

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

TORONTO, ONT., SEPTEMBER, 1897

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MEETING OF ONTARIO LUMBERMEN

Large and Enthusiastic Gathering at the Board of Trade Building in Toronto.—
Resolution Adopted Asking the Ontario Government to Amend the
Timber Regulations.—Opposition from the Ottawa Valley.

IN response to an invitation issued at the instance of Mr. C. Beck, of Penetanguishene, a meeting of Ontario lumbermen took place in the rotunda of the Board of Trade Building, Toronto, on Thursday, August 19th. The meeting was, in point of attendance and enthusiasm, one of the most successful that has been held in the province for years.

Georgian Bay lumbermen were present in full force, and formed the chief element of the meeting. The Ottawa valley was represented by Messrs. W. C. Edwards, M. P., Levi Crannell, W. C. Hughson and W. Anderson.

The circular calling the meeting read as follows:

TORONTO, AUGUST 3rd, 1897.

I have been requested by several large mill owners to call a meeting of the Ontario lumbermen and mill owners to be held in the Board of Trade Building, Toronto, on August 19th, at eleven o'clock a. m., for the purpose of discussing the general aspect of the lumber trade, and also to take into consideration the steps that should be taken by the government in regards the export duty on logs and import duty on lumber.

You are well aware that under the present American tariff and our present law, free trade in lumber and logs is detrimental to the general lumber interests of Ontario, and I trust that in your own interest as well as that of the lumber trade generally, you will make it a point to be present at the meeting.

There will also be a proposition made to form a lumber association to further the interests of the lumber industry. All lumbermen are cordially invited to attend whether members of the Board of Trade or not.

EDGAR A. WILLS,
Sec. Board of Trade.

The questions to be discussed were of the utmost importance to the trade, and it was evident from the eloquence of the speakers that they had come prepared to give a full expression of their views. When the meeting was called to order the following persons were in attendance:

W. C. Edwards, W. C. Edwards & Co.,	Ottawa.
Levi Crannell, Bronsons & Weston Co.,	"
W. C. Hughson, Gilmour & Hughson	"
W. Anderson, J. R. Booth,	"
Jas. Scott, Georgian Bay Lumber Co.,	Toronto.
John Bertram, Collins Inlet Lumber Co.,	"
George Bertram, " "	"
John Walde, Victoria Harbor Lum. Co.,	"
A. H. Campbell, jr., Muskoka Lum. Co.,	"
W. H. Pratt, Conger Lumber Co.,	"
Col. Davidson, Davidson & Hay,	"
Robert Laflaw, R. Laidlaw & Co.,	"
A. L. N. Weller, Ontario Lumber Co.,	"
J. B. Miller, Parry Sound Lumber Co.,	"
W. B. Tindall, " "	"
Chas. D. Warton, Imperial Lumber Co.,	"
J. S. Playfair, Musk. & Geor. Bay Nav. Co.	"
F. N. Walde, Victoria Harbor Lum. Co.,	"
A. A. Scott, " "	"
Wm. Leek, " "	"
J. G. Cane, I. G. Cane & Co.,	"
Geo. A. Anderson, J. G. Cane & Co.,	"
Geo. Gall, Gall Lumber Co.,	"
Thomas Southworth,	"
J. H. Eyer, " "	"
B. Ryan, " "	"
C. H. Clark, " "	"

John J. Hall,	Toronto.
Cook Bros.,	"
James Tennant,	"
A. Oakley, Davidson & Hay,	"
Robert Smith, J. B. Smith & Sons,	"
W. J. Smith,	"
R. Fleming,	"
A. W. Belding,	"
S. Crangle,	"
E. S. Rowe,	"
L. R. Arnett,	"
E. W. Rathbun,	Deseronto.
C. Beck,	Penetanguishene.
Dr. Spohn,	"
O. G. Anderson, Anderson Furniture Co.,	Woodstock.



COLONEL DAVIDSON, Chairman.

