

British Columbia a Great Producer

By Wm. Turnbull, B.C., Lumber Commissioner.

Victoria, B.C.

British Columbia has over 400 saw mills, ranging in capacity from 5,000 to 200,000 board feet per shift, and including the largest saw mill in the world. Over 50 per cent of the mills are on the coast, and they manufacture 80 per cent of the total cut.

The huge logs are handled by powerful machinery, not being touched by hand until sawn into lumber.

British Columbia's annual timber cut is about two billion feet. We have a large but variable market on the Canadian prairies; a large and steadily growing outlet in Eastern Canada and the Eastern States, but we look to overseas markets for much of our future growth, and we do not think we are looking in vain.

Our overseas trade has grown from 43 million feet in 1916 to 146 million in 1920, and returns for the first six months of 1921 gave 72 million feet, which is satisfactory considering general world trade conditions. In 1920, the United Kingdom and the Continent was our largest overseas buyer, with 61 million feet, Australia was next with 32 million, and China third with 15 million. India, New Zealand, South America, Japan, Mexico, Straits Settlements, West Indies and the Philippines absorbed the balance.

We have four pulp and two paper plants, and production has grown from practically nothing in 1912 to an output of 136,832 tons of newsprint, 9,792 tons of wrapping, 5,300 tons of sulphite, and 9,000 tons of sulphate pulp in 1920. With abundant water-power, supply of 180 billion feet of timber saw-log sizes of species suitable for pulp, large stands of young growth working day and night from spring to fall to attain pulping size, and splendid harbour facilities, this industry is capable of enormous development.

Five new pulp companies are preparing to start operating, and more will follow. Pulp stands in Eastern Canada and the Eastern States are being rapidly depleted, and the attention of the manufacturer and the capitalist is turning to the West.

DOUGLAS MALLOCH, THE AUTHOR.

By an inadvertance, the poem published on the Editorial page for December, entitled, "The Christmas Tree," was not credited to Douglas Malloch, the Lumberman Poet, as should have been the case. The magazine regrets the omission.

PORTUGUESE TREE SAYINGS.

In many places where timber trees are to be found in Portugal, one sees the following inscription:

"Ye who pass by and would raise your hand against me, harken ere you harm me."

"I am the heat of your hearth on the cold winter nights, the friendly shade

screening you from the summer sun, and my fruits are refreshing draughts quenching your thirst as you journey on.

"I am the beam that holds your house, the board of your table, the bed on which you lie, and the timber that builds your boat.

"I am the handle of your hoe, the door of your homestead, the wood of your cradle, and the shell of your coffin.

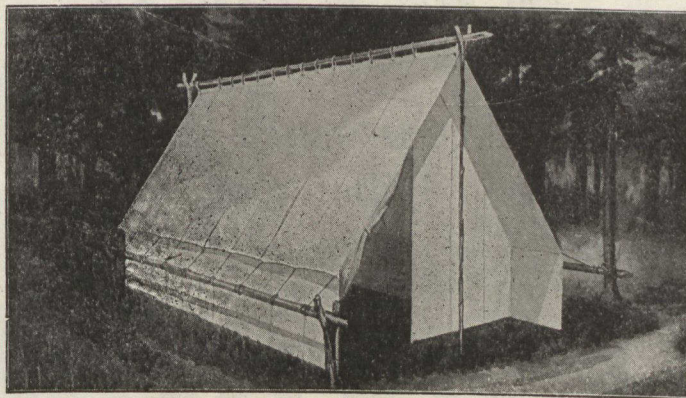
"I am the bread of kindness and the flower of beauty.

"Ye who pass by, listen to my prayer; harm me not."

Grant - Holden - Graham

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