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ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED ON APPLICATION

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interests of the lumber trade and of allied industries throughout the Dominion, being the only representative in Canada of this foremost branch of the commerce of this country. It aims at giving full and timely information on all subjects touching these interests, discussing these topics editorially and inviting free discussion by others.

Special pains are taken to secure the latest and most trustworthy market quotations from various points throughout the world, so as to afford to the trade in Canada information on which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present an accurate report not only of prices and the condition of the market, but also of other matters specially interesting to our readers. But correspondence is not only welcome, but is invited from all who have any information to communicate or subjects to discuss relating to the trade or in any way affecting it. Even when we may not be able to agree with the writers we will give them a fair opportunity for free discussion as the best means of eliciting the truth.

Any items of interest are particularly requested, for even if not of great importance individually they contribute to a fund of information from which general results are obtained.

Advertisers will receive careful attention and liberal treatment. We need not point out that for many the CANADA LUMBERMAN, with its special class of readers, is not only an exceptionally good medium for securing publicity, but is indispensable for those who would bring themselves before the notice of that class. Special attention is directed to "WANTED" and "FOR SALE" advertisements, which will be inserted in a conspicuous position at the uniform price of 15 cents per line for each insertion. Announcements of this character will be subject to a discount of 25 per cent. if ordered for four successive issues or longer.

Subscribers will find the small amount they pay for the CANADA LUMBERMAN quite insignificant as compared with its value to them. There is not an individual in the trade, or specially interested in it, who should not be on our list, thus obtaining the present benefit and aiding and encouraging us to render it even more complete.

TO VISITING LUMBERMEN.

Lumbermen visiting Toronto are invited to use the office of the CANADA LUMBERMAN as their own. We shall take pleasure in supplying them with every convenience for receiving and answering their correspondence, and hold ourselves at their service in any other way they may desire.

APPOINTMENT OF A FORESTRY COMMISSION.

THE Ontario government has set a laudable example to the other provinces of the Dominion by its recent appointment of a Forestry Commission. This commission is composed of Messrs. Thomas Southworth, Clerk of Forestry, who is acting secretary; E. W. Rathbun, of Deseronto; John Bertram, of the Collins Inlet Lumber Co., of Toronto; Alexander Kirkwood, Chief Clerk of the Lands Branch, Crown Lands Department; and J. B. McWilliams, crown timber agent, of Peterboro'. Each of these gentlemen has devoted considerable time and attention to a study of the forestry problem in its many aspects, and it would be a difficult matter to select a commission of five persons from whom a more thorough and beneficial consideration of the subject might be expected.

The duties of the commission are of a wide-spread character. They include an investigation of the condition of the cleared or partially cleared lands of the province for the purpose of inaugurating plans for the perpetuation of the timber crop, in connection with which suitable reserves to be withdrawn from settlement for the purpose of reforestation will be reported upon, and means devised for protecting these reserves, as well as

the present forests, from destruction by fire and other causes. The chief work will probably be found to be in the Lake Superior and Temiscamingue districts, which will probably be visited by the entire commission, but until the inaugural meeting is held, which is expected to be early in July, nothing definite is known regarding the course to be pursued.

This action on the part of the Ontario government is almost a direct outcome of the establishment of a Forestry Department. Not many years ago the opinion was quite general that pine forests, when cut down, gave growth to a crop of less valuable trees, such as poplar, birch, jack pine, etc. So universal was this belief that no one thought of disputing the claim. But investigations made within the past two years by the present Clerk of Forestry have proven that under ordinarily favorable conditions a re-growth of white pine will follow. Recent investigations by other students of forestry also confirm this view. Consequently the government have acted wisely in taking steps to perpetuate our forest wealth, and hand down to posterity a valuable asset.

The commission will present its report at the next session of the legislature, at which time its duties will have been fulfilled. We have no doubt, however, that the government will authorize the continuation of the work for a longer period.

IMPORT AND EXPORT DUTIES.

By a majority of eighteen the United States Senate have adopted the wood schedule practically as reported by the Finance Committee, the most important item of which is the placing of a duty of \$2 per thousand feet on all imported rough lumber except whitewood, sycamore and basswood. Several senators strongly opposed the duty, and Mr. Vest moved an amendment excepting white pine from the operation of the law. This, however, was defeated, and it now seems probable that the bill will finally become law, and be signed by the president early in August.

This action on the part of the United States has naturally aroused a strong sentiment in Canada in favor of protecting our own industries, and not allowing our forests to be depleted for the building up of foreign countries. The proviso in the bill imposing an additional tax on lumber in case any country should place an export duty on saw-logs is regarded as an unqualified display of selfishness, and the opinion is freely expressed that the Dominion government should impose an export duty regardless of the immediate consequences. This would no doubt bring the United States government to a partial realization at least that there are mutual advantages to be gained by fair treatment, inasmuch as that country is to some extent dependent upon Canada for a supply of pulp wood, while Michigan lumbermen who obtain their raw material from the Georgian Bay district would be compelled to close their mills, to the ruin of many cities and towns.

Acting upon representations made by lumbermen and others, the Dominion government has given power to the Governor-General to impose this export tax whenever the Cabinet shall so decide. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in a recent speech in London, England, stated that we were anxious

to maintain friendly relations with the United States, but as that country had shown no desire to meet Canada on reasonable terms, we would be obliged to find markets elsewhere. From this it would appear that the Canadian government had decided to retaliate against the lumber duty by an export duty on saw-logs and pulp wood. Before taking this step, however, it would be well to study carefully the effects of such a duty upon the country.

Many hardwood dealers and manufacturers are opposed to the export duty. They claim that the United States consumer will pay the import duty of \$2 per thousand feet, but when the amount of the export duty is added thereto, they will be compelled to abandon the United States market. In this connection a letter is published in another column setting forth some of the difficulties of entering the foreign markets. Any action which would seriously cripple the hardwood industry would prove disastrous to the country at large, notwithstanding that, judging from the arguments put forth by deputations at Ottawa and by the writers in the daily press, it would appear that pine was the only lumber made in Canada. There is manufactured in Ontario in one year many million feet of hardwood lumber. This is not made, like pine lumber, in mammoth mills, where the cost of manufacture is reduced to the minimum by labor-saving machinery, but in smaller mills, at a larger cost per thousand feet, thus distributing a large amount of money in new sections of country. These mills are in many cases the nucleus of the village which in course of time grows up around them, and should therefore be given every encouragement. The owners of these claim that they should not be called upon to pay for the protection of a few limit-holders on the Georgian Bay.

An export tax on saw-logs would no doubt limit the exportation of the same, as would also be the case with pulp-wood. Until new markets were found sufficient to consume our production of lumber, the price thereof would certainly depreciate, and likewise the price of timber limits. The former would prove a hardship to the small manufacturer with limited capital.

Were the Americans holding limits on the Georgian Bay to remove their mills to Canada, their output would come in direct competition with that of Canadian manufacturers, both in the local and foreign markets, as the United States market would practically be out of the question. Thus competitors would be brought into the field, resulting in low prices.

These and other disadvantages should be weighed before any definite action is taken. Looking at the other side of the question, it seems to be manifestly unjust that our logs should be taken out of the country free of duty and manufactured into lumber for the American market, while lumber manufactured on this side of the line cannot be placed on the same market except by the payment of a \$2 duty.

Before leaving this subject, we must refer to the injustice of permitting lumber to be imported into this country free of duty. This is a point which has been overlooked by both legislators and lumbermen, the opinion evidently prevailing that no lumber is imported into Canada from the United States. This is far from being the case. Owing to the large scope of the United States