

Maple Sugar Industry

"SUGARING-OFF" time comes in Eastern Canada when the snows begin to melt on the farmlands and the suns of spring draw the sweet sap upward again in the trunks of the maples. In every sugar-bush then there is laughing activity. Among the bare trees gather the farmers and their friends and visitors from the city lured forth by those sweetest of all temptations, Maple Syrup and Maple Sugar.

Little spouts are hung from holes bored in the trees, and drip-drip-drip the maple-sap trickles into the buckets. As these fill they are emptied into metal vats, and away the vats go to pour their perfumed cargoes into the evaporating pans which rest above blazing fires. The bubbling liquid becomes thicker and thicker, and a cloud of steam tantalizingly sweet drifts through the low sugar-houses It is time to eat!

So much genuine pleasure is connected with the production of Maple Syrup and Maple Sugar it seems hardly possible to call it an industry. But an industry it really is. From the sugar-bushes of the Province of Quebec alone in 1929 there were produced 1,666,880 gallons of syrup and 11,112,534 pounds of Maple Sugar—almost five million dollars' worth of sweetness sent to delight palates in all parts of the earth.

The world-wide shipping services of the Canadian Pacific Railway, Canadian Pacific Express and Canadian Pacific Steamships have contributed largely to the growth of this important little industry.

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