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Situate twenty-one miles from the city of Three Rivers and six miles from Shawinigan Falls, the town of Grand'Mere derives its name from the profile of a great rock which was formerly in the St. Maurice river. When the dam, which plays an essential part in the securing of the needful supply of water, was built, this great rock was blasted out, and was later carefully placed by engineers, exactly as it was before, in a commanding position in the town. The place is noteworthy as the location of the Laurentide Company Ltd., which, in point of newsprint production, is recognized as among the biggest paper mills in Canada.

Affiliated with this company is the Laurentide Power Company, the power house of which was completed in 1915 when electrical power was substituted for the hydraulic equipment previously used in the paper mills. There are six units at present in operation, and three others are under construction. Each water wheel will develop about 25,000 horse power at 85 feet head and 120 revolutions a minute. At present, the Laurentide Company Ltd., uses about 25,000 electrical horse power, the balance developed going out over the lines of the Shawinigan Water and Power Company. The Laurentide Power Company employs about thirty men.

Large Output of Paper Mills.

The Laurentide Company Ltd. turns out daily, on an average, about 285 tons of newsprint, cardboard and wrapping paper. Two new machines, which will shortly be in operation, will increase this daily output to about 435 tons, of which, at a conservative estimate, about 375 tons will be newsprint. The employees in the paper mills number somewhere around 1900, while a force of 4,500 woodsmen is required to cut the trees for the annual supply of pulpwood. Of this, about seventy per cent. comes from land leased by the Company from the Quebec government. Practically all the pulpwood used comes down the St. Maurice river in the spring and summer months, and spruce and balsam form the major part of it.

Six newsprint machines, one machine for the manufacture of cardboard, and one for the manufacture of wrapping paper, run continuously for twenty-four hours in the day. Each of the two new machines, just mentioned as being under construction, will turn out a sheet of paper 166 inches in width.

Groundwood and Sulphite Departments.

In the groundwood department, where groundwood pulp is manufactured, the wood is ground into bits against grindstones which revolve at high speed. Seven lines of two grinders each are in operation at present, and three new sets of two each are under construction which will give an additional daily capacity of 120 tons of groundwood pulp, the present daily capacity of this department being 280 tons of air dry pulp daily.

In the sulphite department, where sulphite pulp is produced, the daily production (six digesters being in use at present) is 170 tons.

GRAND 'MERE

A Quebec Town which has been turned into an Industrial Utopia by the Commercial Success and Human Sympathy of the Laurentide Company.

By A. R. R. JONES

a gently-inclined floor makes the task of wrapping, weighing and labelling, a matter of comparative simplicity.

It should be added that about thirty-five freight cars are required daily for the needs of the mill, most of which are required to transport the newsprint. The electrical devices for handling the heavy rolls used in the shipping shed are of the latest improved kind.

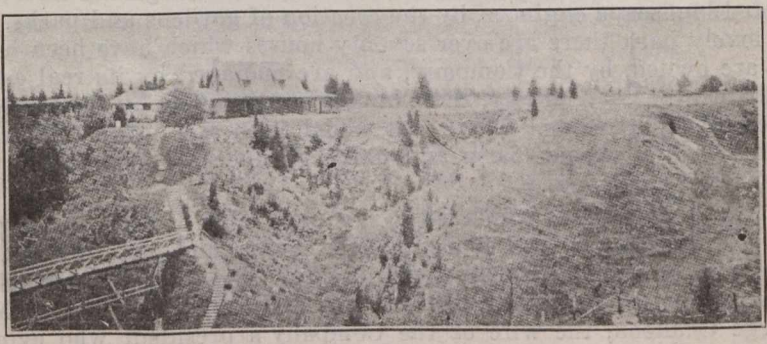
Company's History and Officers.

In the early 'eighties the business carried on was that of a saw mill and pulp mill, and until 1897 pulp only was manufactured. In that year, construction was started on the paper and sulphite mill. Two years later, three digesters and three paper machines were in operation, and this era marked the development of the Company along its present lines. In 1902, Mr. George Chahoon, Jr., the present President of the Company, assumed the management, and under his direction, and owing to the fact that he has associated with himself men of marked business acumen and progressive tendencies, the growth of the concern has been steadily and satisfactorily maintained. Mr. Charles R. Hosmer is vice-president of the Company; Mr. Louis Armstrong, treasurer; and Mr. William F. Robinson, secretary.

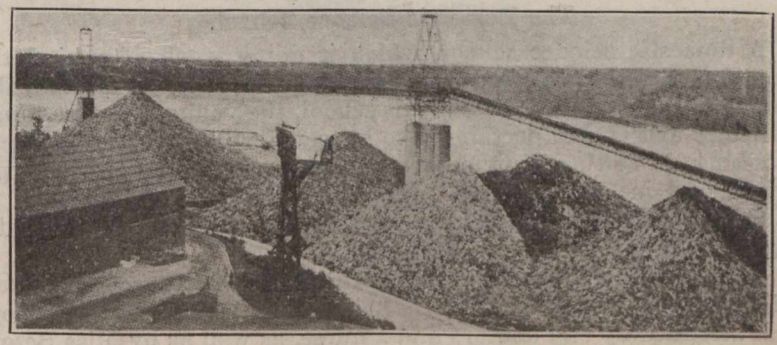
It is impossible to pay a visit to the Laurentide plant without being impressed, in the highest degree, with the evidences of up-to-dateness in every field of activity connected with the paper industry, which confront one on every hand. There is the last word in completeness of equipment. But not less impressive, as testifying to the prevision of those who direct the destinies of the Company, is what one is told of the far-sighted policy that has been adopted by the forestry department. In connection with this department, the Company has instituted at Prouix, a few miles from Grand'Mere, a modern nursery, where trees are safely seen through the early stages of their career and are then transplanted in the woods. A quarter of a century's growth will turn them, it is estimated, into merchantable timber. Last spring, a total of some 800,000 young trees, three and four years of age, were thus transplanted, and according to the admirable booklet issued by the Company, and to which the writer is indebted for much of the specific details with regard to production, etc., which have been given here, it is hoped that this nursery at Prouix will be so developed as to produce 5,000,000 trees a year, which is about the annual cut required.

A Modern Industrial Utopia.

While at Grand'Mere, the writer had a long and extremely interesting talk with Mrs. A. Wonder, the Company's unemployment manager. And as she unfolded detail after detail of the Company's



Club House at Golf Course, at Grand Mere built by Mrs. George Chahoon, Jr., and donated to Golf Club



Wood Pile and Conveyor