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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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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 any 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 15 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.

TO VISITING LUMBERMEN.

LUMBERMEN visiting Toronto are invited to use the office of the 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 that they may desire.

A RURAL lumberman in a letter to the editor of this journal orders his paper stopped, and in lieu of the mighty dollar kindly forwards a number of religious tracts. We are endeavoring to fully appreciate our friend's generosity as he is evidently under the impression that the man who edits a lumber journal is sadly in need of spiritual help.

THERE are 843 firms engaged in operating the paper and pulp mills of the United States. A great deal of spruce timber is consumed by these mills. The demand for raw material in the shape of spruce logs and spruce slabs is beyond all previous call for this material, and the large pulp makers are looking about in various directions, and securing a supply of growing spruce, to make sure of a reserve stock to supply their mills in years to come.

MR. A. COOK, a large lumber dealer, of Whitehall, N. Y., speaking recently about the removal of the export duty on logs, said that the action of the Canadian Government somewhat surprised the American lumbermen. They quite expected that the duty on pine logs would be taken off, but had no idea that the Govern-

ment would also remit it on spruce logs. The probable result will be that mills will be built along the American side of the border for sawing spruce logs, as their product will be protected by a duty of \$2 a thousand, while they will get the Canadian raw material free.

THE Charleson exploration party, sent by the Quebec Government to the head waters of the Ottawa and Gatineau rivers has been heard from. They reached the Hudson Bay post on the Jean de terre, a large river falling into the Gatineau, on the 2nd of October, and Fort Barrier on the 5th. The policy of the Quebec Government in taking steps to ascertain with some degree of accuracy the extent and value of the unleased timber lands of the province, has been amply justified. Mr. Charleson states that there are magnificent forests of pine timber in that region not under lease, and which will prove valuable sources of revenue to the province.

HON. MR. DUHAMEL, Commissioner of Crown Lands, Province of Quebec, has caused a circular to be issued to all the woodrangers under his control commanding them to rigidly enforce the law respecting the cutting of timber in all cases without fear, favor, or affection, so that hereafter lumbermen and jobbers will not be permitted to scour the bush and select and carry away the best logs, leaving the remainder of the tree to rot in the woods, or to furnish fuel for spreading forest fires. They will either have to take, utilize, and pay for the whole tree or they will not be allowed to touch it. The immediate effect of this timely policy will be to make it much more profitable to manufacture the raw material in the province than to send it across the line to the United States to be manufactured there. This policy if rigidly carried out will be the means of checking great waste as well as securing the benefits of the manufacture of the timber at home.

A slight change in the terms on purchase of timber limits exceeding \$10,000 has been made by the Ontario Government to the advantage of purchasers. "Purchases over \$10,000 one-fourth of bonus is to be paid in cash on the day of sale, and notes are to be given for the remaining three fourths of bonus, payable in three, six and nine months, at a bank in the city of Toronto, with 7 per cent. interest." A new condition has been added, which reads as follows: "Purchasers over \$10,000 may make payment as above provided, or shall have the option of paying instead one-fifth of bonus in cash on day of sale and to give notes for the remaining four-fifths of bonus at three, six, nine and twelve months, and as otherwise above provided."

THE policy recently adopted by the Ontario Government making it compulsory on the part of those purchasing crown timber limits to manufacture all logs cut from same in this country, seems to have met with general favor. The removal by the Dominion Government of the export duty on logs, while it was deemed necessary in the face of the recent action on the part of the United States, has not been generally accepted by the Canadian lumber trade as being all that could be desired. While the large operators and those holding Canadian stumpage will greatly benefit by the abolition of this duty, by far the greater number engaged in the lumber trade will indirectly, if not directly, suffer. As an offset to the liberal concession made by the Federal Government, the proviso referred to above, imposing the condition of local manufacture when selling timber limits, will have a salutary effect in putting

a stop to the undue exportation of Canadian logs. It is to be hoped that the example set by the Ontario legislature will be met with favor by legislators in the other provinces and that the same policy will be adopted throughout the Dominion.

THE stagnation in the lumber trade at Quebec still continues, with no prospect of any immediate improvement, as there are absolutely no offers to buy. It is more than likely the square timber will have to lay over until next season. The McKinley tariff does not effect the trade at Quebec so directly as it does in Ontario, owing to the fact that whatever timber passes through the city is en route to England. At Montreal the timber trade to South American ports, which was so flourishing during the summer of last year, but fell off greatly the early part of the present season, has revived to some extent. Freights, however, are lower than last year, when no less than thirty ships were sent from the St. Lawrence to South America at chartered rates of \$17 per thousand feet. Lately three ships have been chartered, two loading lumber in Montreal and the other in Quebec at \$11 per thousand—a drop of \$5 from last season's rates. Soon as matters get straightened up in South America a revival of trade may be looked for, but not to any great extent until next season.

THE London *Timber Trades Journal* says, "A noticeable feature of the brokers' catalogues recently has been the large quantity of Quebec pine deals offered without reserve, and the fact of nearly 100,000 pieces being disposed of in this way during the last month shows that the fears we expressed some little time back of forced sales of these goods becoming necessary were by no means groundless. Looking, however, at the present state of the market, we should be sorry to say that the course taken is not a wise one, both at the docks and the mills, it would appear a very hazardous policy to continue to hold these costly goods in the hope of a near improvement in value commensurate with the loss of interest, &c., which so rapidly mounts up. Experience has taught us over and over again that the chances are greatly against success in an operation of that kind. It is notorious that any attempt to force up the price of pine during the last few years has always had the effect of greatly restricting the consumption, as a reference to the statistics of some few years back will show, while at the same time encouraging the introduction of cheaper substitutes."

THIS is an age of great undertakings. The building of the Chignecto ship railway and the completion of the tunnel under the St. Clair river at Sarnia, is to be followed by another stupendous enterprise at Niagara Falls, N. Y. On the fourth of last month the first sod was turned for the commencement of the construction of the great Niagara tunnel. This gigantic scheme for the development of Niagara's unrivalled water power is in the hands of the Niagara Power Company, and the contract for the work has been let to the Cataract Construction Company, of Jersey, for \$3,500,000. It is proposed to tunnel under the present town of Niagara Falls, N. Y., commencing at a point below the upper suspension bridge, thence to the river above the town. At this point the tunnel will be 100 feet below the surface, and thence it will be extended one and a half miles parallel with the river's shore. Along this stretch shafts will be put down, to be fed by lateral surface canals from the river. The object of this new enterprise is to furnish power for Buffalo and neighboring cities.