

## SOME TIMBER DEALS FOR GRAFTERS' BENEFIT

H. B. Ames, M.P., Explains How Timber Limits Were Diverted From the People and Placed in Speculators' Hands--What Are You Going to Do About It?

### CEDAR LAKE LIMIT

Just north of Lake Winnipegosis there lies a lake called Cedar Lake, on the shores and islands of which there is much valuable timber. In September, 1903, A. W. Fraser, an Ottawa lawyer, not long since president of the Ottawa Liberal association, applied to have put up for sale a timber berth to include 80 square miles on this lake. His request was at once granted. The notices were issued on the 12th of October calling for bids to be received and opened at Ottawa on the 2nd of December. One advertisement, and one only appeared in the Manitoba Free Press, and in the Dauphin Press. Now Cedar Lake lies 100 miles north of a railroad. In order to reach it, one must take the train to Winnipegosis, from which point occasional fishing tugs can be taken for points at the northern end of the lake. But the steamer service comes to an end the latter part of October and the ice commences, early in November, to form upon Lake Winnipegosis. Since the advertisement did not appear in the western papers before the 20th of October, it will be seen that it was quite impossible at that time of the year to visit the limit, examine the timber, put in a bid with a cash deposit and have the same reach Ottawa by the 2nd of December. Competition was impossible. It is reasonable to conclude that the authorities at Ottawa intended to make it so. As was no doubt expected there was but one bid, that of the applicant, Mr. Fraser, and this gentleman offered the paltry sum of \$500 and secured the limit. Shortly after its acquisition the area of the berth was increased to 90 sq. miles without additional bonus, so that Mr. Fraser secured his limit at the rate of \$5.56 per sq. mile or at a little less than one cent an acre. Now that limit was acquired for speculative purposes by Mr. Fraser, was placed for sale in the hands of certain Winnipeg agents. Their prospectus offering the property to a prospective buyer was read in the House of Commons. I have the original document issued by J. Hafner & Son, real estate agents 387 Main street, Winnipeg, which read as follows:

"Cedar lake, which is situated on Saskatchewan waters is comprised of something over 100 sq. miles and is estimated at 250,000,000 feet. The timber on this berth would work to advantage in connection with the former berth. As you will notice by the accompanying plan there is one short portage to land the logs from Cedar Lake to Lake Winnipegosis, a distance of from two and a half to three miles. The waters in both lakes are of the same level and the country lying in between the two lakes is of a low flat nature. The timber is immediately surrounding the shores of the lake stated, for 60 square miles, together with the islands or portions of the islands that have been selected. The survey has been made, but up to the present I am not in possession of the plans. The timber is of good quality and fairly clean, more so than the timber in the Erwood and Red Deer districts, but not quite so large. The price for this BLOCK IS \$600,000.

Can anyone defend the government for permitting so valuable a concession to pass into a speculator's hand under such circumstances.

### MOOSE LAKE LIMIT

Just north of Cedar lake lies a still larger sheet of water known as Moose Lake. This also drains into the Saskatchewan river. This lake is as large as Lake Nipissing and there is some very fine timber located thereby. Mr. Fraser applied for this limit at the time he asked for Cedar Lake. There was the same insufficiency of advertising and opportunity of competition. Mr. Fraser apparently expecting to have it all his own way, put in a nominal bid of \$1,000. But there was a surprise in store for him, for late in the morning of the day on which the bids were to be opened, a tender reached the department from James Currie, associated with the McDonalds, who offered \$6,420 for the limit. Then a third tender appeared in the name of W. H. Nolan, containing a \$7,000 cheque and this last offer captured the limit. T. L. No. 1031.

The first appearance of the Imperial Pulp Company on the records of the department is in reference to timber limit No. 1031. In the summer of 1902 a local Edmonton syndicate sent an exploration party to examine the timber along the upper waters of the North Saskatchewan river. In conformity with their report, application was made to the department to put up 118 square miles in eleven blocks. The applicants asked that there be no unnecessary delay as they wished to construct a saw mill and begin operations at once. The government, however, did not act with alacrity. A delay of two months and more ensued, during which John Cameron, homestead inspector at Edmonton,

was despatched to the upper waters to examine timber and make report—a commendable proceeding and one that should have been followed in all cases. But—and mark this—it had the additional advantage in this instance of placing the "inner circle" at Ottawa in possession of full information as to the value of these limits. Finally on the 9th of November, the notices were issued putting up the entire area for competition as a single proposition.

