

# THE WORST NEWSPRINT SITUATION IN HISTORY

## Consumption in Canada and United States has Increased 30 P.C. Since Commencement of Hostilities

## THE LONG AWAITED DECISION

## MILLS WORK AT CAPACITY

There is a good deal of apprehension in local paper circles regarding the probable effect of a general European conflict on the paper and pulp industry.

in this country. Already manufacturers have taken precautionary steps to anticipate any situation that may arise. Practically all quotations have been withdrawn from the market, and mills are refusing contracts for any long period. Prices are at the

The news print situation is the most acute. Advice from London and Paris state that there is

pronounced shortage of newsprint already in Great Britain and France, which countries receive the bulk of their supplies from Sweden and Finland and Germany, so that there is likely to be a big demand from that direction for Canadian paper providing of course

that shipping facilities are not interfered with or insurance risks not too great. These are features that no one is able to anticipate and paper men generally are reluctant to make any statement regarding the probable outcome.

The consumption of newsprint in Canada and the United States has increased some 30 per cent since the outbreak of hostilities and as the mills in the latter country are facing a shortage in pulp supplies and water power, there has been a very brisk demand on Canadian mills. Our mills have been

running practically to capacity all along so that the increase in production will be rather small. Of course United States mills will be able to increase their output providing they are able to get a sufficient supply of mechanical and chemical pulp, for

There has been considerable inquiry already, but manufacturers here are inclined to await further developments before doing business. In the mean-

time, prices are very hard and a general advance in all lines of newsprint, mechanical and chemical pulp is anticipated within the next few days. The Canadian production of chemical pulp is entirely inadequate to meet the demand from the paper mills; in the two countries, and with the German output

The situation in other branches of the paper trade in Canada is somewhat different. The demand has

begun to fall off on most lines, and will likely be considerably smaller during the next few weeks, but the fact that a big portion of our supplies of the finer grades and rag stock, etc., comes from Great Britain will have an influence on the market. Several of the

local mills have cancelled all contracts for supplies made with British firms and supply houses here. Representing British mills are in a quandary as to what course to follow. In one instance a two years' supply was cabled for, but the outcome of the whole situation will depend on shipping facilities and in-

insurance rates. The United States mills will have no difficulty in procuring supplies of raw materials for these grades, so that an increase in our exports of the finer grades from that country is expected, so that the market here will in all prob-

## FISH PRICES STATIONARY

If it was at all possible to avert it, there would be no advance in the price of food fish on the European war situation, was the gist of a statement to the

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Increased. The equipment is composed of three classes of fishing:—

- (1)—The inshore fisheries;
- (2)—The bank fisheries, in which large schooners are used; and
- (3)—Steam fishing fleet.

"The increased production is also largely dependent upon financial conditions, and if the Canadian banks look after the legitimate trade, I cannot see that prices of sea foods will increase to the consuming public. Atlantic sea fish is to-day a cheap food, and to keep it as such, the people should fall in line, and eat whatever fish are being caught in season, and not demand varieties of foreign fish, which in many cases are as expensive as any other article of diet.

"Fresh haddock, codfish, mackerel, sea herring, smoked fish, halibut, etc., are all staple lines, as well as varieties of lake fish, such as white fish, lake trout and later lake herring.

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### FEDERATION URGES NO AILMENT.

(Exclusive Leased Wire to The Journal of Commerce, London, August 5.—The Federation of Cotton Spinners, has urged on the owners of spinning establishments on American cotton who agreed to a three weeks' suspension of work before September to arrange for the curtailment as speedily as possible. The Cotton Exchange at Manchester will be closed to-day and to-morrow as dealers has found it impossible to transact business owing to the prevailing conditions.

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### "IRON AGE" ON SITUATION.

(Exclusive Leased Wire to The Journal of Commerce, New York, August 5.—The "Iron Age" says: "United States Steel Corporation withdrew prices on all its products Tuesday night and its subsidiaries are now only quoting on business at its arbiters, the negotiations representing in some cases a further advance of \$1 a ton.

"Some intimations of pending advances were abroad in the trade on Tuesday and for the first time the corporation's bookkeeper mentioned.

"Leading producers have instructed their salesmen to enforce the sale to early shipments until situation is clearer."