

MEETING OF COOPERAGE STOCK MANUFACTURERS.

The sixth annual meeting of the National Slack Cooperage Manufacturers' Association was held in Cincinnati, Ohio, May 3 and 4. It was a representative meeting, the Canadian members present being A.A. Scott, McGregor, Ont.; Neil Watson, Mull, Ont.; W. C. West, Sutherland-Innes Company, Chatham, Ont.; and R. L. Merritt, Blenheim, Ont.

The presidential address emphasized the necessity of careful grading of stock. There had been a tendency to be careless about putting up stock according to standard grading. This was started during the rush when coopers were willing to take anything and everything in order to secure prompt shipment. He hoped that all men engaged in the business would keep to the standard grading rules. The secretary announced that forty new members had joined the association during the year, and he anticipated a still greater increase during the coming year. The present membership is 160. The following committee on specifications and grades was appointed: W.K. Jackson, chairman, Tindle & Jackson, Buffalo; J.M. Kelton, Standard Hoop Company, West Bay City, Mich.; A.A. Scott, McGregor, Ont.

In considering the question of future demand and the production of stock for the present year much information was brought forth. To sum up, the production will be about the same as the past year, and there is no reason why the demand should not continue at least as good as it is now.

Wire hoops as a factor in the demand were the subject of discussion. It was announced that 35,000,000 wire hoops were sold last year. The sales were said to be double those of 1902 and the wire hoop men expect 1904 to show even greater figures. Wire, according to one member's estimate, is cheaper than wood hoops, probably \$2.25 per thousand, and there is no question about it being used successfully in the larger shops where they have machinery to drive them with, but in the smaller shops wire is proving disappointing, according to the sentiment expressed. It was shown that, were it not for the wire, the manufacturers of wooden hoops would be unable to supply the demand.

The committee on grades presented the following specifications:

STAVES.

Elm staves 30 inches long shall be cut not less than 5 staves to 1 15-16 inches in thickness, elm staves 24 to 28 inches long shall be cut not less than 5 staves to 1 7-8 inches in thickness except 2 1/2 inch or keg staves specially cut, when said staves shall be cut 6 staves to 2 inches in thickness.

Cottonwood staves of all lengths shall not be less than 5 staves to 2 inches in thickness.

No 1 staves shall be of full thickness and uniform throughout, free of knots, slanting shakes, doxy wood and other defects.

Meal barrel staves shall be free of slanting shakes over 1 1/2 inches long, knot holes, unsound knots (but sound knots of not over 1/4 inch in diameter shall be allowed) free of thin staves and shall consist of good sound workable staves.

No. 2 staves shall be free from dead culls.

Dead culls are staves containing knot holes of over 1/2 inch in diameter, staves with large coarse knots or badly cross-grained near quarter that prevent staves being tressed in barrels, and staves under 1/4 inch in thickness; staves with bad slanting shake exceeding 6 inches in length, and with rot that impairs the strength.

Mill-run staves shall consist of the run of the knife, made from regular run of stove logs, dead culls thrown out.

SPECIAL STOCK.

White ash staves shall be cut 5 staves to 2 1/8 inches in thickness, graded the same as elm, but only No. 1 and No. 2 quality.

Mill-run elm or hardwood apple barrel staves shall be cut 6 staves to 2 inches in thickness, and shall consist of the run of the mill, from the regular run of stove logs, dead culls thrown out.

Mill-run cottonwood apple barrel staves shall be cut 5 staves to 2 inches in thickness.

All the above staves shall average in measurement 4 inches per stave or 4,000 inches per 1,000 staves across the bilge, with the exception of the keg staves, which shall measure 160 inches per bundle of 50 staves, across the bilge, and 24 inches half-barrel staves, which, when not otherwise specified, shall measure 3 1/2 inches wide or 175 inches per bundle across the bilge. All other staves not specifically mentioned shall be sold according to the local custom or under special agreement.

HOOPS.

Sugar barrel hoops shall be 6 feet 4 inches, 6 feet 6 inches and 6 feet 9 inches long, cut so as to be not less than 5-16 inch to 3-16 inch in thickness, when finished in season, and not less than 1 3/8 inches wide when seasoned.

