

## Section 5.—Forest Utilization.

A short historical sketch of forest utilization in Canada appears at page 325 of the 1934-35 Year Book and an article on "The History of the Canadian Lumber Trade", by A. R. M. Lower, M.A., will be found at pages 318-323 of the 1925 edition of the Canada Year Book.

### Subsection 1.—Woods Operations.

Differences in forest conditions throughout Canada give rise to differences in logging methods. Generally speaking, throughout Eastern Canada the climate is such that the cutting and hauling of logs can be carried on most economically during the fall and winter months. The trees are felled and the logs hauled to the nearest stream or lake, where they are piled on the ice or sloping banks. The presence of connected systems of lakes and streams makes it possible in most cases to float the logs from the forest to the mill at a minimum cost during the annual spring freshets. The logging industry east of the Rocky mountains is, therefore, almost entirely seasonal. In many cases lumbermen co-operate in river-driving operations and improvement companies, financed by the logging operators, build river improvements to facilitate the passage of the floating logs, the logs being finally sorted and delivered to their respective owners. In British Columbia the scarcity of drivable streams and the greater average size of the logs give rise to entirely different logging methods. Logs are assembled by cable systems operated by donkey engines and are transported to the mills or to water chiefly by logging railways but in some cases by motor trucks. These operations are more or less independent of frost, snow or freshet and are carried on in most cases throughout the entire year.

In Eastern Canada logging operations are usually carried on by the mill owners or licensees of timbered lands, often through the medium of contractors, sub-contractors and jobbers. In the better-settled parts of the country a considerable quantity of lumber is sawn by custom sawmills or small mills purchasing logs from the farmers. Unmanufactured pulpwood, poles, ties and other forest products have a market value, but sawlogs, being as a rule the property of the mill owner, are not generally marketed as such in Eastern Canada. In British Columbia logging is carried on more frequently as a separate enterprise by limit holders, who cut and sell logs on the market. In many cases mill operators are not limit holders but buy their entire supplies of raw material from logging concerns.

In connection with operations in the woods it should be borne in mind that the forests not only provide the raw material for the sawmills, pulp-mills, wood distillation, charcoal, excelsior and other plants but that they also provide logs, pulpwood and bolts for export in the unmanufactured state, and fuel, poles, railway ties, posts and fence rails, mining timber, piling and other primary products, which are finished in the woods ready for use or exportation. There are also a number of minor forest products, such as Christmas trees, maple sugar and syrup, balsam gum, resin, cascara, moss and tanbark, which all go to swell the total.

Table 2 gives the total value of the products of woods operations in Canada for the years 1929 to 1933 inclusive. The exports and imports of forest products in the fiscal years ended Mar. 31, 1932-35 are shown in Tables 12 and 13 of the chapter on External Trade.