

A PULP AND PAPER COUNTRY.

IN an able article on "Canadian Pulp and the British Market," a London correspondent of Commercial and Industrial Canada says:

"Canada, with her vast resources of raw material yielding a quality of wood pulp superior to that obtained from any other quarter, is gradually obtaining recognition. The possibilities of successful competition have been established to the satisfaction of not a few of the more wideawake English paper-makers, the effect of which may be traced in the flow of capital into new undertakings for the production of wood pulp now proceeding in different parts of the Dominion. The drawback under which the Canadian pulp industry has labored until quite recently has not been so much the lack of mills as the situation of those mills and their equipment. Built to supply the local demand in the more populous centres of the country, which are somewhat removed from the seaboard and continuous open navigation, they were unable, once that demand was overtaken, a limited one at the best, to engage in the export trade on remunerative conditions. The introduction of the latest machinery, coupled with low Atlantic freight rates, have vastly altered matters.

"But there can be no doubt that for the export trade, which has been gradually forced upon Canada, to the United Kingdom and Europe, to South America, to South Africa, and even to Australasia, the various Provinces of Canada offer almost ideal conditions for the successful prosecution of the pulp industry. Here, in addition to ample supplies of the best material, an unlimited water-power and proximity to open navigation throughout the year are obtainable. We find accordingly, the conversion of old mills and the erection of new steadily pursued, and the output of both mechanical and chemical pulp rapidly increasing. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are now admitted by English experts to be well able to cater henceforward for European requirements in competition with Scandinavian mills.

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"Each successive year a large number of English paper-makers are found expressing their appreciation of Canadian pulp, the fibre of which they consider to be longer and stronger and to possess better felting qualities than the Scandinavian article. They are inclined, therefore, to give it a preference and a slightly better price. Canadian wood pulp is finding its way into France in competition with Scandinavia, and its admission under the minimum tariff, as provided in the Franco-Canadian Treaty of 1893, has been set at rest by a recent decision of the French Customs Board when shipped via United States ports to France. As yet Canadian wood pulp received in England is almost exclusively of the mechanical variety—say, as a substitute for wood, etc., but chemical pulp from Canada is by no means unknown, as the entire product of one mill in New Brunswick goes to a paper mill at Maidstone, and the Eddy Co.'s brand takes the first place among sulphite pulps imported into Great Britain. As a result of the machinery for the manufacture of sulphite now being placed in several Canadian mills, the receipts from Canada will be definitely on a larger scale.

"It is much to be hoped that the manufacture, in Canada, of sulphite pulp will rapidly increase, and for two reasons: First, because it is a highly finished and valuable product, the demand for which is greatly beyond the capacity of existing mills, and because sulphite pulp represents that class of the staple raw

material which must inevitably become more and more the great standby of paper mills everywhere. About 30 per cent. of the wood pulp imports into the United Kingdom are of the chemical class. Second, because the manufacture of chemical pulp naturally leads to and renders possible the cheap production of higher grades of paper, and to the export of 'news' and 'printings' in particular, for which latter, as we shall presently show, there is a most extensive market ready at hand in Great Britain and elsewhere.

"It will be, moreover, to the advantage of mills less favorably situated, to undertake this manufacture of chemical pulp and paper for export, leaving mechanical pulp to such of the mills whose situation on the seaboard permits of production at profitable rates."

A FLATTERING PROSPECTUS.

The prospectus of the Cushing Sulphite Fibre Co., Limited, of St. John, N.B., has just been issued. The directors are: Joseph Allison, Thomas McAvity, W. H. Murray, George S. Cushing, and George F. Baird. With them as incorporators are George McKean and James Fleming. The solicitor and secretary is L. A. Currey, the consulting engineer, James Beveridge, of London, Eng., and the bankers the Bank of Nova Scotia. The capital stock is \$500,000, divided into 2,500 shares five per cent. preference stock at \$50 each. The present issue is 2,000 shares of the first named and 3,000 shares of the second. The incorporators have subscribed \$30,000. As soon as the balance of the \$250,000 now sought is subscribed, the new mill will be begun. After pointing out that sulphur can be got at small cost by steamer from the United Kingdom, and lime at a reasonable cost here, while the supply of cheap wood is inexhaustible, the prospectus notes the following in regard to economics: "Cheapest of raw material, with an inexhaustible supply. Cheap fuel, either coal or mill waste. Unexcelled shipping facilities to all parts of the world—steam or sail. Situated on the seaboard, thus avoiding all expensive rail carriage. Proximity to the Canadian spruce wood; excelled by none for the quality of its fibre. Open harbor all the year round, St. John being the winter port of the Dominion of Canada and terminus of several lines of transatlantic and coasting steamers. St. John is also a great railway centre."

UNITED STATES MARKETS.

NEW YORK.—There is a good demand for manillas and news is very strong, and the demand continues to increase. The heavy consumption for "extras" by the daily papers has caused a material stiffening, and stocks are running low. Several mills, which have been running manilla for some years past, have again gone into news, owing to the demand for that article, and this partly accounts for the improved prospects in manilla. There are indications of a sharp advance in this grade in the near future.

Chemical Fibre—The demand for domestic fibres continues strong. Foreign sulphite, bleached, No. 1, 3.15 to 3½c.; No. 2, 2.70 to 2.80c. Foreign soda, bleached, 2.70 to 2.80c.; unbleached, No. 1, 2.15c.; No. 2, 2.10c. Domestic sulphite, unbleached, 1¾ to 2c. Domestic soda, bleached, 1.90 to 2.20c.

Ground Wood—There is a strong demand for ground wood pulp. Quotations are \$14 at the mill.

Chemicals—The market is dull, but prices continue steady. Bleaching powder, 1.75 to 1.80c.; caustic soda, 1.80½c., and alkali, .70 to .75c.