

THE OBSERVER

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The DAYLIGHT

A. L. BAIRD - - Hartland, N. B.

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Use of Hard Wood in Maine

Had Reciprocity Become Law Such
Industries Might Have Been
Established Here

(Bangor Commercial)

Despite the fact that only about 33 per cent of usual spruce cut will be taken out of the Maine woods during the coming winter, the annual harvest of birch and other hardwoods will be fully up to last year's record. The hardwood operators are now getting their camps in readiness for the season's campaign and two weeks from now they will be actively engaged in cutting. By far the greater part of the part of the hardwood will be made into spool bars, a large proportion of which will be shipped to England and Scotland by tramp steamers next summer. Last blocks and railroad shims will also be extensively manufactured.

About the largest hardwood operators in this section of Maine are the American Thread Co. at Milo, to John McGregor Co. at South Lincoln and Foxcroft and the Perkins & Danforth Spoolwood Co. of Bangor who will operate mills at West Sebois and Ambejeus as they have for several seasons. They will discontinue their mill at Katahdin Iron Works, however, and will saw at La Grange where they have purchased the Snell & Sons mill. All of the birch manufactured here will be shipped in by rail. A considerable quantity of it will come from Katahdin Iron Works, although it will be cut by other operators and purchased by Perkins & Danforth. They expect to manufacture between 9,000 and 10,000 cords of birch into spool wood this winter and will employ between 250 and 300 men in the woods.

The work of cutting the hardwood will be commenced as soon as the camps are in readiness and some of the operators have already commenced sending their crews to the woods. The logs are sawed into four foot lengths and piled as fast as they are cut. This work continues up to the time that a sufficient amount of snow to make good hauling has fallen. Then the wood is hauled to the railroad stations or to the mills and the manufacturing of the spool bars commences.

Most of the mills run up to April 1 and some of them for several weeks longer. Night and day crews are put in in a number of them and the saws are kept going day and night until the entire season's of birch has become exhausted. The American Thread Co. manufactures its own spools at Milo but Perkins & Danforth export all of their spool bars to England and Scotland and they are manufactured into spools there. The bars are made in a number of different sizes and are put up in bundles, each of which consist about ten feet.

Less Lumber to be Cut

Reports from Eastern Maine says that the lumber cut during the coming winter will be from 25 to 40 per cent less than last year. One reason for this is the low water in early spring. During May the streams had nowhere near their usual pitch, and the result was that many millions of feet of lumber were left in the woods. This will be taken out next spring and all saved. The New York lumber is and has been dead, and this frightens many of the small operators, who say that there would be no money in the woods for them under present conditions. They are the ones who will be chiefly hit. The big companies have their own mills and yards, and in western Maine, at least, will cut their usual stumpage.—Springfield Republican.

"Killing the Goose"

A travelling salesman writes us that wherever he goes in Nova Scotia he notices in some stores and store windows, posters advertising farm laborers' excursions to the West. And then he adds this significant comment: "Seems as though the merchants were trying to encourage people to leave Nova Scotia." We cannot imagine what inducement there would be for a dealer to post such advertisements in his store. It cannot be that the railway pays for the privilege. And even if the railway were willing to pay as much as the service is worth, we think the dealer foolish who would accept the offer. If he wishes to exercise his influence in any way it should be in the direction of keeping the men at home. On purely selfish grounds it should be so; for if people are encouraged by him to go away, is the dealer killing the goose that lays the golden egg?

No doubt sheer thoughtlessness accounts for the action of the merchants mentioned by our travelling friend. Our advice then would be for every merchant to watch little actions like this and think of their possible effect on the country and ultimately on himself. If he doesn't feel prepared to argue with people about the significance of going away he can at least do a little prevention work by not helping the railways gratuitously to entice our able bodied men away the exact season when we most need them at home. But every reader of the Merchant ought by this time to be able to talk against the habit of going West. If he needs any incentive to use his efforts in this way, surely he only needs to consider his own interests. Every man enticed out of the community means just that much trade lost to the merchant. He ought to be up in arms against it.—Maritime Merchant.

When They Will Resign

If the precedent set by the governments defeated in the past is followed, it will be at least a fortnight before Sir Wilfred Laurier and his Ministers formally hand in their resignations. Sir Charles Tupper was defeated on June 23, 1896. Within a day or two after the election the members of his cabinet came to Ottawa, and held a series of cabinet meetings to clear up business which had accumulated while they were campaigning.

Sir Wilfred Laurier and his Colleagues will doubtless follow a similar course.

In 1896 Sir Charles Tupper's Government filled a number of vacancies which Lord Aberdeen, the then Governor-General, refused to sign. In view of this precedent no appointments are likely to be made.

The new ministers, when named, will, of course, have to go back to their constituencies for re-elections, but as most of the cabinet 'probabilities' have been elected by a safe majority, it would not be surprising if they are practically all returned by acclamation.

The necessary steps to bring about a change in administration will take some weeks, and it is likely to be some time in November before the Borden administration meets for organization.

In the meantime the necessary money to carry on the public service will have to be raised by the Governor-General's warrant.

WATCH THIS SPACE

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