

BY THE WAY.

THE British Columbia Board of Trade has made the suggestion that a system of grading to standard specifications should be followed by the lumbermen of that province. This much has been learned by lumbermen in different sections of the Dominion, and elsewhere, that trade is very much facilitated the nearer its members can get to a good system of grading and inspection. In fact, it is a difficult matter to do business with foreign countries, or distant parts of ones own country, if some system of inspection has not been adopted; and some of the difficulties that lumbermen in Ontario have to encounter is through want, especially in pine, of a uniform system of grading. With export trade on the Pacific Coast growing into large figures, and wide in its extent, the suggestion of the Board of Trade would strike us as practicable and desirable. As indicating the volume of lumber trade in British Columbia the following estimate may be quoted: 524,573 acres leased to millowners are estimated to contain at least 20,000 feet of timber per acre. During 1894 13,730,764 feet were taken from these leased lands, which, together with the timber taken from crown lands, timber limits and private property, make the total of timber cut during that year 67,499,277 feet. The exports during the same period were 46,290,000 feet, or about two-thirds of the whole.

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WHERE there is no force in the objection made against paper manufactured from wood-pulp when used simply for newspaper and current magazine publishing, because it possesses no durable qualities, there is much force in the charge when book publishing is considered. The newspaper or magazine is of to-day. Within the covers of the best books on our library shelves are supposed to be preserved the thoughts of the ages, and if it is to be shown that books made from wood-pulp paper would in a few years crumble to pieces and pass out of existence, it means a blotting-out of the literature of the ages. Tests have been made to prove the falsity of these objections. The first book made of ground wood paper has recently been placed in the Berlin testing office for examination. It is said to be in good condition. As it was printed in 1852, very nearly half a century ago, the argument that wood paper has no durable qualities appears to be seriously shaken. With the wood-pulp business growing apace lumbermen have a vital interest in the lasting success of the business. The fact here stated is one in favor of wood-pulp and wood pulp lumber. En passant, it may be remarked that British Columbia is asserting its position as a district suited for the building of wood-pulp mills, the spruce of that country, it is claimed, being an excellent wood for this purpose.

THE ONLY TEST OF MERIT.

THAT the people are quick to appreciate a good thing when they see it is abundantly shown by the phenomenal record of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition. The Fair which begins on the 2nd of September next is the seventeenth of the series. It has grown steadily in popularity and yearly attracts increasing numbers, which is the best possible proof of its superior excellence. This season the display will be more complete and varied than ever. The number of entries is unusually large in all departments. Already every foot of space in the building is taken up through additions, and re-arrangements have been made to accommodate the increased number of exhibitors. Great improvements have been made in the accommodations provided and all arrangements for public convenience are as nearly perfect as possible. An attractive and diversified programme of entertainments is offered. All railways will give low rates and special excursions will be run from many points, presenting an opportunity of which all should avail themselves.

PUBLICATIONS.

IN its particular line it would be hard to find a journal that so completely meets the bill as The Ladies' Home Journal, of Philadelphia. The editor, Mr. Edward W. Bok, has obtained much fame for the success that has reached his journal, the circulation now climbing up to something like a million. Mr. Bok is possessed of that important faculty in an editor of judging what is best liked by his readers, and knowing where to lay his hands on such matter. The current issue of The Ladies' Home Journal is one of the best that has been issued.

PRINCIPLES OF MANAGEMENT.

BUSINESS principles are like other principles—rules with exceptions. If a business man is able to manage his affairs in a way that does not show evident inconsistency in acts or views, he must be considered a man of principles, even if the rules he tries to enforce in his life have many exceptions.

Without principles, no system; without system, poor management. This is a truth inside and outside a saw-mill plant. One of the principles that seem to be of the greatest importance in the management of a concern where many different men are employed, is what might be called the tracing principle, the method by which the manager at any time, and on any occasion, is enabled to find the responsible author of an act, whether the act be of advantage or disadvantage to his business.

If a car-load of lumber is not properly loaded, the inspector is responsible; if a stack of lumber is destroyed by careless stacking, the yard foreman is responsible; if ten per cent. of the daily output from a saw-mill is miss-cuts, the saw-mill foreman is responsible. But the tracing system does not stop here; it will investigate the matter farther, if the system is more than superficial. The inspector will know who placed the lumber in the car, the yard foreman who stacked the pile and the saw-mill foreman who made the miss-cuts. Of course this circumstance does not relieve the bosses from their responsibility, but it gives them the means to prevent such damage in the future, if they keep their eyes open; and just because they had the opportunity to apply the tracing principle themselves, they are inexcusable for the loss their carelessness has caused their employer.

Especially in a saw-mill, the irresponsible machinery is too often blamed for mishaps that ought to be traced back to some responsible person. If a box runs hot, and the mill has to stop for 15 minutes, causing 20 or more men to stand idle, nobody is blamed but the box; if a saw runs off and bursts all to pieces, nobody is blamed but the saw or the wheel; if a belt breaks, it was only the belt that broke. But when the manager knows that the conditions of the box, the well and the belt only represent the work and degree of care of some responsible individual, he will soon find the cause and this individual, and by holding him responsible in every instance, he can prevent the bad luck a hundred times easier than he can fix up the broken material. The material is all right, it is always the man who is wrong.

