, is valueless, and if reasonable hope is held out to him at all that the Government is to co-operate with the lumberman in the preservation of the forest for the future there is every reason why the lumberman will do so.

"My candid opinion is that the Province of Quebec has the best asset in North America. I will give you my reasons. There is more money made to-day in cutting timber in the Provinces of Ontario—far more—because the timber is more immediately available. There is more large timber and of better quality, but they have not got the young and growing timber that there is in the Province of Quebec. Now, some regard the question this way: that when the pine timber is exhausted, the lumber trade will cease. I do not so regard it at all. I regard it that all the timber on the limits will yet come in and be available as a commercial asset to the Province; and, while I frankly believe that the greatest possible loss has taken place to the Province of Quebec in consequence of the burning of the pine forests, I yet believe that if the people of the Province to-day rouse themselves, waken up to what is their truest and best interests, and preserve the forests of the Province, they will have a source of revenue for all time."

The Wood-pulp Industry.



THE rapid development of the manufacture of woodpulp all over the world, and the acknowledged superiority of Canadian spruce for that purpose, causes apprehension in the minds of many as to the effect it will exercise on the future of the spruce trade and the forests of the Dominion. It has already raised the price of spruce limits in the market, and it will doubtless have the effect of increasing the price of spruce lumber. The subject of cutting spruce was dealt with by a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly of Quebec last year, and the Hon. Sir Henri Joly d. Lotbiniere gave it as his opinion that strict rules should be enforced to prevent the cutting of small trees for this purpose, and he pointed out that the Government only received two-fifths of the revenue from pulp logs they would from spruce saw logs; so that there is great encouragement to make pulpwood to those who will not consider the future, and who simply want to make a profit for the present. Then there is another thing, in making pulpwood of course neither mill nor staff is required nor organisation, and all that sort of thing, which are required when logs are sawn into boards.

By the courtesy of Mr. G. Johnson, the Government statistician at Ottawa, we are enabled to print the following up-to-date information concerning the Wood Pulp Industry.

Paper made in Canada from woodpulp is almost entirely supplying the great demand of the newspapers of the Dominion. Woodpulp paper is also largely used within the country for many other purposes, and some is being exported.

The exports of woodpulp were not recorded in the Dominion Trade and Navigation Returns till 1890, since when they are given as follows:—

	Dols.		Dols.
1890	80,005	1893	388,092
1891	188,198	1894	547,217
1892	219,458	1895	590,874

In 1894 and 1895 the destination of these exports was as follows:—

	1894	1895
	Dols.	Dols.
Great Britain	178,255	251,848
France	—	2,640
Germany	452	—
Belgium	254	—
United States	368,256	335,385
Total	547,217	590,874

Canadian woodpulp has been very favourably received in Great Britain. In his report for 1894, Mr. Dyke, the Canadian Government Commercial Agent at Liverpool, says:—

"In the early part of the year I had some correspondence

with one of the largest paper mills in this district, and they informed me that they used about 10,000 tons of dry pulp annually, and that of this about 1,200 tons was Canadian; they added that Canadian pulp is better than that from Scandinavia, more evenly made, and the texture seems better adapted for paper making. . . . It is a generally expressed opinion now, among paper makers in the north here, that Canadian pulp is distinctly superior to that of Norway, and still more so compared with Swedish pulp. Much of this superiority, we believe, is to be attributed to the nature of the wood itself. The fibre seems to 'mill' better, and is certainly of a tougher and finer texture. We think Canadian pulp will ultimately command from 125 dols. to 250 dols. more per ton than Scandinavian on the ground of quality. At all events we are sure that Canadian pulp will always now command a substantial preference in the market, and we trust, with the help of this preference, they will be able to maintain and improve their position. There is a good opening for sulphite pulp, but the price will need to be rather less than 5250 dols. We believe it can be produced in Canada for a good deal less than that. The industry is in a state of transition on account of the rapid improvements which keep being made in the necessary plant and methods of production, but that is really advantageous to Canadian enterprise, because it would enter the field with the benefit of all the costly experiments which have been made in this country and on the Continent. This, together with the superior nature of its wood, should enable Canada to take a leading place in this industry."

The High Commissioner, Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., in his report for 1894, says:—"My inquiries in connection with Canadian woodpulp were made in the chief centres of the paper trade, viz., in London, Lancashire, and Scotland, and I am gratified to be able to report that there was practical unanimity as to the superiority of the Canadian article over Scandinavian. . . . In connection with this question—quality—I am informed that in March last the highest price, viz., £6 8s. (1117 dols.) paid for mechanical pulp this year, was obtained for the Canadian article. . . . With regard to chemical pulp, I am advised that of the various processes now known for the manufacture of chemical pulp, that for the production of sulphite pulp is probably the best adapted to the circumstances existing in Canada. Pyrites and lime are well disseminated throughout the country, and are easily and economically procurable at the centres of manufacture. Sulphite pulp offers a good margin for handling and is high in favour with paper mills. In Scandinavia the future of sulphite is well recognised, and old mills are being converted and new mills put up for this process. With the advantages of better raw material and a lower cost of produc-