### HURRY-UP SALE

Forty-two days were allowed from the issue of the notice to the date of opening bids. One advertisement appeared in the Edmonton Bulletin about December 1. This gave about four weeks to outsiders to acquire information on which to make competitive offers. That this length of time was wholly insufficient is shown by a letter on file from W. S. Dwinell, who represents Minneapolis capitalists, and who had also a large interest in the Edmonton Lumber Co. Mr. Dwinell in his letter says: "I have been endeavoring to secure information which would enable me to act intelligently, but have not had sufficient time to do so. I would ask you to have this sale postponed for thirty or sixty days, preferably the latter, to the end that I may complete an examination and make a substantial bid for the property. I am satisfied that the interests of the Dominion government would be subserved thereby, and that a much larger bid would be received than if the sale took place at this time. This tract comprising as it does, 118 sq. miles, is so extensive, that the time given under the notice is altogether insufficient to permit any one to make proper examination thereof." It is the same story disclosed in connection with other transactions, "insufficient time," "tract too large." A further letter from Messrs. Crafts & Lee, of Edmonton, asks: "Must the tenders be on each block separately, or in the whole?" intimating that if so large an area be put up at once there were few possessed of sufficient capital to bid upon it. It meant shutting out the small Edmonton manufacturer and granting every advantage to the wealthy Ottawa speculator.

### INSIDE CIRCLE KNEW

But the department did not postpone the sale as asked by Mr. Dwinell. Presumably enough information was by this time in the possession of those in whose behalf information was desired. The bids were opened on December 31, 1902. They were as follows, omitting several smaller offerings:

- (a) T. A. Burrows, \$6,057.
- (b) James Ross, on behalf of Edmonton syndicate, \$17,010.
- (c) H. & K. McDonald & Frith, \$31,161.
- (d) The Imperial Pulp Co. \$31,575.

The tender of the Imperial Pulp Co., was a model of brevity. It read:

Toronto, Dec. 29, 1902.  
To the Secretary, Department of the Interior, Ottawa:  
Sir,—Enclosed please find tender for timber berth No. 1031.  
Yours truly,  
(Signed) Imperial Pulp Co.

The regular form of the department was not used. No amount as bonus was specified. Marginal notes on the original showed that there were two cheques, the first for \$17,575, and the second for \$14,000. It was brought out as evidence that these two cheques were manager's cheques on the Ottawa office of the Bank of Ottawa, handed to T. A. Burrows in exchange for deposit. The letter purports to have come from Toronto, the cheques from Ottawa. Mr. Burrows seems to have been the instrument of their union. Now it will be noticed that the larger of these two cheques, \$17,575, slightly exceeds the bid of James Ross and the Edmonton syndicate. Just before twelve o'clock the tender of the McDonalds arrived for \$31,161. The addition of the second cheque for \$14,000 to the previous cheque of the Imperial Pulp Company for \$17,575, would give a total of \$31,575, sufficient by a small margin to exceed the McDonald bid. Is it any wonder the question is asked, "was this coincidence or design?"

### BURROWS WAS AHEAD

Edmonton advices show that the local syndicate was represented in Ottawa on the day the tenders were opened by Frederick E. Moroney, who brought down the \$17,010 Ross cheque. This party told, on his return of his experience and impressions. You will find his story, as repeated by Dr. H. L. McInnis, in the Edmonton Weekly Journal of February 28, 1908. After stating that the Edmonton syndicate sent a man to Ottawa with a marked cheque the citation reads, "When the man got there a tender had been submitted by Burrows for \$6,810. The man was at the office a few minutes before the tenders were opened. The tender was

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taken inside and in the meantime a conference took place and a blank cheque signed by Burrows was filled out. This made Burrows total amount to \$31,110, and so he got the berth. The figures may not be quite accurate, but it is plain that, rightly or wrongly, the Edmonton representative believed that his tender was topped. Certainly the circumstantial evidence in regard to this transaction does not tend to remove that impression.

It is estimated that limit No. 1031 of which we are speaking, will produce 75,000,000 feet of sawn lumber. All the timber lies close to the river and at a reasonable valuation this limit is worth today \$250,000.

T. B. NO. 1122

On Nov. 27, 1903, Burrows' timber cruiser, Archie McLean, made application to have seven widely separated tracts of selected timber, located on the McLeod and Pembina rivers, tributaries to the Athabasca, and aggregating in all 110 sq. miles, put up for public competition. The department acted with great dispatch. Advertisements were issued on the 15th of December 1903, and bids were called for to be opened on the 27th of January 1904. Between the issue of the advertisements and the opening of the bids the gross time was 43 days, but for anyone in Edmonton desirous of visiting the limits the time available was but one month. Now merely to make the four of these seven widely separated tracts, passing from one to another and returning to Edmonton, would

require a journey of 450 miles. This in itself would take a couple of months, allowing no time for examination. No condemnation can be too severe on the department for thus putting up so large an area in such scattered tracts in a single competition. It is practically shut out the local Edmonton dealers from anything like a fair deal. The bids were opened on the 27th of January, 1904.