Let us try the principle on the yard. The inspector is shipping a car-load of saps; he finds the greater part of them black and mouldy, partly because they have been stacked with rotten strips, while the sap side has been turned upwards, and the boards have been laid too close together; partly because the air course is too narrow and the foundation too low on the damp ground, or through a poor roof of mill culls the rain has been pouring down upon the upper courses, leaving them wet for months. It takes the inspector all day to load his car, as two-thirds of the saps have lost in value, even to the limit of shipping culls, and there is consequently hardly any profit on the lumber. The manager commences his investigation: he goes to the yard foreman, who is responsible for the good condition of his stock, and he, who has, or at least ought to have, his yard divided up among his stackers, immediately knows who built the stack, and by gross carelessness caused a loss to the concern. The cause of the evil will be removed, and the cut thereafter will show some bright saps.

And now let us look inside the saw-mill. A large percentage of the daily output shows up as miss-cuts. What causes them, or rather who makes them? The sawyers blame the filers, and they duly return the compliment; the case is laid before the foreman, who suggests some fault in the machinery, and finally acquits the culprits by giving mysterious hints in regard to the carriage track or set blocks; of course nobody is to blame but the machinery. The manager applies his tracing principle; a careful examination proves that the machinery is not at fault, and to find out who is, he gives the off-bearer at the one saw a piece of crayon and orders him to mark every board coming from this saw; at the same time the roll grader is ordered to lay out all the miss-cuts in separate piles of marked and unmarked boards. By quitting-time it is easily seen which saw

made the miss-cuts. As the sawyer is still blaming the filer, he is himself transferred to the other saw, and if his saw still keeps on making miss-cuts to an unreasonable extent, he is to blame; if not, probably the filer on his side is to be blamed, which can be found by transferring him and watching the result. In this way the tracing principle is applied, until the cause of making miss-cuts is found out, and probably removed by somebody's resignation.

If the examination of the machinery has brought out the result that it was really out of order by not being in line, or similar serious causes, the foreman may be to blame himself, either for his ignorance of the fact or for not using his knowledge to his employer's advantage--if he really had a chance.

The tracing principle is not only a handy method, but it is absolutely necessary in the management of a saw-mill plant, and if there ever was a rule without exceptions, at least practically, it ought to be this: The machinery is all right, it is always some individual who is wrong.—O. C. Molbech in *Hardwood*.

A NEW ABRASIVE.

SOMETHING new is offered to metal-workers and others in the shape of an abrasive called "krushite." This consists of minute chilled cast metal shot, varying in size from powder to clover-seed size, which is chilled to intense hardness without becoming brittle, a fact proved by striking it on an anvil, when the latter will be indented. It is claimed to be superior to sand, emery or corundum for stone-cutting, polishing and similar work, the action between the blocks and saw-blade or "rubber" being a crushing one, and the balls do not lose their spherical shape. The wear and tear on the rubber is considerably lessened, and the power required is reduced one-half. Krushite is especially adapted for sawing blocks of granite, for the sand-blast and a substitute for diamond drills in boring. One ton of krushite is said to be equal to three tons of the sharpest sand.

PERSONAL.

The Hon. J. K. Ward, the well known lumberman of Montreal, is at present with his family on a visit to Europe.

Mr. William Margach, Crown Timber Agent for the Rainy River district, is at present on a short visit to Scotland.

Mr. John I. Davidson, of the firm of Davidson & Hay, the well-known lumbermen and wholesale grocers, is likely to receive the appointment of Senator.

Miss Clara C. Tait daughter of Mr. Andrew Tait, lumber merchant of Orillia, Ont., was recently married to Mr. W. Carrs, of the firm of W. Carrs & Co.

The death is announced at London, Ont., of Mr. William Willis, who for upwards of fifty years has been engaged in the lumber business in that city. He was 78 years of age, his father being one of the pioneers of this country.

TRADE NOTES.

The E. R. Burns Saw Co. have issued an illustrated catalogue and price list of their special silver steel and cast steel saws, and other goods manufactured by them. The book also contains many useful hints for saw mill men.

The attention of lumbermen is called to the advertisement of H. P. Eckardt & Co. This firm is making a specialty of furnishing supplies for camps and is in a very favorable position to enable them to do this class of business right.

The machinery business carried on for many years at Toronto and Montreal by Mr. A. R. Williams has been transferred to the A. R. Williams Machinery Supply Co., with which has been incorporated the Machinery Supply Co., of Brantford.

The Magnolia Metal Co. of New York and Chicago advise us that their business during the month of May has been the largest during the past two years, and that they have abundant evidence of a general revival in business. As their business is largely with mills and manufacturers in all parts of the country, this is one of the best indications of the improvement which has been so long looked for.

Attention is directed to the advertisement appearing in this number of Mr. Thos. Pink, of Pembroke. Mr. Pink is the manufacturer of a patent saw mill carriage cant hook, with which he has supplied some of the most prominent lumbering firms throughout the Dominion from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Mr. Pink has been in business at Pembroke for 30 years past, during which time he has built up extensive business in his particular line of manufacture.