

THE NEWS.

—Alex. McKay will, it is said, build a saw mill at Roseberry, B. C.

—H. T. Wilson, Franktown, Ont., will erect a saw and shingle mill in the spring.

—M. Brennan & Sons are removing their saw mill from Huntsville, Ont., to Sturgeon Falls.

—R. T. Smith has requested permission from the Ottawa city council to open a lumber yard at the corner of Bay and Queen streets.

—Mr. Eldoras Todd, of Brantford, Ont., is endeavoring to form a company, with a capital of \$50,000, to operate a fancy wood-work factory.

—The mills of the Ottawa Lumber Co. at Calumet, Que., closed down on the first of December, after a run of 169 days, during which 210,340 logs were sawn.

—J. M. Taylor, of Portage la Prairie, Man., is making additions to his planing mill and adding new machinery thereto, for the manufacture of sash and doors, etc.

—An exploring party fitted out in October last by the Owens Lumber Co., of Monte Bello, Que., to examine mineral deposits near Lake Innethaka, struck two veins which are said to be the richest in the province.

—The lumbermen of Tonawanda, N. Y., are making a vigorous kick against the scheme put forward by the Grand Island bridge projectors. The lumbermen claim the proposed bridge will greatly interfere with the navigation of lumber rafts. It is probable a large arch bridge or a suspension bridge will be built as a compromise.

—The first load of lumber drawn over the street railway tracks at Ottawa was hauled between W. C. Edwards & Co.'s Lumber yards and the C. A. R. freight yards. The electric locomotive for hauling purposes is not yet ready and a street sweeper was rigged up to draw the lumber. The lumber was piled on an ordinary railway flat car.

—A new tariff schedule, prepared by the government of the Argentine Republic, has been received by the Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa. By a fixed valuation the duty becomes specific instead of ad valorem. White pine, unplanned, is valued for duty at 35 cents per square metre, the duty remaining at 15 per cent.; the duty on plain lumber is 25 per cent. on a fixed valuation of 50 cents per square metre.

—A deputation from the counties of Northumberland and Durham waited upon the Dominion Minister of Public Works and requested the removal of a dam in the Trent river, which was constructed fifty years ago, and was formerly used by the Gilmours, Rathbuns and other lumbermen. It was pointed out that the dam was no longer a requisite in lumbering purposes, as the timber areas which the Trent river served were practically exhausted. The Government promised to consider the matter.

—The Serpent River Improvement Company applied to the Ontario Commissioner of Crown Lands for a supplementary charter, limiting the term of the existence of the company to 15 years, or to such other term as the Government might see fit to grant. The application was resisted by Hale & Booth, of Ottawa, who claimed that 15 years was too short for the lumbering firms paying tolls for the improvements. They asked that the term be not less than 25 years, as they claimed that it would take that long to cut all the timber in that section. The Commissioner reserved his decision.

—The lumbermen working in the shanty of Mr. E. J. Doyie, of Ottawa, situated about four miles north of Old Chelsea, had quite an unpleasant and exciting experience recently. The cabin they were sleeping in caught fire, and the flames were well under way before being discovered. The men finally awoke, but it was then so late they barely managed to escape, without being able to save anything. One of the men, Mr. Jno. Brown, who lives at Rochester, had his boots burnt and had to walk over a mile through the snow in his bare feet.

—Mr. W. H. Maroon, of the Toronto Hoop and Veneer Company, is said to be arranging for starting a factory at Toronto Junction, where he will manufacture cloth or rolling boards for export to the United States, England, France and Germany. These boards are rolled or veneered of basswood logs, and by this means there is no

waste in the cutting, as when sawn. The demand for these goods by woolen and cotton manufacturers is very large, and large capital is now secured to manufacture under the various patents which Mr. Maroon took out some months ago.

—Mr. Adam Beck carries on an extensive business at London, Ont., manufacturing cigar boxes, veneer and thin lumber. The main factory is a brick building, 40 x 80 feet, three storeys high, with a two-storey extension 41 x 42 feet. In the rear are two "Progressive" dry kilns, built after Mr. Beck's own design. He also put in two new power nail machines, a new Leonard Ball automatic engine of 200 horse power, and a number of other machines. The building is heated by steam and lighted by electricity, and fitted with every appliance for the expeditious manufacture of the various lines. Eighty-seven persons are employed.

CASUALTIES.

—J. Legallais was killed at Glencoe, N. B., by a falling tree, while cutting sleepers.

—A young man was recently frozen to death in the woods while making his way from one shanty to another. He was in the employ of the Gilmour Company.

—George Bushey, of Waubesa, Ont., was engaged in felling a tree, when it fell in an unexpected direction, breaking his leg and severely injuring his spine.

