DECISIONS IN COMMERCIAL LAW

MARSON V. HUGHES.—Hughes had leased a house off plaintiff, under written lease, for the period of a year from May 1st, 1896, at a rental of $240, payable monthly. A tacit renewal of this lease intervened by defendant's remaining in possession after May 1st, 1897. He left the house on the 23rd of April last, alleging that he had given a verbal notice to his landlord, on the 3rd of February. Plaintiff took a seizure on the effects removed in the hands of the new landlord, and asked to have defendant held for the rent of the succeeding year, till May 1st, 1899. The questions raised were whether the renewed lease expired on the 1st of May, 1898, whther any notice was needed to cancel it, and, if so, how and in what delay this notice was to be given. The learned judge found for plaintiff on all points, holding that when the continued lease was for a year, notice must be given before the three months preceding the day of expiry of lease, that this notice must be in writing, as the lease was written, and that in any case notice on the 3rd of February was too late.

LUMBERMEN IN CONVENTION.

The Lumbermen's Association of Ontario met in annual session in Toronto on February 18th. The only matter which this association gave serious discussion to during the meeting was the matter of the prospects of better customs relations with the United States. The speakers—and there are a number of eloquent members—were inclined to assume a very independent attitude in discussing this question. Mr. John Waldie in his usual thorough manner went into the statistics of the industry. He showed that since the United States duty of $2 was adopted, Canadian exports of lumber to Great Britain had largely increased, while those to the United States have correspondingly decreased. So plainly was it shown that Great Britain offered a satisfactory market for all kinds of lumber, that Mr. Waldie cared little whether the import of lumber by the United States was stopped altogther. Mr. Scott, of Toronto, and Mr. Beck, of Collingwood, were of the same opinion. The western interests were represented in the person of President Cameron, of the Rat Portage Lumber Company, who expressed surprise at the small exports of lumber to the United States, both at the time of free logs and since, as shown by Mr. Waldie's report. Since 1894 imports of lumber from Minnesota to Manitoba and the Northwest, had increased from 4,000,000 feet to 38,000,000 feet in 1898. In 1892 and 1893 about 60,000,000 feet covered the lumber manufactured west of Lake Superior for Manitoba. Last year, one of the best since 1892, there were but 50,000,000 feet supplied from that quarter for the West. Westerners, he said, would do all they could to strengthen the hands of eastern lumbermen, and would not object to an import duty on lumber from the United States. The following were elected officers for the coming year: President, John Bertram (re-elected); vice-presidents, James Scott (re-elected), and J. E. Murphy; secretary-treasurer, W. B. Tindell (re-elected). The members of the board of management were re-elected.