Flour barrel hoops shall be 5 1/2 ft. and 6 ft. long and shall measure, when seasoned, not less than 5-16 in. to 3-16 in. in thickness and not less than 1 3/8 in. wide.

Keg hoops shall be sold on special specifications as agreed upon between buyer and seller.

No. 1 hoops shall be good, sound timber, fully up to specifications, free from broken hoops in the coils and well finished. See that they come fully up to the grade.

HEADING.

No. 1 basswood or cottonwood heading shall be made from good, sound timber, free from damaging defects, of such diameter as is required, well jointed, 1/2 inch in thickness and thoroughly kiln-dried.

No. 1 hardwood heading shall be of the same specifications as above, but only 7-16 inch in thickness and thoroughly kiln-dried.

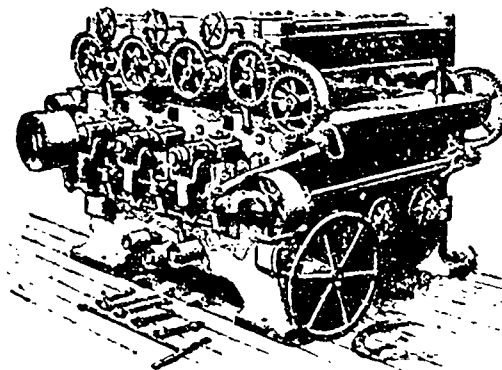
Mill-run heading shall be the run of the mill, dead culls out, thickness and dryness the same as No. 1.

No. 2 heading shall be the heading thrown out of the No. 1, dead culls out. All staves, hoops and heading not specifically mentioned shall be bought and sold on terms and specifications agreed upon between buyer and seller.

IMPROVED SANDING MACHINE.

The cut here represented is of a sanding machine especially designed for makers of wagon, carriage, furniture and piano material. It was patented Mar 20th, 1900, and has embodied in its make-up new points to insure it doing good work to those having this class of sanding to do. Limited space enables of only some of the most important features being considered.

The machine is invaluable where a perfectly smooth surface is desired, either for varnishing or painting. This is attested by many testimonial letters from those who are now using this machine. It is massive and



NO. 4 TRIPLE-DRUM SANDER.

substantial, and saves the work of several machines for doing this character of work. The three steel polishing cylinders upon which the paper is placed have a vibratory motion to prevent the formation of lines, and are equipped with a device for quickly applying the same paper and giving it the proper tension. Each cylinder carries a different grade of paper, the third cylinder giving the final and smoother finish.

The feed is very powerful, and consists of eight feed rolls, four above and four below, driven by a train of heavy expansion gearing, and will open to receive material eight inches thick. The machine is made to work material from 30 to 80 inches wide, and has a brush attachment which cleans the stock after it has passed through the machine. The pressure rolls are so arranged that the adjustments can be made easily, quickly and accurately, and the feed started and stopped instantly.

The makers of this improved sander, J. A. Fay & Egan Company, Front Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, will be glad to hear from those interested, to whom they will submit prices, information and cuts showing it in detail. They will also send free their new illustrated catalogue showing their machinery to those who will write mentioning this paper.

IMPROVED BARTLETT SAW MILL HOG.

The accompanying is an illustration of the improved Bartlett saw mill hog, or edging grinder, which has been making a reputation for itself as one of the busiest in its kind, as well as the greediest. It does not hesi-



IMPROVED BARTLETT SAW MILL HOG.

to tackle anything that comes its way, and has been known to come out of encounters with old axes, railroad spikes, and even crowbars, with only slight, and never more than temporary, damage to its digestive apparatus. The manufacturers, A. F. Bartlett & Company, Saginaw, Mich., have built up a fine trade in this machine. Since commencing its manufacture they have made many improvements, having stiffened and strengthened the machine wherever it presented any appearance of weakness, whatsoever, and to-day, with proper usage, it is claimed to be absolutely unbreakable. A card to their address will bring circulars and prices by return mail.