

## Huge Losses from Logs Sinking

During the progress of the Canadian Newsprint inquiry at Ottawa recently, much information of interest to lumbermen was given by expert witnesses in regard to loss through sinkage on river drives. A record for two years produced by Mr. D. J. Salls, of the Howard Smith Company, for drives on the Chaudiere River route, showed 25,690 cords put into the water and 22,948 taken out, a loss of 2,742 cords. On the Etchemin River 11,777 cords were put in and 10,266 cords taken out, a loss of 910 cords, or 8.2 per cent. Mr. Salls said that sinkage was always a little higher than ten per cent. and sometimes reached 12 per cent. This applied to four-foot pulpwood spruce and balsam.

John R. Booth estimated his sinkage loss at fifteen per cent. He has allowed this percentage for sinkage for the last forty-five years. The

drive averages 300 miles and takes from two to three years to reach the mill. Mr. H. I. Thomas, also of John R. Booth, testified that if small logs were driven the sinkage would amount to twenty-five per cent.

Mr. Charles Dougherty, secretary of the Rideau Lumber Company, Ottawa, showed statements indicating losses from 22.53 to 24.79 per cent. The lower figure applied to spruce logs only. The drive took two years and was about 150 miles. The figures were obtained by taking the difference between the number of logs put into the water and those which reached the mill.

Mr. S. A. Sabbaton, assistant manager of the Laurentide Company, produced a statement covering the years back to 1906. The average yearly loss was nine and two-tenths per cent.

Mr. Alexander MacLaurin, of the

# 50<sup>CTS.</sup>

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