The Canada Lumberman August 1903

PULP NOTES.

The death is announced, in London, England, of E. A. Bremner, who organized the Sturgeon Falls Pulp Company.

The Bowdoin Paper Company, of Topsham, Me., have lately received a large quantity of pulp wood from Nova Scotia.

The Canada Paper Company have completed their paper mill at Windsor Mills, Que., and are about to build a new pulp mill.

E. B. Hickman & Sons, of Westchester, Pa., have a contract to take out a large quantity of poplar wood, which will be shipped to Philadelphia for making pulp.

The Laurentide Pulp Company has made application to have its name changed to the Laurentide Paper Company, Limited, and for power to increase its capital to $2,800,000.

According to the annual report, the Quebec and Lake St. John Railway Company carried in one year 2,256 cars of pulp wood and 555 cars of pulp and paper, out of a total of 12,319 cars of freight.

The Sault Ste. Marie Pulp & Paper Company is installing a fifteen ton paper plant in its power house building on the American side. The pulp for the mill will be taken from the company's plant in the Canadian Soo.

A dispatch from Victoria, B. C., says that Benton E. Turner, a New York capitalist, is about to erect a pulp mill at the mouth of the Powell river, having secured 250 square miles of spruce timber lands located along the coast.

The William Hamilton Manufacturing Company, of Peterborough, Ont., are supplying water wheels and other machinery for the large addition now being made to the pulp mill of the Chicoutimi Pulp Company at Chicoutimi, Que.

It is expected that the large pulp mill of the North Shore Power, Railway & Navigation Company at Seven Islands, Que., will be completed for operations next year. The capacity of the mill will be about 250 tons of pulp per day.

The Cushing Sulphite Fibre Company, of St. John, N. B., last month elected the following officers: President, Captain Partingdon; vice-president, Thomas McAvity; secretary and treasurer, H. W. Schofield; manager, James Beverley.

It is now definitely known that the new mill under construction at the Chaudiere by J. R. Booth, of Ottawa, is to be a pulp mill. It will have fifteen grinders and fifteen water wheels. It is said that Mr. Booth will build a paper mill also.

The Nova Scotia Wood Pulp & Paper Company, of Mill Village, N. S., are just completing a ground pulp mill to replace the one burned last spring. It is equipped with four New England grinders and will have a capacity of 40 tons per day.

The Jenckes Machine Company, of Sherbrooke, Que., have installed three new water wheels for the Montrose Paper Mills at Thorold, Ont. The wheels are of the Croker patent, set in a horizontal cylindrical steel case 17¼ feet long x 10 feet in diameter.

A sale was held in Quebec City a few days ago of a shipment of 2,636 bales of pulp landed in a damaged condition from the steamship Protector, which was stranded on Bar Reef at the mouth of the Saugenay River. It was bought in by J. McNaughton, of Quebec, at twenty-five cents a bale.

According to a dispatch from H. M. Consul at Stettin, a British firm is now erecting at Sydowsan, near Stettin, a factory for the production of artificial silk from wood pulp by a new process. The pulp is treated with chemicals, pressed by hydraulic power through minute tubes into a further chemical bath, after which the finished product is spun. It can be woven into any desired fabric, which is said to be equal to fine silk.

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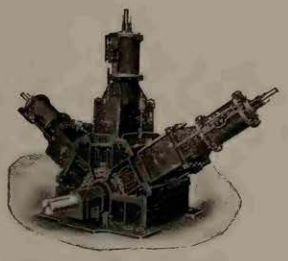
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geographical situation. With abundance of raw material and water power, there is no reason why the latter could not, in the lines he would naturally undertake to manufacture, such as news, wrapping paper and certain grades of cheaper stationery paper, undersell all competitors, or at least successfully hold his own.

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the capital by $1,200,000 in order to permit of making certain improvements to the mills.

The Menzie Wall Paper Company has recently been formed by Toronto capitalists. The charter gives the company power to build and operate pulp and paper mills and to develop water powers.

The E. B. Eddy Company, of Hull, Que., have installed two new grinders in No. 2 pulp mill and have built a new flume. The company have not sufficient ground wood for the amount of paper they were making, hence the increase in equipment.

There is a prospect of the pulp mill at Chatham, N. B., again resuming operations. Recently R. A. Lawlor asked the council for a fixed assessment of $100,000 for ten years in the event of obtaining the necessary capital to again begin the manufacture of pulp.

The American Thread Company, of Willimantic, Conn., has begun the installation of a plant for the manufacture of pulp spools. This process has been in course of development for the past two years and many obstacles had to be overcome before the spool was perfected.

The Pacific Coast Power Company, Limited, has been granted incorporation by the British Columbia Government. The company have acquired large timber limits and rights on Powell river and propose to erect pulp and paper mills. It is agreed to spend $50,000 before January 10, 1904.

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The Laurentide Pulp Company, of Grand Mere, Que., has just declared a half-yearly dividend of 4 per cent. on the capital stock. It has been decided to increase the capital by $1,200,000 in order to permit of making certain improvements to the mills.