They were as follows:

- (a) McDonald & Frith, Ottawa, \$1,320.
- (b) J. H. Lamont, Prince Albert, \$4,000.

(c) Kenneth A. McLeod, P.O. Box 175, Edmonton, \$10,925.

(d) A. W. Fraser (Imperial Pulp Co.) \$11,000.

### HANDY SECOND CHECK

The offer of the Imperial Pulp Co. was in the form of a letter written by Lawyer Fraser of Ottawa. Marginal notes on the original indicate that two cheques were given—one for \$5,000 and one for \$6,000. Mr. Fraser under examination has stated that he wrote the letter and handed it in an unsealed letter to Mr. Burrows. Mr. Finnie, local manager of the Bank of Ottawa, has testified that he gave Mr. Burrows two manager's cheques for these amounts on the morning of January 27, in exchange for deposits. The cheque for \$5,000 was accepted first. It will be readily noted that the \$5,000 cheque would have been sufficient to have captured the limit over the Lamont bid, but that it required the combined cheques to exceed the McLeod offer. This limit was transferred the following day to the Imperial Pulp Co. by whom it is held today. Again may I ask was this coincidence or design?

### WHO MAY VOTE

Any Male, British subject who has been a resident of Saskatchewan for one year and of this Constituency for three months prior to the issue of the writ of election, may vote at this election in this constituency, whether his name is on the list or not. Do not be bluffed. If you are qualified, go to the poll and demand a ballot.

## SENATOR BOB WATSON TRIES DIRTY GAME

He Writes to Senator James H. Ross Telling How He is Helping the Party in Mackenzie District--Watson is Supposed to be One of the Western Liberal Leaders.

The most cold-blooded attempt to steal votes yet exposed in this campaign, places Senator Watson and other Liberal leaders in bad position. Robert Watson has been exposed as the leading character in a conspiracy to rob the electoral district of Mackenzie of an independent candidate.

This has proved one of the most cold-blooded and bare-faced cases of crookedness that has been exposed during the campaign.

It shows the class of men and their small honor, who are today asking for Liberal support.

Senator Robert Watson. Senator James Ross. John Crawford.

These are the central figures in the plot.

The scheme was to deprive Robert Buchanan, independent candidate in the Mackenzie division of the support, thought by Liberal workers to be surely his.

Dr. Cash, who is the Liberal government candidate, was to receive the votes stolen from Buchanan.

Read the following: It will tell you of the rottenest piece of political crookedness yet exposed, in connection with the Liberal campaign.

At the outset it may be stated that there is no Conservative candidate in Mackenzie. Dr. Cash who has represented the constituency for some years, is again the government candidate. When Robt. Buchanan, backed as it appeared by a large number of Liberals who were dissatisfied with Dr. Cash and the record of the Laurier government, was nominated to oppose him, the Conservatives decided not to place a candidate in the field. It is therefore, rather was, up to the time Senator Bob Watson and John Crawford appeared on the scene, a fight between Dr. Cash, Liberal and Mr. Buchanan, Independent.

### ENTER BOB WATSON

And now appears the fine hand of the eminent Liberal diplomat of Portage la Prairie. It has evidently come to Senator Bob Watson's ears that Dr. Cash was in danger and that it would be smart politics to secure in some manner a signed statement from Mr. Buchanan which would enable the latter to support the Laurier government should the result of the election be so close as to make his vote a matter of importance to the party. Conditions favored the promotion of the intrigue. John Crawford, Liberal candidate in Portage la Prairie is a brother-in-law of Mr. Buchanan, and Senator Watson conceived the bright idea of having Mr. Crawford write Mr. Buchanan a nice, brotherly letter pointing out that he was desirous of making the latter's political path pleasant and showing him a means of making himself persona grata with the government in the event of Sir Wilfrid Laurier being returned.

The following letter gives the details of the plot.

It shows the trick to be a typical Watson one, so poorly played and so clumsy that it could not get through without the public being made aware of it:

Portage la Prairie, Oct. 1, 1908.

Hon. James Ross, Regina, Sask.

