

## WOOD PULP INDUSTRY IN CANADA, 1902.

The wood pulp industry of Canada for the calendar year 1902 was carried on by 35 mills which had an output of 240,989 tons of wood pulp. Of this quantity, 155,210 tons were mechanical pulp, 76,735 sulphite, and 9,044 soda. The corresponding quantities for 1901 were: mechanical, 169,360 tons; sulphite, 84,500 tons, and soda, 10,740 tons. This shows a decrease of 23,611 tons in 1902. The decrease is distributed: sulphite, 7,765; soda, 1,696; mechanical, 14,150 tons.

The total value of the output of 1902 was \$4,383,182.

There are several large mills in course of construction, or which, being finished, did not operate during the year 1902.

Two or three firms have gone out of business or manufacture only paper where before they made pulp.

Nine of the thirty-five mills manufacture sulphite pulp and four soda pulp. Twenty-five manufacture mechanical pulp and four make both chemical and mechanical.

Taking the returns of thirty-two mills the average time the mills ran during the year was ten months.

The power to drive the mills is chiefly derived from water. Of a total power equal to 81,725 horse power, 78,296 is water power.

The growth of the industry is considerable. In the census of 1881 there were five establishments with an output of \$63,000. In 1891 there were twenty-four with an output of \$1,057,810. The census returns for 1901 have not yet been tabulated. For 1902 the returns to the Statistical Branch preparing the Year Book show, as given above, thirty-five establishments with an output of \$4,383,182.

Of the product of Canadian mills the Customs returns show that during the Calendar year 1902 the export amounted to \$2,511,664, leaving \$1,871,518 for home use. In a general way, therefore, we export about fifty-seven per cent. of our production.

Of the \$2,511,664 worth exported by Canada in 1902, Great Britain took \$976,192, the United States \$1,518,139, and other countries \$17,333.

The market for this product in the United Kingdom is large. In the calendar year 1902 the requirements of Great Britain were of the value of \$11,671,367, of which seven-elevenths were chemical pulp. Our export in 1902 to Great Britain was about 8½ per cent of her needs.