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Capt. Edward Partington, of Manchester, England, has recently been on a visit to St. John, N. B., in connection with the business of the Cushing Pulp Company at that place. He said that pulp wood had increased 50 per cent. in price, but that the Cushing mill was paying and would be operated to its fullest capacity.

Advices from South America state that a new process for making paper from the leaves of the maize plant has been invented in Brazil. The specimens of paper produced, which were made with imperfect apparatus, are of excellent quality, though only of the rougher sorts of wrapping paper. Should the inventor's anticipations be realized it is clear that a new and important industry could be established in South America, where maize is extensively cultivated and the leaves are not utilized except to a small extent for feeding cattle. The inventor says that in the state of Bahia, to which he belongs, maize yields two crops per annum, and that three crops could be secured where irrigation is employed.

It is becoming more and more necessary, says Forestry and Irrigation, that a substitute shall be found for spruce in the paper-making industry, and it is probable that experiments will show many trees which can be profitably utilized, and thus serve the double purpose of keeping the industry alive and saving the spruce from total destruction. The possibilities of straw, corn stalks, and waste from sugar cane, have not yet been exhausted, and the prevention of waste has never had sufficient attention. Spruce has so far established itself as the pulp material par excellence, that most manufacturers will hear of no other. Nevertheless poplar, cottonwood, hemlock, and even pine are being used, and for the best paper a blend of other woods is used in connection with spruce. In spite of the present prejudice in favor of spruce pulp, there are signs which point toward the use of other pulps with no admixture of spruce at all.

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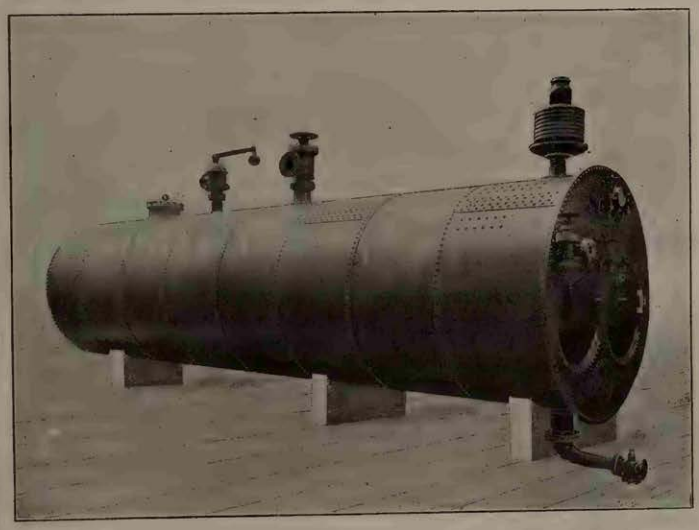
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WOOD PULP DEPARTMENT

FRANCE WANTS WET PULP IN ROLLS.

Mr. A. Poindron, Canadian Commercial Agent at Paris, France, writes to the Department of Trade and Commerce as follows :

"What the French paper manufacturer requires is a good fibrous pulp which will give him the least possible trouble to manufacture into paper and the least possible loss through breaches of the fibre, and in both senses they are inclined to give the preference to the wet pulp sheets over the dry sheets, and to the wet pulp sheets in rolls over the wet pulp in boards.

"The Canadian wet pulp manufacturers ship yearly largy quantities of their products to Great Britain, and the Canadian statistics show that during the fiscal year 1903 they have exported pulp to England to the value of $1,129,173. In fact, the rates of freight from Canada to British ports are altogether higher than the rates from Sweden and Norway to the same ports, and if Canadian pulp manufacturers can afford to export to Great Britain in competition with Sweden and Norway, it is likely that, through cheaper cost of manufacturing the chemical pulp in Canada, they can counterbalance the extra cost of ocean transportation to Great Britain. This would also be possible so far as French ports are concerned.

"The Canadian pulp manufacturers, when asked from France for quotations c. i. f. a French port not in direct communication with Canda by a regular line of steamers, should always figure on large quantities and specify the same in quoting, as the cheap transportation required by wood pulp exports does not allow for transhipment. Quotations applying to deliveries in the ports of Dunkirk, Rouen, Nantes, Marseilles, which are not yet regularly connected direct with Canada, but which are the nearest ports for a number of the large importing manufacturers, are frequently wanted. For full cargo quantities, satisfactory quotations to the above ports, either by tramp or by sailors, would likely be obtainable from any of the Canadian ship-brokers. I beg to add that contracts for full cargo deliveries are currently obtainable in France. As concerns Le Havre and La Pallice deliveries, Canadian manufacturers, through the existing direct steamship connections, are now in a suitable situation to book smaller orders or periodical delivery contracts.

"In brief, if the export of wood pulp does not develop, it is not owing to want of attention on behalf of French importers, but owing only to want of offerings on behalf of Canadian exporters. When the prices offered in Great Britain are low, they undertake to give a little more attention to the French outlet, but, unfortunately, when such is the case, as Canadian exporters have no steady agents appointed in France nor connections previously worked, they try to rush by correspondence, dealing with people who don't know them, don't know their goods or what they are able to manufacture."

