

# LUMBER, PULP AND PAPER

## THE BEST MEDIUM.

Newspapers of United States gained 35 per cent. or \$20,000,000, in advertising during 1916, amount being \$75,000,000, as compared with \$55,000,000 in 1915.

## INCREASED FREIGHT RATES.

Increased freight rates on lumber from Maine and Eastern Canada to Central and New England states and Eastern New York were approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

## TO MOVE TO CANADA.

The proprietor of a spruce saw mill in New York State, whose timber limits are exhausted, has notified the Department of Trade and Commerce of his wish to move to Canada. He is prepared to establish a plant with an output of 80,000 feet per day, and wishes to locate in a town with good railway facilities and convenient to spruce timber limits that are on the market either for sale or lease.

## SAWDUST IN SWEEPING COMPOUNDS.

The use of sawdust in sweeping compounds, a use which the American Lumberman has several times mentioned in discussing the utilization of sawdust, has now come under the attention of the Underwriters' Laboratories. It has adopted standards for sweeping compounds, dividing them into non-combustible, non-flammable and slow burning, and in the slow-burning class has adopted a standard requiring that the compound shall contain not less than 60 per cent of non-combustible ingredients and not over 12 per cent of oil. It follows from this standard that such a compound can not contain over 28 per cent of sawdust in order to be approved by this organization.

## INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO.

At the annual meeting of the International Paper Company President Dodge stated that preferred stock was entitled to dividends only when directors believed condition of company called for them. Directors are all large stockholders he said and are looking out for best interests of the company. The \$2,000,000 cash which company has on hand is to be used for redemption of bonds maturing in 1918. The affairs of company at present time are in better shape than ever before but to make a cash payment of back dividends on the preferred stock would wreck the company, he added.

General advance in wages has been granted to all employees at International Paper Co.'s mills at Watertown, N.Y. Increases are voluntary by the company and add two cents an hour to existing rates of all men working by the hour, and \$1 to weekly salaries of those paid by the week. Increases are given in addition to regular 10 per cent bonus which has been in effect since last November. About 500 men in the Watertown district are affected, and increase will call for additional outlay of about \$25,000 per annum.

## INCREASED B.C. LUMBER CUT.

It is stated that the value of the lumber cut for the Province in 1916 will show an increase over that of the previous year, when the value was put at \$29,150,000. The demand for lumber during the last year showed an improvement, and prices generally were higher. The best previous year was 1913, when the value of the cut was \$33,500,000. It is predicted that this year's value will be well up to this latter figure.

A feature of last year's lumber business has been the increase in shipments to Ontario, where the late Government carried on an aggressive campaign to popularize the British Columbia product. The demand there has resulted in doubling shipments from this Province, especially for floorings, paneling, mouldings, etc. The fact that these shipments have been made by rail indicate the popularity which the British Columbia products have secured in the East.

## NEWSPRINT PRODUCTION.

United States and Canadian mills produced 134,945 tons of newsprint in March, making a total of 387,183 tons for the three months ended March 31. Stocks of newsprint on hand at all points on March 31 totalled 48,398 tons, compared with 80,541 tons a year ago. Canadian mills increased their output from 45,396 tons in March a year ago to 48,904 tons this March, while the March production of American mills declined from 91,947 tons a year ago to 86,041 tons this March.

## PAPER SCARCE IN BRITAIN.

The shortage of paper in Britain is now appreciated in the Canadian camps. Military officers' orders are issued on half sheets, note paper only to be used where the letter is unlikely to extend over such space. Smaller size than foolscap must be used whenever possible. Letters to Headquarters need no longer be sent in duplicate and triplicate, except under special circumstances. Colored attached slips and such are to be dispensed whenever possible. Envelopes are to be sparingly used.

## DEVELOPING TIMBER.

The Grain Growers' Grain Company have planned to build a lumber mill, costing practically \$150,000, upon a timber limit sixty miles east of Fort George, B.C., on the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway. The company has owned the timber limit since 1913, but up to the present has taken no active steps toward utilizing it. The company has been conducting a lumber business, however, for several years. This year the grain growers plan to mill and manufacture their own lumber and supply the farmers direct. The new mill, plans for which are now completed, will have a capacity of twenty million feet of lumber a year.

## NERVOUS NEWS PULPERS.

I understand some manufacturers of newsprint are getting a bit nervous. It is little wonder that the print paper manufacturers are willing to meet the government part way and fix a maximum price for print paper sold in the United States.

