

Lumber, Lath, Shingle and Square Timber Statistics for 1912.

New Bulletin of Forestry Branch, Ottawa Shows Great Decrease in Production.

The most noteworthy fact brought to light by this new bulletin on the lumber production of Canada was the 10.7 per cent. decrease in cut in 1912 as compared with that of 1911. All provinces except Saskatchewan showed a substantial falling off in production and, although only 2,558 firms operating saw mills reported in 1912 as against 2,871 in 1911, yet, as the bulletin points out, it was mostly small mills which failed to report, and the fact that most of the larger mills reported a decrease in their output, indicates that the decrease in production actually took place and was not a result of incomplete returns.

The total value of the lumber, laths, shingles and square timber produced in Canada in 1911 was \$76,540,897, the amount of each being as follows:—

Lumber	..4,389,723,000 ft. b.m.	..\$69,475,784
Shingles	..1,578,343,000 pieces...	3,175,319
Laths	... 899,016,000 pieces...	2,064,622
Sq. timber	65,906 tons....	1,825,154

Ontario still leads the provinces in lumber production, cutting 31.6 per cent. of the total. British Columbia makes a close second, cutting 29.9 per cent. of the total, and as the percentage of production in this latter province is increasing while that of Ontario is falling off, it is likely that the position of these two provinces will be seen to be reversed when the 1913 figures are available.

For the last five years the four principal species in order of importance have been spruce, white pine, Douglas fir, and hemlock, but the production of white pine has remained about stationary during this period and is now on the decrease, whereas the production of the other three species has enormously increased, especially spruce, which now makes up a third of the total cut of lumber, in spite of the fact that it also is the principal wood used in the manufacture of pulp, making up 78.2 per cent. of the total amount of pulpwood. The huge amount of spruce now being cut for pulp-

SOFTWOODS		HARDWOODS	
SPRUCE	1,409,311	BIRCH	100,267
WHITE PINE	911,427	MAPLE	77,827
DOUGLAS FIR	689,861	BASSWOOD	52,921
HEMLOCK	553,238	ELM	32,949
CEDAR	156,022	BEECH	15,417
RED PINE	142,294	ASH	12,386
ALL OTHERS	237,583	POPLAR	7,523
		ALL OTHERS	10,697

Production by species 1912 of lumber, lath, shingles and square timber
with quantities in thousands of feet.