John Charlton,	Lynedoch.
W. A. Charlton,	"
W. Stoddart,	Owen Sound.
E. J. Harrison, John Harrison & Sons,	"
Robt. Watt,	Warton.
John P. Newman,	"
John Collins,	Sault Ste. Marie.
Robert Connolly,	Eau Claire.
R. Cook, South River Lumber Co.,	South River.
W. J. Arde,	"
Wm. Irwin, Wm. Irwin & Co.,	Peterboro.
G. W. Ramsay,	"
W. J. Sheppard, Georgian Bay Lum. Co.,	Waubushene.
J. E. Murphy,	Hepworth.
J. J. McNeil,	Gravenhurst.
N. Dymont,	Barrie.
James L. Burton,	"
A. E. Dymont,	Thessalon.
H. R. McDonald,	"
C. E. C. Newton, Newton & Son	Victoria Harbor.
C. W. Newton,	"
F. R. Wallace,	"
A. McLeod,	Bracebridge.
F. Potter,	"
W. C. Mahaffy,	"
Thomas Hale, Hale & Booth	Pembroke.
T. H. Sheppard,	Orillia.
Robert Jackson,	"
H. L. Lovering, Georgian Bay Lum. Co.,	Col. water.
C. McCool,	Geneva Lake.
Wm. Milne,	Trout Creek.
P. McSherry,	Stayner.
J. Jolliffe,	Parry Sound.
W. R. Beatty, M.P.P.,	"

Robt. J. Clarkson,	Parry Sound.
Capt. Morden, str. United Lumberman,	Oakville.
Jas. Playfair,	Midland.
D. L. White, jr.,	"
Frank R. Weston,	"
Mr. Foley, Arthur Hill Co.,	"
J. W. Chew, Chew Bros.,	"
W. Savidge, Cutler & Savidge Co.,	Spring Lake, Mich.
E. S. Brennan	Sturgeon Falls.
Geo. Cormack,	Whitby.
J. Conlan, J. & T. Conlan,	Little Current.
T. Conlan, " " "	Thorold.
R. T. Steele	Hamilton.
Robert Thomson, R. Thomson & Co.,	"
H. S. Brennan, M. Brennan & Sons,	"
G. F. Webster,	Creemore.
A. McCall, McCall & McBurney,	Simcoe.
W. E. Bigwood,	Wahnaipitac.
W. W. Carter,	Fesserton.
D. Hadden,	Foxmead.
R. Bunyan	North Bay.

On motion of Ald. Scott, seconded by Dr. Spohn, Lieut.-Col. John I. Davidson was elected to the chair and Mr. E. A. Wills appointed secretary. The chairman then read the circular calling the meeting, and stated that the voice of such a representative gathering would no doubt have much influence with the government. It was then in order to proceed with business.

For a time no one seemed anxious to take the initial step, but Ald. Scott finally came forward with a resolution which he had prepared. He wished it understood, however, that the idea contained therein was brought forward by Mr. Bertram, and not by himself. The resolution was as follows:

That whereas the government of the United States have imposed an export duty of \$2.00 per thousand feet on sawn lumber; and whereas that government has made special provision in the tariff that a still higher import duty in a certain event be imposed on sawn lumber; and whereas the government has not imposed an export duty on saw logs; and whereas by the present Canadian tariff sawn lumber is admitted into Canada free of duty; and whereas the said Canadian tariff permits the export of saw logs free of duty; and whereas the effect of such tariff arrangements is highly injurious to the true interests of the owners of saw mills in Canada, to Canadian workmen and Canadians generally, as tending to transfer the sawing of lumber from Canada to the United States;

Be it therefore resolved, that in the opinion of this meeting the export of saw logs should be restricted, and with that object in view the government of the Province of Ontario be requested to so amend the pine timber regulations that all pine lumber cut under license in the Province of Ontario should be manufactured in Canada.

With regard to the merits of the question, Ald. Scott stated that he did not propose to say much. The situation for Canadian saw mill men and Canadians generally, not only workmen, but those who were engaged in furnishing supplies, was a very grave one. The action of the United States government had placed Canadian lumber manufacturers in an unfair condition, and as Canadians we could not with dignity submit to the injustice.

Continuing, Ald. Scott said: "The import duty is simply a license to kill the lumber trade of Canada. Those of us who have mills on the Georgian Bay must either close our mills and export our logs, or do business unprofitably. The duty of \$2 per thousand feet is practically an exclusion of average sawn lumber. Under it the higher grades may be imported, but the coarser lumber could not be sold in the United