

# THE CANADA LUMBERMAN.

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## THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interest 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 of them 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 upon which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present 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 an information to communicate or subjects to discuss relating to the trade or in any way effecting 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 ten cents per line for each insertion. Announcements of this character will be subject to a discount of 25 per cent. if ordered for three 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.

BELL & Co., of Guelph, Ont., organ manufacturers, have discovered that British Columbia spruce when properly seasoned is admirably adapted for sounding boards for their instruments. A large order was recently given by that firm to the Royal City Planing Mills, New Westminster. British Columbia cedar finds its way to Montreal for finishing work in first class residences, as well as to Ohio for railway carriage purposes.

THE miles of completed railways in Canada on the 30th June last were 12,292; that the tons of freight carried in the year amounted to 16,367,987. The passengers carried in the year numbered 10,685,508: that the receipts from passenger traffic were \$11,861,597 and from freight traffic \$24,581,047. The receipts per train mile were \$1.15½ and the expenditure \$2.1-10c. The percentage of gross receipts expended in working the railways was 71.12 per cent. The passengers carried were equal to two and one-fifth passengers per inhabitant. The freight to three tons and thirty-five one hundredths of a ton per inhabitant, and that the total earnings were \$38,841,609 and the total expenses \$27,624,683.

NEW BRUNSWICK lumbermen are greatly troubled over the stream driving prospects. They say that stream driving has not been so bad for years as it is this Spring. The little snow that fell during the past winter dissolved so gradually that it did not swell the waters in the streams, and from present appearances there will be very little stream driving this season. It is expected that the quantity of logs which will be hung up at the brows will be very large unless there should be a big rain-fall within the next week or two. On the Miramichi and its tributaries the driving is not good. In the main river there is fair water for driving and rafting, but the smaller streams are quite low. There is, however, a good deal of snow in the woods and a few days of warm weather will make a freshet.

THE improvements which the Montreal Harbor Commissioners have contemplated for some time will now it is understood be rigorously pushed forward. Work will be begun at Hochelaga, where a new shore wharf and five piers will immediately be put under construction. The increase of frontage for sea-going vessels will be about two miles. For the present an extension of 1,500 feet from the cotton factory, for the accommodation of the lumber trade, and about 1,300 feet with a pier for the sugar refinery will be built. It is estimated that between \$250,000 and \$300,000 will be expended during the present season.

ATTENTION is directed to two very important communications in this issue of THE LUMBERMAN, both touching upon questions affecting the lumber trade. The article on the Jamaica Trade, from the pen of Mr A. Spencer Jones, of Ottawa, will, no doubt, be read by many with interest, and we hope with profit also. To the lumber trade closer trade relations with the British West India Islands would prove of incalculable benefit. "Pinus" in another column makes some pertinent suggestions particularly adapted to the lumber trade of the Queen City. We freely invite a full discussion of the pros and cons of this important controversy.

THE case of St. Catharines Milling & Lumbering Company will be before the Privy Council early this summer. This is the case involving the title of Ontario to land and minerals of the territory formerly in dispute between the Province and the Dominion. Judgments in favor of the Province have already been given in the High Court of Justice, in the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court, and it is probable that the Privy Council will give judgment on the same side. Hon. O. Mowat has gone to England to prosecute this case and on other public business.

OUR Buffalo contemporary, the *Lumber World*, is reproducing an extract from an article on Commercial Union from THE LUMBERMAN, inadvertently changes a single letter which misconstrues our meaning entirely. The extract referred to, as it appeared in this paper, read; "Nothing, we think, would benefit the lumber trade of Canada so much as the passage of a commercial union measure". Our contemporary, by substituting the letter "r" for an "f" makes the sentence read: "The lumber trade or Canada". Now while we are strongly of the opinion that the lumber trade of this country would be benefitted by C. U. we do not think that Canada, as a whole, would benefit by such a change. A single letter sometimes when used in the wrong place causes a serious blunder.

FROM our exchanges we learn that the American lumber trade while not very active, presents a satisfactory outlook for the future. In most of the Western markets stocks of lumber in pile have been considerably reduced. In the East the late warm weather has stimulated building operations, and it is believed that the consumption of lumber in this way will equal and perhaps surpass the record of previous years. Manufacturing has begun in a lively manner, although in some places high water has interfered with the operation of the mills. It is probable that railroad building will be carried on this year on an extensive scale, and thus afford an outlet for a large amount of lumber. Generally speaking the condition of the trade may be characterized as healthy and encouraging.