When a government goes after a corporation with an axe the corporation is likely to lose some of its autocracy. I understand that the government is in charge of the letter files, records and papers of some important people in the newsprint trade, and looking for that pulp conspiracy.

There is, however, a possibly dangerous alliance here between the newspaper publishers and the government. The newspapers have been robbing the paper makers and now that the paper makers have been robbing the publishers the government is called in on the side of the publishers. This is a dangerous alliance, dangerous alike to public interest and to the pulp makers. —Adams in Boston News Bureau.

## CHEAPER PAPER.

It is the understanding of the paper trade that the agreement which the newsprint producers have made with the Federal Trade Commission will result in a cut in price of newsprint of about \$10 per ton. This agreement gives the commission the right to name the price of newsprint for a period of six months from March 1 to September 1, 1917.

In making its 1917 contracts International Paper advanced the price of newsprint \$20 per ton. This was an increase of more than 45 per cent and was so material as to cause the publishers to rush to arms. In their case rushing to arms involved going down to Washington to get the federal authorities to do something.

This reduction in price of newsprint involves a considerable monetary loss to International Paper. For the six months it means the cutting off of at least \$2,500,000 of gross income. And it is only fair to state that this \$2,500,000 would have been practically all net because the \$20 per ton increase in price was only partially represented by higher costs of paper production.

## WHITE PINE BLISTER.

Threatening the white pine of this continent, the blister rust is one of many warnings against transplanting. Comparatively harmless in Europe, its introduction here through the planting of European seedlings may result in a serious calamity.

## GUARD THE TREES.

(Brockville Recorder.)

Thousands of trees throughout Canada are being injured by the nailing of advertising matter to them. Not only is the bark injured and the inner layer broken, which gives fungi an opportunity to attack the trees but the spaces behind such signs serve as harbors for moths and other insects. The municipalities should pass by-laws making it an offense punishable by a good stiff penalty to place signs on trees. Better still would be for the Ontario Legislature to pass a law for the whole province covering such vandalism. A number of states of the Union have now such a law and it has proven a powerful deterrent.

## NEWS MILLS BIGGER IN CANADA

Newsprint mills in America worked 310 days last year and Canadian mills 309 days, producing a total of 1,600,666 tons. In March, 1917, 25 United States mills made 86,041 tons as compared with 91,947 tons made by 32 mills in March, 1916. Thirteen Canadian mills in March, 1917, made 48,904 tons while twelve mills made 45,396 tons in the same month last year. Shipments continue to equal or exceed production, though the margin is smaller than a year ago.

The average Canadian mill produced 141 tons per day while the average United States mill made 126 tons daily.

## CANADIAN WOODS BEST FOR BUILDING.

"Canadian Woods for Structural Timbers," is the title of a bulletin (No. 59) just issued by the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior. This bulletin shows as the result of hundreds of tests that several of our native woods are cheaper and better, as structural timbers, than woods which Canadians have been importing for some years. This is gratifying and satisfactory as regards both home and foreign trade in timber. It means much to Canada in war time, as the development of our resources enables us to carry on the campaign effectively. Citizens who are interested may receive a copy of this bulletin free upon application to the Director of Forestry, Ottawa.

## CONSERVATION THE REMEDY.

Conservation of the country's forests as a means of insuring a future paper supply was urged in a statement recently issued by Carl Vrooman, assistant Secretary of Agriculture for the United States. The paper problem, he said, primarily is a forest problem and can be solved by reforestation and scientific forestry to keep up a continuous production of pulp woods.

"At the present moment," the statement said, "we are using daily 6,000 tons of newspaper and this is increasing at the rate of ten per cent a year. We need about seven million cords of pulp a year for all our paper products, and at present only two-thirds of this supply is grown in our own forests. We import a third of our newsprint pulpwood from Canada, and between fifteen and twenty per cent of the pulpwood used for our other paper products from Europe. Since the war this latter source has been cut off.

"In order to render the United States independent of outside sources for paper we must first of all eliminate as much as is feasible of the waste in logging. Then we must re-use old paper and develop wood hitherto unused to any considerable extent.

"Both public and private enterprise must take the lead in the intelligent reforestation of private lands. We must provide for the development of privately-owned timber lands by compelling fire protection and thus checking annual losses amounting to millions of dollars."