Poles Purchased in Canada in 1912.

The statistics in this bulletin are based on reports received from 207 telephone companies, 131 electric light and power concerns, 29 electric railways, 18 steam railways (operating telegraph and telephone lines), and 4 telegraph companies. These 389 companies reporting purchases in 1912 represent at least 95% of the wooden pole users in Canada, and the figures in this bulletin include at least 95% of the poles purchased in 1912. Pole users are divided into two groups, with steam railways, telephone and telegraph companies forming one group, and electric railway, power and light companies the other.

Table 1 shows the number, total value, average value and per cent. distribution of poles purchased in Canada in 1911 and

1912.

There were 608,556 wooden poles reported as having been purchased in 1912, an increase of 22,853 poles, or 3.9%, over 1911. While this increase is slight, it follows a decided decrease from 1910 to 1911. The average pole has a life of at least ten years, and the demand for poles is therefore more or less intermittent, depending on the building of new pole lines.

Altogether nine kinds of wood were reported for poles in 1912, with eastern cedar heading the list, as in past years. Cedar has been, and probably will be for some time, the most popular wood for telegraph, telephone and other pole lines. Although the purchases in 1912 show a decrease, wood for this purpose need not be specially strong or hard, as there is little or no mechanical strain to be endured. Durability in contact with the soil, lightness, and a slender tapering form are most essential, and cedar seems to fit those requirements better than any other native wood used in an untreated state. The use of the British Columbia species of cedar (Thuja pli-cata) has increased in the last few years, with the decrease in the supply of poles of the eastern species in the greater length classes. While these poles are not so strong nor so durable as those of eastern cedar, they can be obtained in greater lengths, and the source of supply is more easily accessible. The two species of cedar together formed over 85% of the total. Balsam fir was re-ported for the first time in 1912. It is being used more and more each year for all purposes, especially in the Maritime Provinces, where the supply of pine is beginning to fall below the demand. As far as form and lightness are concerned, this should make excellent pole material, if its lack of durability were made up for by some preservative treatment. Increases are to be noted in the use of western cedar, tamarack, spruce and chestnut, with balsam fir added to the list, and decreases in the use of eastern cedar, jack pine, Douglas fir and hem-lock. No poles were reported in 1912 of red, white or yellow pine.

The average prices given in tables are based on the cost at point of purchase, and may or may not include transportation charges. Only in the case of those woods which are used in large quantities can the values given be taken to represent the relative value of the wood. The average value of poles in 1912 was \$1.83, an increase of only 3 cents over 1911. A slight increase was recorded in the case of eastern cedar, and other increases to be noted are in the value of spruce and jack pine poles. All other kinds of wood

decreased in value, and the balsam fir reported in 1912 was valued at an average below the general average for 1911.

Steam railways, telephone and telegraph companies reported the purchase

average value of \$1.51 per pole is an increase from 1911. The average values of poles purchased by this class of pole line companies is always less than with the electric railway, power and light concerns, as the steam railway and telephone companies are usually closer to the source of supply and purchase their

Number Value Average Per Value Cent.	TABLE 1		1911				1	912				
Total. 585,703 \$1,056,277 \$1.80 100.0 608,556 \$1,113,524 \$1.83 100.0 Cedar. 463,234 746,854 1.61 79.1 378,369 613,580 1.62 62.2 Western Cedar 72,354 216,444 2.99 12.4 144,222 408,472 2.83 23.7 Balsam Fir. 38,000 30,400 30,400 30,400 20,80 62,1 amarack. 28,226 40,410 1.43 4.8 36,158 46,822 1.29 5.9 Spruce. 8744 8.983 1.02 1.5 9,127 10,334 1.13 1.5 Jack Pine. 5,364 8.983 1.02 1.5 9,127 10,334 1.13 1.5 Jack Pine. 7,906 29,994 3.79 1.3 612 994 1.62 0.1 Chestrutt. 150 788 5.25 *228 147 0.64 *4 Hemlock. 5555 936 1.69 0.1 50 65 1.30 *Red Pine. 68 728 10.71 *8 White Pine. 68 728 10.71 *8 White Pine. 68 728 10.71 *8 Yellow Pine. 30 280 9.33 *2 Unspecified. 942 5,820 6.18 0.2 STEAM RAILWAYS, TELEPHONES AND TELEGRAPHS Total. 521,572 \$764,398 \$1.47 89.1 549,560 \$830,793 \$1.51 90.3 Cedar. 422,588 595,880 1.41 81.0 341,240 462,964 1.36 62.1 Western Cedar. 57,597 112,234 1.95 11.0 122,925 278,846 2.27 22.4 Balsam Fir. 38,000 90,400 0.80 6.9 Tamarack. 28,213 40,394 1.43 5.4 36,158 46,822 1.29 6.6 Spruce. 8,577 8,730 1.02 1.6 8,567 7.869 0.2 1.6 Jack Pine. 3,318 2,986 90 0.6 1,790 2,710 1.51 0.3 Douglas Fir. 612 995 1.60 0.1 40 40 1.00 *8 Red Pine. 156 2,054 13.17 *8 White Pine. 68 728 10.71 *8 11.0 122,925 278,846 2.27 22.4 Balsam Fir. 38,000 0.00,400 0.80 6.9 Tamarack. 28,213 40,394 1.43 5.4 36,158 46,822 1.29 6.6 Spruce. 8,577 8,730 1.02 1.6 8,567 7.869 0.2 1.6 Jack Pine. 3,318 2,986 90 0.6 1,790 2,710 1.51 0.3 Douglas Fir. 612 995 1.60 0.1 40 1.00 *8 Red Pine. 156 2,054 13.17 *8 White Pine. 68 728 10.71 *8 Unspecified. 500 456 91 0.1 40 1.00 *8 Red Pine. 156 2,054 13.17 *8 Unspecified. 500 456 91 0.1 40 1.00 *8 Red Pine. 156 2,054 13.17 *8 Unspecified. 500 456 91 0.1 40 1.00 *8 Red Pine. 156 2,054 13.17 *8 Unspecified. 500 456 91 0.1 40 1.00 *8 Red Pine. 156 2,054 13.17 *8 Unspecified. 500 456 91 0.1 40 1.00 \$8 1.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00 4.00								1				
Total. 585.703 \$1.056.277 \$1.80 100.0 608.556 \$1.113.524 \$1.83 100.0 Cedar. 463.234 746.854 1.61 79.1 378.369 613.580 1.62 62.2 Cedar. 463.234 746.854 1.61 79.1 378.369 613.580 1.62 62.2 2.2 408.472 2.83 23.7 Balsam Fir	KIND OF WOOD	Number	Value			Number	Value					
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Balsam Fir. 7 amarack. 28 226												
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STEAM RAILWAYS, TELEPHONES AND TELEGRAPHS Total	Yellow Pine	30	280	9.33	*							
Total 521,572 \$ 764,398 \$1.47 89 1 549,560 \$ 830,793 \$1.51 90.3 \$1.51 Qcdar.	Unspecified	942	5,820	6.18	0.2							
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Balsam Fir.												
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Douglas Fir. 7,906 29,994 3,79 12,3 Chestnut. 150 788 5,25 0,2 Yellow Pine. 30 280 9,33 * Tamarack. 13 16 1,23 * Unspecified. 442 5,364 12,14 0,7	Hemlock	101	23.	1.33	0.3				0.5			
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Yellow Pine 30 280 9.33 * Tamarack 13 16 1.23 * Unspecified 442 5.364 12.14 0.7	Chestnut	150										
Tamarack	Yellow Pine	30			*							
Unspecified	Tamarack	13	1		*							
* Less than one tenth of one per cent.	Unspecified	442	5,36	1 12.14	0.7							
	* Less than one tenth of one p	per cent.	72 1750					The state of	THE ST			

