

in the tariff now before the Senate. No lumberman favored the re-imposition of the duty. It was left for a doctor and a lawyer to argue in its favor. The Speaker of the House, a strong Tory and a lumberman, felt it incumbent upon him to address the House upon this question, which he did as follows :

Mr. Speaker, said the evil effects were confined mostly to local districts, the north shore and the Georgian Bay. It would not be proper to re-impose the duty on logs until they found whether lumber would remain on the free list of the United States. If it was on the free list there, then it would be a mistake to re-impose the export duty. It would be in the interests of a large proportion of the Dominion for the Government to stay their hand for the present.—*Empire*, May 18th, 1894.

Col. O'Brien, Member for Muskoka, Independent Conservative, said amongst other things, that gentlemen were guilty of great exaggeration in their desire to have the duty re-imposed. With regard to the Parry Sound District, there had never been so many men employed or labor so steady and constant, neither had wages ever been so good. So far from being an injury to the country, the extra quantity of logs taken out since the export commenced had given a great impetus to trade in the country. To re-impose the duty at the present time would paralyze trade from one end of the country to the other. While there was a chance of the import duty being taken off, the Canadian Government should not re-impose an export duty.

Mr. Bryson, Pontiac, Tory, said the lumbermen should know what was their own interest. The platform for the Government was that Americans should be given free logs provided they admitted lumber free. His earnest desire was that the Government should adhere to the ground it had taken.

Mr. Calback, Tory, said if the United States would allow logs to go in free from Canada, this country ought not to re-impose an export duty.

The Government has not re-imposed the export duty, because they believe it to be in the interests of the country that the matter should stand as it is until it is known if the United States will admit lumber free.

By the tariff bill now before the House it is provided that an export duty may be imposed by the Canadian Government as against any country which imposes a duty on imported lumber.

The policy of the Government as to the question of imposing "manufacturing conditions" has been and is, that while the question of admitting Canadian lumber to the American market free of duty is before the Congress of the United States, it would be inadvisable, and possibly disastrous to impose "manufacturing conditions" upon the sale of timber limits. In 1893, when this question was first brought before the House, the American people had elected a Democratic Congress and a Democratic President and there was every prospect that their proposed new tariff bill would admit lumber free. In the tariff bill now before the Senate a clause has been carried admitting lumber free of duty. Had the Dominion imposed an export duty on logs, or had the Province attached a manufacturing condition to their sale of timber limits, there can be but little doubt that a heavy duty would have been imposed upon Canadian lumber entering the United States.

It will be time enough to consider what the policy should be in the future after we have seen what action the American Congress takes on this very vital and important matter. The Government are open to deal with the question in the manner best suited to the public wants. The reasons herein given are those which heretofore have been presented in the Legislature against the resolutions in favor of "manufacturing conditions" which have been proposed by the Opposition.