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Industrial Development of B. C.—(Continued)

in. The first one dealt with by the board was an application by a returned man engaged in the manufacture of wooden toys. Prior to the war this trade was controlled by Germany, during the war the articles came from Japan and the United States. This man started with a very little capital, and sold about \$4,000 worth of goods last year; this man was successful in getting a loan, and has already received orders for over \$9,000 of goods. Now, although there has been some criticism of this toy making, there will be a very real difficulty in British Columbia in getting toys, especially at Christmas time.

At the present time we have applications from several firms and companies entering into the manufacture of wooden casks, barrels, boxes and many other articles used by the trade. A few of these are coming to the front and there will be development in this respect. At the present time in British Columbia not more than six per cent of the manufactured furniture required in British Columbia is made here, part comes from Eastern Canada and part from the States. We have several applications in reference to the furniture trade, but it is a business that requires thorough knowledge and good organization, it is impossible to go into it generally, one has to specialize in particular articles of furniture, and the opportunity for development is quite apparent in this regard and some important advancement is being made. You can see the progress that has to be made when there is still 90 per cent of furniture to be manufactured in this country, so that it will admit of great expansion.

Next to furniture there are large industries that have come into existence through the manufacture of wood fibre into silk hose and other articles. Industries such as these cover 120 acres of ground in the Eastern States. The establishment of such an industry in British Columbia would confer a great advantage on the people of the Province, such as the returned soldier. This industry will be established.

The industries I have just mentioned are some which are likely to come into existence in the very near future. In addition, the question of utilizing mill waste has been taken into consideration. In Fullerton, La., and in Georgia, there are two large plants for the manufacture of wood alcohol, they manufacture this product at a cost of 23 to 40 cents a gallon, the price in the United States for wood alcohol is 50 cents a gallon. In British Columbia 5,000 to 15,000 gallons of wood alcohol are used every day, a large proportion in and around Vancouver, and it is quite likely that efforts that are being put forward now will result in capital coming into British Columbia for this purpose, providing arrangements can be made and necessary government regulations put into effect. It has been estimated that the requirements of Canada in wood alcohol would be five million gallons a year. At the present time this wood alcohol is selling for \$1.30 per gallon in Canada and the possibilities are very great for utilizing this material.

In addition to this, an industry which is regarded with a great deal of interest in Great Britain is the manufacture of tannin extract. You all know that tannin is made from oak bark and hemlock; oak bark is considered the best as it produces a lighter colored leather. It may be news to some of you that Douglas fir bark produces a tannin similar to oak bark, and it is claimed it can be favorably compared with the oak tannin. Preliminary investigations have been made and it is shown that Douglas fir contains 18.27 per cent of tannin. The bark of a tree represents 20 per cent of its contents and should be worth about \$15.00 a cord. You can see in these figures possibilities for such an industry being established in this country and it would be second only to the lumber industry. This would then lead to the development of the leather trade, with an increase in the raising of stock in British Columbia. The proximity of the leather market in Siberia and other countries should make this the logical place for the establishment of large leather industries.

Just before going on, I would like to make reference to the fact that one of the paper mills in British Columbia is working out a method for obtaining sulphite, and it is also possible to get alcohol by this means.

(To be continued)