

LOGGING AND LUMBERING IN NEW BRUNSWICK

(Continued from page 2)
The duration of the cutting or felling season continues from about the middle of September to the end of the year.

Skidding and Skidways.

After the logs are cut, they must be moved for assembling to convenient locations—called skidways. These skidways are adjacent to the main haulage road—the road along which, later on, the logs will be hauled to the water.

The old way of skidding logs to the skidways was by the use of oxen. Later, however, because of their greater activity and responsiveness to command, were and are still commonly used. The best modern practice, however, uses steam power machinery.

In power skidding or "yarding" engines of different types are employed, which operate a winch or drum to pull out or take in cable. There are three methods of power skidding: dragging the log along the ground by a straight haul; dragging the log along the ground by means of a cable leading from the engine to a lead block suspended near the top of a spar tree standing close by and thence to the log; and carrying the log suspended or partly suspended, by means of a wire hung between two supports, with a trolley carrier. Local conditions determine which of these systems should be employed for skidding logs and piling them on the skidways. Power yarding is very common in British Columbia.

Each skidway holds from 50 to 100 logs; although some skidways may contain as many as 500 logs, but these are exceptional.

Before the logs are piled on the skidways, they are stamped several times, on both the sawn ends and near the periphery, with a stamping hammer, with the owner's mark of identification to enable them to be picked out after they are put into the water, should they become mixed with the logs of other lumbermen.

When the logs are piled on the skidway, they are "soiled" or measured by a "scaler" and his assistant. These men measure the diameter of each log and its length, and calculate, with the help of a log rule table, the board feet in each log. This they record. Culls are marked on the sawn ends with a blue cross. Deductions are made for culls and defective logs (frocks, injuries, rot, etc.). The scaler and his assistant can scale 1,000-1,500 logs a day, and 75,000-120,000 logs in a season.

When the skidding is done, the next operation is to haul the logs from their skidway locations, along main haulage roads, to the banks of the lakes or streams which will float them to the sawmills.

Where this haul is short, horses are frequently used; but where it is long, steam power is employed. The steam engines used may be locomotives, operating over wooden or steel tracks, or of the tractor type or they may utilize the winches and cable to draw sledges-carriers. If the latter are used, the logs are rolled together by a derrick of chained logs. The boom is drawn to its destination by steam tugs in the case of lake waters; or, in the case of rivers, it is driven forward by the current. When the streams are shallow and narrow, dams are built to deepen and widen the water. On reaching the dam, the logs are driven individually over the dam. In due course the logs arrive at the saw mill or mills.

Sawing the Logs.

In some cases sawmills are taken to the logs. These are portable mills, and saw the logs near the cutting centre. When the portable mill is used it is usually to provide lumber for local requirements.

The great sawmills of Canada are situated on the banks of navigable rivers. The great sawmills of Canada are situated on the banks of navigable rivers.

THE EMPTY, RAGGEDY STOCKINGS.
What of the empty, raggedy stockings That will hang by the chimney on Christmas eve.
With their mute appeals from the poor little owners To the dear old Santa in whom they believe?

For their share of his presents they ask such a little.
"Just a dolly to hold in my arms while I sleep.
A little tin auto that runs when you wind it.
A sounding red drum or a woolly white sheep."

The only light in their dim, dark existence Is that wonderful day when old Santa will come
With his treasure filled pack that he brings on his back
From his fairyland, snowland, toy-land home.

What beautiful dreams will come to them sleeping
Under the coverlet shabby and worn;
But what of the empty, ragged stockings That will hang by the chimney on Christmas morn

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER.

In praying and praising, in giving and receiving,
In eating and drinking, in singing and making merry,
In parents' gladness and in children's mirth,
In dear memories of those who have departed,
In good comradeship with those who are here,
In kind wishes for those who are away,
In patient waiting, sweet contentment, generous cheer,
God bless us every one, this day, with the blessing of Jesus.
—Henry Van Dyke.

streams or lakes, which form log rafts, the logs lying bunched in the water to prevent their escape, and crowded together to economize water space.

