

News of Industrial Development in Canada

Textile Industry is not Depressed, State Authorities—Business is Brisk and the Outlook is Bright—Woollen Mill to be Established in Alberta Next Spring—Some New Developments in the Pulp and Paper Field—Plate Glass Manufactory for Hamilton

IN contrast to the situation in the United States, the textile industry in Canada is in a highly satisfactory condition and the outlook is equally bright, according to two authorities, in an interview in Montreal recently. Reports have been current in some quarters, particularly in stock market circles, to the effect that the cotton companies have for some time past been receiving large cancellations of orders and have been discharging many employees from the mills as the result of the lack of demand for their products. These rumors are emphatically denied. One of the officials remarked:—

"We are neither getting nor accepting cancellations and all our mills are working to capacity. Several of them, in fact, have been put on night shifts in order to catch up with the business already booked, which is of sufficient magnitude to keep us busy at top production for months to come. Our travellers have just started out for the usual spring business and, although it is yet too early to gauge the demand for textile products for 1921 delivery, the outlook is entirely satisfactory. Our new schedules went into effect November 1 and are moderately under existing ones and we are confident that the new prices will be well received by the trade generally.

"As to discharging help in large numbers, there is absolutely no truth in this. We have been able, however, to cull out some of our inefficient workers, engaged during the war period, when we were unable to pick and choose in this respect, but these have been replaced by experienced hands. Only recently, in fact, we brought out some eighty skilled operators from the English cotton districts in order to facilitate greater production at our mills and in the effort to lower costs. There has been no reduction in the wages paid our workers and there is no present indication that one will be put into effect."

A statement made recently in *The Monetary Times* is borne out by this remark. Depression of the textile industry in Britain and New England is causing workers to look for employment in this country, and some manufacturers are only too willing to take them on, because of their high qualifications.

Woollen Mill for Alberta

A syndicate of Scottish woollen manufacturers intends installing an up-to-date woollen mill either in Calgary or Edmonton in the spring of 1921, according to an announcement made by John A. Collins, of Edmonton, last week. Mr. Collins stated that he had just closed a deal whereby the British syndicate have purchased the full equipment and machinery of the woollen mill at Midnapore. This mill at Midnapore has not been in operation for the last seven years. The location of the new mills has not yet been definitely decided, but it will be installed in either Calgary or Edmonton. It will mean an investment of a considerable sum of money, the exact amount Mr. Collins was not ready to make public. At the present time there are no woollen mills west of the great lakes.

Pulp and Paper

Several interesting announcements concerning the pulp and paper industry in Canada have been made during the past week. According to a dispatch from Cornwall, Ont., a strong American company operating at Buffalo, N.Y., Skowhegan, Mich., and Pennyman, N.Y., under the name of the Niagara Wall Board Co., is establishing a branch of their business in Cornwall. A new Canadian company, the name of which will be the Cornwall Pulp and Paper Co., is being incorporated and the mill premises of Ross and Co. have been leased with an option to purchase. E. E. Emigh, of

Richmond, Va., will be in charge at Cornwall, and is already on the ground. Arrangements are under way for water supply from the canal through the Department of Railways, and the street railway company have been asked to put in a siding. The company manufactures groundwood and turns out heavy paper specialties such as wall board, beaver board, etc. The plans of the new enterprise contemplate continuous operation with a staff of about thirty and an annual wage roll of about fifty thousand dollars. As soon as the buildings can be put in shape and necessary equipment installed, manufacturing operations will commence.

The Ontario government has made an agreement with the Spruce Falls Pulp and Paper Co., Kapuskasing, Ont., whereby, in return for the power privileges of the falls, the government will keep 900 acres of the land and will build near Kapuskasing a model town, to be named Spruce Falls, for the employees of the company. The government will issue debentures for houses up to \$400,000 as under the Housing Act.

A. C. McIntyre, president of Clarke Bros., Ltd., Bear River, N.S., has announced that his company has concluded the purchase of the large building at Glenn Falls, N.S., formerly used by the Ford Motor Co., of Canada, and owned by Hon. William Pugsley, Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. The building, which is one of the most modern structures of its kind in Canada, with railway connection, is to be used by the new owners for the manufacture of fibre shipping cases. The pulp will be brought from the large plant of the Clarke Bros. Paper Mills, Ltd., at Bear River, across the Bay of Fundy, landed at this port and taken to the Glenn Falls plant by motor truck, and there manufactured into paper board and boxes. The machinery will be installed by January, and the manufacturing will be well under way by the 1st of May. Then 20 men and girls will be employed. In addition to this industry, the company is to build a paper mill at the Glenn Falls site, for the manufacture of heavier grades of paper, and this mill, the construction of which will be started in the spring, will employ one hundred more hands.

The Northern Foundry & Machine Co.'s plant, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., is again busy on the manufacture of pulp mill machinery. During the war they turned out shrapnel and high explosive shells, and when the armistice was signed, they helped to replace some of the shipping that was destroyed by the enemy. Now that the shipping trade has somewhat subsided, they are making rapid strides on pulp mill machinery. Before the war the chief activity was on machines for mills in the vicinity, but now their sphere of activity has been extended greatly.

Hamilton Plate Glass Manufactory

Negotiations have been completed for the establishment of the plant of the Canadian Libby-Owen Sheet Glass Co., Ltd., at Hamilton, Ont. The new company is capitalized at \$1,600,000, and when the plant is completed between 200 and 300 skilled workers will be employed. The company will manufacture plate glass by a process known as the Libby-Owen. It is stated that there are only two other plants of this kind in the world—the parent company in Charleston, West Virginia, and a plant that has recently been opened in Japan. The directors expect that if the Canadian market is properly developed they will be able to double their plant within a short time. John W. Hobbs, of Toronto, will be the managing director.

The Sarnia, Ont., flax mill employees have started a new schedule of hours, working three hours' overtime each day. This has been found necessary owing to the receipt of a large order which will keep the plant busy until next