

The  
Timber Lands  
of  
British Columbia



Percy D. Hillis  
Room 9, Metropolitan Bldg.  
Victoria, B. C.

# TIMBER

## IN BRITISH COLUMBIA



### LOCATION

West of the Rockies in B. C. from the international boundary line on the south to the Yukon District on the north, including also Vancouver Island and the Queen Charlotte Islands, is a great body of timber, undeveloped, easy to log, accessible, with an unlimited market. On both sides of many of the inlets and back on the rivers in the valleys and covering nearly all of the islands is a heavy, even stand of timber, averaging twenty-five thousand feet per acre over all the timbered portion of the province and giving a total of over one hundred and fifty billion feet.

### KINDS OF TIMBER

The Douglas Fir, Red and Yellow Cedars, Spruce and Hemlock are the principal trees.

**Fir.**—The Fir is found all the way from the southern boundaries north to Cape Caution, standing heaviest on the south end and east side of Vancouver Island and along the adja-



## TIMBER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

---

cent mainland. It attains immense proportions, standing three to ten feet on the stump and from sixty to one hundred and fifty feet to the limbs, straight, free from shakes and averaging 60% clear lumber. This tree makes the best construction timber on the American continent and as an all-round wood stands first in rank.

**Red Cedar.**—The Red Cedar is known the continent over as the timber best adapted for shingle manufacture, being practically indestructable. It averages larger in diameter but does not attain the height of the fir. It makes the best siding for houses, splendid doors, and cheap furniture. It grows all over the Province.

**Yellow Cedar.**—The Yellow Cedar is the most valuable per M. of the Coast woods. The trees average eighteen inches to three feet on the stump and from forty to eighty feet clear. The wood is a beautiful light rich yellow, taking very high finish and polish. It is practically impervious to water, and is invaluable to the boat-builder and the furniture manufacturer.

The total stand probably does not exceed two billion feet. It commands a price of \$70 per M. on the Coast. It is found largely in the north end of the Province or on the higher slopes.

## TIMBER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

---

**Spruce.**—Spruce is found all over the Province, but attains its best growth on the West Coast of Vancouver Island and north in the wet belt. It is a pure white wood, averaging 40% clear, light, odorless, tough, making excellent house stock and the best box stuff of any of the woods.

**Hemlock.**—The B. C. Hemlock, sold under the names "Alaska Pine, B. C. Pine," etc., is very like the Fir, grows all over the Province, tall and free of limbs. It does not possess the tensile strength of the Fir, but it takes a finer finish and is sure to be one of the best general purpose woods on the Coast.

## LOG MARKET

Generally speaking, all logs on the east side of Vancouver Island and the adjoining islands and mainland can be towed directly to the mills at Vancouver, Victoria, Chemainus, New Westminster and Nanaimo.

On the West Coast of the Island and on the Queen Charlotte Islands the logs must be manufactured in mills built in those districts.

Logs within one hundred miles north or south of the Skeena River will find a ready market in the next few years in mills built at Prince Rupert, the terminus of the G. T. Pacific and nearby towns.

## TIMBER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Owing to the numerous inlets of great depth and open to all vessels, a mill can be built anywhere and ship by cargo to any part of the world. Much of the timber now held can be put into the water with donkey engines, and only in the larger tracts would any railway be required and then but very little. The cost of logging over the whole area would probably be \$7.50 a M., but much of it can be logged for half that amount.

### TITLES

**Licences.**—Probably 90%, certainly a large majority of the timber of B. C., is held under the licence, running from year to year and renewable for 21 years. This gives the holder the right to cut the timber during that period. The yearly tax is \$140 per section. The logs cannot be exported but must be manufactured in mills in the Province.

**Leases**—But a very small proportion of the timber is held under lease and none of it is for sale.

**Crown Grant.**—The Crown Grant includes land and timber and some of the best timber in the Province is held under this right. The prices on licensed lands run from 20 cents to 50 cents a M. stumpage, or from \$4 to \$10 an acre. Prices on Crown Grants range from \$20 to \$50 an acre.

## TIMBER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

### MARKETS

The great prairies back along the C. P. R., the Northwest opening up under the G. T. offer almost unlimited markets for the mill owner that desires to ship by rail. The cargo mill has the growing trade with the Orient, Australia, South America and Mexico, and when the Panama Canal is open he will be able to lay lumber down on the Atlantic Seaboard at less than half the cost for freight on the railway. The cargo mills are finding a growing market every year, and the American Government has recognized that the Pacific Ocean is coming into its own by sending its fleet on their long trip.

Every magazine, every newspaper has had stirring articles written by men of prominence who have the facts, stating that the U. S. is on edge of a timber famine. President Roosevelt called the meeting of the Governors of the American states to assemble the first of last May to discuss some national policy for preserving the forests.

Gifford Pinchot, chief of the Forest Bureau, in addressing the "American Institute of Electrical Engineers," March 5, 1908, said: "At the present rate of consumption the trees now standing can supply timber for twenty years."



## TIMBER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

---

It takes twenty years to grow a soft, quick-growing tree large enough to make a tie; it has taken the giant firs and cedars of B. C. three hundred years.

---

### Table of Present Values Per M. Stumpage.

Michigan standing timber....	\$10 to \$20 per M.
Ontario standing timber.....	\$\$ to \$16 per M.
Wisconsin standing timber....	\$.7 to \$18 per M.
Minnesota standing timber...	\$.5 to \$16 per M.
Wash. and Ore. standing timber	\$2 to \$10 per M
B. C. standing timber.....	.25c to \$1 per M.

---

Twenty years ago Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin were the great timber states. Today Washington leads all others and in ten years stumpage in Washington will be higher than the stumpage in Michigan today.

We have in B. C. the largest compact body of timber in the world, the cheapest and easiest to log, mill sites everywhere, the great Northwest and the world for a market, and as a result values must double and treble every year.

We can sell you a tract with other buyers making a big holding, or we can sell a syndicate a large tract for a mill.

## TIMBER IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

---

We will cruise any tract you may wish to buy from anyone in the Province, and give you a reliable estimate as to the timber and best methods of logging.

Any information gladly furnished regarding timber in British Columbia.

PERCY D. HILLIS

ROOM 9 METROPOLITAN BLDG.

VICTORIA, B. C.

