

7 EDWARD VII., A. 1907

had shipped this car; we also know for a fact that shipments of lumber have been made to contractors in Saskatchewan, as we turned the orders for the lumber over to the mill. It would, therefore, appear that if we made a mistake some of the largest shippers on this Coast have also made mistakes in shipping to those other than regular dealers. In conclusion, we may state that we are entirely willing to fall in line with whatever action is taken by the majority of manufacturers and shippers from the Coast of British Columbia, but we cannot for one moment think that you will expect us to join your association unless other shippers out here do the same. You particularly mention the name of the Union Lumber Company; we think you will find, upon looking into the matter, that they have not joined your association.

'Hoping for a continuance of your valued orders during the present year,

'We are,

'Yours truly,'

A. What is the date of that?

Q. February 16, 1906, that is one year and two months after these men had all withdrawn in a batch?—A. That is right, I do not understand that letter at all.

Q. This is written to you: 'We beg to state that we are in receipt from Mr. Thomas Kirkpatrick of a letter from yourself to him, &c.'—A. Are they wholesalers?

Q. You ought to know, are they not?—A. I do not know them.

Q. The letter is written to you.

Mr. COCKBURN.—They are brokers.

Q. They say that your complaint to them is that they sold to other than a retailer, and that unless they join the above named association it will be impossible for you to place any more of your valued orders with them.—A. I cannot understand that, Mr. Lancaster, because there were no manufacturers members of the association at that time.

Q. Your name is mentioned here in another letter from the Export Lumber and Shingle Co., Limited, H. H. Spicer, manager, and is dated at Vancouver, February 22, 1906, addressed to Mr. Cockburn:—

'DEAR SIR,—We thank you for your letter of the 19th inst., and are glad to note the contents of same.

'In reply to your letter and also to your circular of January 31, we beg to say that it will afford us pleasure to work in harmony with the members of the Western Retail Lumbermen's Association, and we would esteem it a favour if you will send us a list of the names of the members of your body.

'Would it be asking too much of you to speak to Mr. Sprague and inform him that we are in harmony with your association, and are therefore so far as this is concerned entitled to his trade or to the trade of any member of the association.'

Now, there apparently this man understood that he was in exactly the same position, if he was in harmony with the association, as he was when he was an honorary member?—A. I do not know anything about the circumstances of that letter, except this, and I think I have stated that to the committee, if I found that he was a manufacturer of lumber and was selling to a contractor or a consumer direct I would certainly withdraw my trade from him. As far as I am concerned I feel perfectly certain that I never asked him to join the association.

Q. He thinks you did?—A. But if he was a manufacturer he could not join our association.

Q. It is true, bearing out what you said a moment ago. He goes on to say that while it is quite true he was not a member of the association yet he was on the list of those who were in harmony with the association and therefore thinks he is entitled to the same business from you as if he was still a member, as long as he remained in harmony, that because the manufacturers withdrew from the association it did not change their position?—A. If he has not followed what I assume to be the business principle in selling his lumber he would not get my business. But if he did not get my