			A PART PART	1 200	MAIN DISTRICT			
TABLE 2 KIND OF WOOD	Number	Value Il Length Cl	Average Value	Per Cent.	Number	Value eet (66.1	Average	Cent.
	I Otal A	ii Length Ci	asses		20-25 T	eet (00.1	Per C	ent.)
T . 1	100 FF1	04 440 504						
Total		\$1,113,524	\$1.83	100.0	402,407	\$ 436,583	\$1.08	100.0
Cedar		613,580	1.62	62.2	263,440	255,508	0.97	65.5
Western Cedar		408,472	2.83	23.7	60,785	102,638	1.69	15.1
Balsam Fir	38,000	30,400	0.80	6.2	38,000	30,400	0.80	9.4
Tamarack	36,158	46,822	1.29	5.9	32,160	41.267	1.28	8.0
ruce	9,127	10.334	1.13	1.5	7.148	5.607	0.78	1.8
Jack Pine	1.790	2.710	1.51	0.3		0,00,	0.70	1.0
Douglas Fir	612	994	1.62	0.1	612	994	1.62	0.2
Chestnut	228	147	0.64	*	222	129	0.58	V. 2
Hemlock		65	1.30	*	40	40	1.00	*
	26-30	Feet (21 1	Par Ca	nt)			1.00	
	20 00) Feet (21.1	1 61 66	111.)	31-33	Feet (7-8 P	er Cent	.)
Total	128.228	310,663	2.42	100.0	47.559	100 001		
Cedar	70.087	165.892	2.37			190.634	4.01	100.0
Western Cedar	50.594			54.7	27,893	100.143	3.59	58.6
Delegas Ein	30,394	132,168	2.61	39.5	19 439	90.082	4.63	40.9
Balsam Fir	2 774							
Tamarack	3,771	5,147	1.36	2.9	227	409	1.80	0.5
Spruce	1,976	4,721	2.39	1.5				
Jack Pine	1,790	2,710	1.51	1 4				
Douglas Fir								
Chestnut								
Hemlock	10	25	2.50	*				
	36-40	Feet (3-4)	Per Cen	(1	40 Fee	t and Over	/1 5 Dan	Cont
Total	20.937	112,648		100.0	9,425	62,996	6.68	
Cedar	12.325		4.71	58.9	4.624			100.0
Western Cedar	8,612	54,559	6.34	41.1	4,792	33,947	7.34	49.1
Balsam Fir	0,012	01,009	0.04	41.1	4,192	29,025	6.06	50.8
Tamarack								
Spruce								
Spruce					. 3	6	2.00	*
Jack Pine								
Douglas I II								100 O O O
Chicsellut					6	10	2 00	*
Hemlock		*********						

^{*} Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

of 549,560 poles in 1912, an increase of 5.4% over the total for 1911, and is evident in the cases of western cedar, tamarack and the newly added material, balsam fir. All other woods show a decrease in number, although Douglas fir and chestnut were added to the list of woods purchased by steam railways. The

poles in greater quantities. They also use more poles of the shorter length classes. These companies used all the poles purchased of balsam fir, tamarack, jack pine, Douglas fir and chestnut. They purchased 90.3% of all the poles used.

purchased 90.3% of all the poles used.

The electric railway, power and light companies purchased a total of 58,996