

Canadian Woodworker

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR ALL CLASSES OF WOODWORKERS

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CANADIAN WOODWORKER

A Monthly Journal for all classes of
Woodworkers.

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Practical men are invited to send to the Editor signed articles or paragraphs upon any subject of interest to their fellow woodworkers.

"CHEAP" VERSUS GOOD MACHINERY.

Not which machine can be obtained for the least outlay of money, but which machine is the best adapted to carry on its work in the most efficient way and with the least expenditure for repairs is the true criterion in the selection of machinery for woodworking purposes. A thousand dollars saved in first cost represents but poor economy if the article purchased will not turn out as large a quantity of product as will another make, or if the finish or quality of that product is not equal. The most successful planing mill men recognize this fact already, and will not buy a "cheap" machine at any price, but there are a good many smaller mills, in the country districts or elsewhere, where this truth still remains to be brought home. In some lines of industry, notably in the metal trades, the manufacturers have pretty thoroughly learned the lesson of sacrificing first cost to the more essential principle of getting the BEST tools that money will buy, and they have found this policy to be cheaper in the end. A woodworking specialist has figured out that the difference in quality and quantity of output between a high-class machine at, say, \$2,000 and one that will represent the lower grade at, say, \$1,000 (a big difference here!) will show a comparison of earning power in absolute favor of the more expensive machine. He figures interest at five per cent. and depreciation, taxes and insurance even at the high figure of twenty per cent., and shows that the annual excess charges for the higher priced machine would only be \$250. This amounts to only about 80 cents for each working day. Not only this, but the good machine is sure to be the most durable, and, therefore, prove the least costly in the matter of repairs.

Of course, this does not mean that a woodworker should in all cases select a high-cost machine rather than a cheaper. It simply means that the most value for one's money does not always, or generally, bear strict relation to first cost. Reputation of the manufacturer of the machine is generally a pretty sure guide.

TORONTO EXHIBITION.

The Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto, to be held from August 29th to September 12th, bids fair to prove the most successful, even in its long line of successes. To woodworkers, as to those engaged in every other line of industry, it should prove particularly interesting, as some of the best types of woodworking machinery will be well represented. The Processes of Manufactures Building alone should be sufficient to bring crowds to Toronto this year, but besides that there will be exhibits from every part of the Dominion and from many other sections of the globe, which will render this year's Fair a magnet to hundreds of thousands of people of every kind and taste imaginable.

The Executive of the Toronto Exhibition are certainly to be congratulated on the manner in which, year after year, they rise to the occasion. As each Fair makes its appearance, one is apt to think that now the summit, the acme of perfection, has been reached. Yet, in the result, the crowds go home after each year's display and say: "This is the best yet." There are sure signs that this will be the case in 1908.

—The terrible forest fires in British Columbia, which devastated a tract of country fifty miles long, destroyed several large sawmills as well as whole towns and villages, and rendered thousands of people homeless, are an object lesson in the results of negligence. The fires had been burning for weeks before the wind swept the conflagration over doomed Fernie. Yet, British Columbia's forest regulations were not sufficient to prevent the ruin and terror which ensued. In forest value alone at least \$5,000,000 damage was done.

—In the new Australian tariff the duty on furniture made of wood in the general tariff remains unchanged but the preferential tariff has been increased from 25 to 30 per cent. Elm hubs with metal bands, known as Sarven hubs, are free but other prepared hubs are dutiable at 1s. each. Articles formerly classed as bent poles are now classed as poles for vehicles and are dutiable at 30 and 25 per cent.