

Paper AND Pulp News.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF CANADIAN PULP AND PAPER MAKING.

THE PAPER MEN ARE INTERESTED.

THE men interested in the manufacture of wood pulp are not the only people interested in the protection of our supply of wood for pulp purposes. Every one in any way connected with the manufacture of paper in Canada has a direct personal interest in the matter. Wood pulp is now the staple article used in the manufacture of paper on this continent and in Europe. Canada in possessing the great bulk of the raw material in sight is in the position that if her interests are properly protected she will naturally in a very short time become a powerful competitor in the paper markets of the world. The paper-making industry in the Dominion is at present only in its infancy. Its expansion into an export trade is hampered by the competition which it meets from the products of a rival nation, manufactured from the raw material obtained in unlimited quantities without any restrictions or tolls by way of duty, from Canadian forests. By allowing our competitors to obtain their raw material from us free of duty they are enabled to compete with our manufacturers on advantageous terms in foreign markets. To place an export duty on pulp wood will be to give an impetus to the paper manufacturing industry, which can only result in good to the country.

REVIVAL IN THE UNITED STATES.

The paper and pulp industries of the United States are settling down to business after the excitement of the elections. From the columns of *The Paper Trade Journal*, *The Paper Mill*, and other journals devoted to the interests of the trade, it is learned that there is every prospect of a revival of activity and renewed interest among the paper and pulp men. Already a manifest improvement in trade is reported, larger orders are coming in, collections have improved, and mills that have been shut down or running on short time are about to resume operations upon a normal basis. "Restored confidence" is the cry, and the journals quoted unite in a great outburst of gratification at the result, and encouragement is given to the manufacturers to branch out and take full advantage of the returning tide of prosperity.

ANOTHER APPLICANT FOR OUR SPRUCE.

If any further proof were required of the oft-repeated assertion in these columns that Canada is destined to become an important, if not a ruling, factor in the paper industry of the world it has been furnished by the fact that an enquiry has been received from a totally unexpected quarter for our pulp wood. For many years Denmark has been a competitor in the paper industry whose influence has been felt. Her supply of raw material has been largely drawn from Norway, but the heavy

consumption by the Norwegian and Danish mills has impoverished this source of supply. The result has been a gradual increase in price during recent years, until the Danish mills have, owing to the excessive cost of their raw material, found themselves crippled when competing with the product of manufacturers who are more favorably situated. The fact that Canadian wood pulp has met with appreciation in the British markets has caused the Danish Government, on behalf of the industry in that country, to open communication with the Dominion Government in reference to the possibility of obtaining a supply of pulp wood from Canada. The question will naturally arise: "If it is profitable for the Danish manufacturer to transport the spruce logs about 4,000 miles and then grind them into pulp and ship back to England, why could not Canadians manufacture the pulp and ship it direct to the same market?"

NEW USE FOR PAPER PULP.

After paper pulp is shaped into letters of desired size and character, they are treated chemically so as to harden and toughen them. By variations of the chemical treatment the letters can be made to resist the action of oils as well as water. After going through this stage in the process, the letters are trimmed at the edges to remove any roughness, and either decorated in imitation of oak, walnut, maple, cherry, or, as is principally intended, treated with either a ceramic or a Japanese enamel finish, the latter being very like in all respects to the regular enameled letters, now in use. Of course the embossed and otherwise decorated letters in imitation of fancy woods are for interior signs, whereas the enameled ones are for exterior, they being qualified to resist rains. The pulp letters weigh but very little compared with enameled pottery material. It is claimed that when the pulp letters are cemented to plate glass they are immovable unless a certain chemical is applied to dissolve the cement.

THE MONTREAL MARKET.

The condition of the paper trade has changed very little during the month. The advance in the price of chemicals noted in our last issue, and the general brightening of trade, has a tendency to raise the prices. Notwithstanding this, the prices have not advanced. This is chiefly owing to the competition among the trade. This competition is so keen that prices have been cut to a very close figure. Several men in the trade, however, are in expectation of an advance, depending in great part on the recent presidential elections, and the brightening of trade prospects since the victory of sound money.

The volume of trade has materially increased, and most of the mills report as many orders as they can handle.