

# WOOD PULP ~ ~ DEPARTMENT

## THE PULP WOOD SITUATION IN QUEBEC.

The Quebec Legislature have not as yet taken any action to change the Order-in-Council affecting the dues on pulp wood so as to remove the discrimination contained therein against other provinces of the Dominion.

Hon. Mr. Marchand recently submitted to the House a copy of all correspondence on the subject of the regulations of the manufacture of pulp wood and the imposition or reduction of dues therein. The first document was by Mr. P. W. Nagle, forest ranger at Sherbrooke, reporting that 40 cents per thousand feet is a fair charge for pulp wood. In 1897 Mr. Lacerte, forest agent, reported that all timber under nine inches should come under the heading of pulp wood. In the same year Mr. Tache, Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, suggested the reduction of the duty on pulp wood other than spruce to 40 cents per 1,000 feet. This was a reduction of 10 cents, but spruce was to remain at the original figure. A cord of wood is put approximately at 600 feet. These suggestions were acted upon by Hon. Mr. Flynn. In 1894 Mr. John McFarlane, of Montreal, suggested that the dues on pulp wood for export be doubled. Later in the same year Hon. Mr. Flynn recommended that the stumpage on pulp wood be fixed at 40 cents per cord of 128 cubic feet, but that a rebate of 15 cents be allowed for pulp wood manufactured in the province. H. M. Price & Co. and the late Hon. W. B. Ives protested against such action. The Chicoutimi Pulp Co. subsequently urged the Government to so arrange matters that the American importers of pulp wood would have to pay at least as much more than Canadian consumers as Canadian exporters of pulp had to pay in duty. Mr. James Gillies, M.L.A., Mr. T. H. Taylor, of Hawkesbury, and the Muskoka Mill & Lumber Co., of Toronto, wrote in January last protesting against the recent Order-in-Council on the ground that it discriminated against the adjoining provinces of Ontario and New Brunswick.

In reply to a question asked in the legislature as

to the intention of the Government to impose the duty of \$1.90 per cord on pulp wood cut on Crown lands by bona fide settlers, which wood is to be sold in the course of the winter under contracts existing on 19th January, 1900, Hon. Mr. Parent stated that the matter was under consideration.

## BRITISH IMPORTS OF WOOD PULP.

Statistics to hand show that during the year 1899 Great Britain imported 415,106 tons of wood pulp, against 404,842 tons in 1898, the increase for last year thus being 10,264 tons. The value of the importations of last year was \$9,948,530, or an average of about \$24 per ton. Of the total quantity imported, 196,926 was chemical pulp valued at \$7,209,045, or almost \$36 per ton, and 218,180 tons mechanical wood pulp, valued at \$2,739,485, or about \$12.50 per ton.

The countries from which the supplies of mechanical pulp were drawn during the last two years, and the value thereof, are given below:

	— 1898 —	Value.	— 1899 —	Value.
Norway .....	1,141,455	\$1,748,235	162,894	\$1,969,605
Canada .....	36,569	166,530	32,660	453,590
Sweden .....	24,043	472,000	17,427	234,985
United States .....	13,475	209,580	724	27,410
Other countries .....	9,775	295,105	4,475	63,875

The imports of chemical pulp from the various countries, and value thereof, were as follows:

	— 1898 —	Value.	— 1899 —	Value.
Norway .....	91,165	\$2,032,770	65,362	\$2,838,210
Sweden .....	63,332	2,299,730	62,879	3,289,745
Canada .....	10,116	290,410	5,754	201,150
United States .....	3,804	131,395	9,801	297,180
Other countries .....	11,163	476,740	13,130	582,785

It will be observed that the total imports from Canada last year were considerably less than in 1898. This is accounted for, no doubt, by the activity of the United States and Canadian paper trade, which consumed the bulk of the production of pulp. Owing also to the lack of water for operation of the mills in Norway, Sweden and Germany, a great scarcity of pulp was experienced. As much as \$30 per ton was demanded towards the close of the year for dry pulp for prompt delivery. Regarding the year

1900, it is said that contracts have been made at \$30 for dry and \$16 for moist. It is expected, however, that these prices will continue throughout the year.

## THE UNITED STATES PULP IMPORTS.

Notwithstanding the arguments advanced to the possession by the United States of an abundant supply of spruce for pulp making purposes, we find that last year there were imported into that country 51,192 tons of wood pulp, this quantity 41,458 tons, of a value of \$8,948,530, were imported from Canada, and on each there was paid a duty of 10 per cent. ad valorem.

The imports of the United States for the years, 1898 and 1899 are given below.

	— 1898 —	Value.	— 1899 —	Value.
Germany .....	1,356	\$3,172	2,118	\$5,172
Other Europe .....	4,437	185,915	7,116	\$1,859,115
British North America .....	28,646	\$439,571	41,458	\$8,948,530
Totals .....	34,439	\$694,658	51,192	\$10,886,817

The striking feature of the above table is the great increase in the quantity imported last year in comparison with the previous year. The dependence of the United States for an adequate supply of pulp is well illustrated by a recent shipment from Norway to that country. The steamer Stalheim was loaded by A. Wertheim & Co., of Hamburg, with several thousand tons exclusively of sulphite and soda pulp for shipment to New York. We learn further from Stockholm that large orders have been taken for sulphite pulp for delivery at United States during the present year.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

In the paper Trade Journal Mr. James Hobert, M.E., gives the following answers to questions asked concerning the manufacture of pulp:

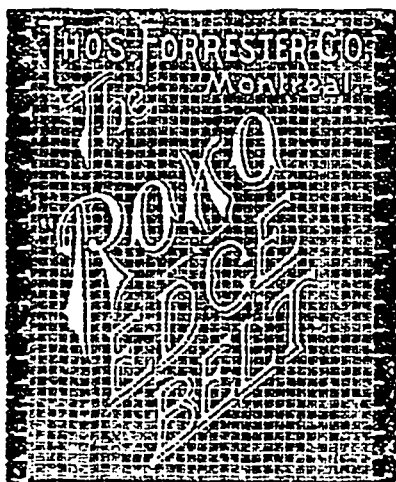
**QUESTION.**—In making sulphite and soda pulp from pine how should the wood be handled to avoid pitch from showing up in the sheet making spots in the wire? Is there any special way of handling it?

**ANSWER.**—This matter has always given makers a good deal of trouble when spruce is used, but some kinds of pine, with the great amount of pitch therein, will prove much more troublesome. Spots are very hard to get rid of in that they often arise from improper cooking. The wood should be dried and the liquor made with exactly the correct proportions of sulphur and lime. Dry wood, when

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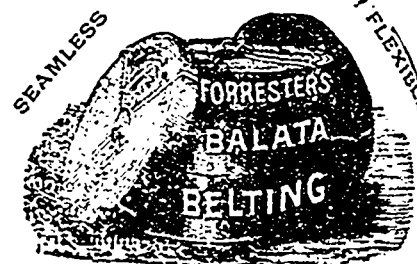
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