THE very important question of an international exhibition for Canada is now under discussion, and is evidently meeting with favor from all classes of the Canadian people. The Dominion in the past has always proved one of the foremost participants in events of this kind, and native products and manufactures have been exhibited with the greatest success throughout Europe and the United States. Several such enterprises have been conducted in Australia with the most gratifying results, and there is no reason why Canada, possessing as she does a location so much more central and accessible in every respect, should not enter upon a similar project under infinitely brighter auspices. The more the idea is looked into the greater seems the cause for surprise that an effort has not

been formulated at a much earlier date. An exposition, lasting for several months, could hardly fail to attract thousands of visitors to our shores, and the practical knowledge of the country thus disseminated would perform more good in one day than all the emigration literature ever published. Mr. Stevenson, secretary of the permanent exhibition in Quebec, who has been associated with all the Dominion exhibits in other lands, is one of the foremost advocates of the scheme, and he suggests that the summer of 1892 would be the most appropriate time for such an enterprise, as it would prove the 250th anniversary of the founding of Montreal—where such an event would in all probability take place—and the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America. This at first sight may seem a somewhat lengthy period to look forward to, but enterprises such as this require plenty of time to mature and become published abroad, and when the enormous duties and responsibilities associated therewith are taken into consideration, it will become generally recognized that the present is none too early a date to commence the agitation. Once the country and the several Governments take the matter in hand there need not be the slightest fear as to an ultimate and unbounded success.

SENATOR CLEMON is bringing up two very important matters in the Senate, in asking for information regarding the allotment of water-power at the Chaudiere, and the deposit of sawdust in the Ottawa from the saw mills there. The impression seems to prevail that the water power at the Chaudiere is not utilized to a reasonable extent for manufacturing purposes, as its availability seems quite limited. At the present time there are six or seven saw mills and a flour mill run by the Chaudiere power. The Ottawa is the only river into which lumber mills are allowed to discharge sawdust, but there is no other river which has such enormous lumber interests on its banks, and the Government has so far permitted the sawdust nuisance out of deference to the great interests concerned. If the report of the Government engineers who were sent out last year to examine the effects of the sawdust on river interests should take the view that the nuisance is not a very serious one, the public, it is said, will be content to let the matter go.

THE recent investigation by the Department of Public Works relative to the sawdust nuisance in the Ottawa river, has resulted in the discovery that the refuse is blocking up the river to such an extent that the channel is in many places gradually filling up, rendering navigation uncertain and perilous. Sawdust islands are forming, the refuse already fills the principal bays, and a stretch of sawdust extends about all the way from the Chaudiere Falls to Grenville, sixty miles below the City of Ottawa. Mr. Henry A. Gray, assistant chief engineer, who was appointed by the Government to make investigations, reports that the river is in a clogged condition between a point below the Chaudiere to the mouth of the Gatineau, a distance of two and a-half miles. Surveys of this portion of the Ottawa were made in the years 1857, 1859 and 1874. The soundings, taken by Mr. Gray enabled him to observe the marvellous growth of sawdust deposits in the river during the past thirty years. Sawdust fills the bed of the river below the island, opposite Parliament Hill, and at one point in the middle shows a depth of forty feet. The same state of affairs seems to exist, to a greater or less extent, for many miles. Some idea of the sawdust deposits can be gained when it is learned from official figures that last year's cut at the Chaudiere aggregated 365 million feet board measurement. This return is said to be some fifteen per cent. under the amount of previous years. It is estimated that at least 1/5 of the amount of material is cut in sawdust. Now taking the whole figures this cut equals 4,380,000,000 cubic inches equal to 2,534,722 cubic feet or 93,578 cubic yards, allowing that more is cut from the log than returned, and also that the above return is 15 per cent. under the amount of former years, there is at least 100,000 cubic yards of sawdust alone deposited into the Ottawa river every year from the Chaudiere mills in the process of cutting up the logs. The above is only sawdust. To this may be added slabs and edgings. Much of the slab wood is broken up by "hogging machines" and this increases