

Pacific Railway from the Rocky Mountains westward.

Western spruce, or Menzies's spruce (*Picea Sitchensis*), is confined chiefly so far as at present known, to the immediate vicinity of the coast of British Columbia, ranging from the international boundry north to Alaska. In the southern part of the province it grows scattered among other trees, but in the north it is relatively much more abundant, growing sometimes in large clumps. Occasional trees of great size are found, but it generally averages less in diameter than the Douglas fir, those cut for lumber seldom being more than five or six feet in diameter. It is the most useful wood on the west coast, being in great demand for the manufacture of doors, window sashes, boxes, shelving and interior finishing. The wood is very white, is elastic and bends with the grain without splitting, so that it is much used in boat building, making of light oars, staves and woodenware. It resists decay for a long time, and, like the Douglas fir, is not attacked by insects. The chief value of the Sitka spruce in the near future, says Macoun, will be in the manufacture of pulp, for which purpose it is not excelled by any other tree. As soon as pulp mills are established in the vicinity of the large saw mills, the immense waste entailed by the present method of sawing dimensive timber in British Columbia will be obviated. Dr. Dawson observed it on the summit between the Coldwater and Coquinhallow rivers (3,280 feet); also on the Nicoluma, a few miles beyond the summit, between that stream and the Sumallow, and on the west side of the Spioos,

near the Trail crossing. It is also noted (doubtfully) on the summit between the forks of the Speena and Bamine Lake.

Norway spruce (*Picea Excelas*) is not indigenous to the soil, but it deserves a place among the conifers fitted for cultivation in all the provinces of the Dominion. It is hardy, presents a magnificent appearance, and grows to the height of a hundred feet. It has been known, without special care, to attain a height of thirty-four feet by fifteen inches in diameter at the base in twenty-four years. One of its good qualities is that it throws out extremely strong lateral bushes, which makes it highly suitable for wind-breaks around orchards, or permanent plantations of walnuts or oaks. There is one peculiar quality about its wood, it is fit to use before it reaches a foot in diameter, which is not the case with the other spruces. It is distinguished principally from the other spruces by its large cones and heavily drooping branches and branchlets. The spruces are distinguishable from the hemlocks from having their evergreen, needle-shaped leaves, which are somewhat four-sided, distributed all around the stem. The pines are easily distinguishable from both by their needles growing in small clusters, of from one to five, each assuming the shape of a cylinder when pressed together.

The pulp industry was first mentioned in the census of 1881, when the capital invested was stated to be \$92,000, the wages paid \$15,720, and the value of the product \$63,300. Ten years afterwards the census of 1891 gave the capital invested at \$2,900,907, the wages