The logs are drawn as required by power machinery into the mills, and there cut by circular or band saws according to specification, length, width and thickness. They may be cut to make the ordinary lumber of commerce, or as railroad ties or sleepers, or as heavy bridge timber, or as deck logs for ships, or as ships' timber.

When the logs are cut, the resulting lumber or timber, if not immediately to be dispatched by rail, vessel or barge to some buyer, port or yard, is piled in adjacent lumber yards, where to remain until sold. The lumber is piled according to variety of wood, and length, width and thickness of board, and is arranged in such a way that the air may pass through the pile to dry out every piece. Where quick drying is necessary kilns are employed.

Many sawmills have planing mills attached to them, and manufacturers of semi-manufacture the lumber produced in the sawmills. Examples of such manufactures are flooring, ceiling, siding, moulding, interior finish, veneer, boxing, sash frames, doors, sills, shingles.

Some of Canada's largest sawmills have a capacity of 100,000 board feet a day, or 40,000,000 board feet a year, and can handle logs well over 100 ft. in length. Others specialize in particular classes of lumber.

Canada has nearly 3,000 timber and pulp-wood mills, with an annual production in excess of 4,000,000,000 board feet. The number of men employed in logging and milling operations is from 50,000 to 55,000. Of merchantable saw timber, it is estimated that the Dominion still possesses between 500 and 750 million board feet, covering an area of 250,000,000 acres.

This colossal acreage suggests the magnitude of the labour involved in the cruising of timber tracts, and in

refelling, logging, skidding, driving, sawing and transporting Canada's timber wealth.

Details are lacking respecting the production of wood products in the planing mill industry since the Census of 1917, when that output reached a total value of \$20,347,145, as compared with \$16,472,957 in 1915. Included in this industry are establishments capitalized at \$37,841,915 in 1917, and having for their main purpose the making of dressed and matched lumber, and its further manufacture into sash, doors and blinds, and other interior woodwork of houses, as well as into boxes and packing cases.

Considerable interest is being taken in Canada at the present time in the question of the utilization of hard woods, such as birch, maple, beech, elm, and bass wood, large quantities of which still remain in the Dominion, although there has been in the past appalling waste in the utilization of these valuable woods, never so plentiful in Canada as in the United States.

In 1917, the latest year for which complete figures are available, Canadian sawmills reported the production of 147,165,000 board feet of what are classed as hardwoods, i. e., all woods other than conifers, but the future of the industry largely depends upon the care which is taken within the next few years in the development of the young forests already established and upon their preservation from fire and insect pests.

Vivid descriptions of the life, passions, conflicts and adventures of the picturesque lumber-jacks and river-men, and of the warring of lumber-kings against the forces of competition, nature and time could be given, indicating the perils, vicissitudes, hardships and resources of lumbering and lumbermen; the magnitude of the capital and effort required to carry on the business of lumbering; and the culture of the whole of the business attracts, and on whom the world depends for the wood indispensable to its existence. These aspects, together with the methods of marketing the

sawn lumber and the demand for Canadian lumber, are outside the scope of this article, which merely outlines the business of lumbering in Canada as it relates to the physical and mechanical operations.

CHRISTMAS.

Sound over all waters, reach out from all lands,
The chorus of voices, the clapping of hands;
Sing hymns that were sung by the stars of the morn,
Sing songs of the angels when Jesus was born!

With glad jubilation
Bring hope to the nations!
The dark night is ending and dawn has begun;
Rise, hope of the ages, arise like the sun,
All speech flow to music, all hearts beat as one!
Sing the bride of nations, with chorals of love,
Sing out the war vulture and sing in the dove,
Fill the hearts of the people keep time in accord
And the voice of the world is the voice of the Lord!

Chap hands of the nations
In strong gratulations;
The dark night is ending and dawn has begun;
Rise, hope of the ages, arise like the sun,
All speech flow to music, all hearts beat as one!

Blow, bugler of battle, the marches of peace;
East, west, north and south, let the long quarrel cease.
Sing of glory to God, peace to men of good will!
Hark, joining in chorus,
The heavens bend o'er us!

The dark night is ending and dawn has begun;
Rise, hope of the ages, arise like the sun,
All speech flow to music, all hearts beat as one!

—John Greenleaf Whittier.

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