Dear Ross,—I wish to submit to you what I have done in the Mackenzie district. I came into Winnipeg Tuesday evening and was fortunate in meeting Crawford, M.P. Then of course you are aware he is brother-in-law to Buchanan, and after fully discussing the situation we decided on the plan of having Buchanan address a letter to Crawford defining his position. I enclose you a copy of the letter Crawford sent Buchanan also the letter we expect him to sign and return. MacMillan has gone with letter. You will be able to see Buchanan without creating suspicion with the Tories. Dr. Cash will also be in the dark so far as party is concerned. MacMillan will advise Buchanan to be careful and not make mistakes in his campaign so that he will be free to support government

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, etc.

should be elected. You will observe as per letter Buchanan's reasons for running (that is if we have properly diagnosed his case) are not very numerous. So far as government policy of disposal of timber is concerned the old policy which is now being criticised has already been changed so far as large expenditures are concerned. There are a great many Liberals who had seats in the last parliament and we trust will have again who are of the same opinion as Buchanan. If Buchanan will sign letter I should judge it will carry out our wishes. Of course it might be well to send Cash some assistance as he is the straight government candidate and it would be better for the party for that reason if he were elected. At the same time it would be a good line to have the letter from the other fellow. I will keep you posted and wire you just as soon as MacMillan reports. Everything looks well here. I am also of the opinion that Thompson will defeat Staples in Macdonald. He is putting up a good fight and looking well to organization. I am pleased to see Hautain did not accept Regina nomination. Of course you will be aware by this time that Turfiff and Richardson will have a fight by themselves.

I remain, Yours respectfully,

(Signed) ROBERT WATSON.

Drop me a line giving me your opinion as to Mackenzie.

### THE TIME HAS COME

To Turn Out the Political Party Which Hands Over Our Land Timber and Mineral Resources to the Speculator.

To every nation comes its great opportunity. To the United States it came forty years ago when the rush to the west was in full swing. To us Canadians the awakening has come with the beginning of this new century. We had the experience of those south of the line, with their mistakes clearly before us, to guide those into whose hands the destiny of the west had been entrusted.

Up to 1900 the lands, forest, coal areas and fisheries of the Canadian west were still in the hands of the nation. The speculator came, saw and conquered.

Today the speculator holds large areas of our agricultural land waiting his price.

He holds 50 per cent. of all the timbered regions under lease in the three provinces, which he will not cut over, but which he will sell at many times their original cost.

He holds valuable closed irrevocable grazing leases.

He has acquired irrigation contracts that afford no protection to the ultimate small purchaser.

He controls four-fifths of the coal supply of the future.

He has secured for nothing and resold for much, the right to exterminate the food fish of the inland lakes.

All this, and more, the speculator has obtained with the assistance and approval of a political party, that in opposition, proscribed "land for the settler." What are you going to do about it? Re-elect men who have so flagrantly violated their pledges? I hope not. It is time for a change.

Put a new set of men in control with a mandate to recover for the people of Canada the lands and resources which through fraud or imposition have passed into the grafters' hands. Let restitution be your watchword in the next campaign and do not stay your hands till this has been accomplished.

GIRL WANTED

For general housework in a small family. Apply to

MRS. A. MARTIN Pilot Butte.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, etc.

"They give too much of the sweat-stained money of the people to men who have not earned it."—J. Lorne Macdougall, late Auditor-General, in referring to the Laurier government.

TRAYED.  
Premises, S.E. 1/4, 32-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-1046-1047-1048-1049-1050-1051-1052-1053-1054-1055-1056-1057-1058-1059-1060-1061-1062-1063-1064-1065-1066-1067-1068-1069-1070-1071-1072-1073-1074-1075-1076-1077-1078-1079-1080-1081-1082-1083-1084-1085-1086-1087-1088-1089-1090-1091-1092-1093-1094-1095-1096-1097-1098-1099-1100-1101-1102-1103-1104-1105-1106-1107-1108-1109-1110-1111-1112-1113-1114-1115-1116-1117-1118-1119-1120-1121-1122-1123-1124-1125-1126-1127-1128-1129-1130-1131-1132-1133-1134-1135-1136-1137-1138-1139-1140-1141-1142-1143-1144-1145-1146-1147-1148-1149-1150-1151-1152-1153-1154-1155-1156-1157-1158-1159-1160-1161-1162-1163-1164-1165-1166-1167-1168-1169-1170-1171-1172-1173-1174-1175-1176-1177-1178-1179-1180-1181-1182-1183-1184-1185-1186-1187-1188-1189-1190-1191-1