

15.—Primary Forest Production, by Products, 1924.

Products.	Unit used.	Quantity reported or estimated.	Converting factor.	Equivalent volume in standing timber.	Total value.
				cu. ft.	\$
Firewood.....	cords	9,117,680	95	866,179,600	39,336,771
Ties.....	number	16,038,283	12	192,459,396	14,251,450
Poles.....	"	785,654	13	10,213,502	3,621,415
Posts.....	"	13,826,713	2	27,653,426	1,414,363
Rails.....	"	5,291,692	2	10,583,384	452,377
Mining timber.....	M lin. ft.	52,343	328	17,168,504	1,296,710
Wood for distillation.....	cords	57,131	123	7,027,113	562,525
Logs sawn.....	M ft. b.m.	4,602,991	219	1,008,055,029	83,141,692
Pulpwood used.....	cords	3,316,951	117	388,088,267	44,241,582
Miscellaneous products.....	"	80,879	117	9,462,543	838,231
Square timber exported.....	M ft. b.m.	127,773	219	27,982,287	3,317,225
Logs exported.....	"	288,384	219	63,156,096	4,855,298
Pulpwood exported.....	cords	1,330,250	117	155,639,250	13,536,058
Miscellaneous exports.....	"	212,328	117	24,842,376	2,231,013
Total.....				2,898,598,073	213,146,719

7.—Forest Depletion and Increment.

Fire Losses.—No accurate summing-up of damage due to forest fires has ever been made for Canada, but it is estimated that 60 p.c. of the original forest has been burned, and 13 p.c. cut for use and that 27 p.c. remains; moreover, that one-third as much mature timber has been burned in the last six years as has fallen to the axe.

The historic Miramichi fire, in 1825, burned along the valley of the Miramichi river in New Brunswick, and on a belt 80 miles long and 25 miles wide almost every living thing was killed. One hundred and sixty people perished, 1,000 head of stock were killed and a number of towns, including Newcastle, Chatham and Douglastown, were destroyed. The damage to the forest was not even estimated. Damage to other property was placed at \$300,000.

About 1845 vast areas were burned over west of lake Superior, many of them still remaining bare of tree growth. Some years later a very extensive fire burned along the height-of-land from lake Timiskaming to Michipicoten. In 1871 a fierce fire swept more than 2,000 square miles of forest from lake Nipissing westward along the north shore of Georgian bay, while many smaller fires north of lake Superior completed a chain of desolation across the province. About the same time the greater part of the Saguenay and Lake St. John district, in Quebec, was swept by one of the most destructive fires on record. Two other fires in 1891 and 1896 devastated over 2,000 square miles of country in the southern Algoma district. In Quebec again, the country along the line of the Quebec and Lake St. John railway also suffered by a number of disastrous forest fires, while millions of dollars worth of timber in the Ottawa country also fell a prey to the flames.

During more recent times, a series of disastrous fires swept over Northern Ontario. A number of isolated fires around the mining camp of Porcupine culminated on July 11, 1911, in a conflagration which resulted in the loss of 72 lives and property damage estimated at \$3,000,000. In 1916, fires in the same general region were responsible for the deaths of at least 224 people, the exact number never having been determined. During 1922, a third fire, covering in part the areas burned over by the previous fires, destroyed the town of Haileybury and other centres and caused 40 deaths. In 1908, a fire originating in the forest around Fernie, British Columbia, destroyed that city, caused 25 deaths, rendered 6,000 people homeless and damaged property to the estimated extent of \$5,000,000. These are a few of the outstanding historical disasters. Every year thousands of