INCREASED COST OF PULP WOOD.

Paper manufacturers are pointing to the gradual increase in the cost of pulp wood since 1898 as a justification of the higher prices for paper. By way of comparison it is cited by United States paper manufacturers that, while previous to 1898 their supply of domestic pulp wood cost them, delivered at the mills, between $5 and $6 per cord, the present cost of wood is between $7 and $8 delivered. A corresponding advance has also taken place in the cost of Canadian pulp wood. Rough spruce logs that used to cost from $3 to $4 per cord f. o. b. cars, are now quoted at from $4.50 to $5. Peeled spruce wood, that sold for $3.50 to $4.50 per cord five years ago, is now selling at from $5.50 to $6 per cord f.o.b. cars. Poplar logs in the United States, that used to cost $6 per cord and less delivered, now cost the paper manufacturers nearer $9 per cord. Canadian poplar has advanced from $3 to $3.50 to $5.50 and $6 f.o.b. cars. Besides the increased cost of the wood freight rates have also advanced within the same time. But, notwithstanding the increased cost of their raw material, it is claimed that the selling price of paper has not advanced proportionately.

Speaking in regard to pulp wood and its increased cost, an authority on the subject explains the advance as follows :—"Previous to 1898 the situation in the various lines of trade for a number of years had been unsatisfactory. As a result of the depression the lumber business was in a bad way. Because of the low prices many sellers of lumber had to discontinue business. Pulp wood was, therefore, cheap, as every timber land owner who happened to need some cash sold his wood. It was his best asset upon which to get a ready return in cash. Times were so hard that there was an over supply of wood for sale. Naturally the price of lumber and pulp wood declined. Beginning in 1898, however, the Spanish war gave an impetus to general business, and the price of lumber, in common with every other commodity, began to advance. Timber that had been costing $12 to $13 per thousand feet advanced to $18 to $20 per thousand feet. In this connection I want to state that the idea that pulp wood is not suitable for any other purpose than to be ground into pulp is erroneous. In the absence therefore of a splendid supply of cheap pulp wood the buyers had to bid on the better material, and of course had to pay correspondingly for it."

THE PULP INDUSTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The pulp industry will soon be an important one in British Columbia. The Quatsino Power and Pulp Company, which has 125 square miles of the finest timber on the west shore of Vancouver island, will commence the construction of a mill before January next, the papers, it is stated, being signed. Mr. J. A. Moore, of the Moore Investment Company, of Seattle, is largely interested in this company.

Other Seattle people compose the Bella Coola Power and Pulp Company, and Mr. A. E. Williams, manager, and Mr. R. M. Thompson, secretary, have just returned to Vancouver from a season's survey and cruising of the limits. Work will be resumed in the early spring, when a saw mill will be erected first.

The Pacific Coast Wood Pulp & Paper Company has large limits near Powell river, about 80 miles north of Vancouver on the mainland coast, and the company is now being floated in London.

The Oriental Power and Pulp Comany has already its buildings at Swanson Bay under way, and will be manufacturing inside of a year and a half. Its concession contains 83,000 acres. This is a subsidiary company of the Caniadian Financial Syndicate.

SISSIBOO PULP PROPERTY SOLD.

The Sissiboo Pulp and Paper Company's properties, situated at Weymouth, Nova Scotia, were sold at foreclosure sale in Digby by Deputy Sheriff Burnham on September 13th, and were bought by Mr. A. G. Ross, of Montreal, manager of the National Trust Company, the plaintiffs in the suit ,on behalf of the bond-holders. Among those present and bidding were Messrs. W. G. Clarke, of Clarke Bros., Bear River, and G. D. Campbell, of G. D. Campbell & Co., Weymouth. The properties comprise about 25 000 acres of good timber land covered with spruce, pine, hemlock and hardwood, two pulp mills equipped with eleven grinders, compressors, wet machines, and all the necessary appliances, a large dam constructed of solid masonry, one of the best in the province, a long wharf at Weymouth Bridge with a large warehouse shed 50 by 200 feet, offices, stores, smithy, dwelling house, village lots, etc. The Sissiboo Pulp and Paper Company was incorporated in 1899 with $250,000 bond issues. Upwards of $300,000 was expended in acquiring the limits, the mill sites, the construction of dams and plant, and machinery equipment. Owing to the unfortunate flood of 1901 and the general depression in the pulp trade the concern was forced to suspend operations.

PULP NOTES.

Great Britain's imports of wood pulp are steadily increasing, as the following figures show : 1901, 448,455 tons; 1902, 525,799 tons; 1903, 576,003 tons.

The Laurentide Pulp Company, of Grand Mere, Que., recently reduced their dividend from 8 to 6 per cent. annually. The higher dividend was paid during the years 1901, 1902 and 1903.

The Pentecost Lumber Company have inaugurated extensive plans to supply the pulp and paper mills of Northern New York with pulp wood from their timber limits in Quebec. Cape Vincent, N.Y., has been made the receiving point, and storage ground for 10,000 cords of wood has been acquired. The wood will be taken from the ships by conveyors, operated by electricity.

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