—While working in a mill at Grand Mere, Que., a man named Tontout was caught by a planer, which literally tore one arm from his body, causing death shortly after the accident.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Angus McLeod, lumberman, of Bracebridge, has been chosen by the Conservatives to contest North Ontario for the House of Commons.

Mr. C. Berkeley Powell, of Ottawa, a director of the Upper Ottawa Improvement Co., was a successful candidate for alderman at the late municipal election.

Mr. James Russell Elliott, of London, Ont., was recently married to Miss Emeline Williams Mills, daughter of Nelson Mills, the millionaire lumberman of Marysville, Mich.

Mr. Alexander Sutherland, at one time an extensive timber merchant, died at Canifon, Ont., late in December. He was 73 years of age, and a native of Caithness, Scotland.

Mr. Thomas Bryce, lumber merchant, of Toronto, although unsuccessful in securing election as alderman for ward 2, received a gratifying support, coming in as fifth man.

Mr. David McLaren, of Ottawa, left early in January on a trip to Australia. He is largely interested in the British Columbia saw mills, and will endeavor to learn the requirements of the Australian timber market.

Mr. John Heard, sr., of the firm of John Heard & Co., spoke and heading works, St. Thomas, Ont., died early in January, at the age of 74 years. He was born in Devonshire, England, and came to Canada 50 years ago.

Ex-alderman Crannell, secretary of the Bronsons and Weston Lumber Co., made a strong fight for the mayoralty of Ottawa, being defeated by a small majority. There were three contestants, and Mr. Crannell was second in the race.

Mr. Thomas Meredith, of Yorkton, N. W. T., was recently in Ontario renewing old acquaintances. He conducts a retail yard in the town named, dealing in Douglas fir, red cedar shingles and white pine, and reports trade increasing as the result of better prices for farm products. Dressed fir retails at \$28 to \$30, and rough boarding at \$17.

American lumbermen are beginning to consider economical methods. Several have already discovered that the saw is preferable to the axe in felling trees. Another important step is to prevent waste in slabs. This can be minimized by adopting a common European method. Generally in America a log is squared and then sawn into boards of the same width. In Germany the log is not squared, but sawn directly into boards. These boards are sorted according to their widths. The two edges are then sawed separately. This is a slower but more economical method.

REMARKS OF A BANKER.

In an address before the Canadian Club at Hamilton, Mr. B. E. Walker, manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, referred to the question of forestry. He regretted that our timber lands had already been denuded of oak, elm, sycamore and walnut, the former wood being now imported from Minnesota. In white pine, however, Canada was in the lead. There was no white pine outside of America, with the possible exception of Siberia, and though in the aggregate there was a large quantity left in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, the great bulk of the world's supply was in Canada. What we had would last for 100 years if any care was taken of it. The belt commenced at the southern edge of Algonquin Park, and moved west and north to the Gatineau, Coulonge and Black River districts. In the latter localities it was rapidly reproducing itself. The Rainy River pine, although coarse and small, was also worth a great deal. The most valuable timber asset we had, however, was the spruce timber. Reproducing itself as it did, it was practically inexhaustible, and, in addition, it was of a much better quality than that which grew in Europe. Canada already supplied Europe with timber for pulp for the best paper, and the next step should be to make the paper itself here. The British Columbia forests, with their immense trees, could not literally be said to be inexhaustible, but the quantity was so great that that was practically the case. This timber in British Columbia was a very good example of the third class of available raw material before referred to—that which could not now be profitably made use of on account of its geographical position. Mr. Walker also advocated the adoption of a forestry system. Something besides ranging was necessary to guard against the danger and results of fire.

PRESERVATION OF TIMBER.

OBSERVATIONS upon the preservation of timber have shown that the more warm and humid the atmosphere, the more rapidly the wood deteriorates, also that timber felled in winter is more durable than that felled in summer, and that timber raised in cold climates is more durable than that raised in warm climates, while the best timber is produced on meager soil. When under water, the most lasting woods are oak, alder and pine, the least so being birch, linden and willow; in the air, timber is exposed to the ravages of insects, this being the case with sap wood more than the hardwood; woods rich in resin, like the elm and poplar, are not so much troubled as those like the alder, willow, birch, yoke, elm and red beach, which have an abundance of sap and are rapidly deteriorated. Timber construction which is protected from heat and humidity is only endangered by worms, and, on the contrary, that which is in a damp and badly aired place injures by rotting, which is really the result of microscopic vegetable growths. The primary cause of the decay of wood is the presence of albuminoid substances in the sap and incrusting materials, these naturally affording nourishment to insects and microscopic vegetations and their destructive work.

"Advertising is to business what steam is to machinery—the grand propelling power."—Lord Macaulay.