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British Columbia Forest Production in 1919

Annual Report of Forest Branch of Provincial Government Shows Small Decrease in Lumber Cut but a Large Expansion in Value of Production.

We published in our issue of February 21st last an advance statement of the Forest Branch of the Department of Lands, Victoria, covering the estimated forest production for British Columbia for the year ending December 31st, 1919, given out by the Honorable T. D. Pattullo, Minister of Lands.

We are now in receipt of the definitive report of the Forest Branch which contains a resume of the work of the branch for the calendar year 1919, and the statistics of production for the same period. In connection with the various phases of the department's activities, the report states:

In March last the department secured for the mills of the Province an order for 70,000,000 feet of lumber from the Imperial Government. In order to handle this business successfully the exporting mills formed a company, named the "Associated Timber Exporters of British Columbia, Ltd.," with headquarters in Vancouver. At December 31st this company had shipped 49,000,000 feet of the order, and had been able to take care of considerable new overseas business besides.

In May Sir James Ball, British Government Timber Controller, and Montagu Meyer, British Government Buyer, visited this Coast and were provided every possible opportunity to study logging and lumber manufacturing methods here at first hand, as well as to view areas of British Columbia's standing timber. The members of the Imperial press party accompanying His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales were accorded a similar opportunity in September.

Water-borne export of lumber from British Columbia in 1919 is shown in the table following value of production. It will be noted that the total shows an increase of 17,000,000 feet over the previous year, largely due to increased business with the United Kingdom.

To assist in developing trade in Eastern Canada a branch office was opened in Toronto in June, with a commissioner in charge. Difficulty was experienced in procur-

ing suitable premises, but a lease of ground floor offices on Adelaide Street East, Toronto, has now been secured and a suitable display of British Columbia woods is being installed.

Development work is being carried on amongst engineers, architects, contractors, wood-product manufacturers, manual-training schools, etc., with a view to increasing the demand for British Columbia woods.

An exhibit of British Columbia woods and wood products was made at the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, in August and September. The display was viewed by over 2,000,000 people, attracted great attention, brought many inquiries, and was awarded the gold medal and diploma of the Canadian National Exhibition Association.

A survey of conditions in the Prairie Provinces was made during the summer and publicity work carried on there by means of booklets distributed amongst the farmers; 60,000 of these booklets were published and splendid assistance was rendered by the Agricultural Branch of the University of Saskatchewan in distributing these from its "Better Farming Trains."

Besides the above-mentioned booklets, 20,000 pamphlets descriptive of British Columbia woods and wood products were specially prepared for and distributed at the National Exhibition, Toronto, while advertising in connection with the exhibit and to draw attention to the opening of the Toronto office was carried in trade journals in Eastern Canada.

A campaign to advertise British Columbia red cedar shingles throughout the Prairies and Eastern Canada was inaugurated jointly with the manufacturers and is now being carried on in the daily and weekly press and trade journals.

After a lull in building operations during the war years, the beginning of 1919 found the whole world hungry for lumber, but the industrial and shipping situation still suffering from war effects.

After an uncertain opening the domestic market developed briskly, but was checked sharply by labor troubles in the Prairie and Eastern cities, while prospective crop

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IN 1919.

EXPANSION IN PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL
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ELEMENTS OF MARINE INSURANCE AND
THEIR POLICIES.

NET FIRE PREMIUMS AND NET FIRE
LOSSES, 1919

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY IN
BRITISH COLUMBIA.

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