

# 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. Especial 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.

WHEN a firm or individual receives a copy of THE LUMBERMAN with a blank order enclosed, it may be considered a mute appeal to fill out the blank and send it to us. It is a timely suggestion to look over the paper and examine it carefully, page after page, notice each article and then answer the question, "Is it not worth more than the subscription asked?" Fill out the blank and return it to us, you will find it a great auxiliary to your business. Should any of our old readers happen to read this they would do us a favor by calling the attention of a friend to it. Superintendents of mills, managers and foremen, would find themselves greatly benefited by becoming constant readers of the paper. An order by postal card or letter is just as good as a filled out blank.

A WASHINGTON special claims that Canadians are despoiling the timber on the Minnesota side of the line, chiefly on the Red Lake reservation. The telegram sets forth that the chief of the timber depredations bureau of the general land office asserts that the lumber thieves along the Rainey Lake and Rainey Lake river operate systematically every season and in such a manner as to make it almost impossible to get at them. Large crews are sent into the pine woods in the early winter from the north. By the time they begin operations the United States authorities cannot reach them on account of the severity of the winter. These crews are cut off from civilization all winter, and in the spring the log cut is floated down the numerous streams into Rainey river and over to the Canadian shore. When an agent of the land office finally gets into the section the camps are gone as well as the thieves and logs.

The timber, or a great deal of it, is on the Red Lake Indian reservation. If it were owned by private parties it is more than possible that an effort would be made by them to protect their lands, but as it now is the general government is the only sufferer. The vast tract of uninhabited territory on the northern border makes it almost impossible for an agent of the government to reach the scene of these depredations. The lumber thieves, says the telegram, carry large supplies, while a lone man would more than likely perish before he could reach any of the camps. Even when he did find the thieves cutting timber he could do nothing. If they would refuse to accompany him to a United States official he would have to take his prisoner or prisoners through Canadian territory, and they could at any time refuse to accompany him. The land office feels practically powerless to protect the interests of the government on the northern frontier of Minnesota, and sees no way to prevent the Canadian thieves from carrying on the work of destruction, which is increasing every season.

A REMARKABLE impetus has been given to the lumber industry of British Columbia within the past few months, and the next few years will witness a far greater development of the lumbering industry of that province. The facilities which British Columbia offers for the development of an export trade are such as to arrest the attention of capitalists. The Fraser river and its tributaries, which run through the vast timber regions of the northeast, offer exceptional advantages for floating the products of the forest to the sea coast for shipment. The most important tree of the Pacific province, and the only wood that has as yet become to any extent an article of export, is the Douglas fir, sometimes called the Oregon pine. The tree is frequently from 150 to 175 feet in length, without knots or branches, and of a diameter varying from 6 to 10 feet. It is frequently squared 45 inches for a length of 90 feet, and is remarkable for its extraordinary size, straightness, and uniform thickness, its durability and freedom from knots place it almost beyond competition. As there is a rapidly increasing demand for timber limits on the Pacific coast, we may state for the benefit of those who are not sufficiently informed, that every applicant for a license to cut timber in British Columbia is required to publish for 30 days a notice of his intention to apply to the Commissioner of Crown Lands for such license in the official gazette. In the railway belt no timber license will be granted for a larger area than 2,000 acres of land, for every 2,500 feet of lumber that the mill operated in connection therewith is capable of cutting in 12 hours, nor will the license be granted for a longer period than four years, and no person can take out more than one license at a time. The license fee is \$10 for each 1,000 acres, while upon each tree felled the sum of 15 cents is demanded. In addition to this, the party holding a license to cut timber is required to pay the sum of 20 cents for each 1,000 feet, board measure, contained in such logs, and until this is paid the logs cannot be moved. The foregoing applies only to timber lands situated within the "railway belt" lying south of 49 degrees, 34 minutes north latitude and west 121 degrees of longitude west of Greenwich. Licenses for cutting timber in British Columbia, as far east as the height of land forming the watershed between the basin of the Columbia river on the east, require the payment of a yearly license fee of \$50, thirty cents stumpage for each tree felled and seventy-five cents for each thousand feet, board measure, contained in the logs made from such trees.

CONSUL Thomas W. Hotchkiss, in a report to the United States government, discusses the timber supply in the United States and Canada. Mr. Hotchkiss says: "The leading industry of this district, that of sawed pine lumber, still keeps its relative position as the second leading industry of Canada, in this district alone amounting to \$3,000,000 annually. The conditions of prosperity were never more apparent than at present. The only apparent difficulty the past year has been ocean freightage and the enormous rise in rates growing out of shortage of freight room from the seaports. The effect of this difficulty is to leave upon the docks of the manufacturers here an abnormal quantity of lumber—sold, but undelivered." He says the great disturbing element which now agitates the lumbermen of Canada is the United States tariff question of free lumber or any change of rate; while the chief disturbing element, and one which is a deep source of grievance to the American lumbermen, is the Canadian export duty levied on pine logs going from Canada to the States. He does not coincide with the generally expressed opinion that the forests of Canada are inexhaustible, and intimates that a person need not travel to the north pole to find its limit. These limits, he says, may be placed, approximately, at the 73rd degree of longitude on the east and the 90th on the west, the distances being to a point about 130 miles north of the St. Lawrence river, and east and west an approximate of 1,000 miles. The growth of timber in the United States, he says, has been more rapid than in Canada, all varieties of timber being of much larger growth. In this connection the immense fir and cedar forests of British Columbia must not be forgotten. In regard to the supply of timber, Mr. Hotchkiss says, it is still greater and of far superior quality in the United States than in Canada, and that the day is yet far distant when the United States will depend upon any foreign timber supply. Of the \$2,000,000 realized by the Dominion government from the sale of pine leases during the year 1888, of this sum nearly \$500,000 was by American purchasers direct and in behalf of American interests. Since the order-in-council was issued advancing the export duty to \$3 per 1000, no sale of timber limits had been made to Americans.

A LARGE and influential meeting of lumbermen and others who were interested, was recently held at Bridgewater, N.S., to consider the sawdust question. As is usually the case at such meetings, exemption from the operation of the law was claimed, and that practically little or no injury was done by throwing the saw dust into the streams. In this instance it was claimed that the river La Have should be exempted, upon the grounds of justice and reason, as it was shown by evidence, official and otherwise, that the navigation of the river is as good to-day as a quarter of a century ago, and that the idea that sawdust injured the fish was at best a mere conjecture, concerning which there has never been the slightest proof to back it up. "There are abstract questions in connection with this sawdust question," says a local paper, "with which we have practically nothing to do. We presume doctrinaires will continue to debate the question as to whether sawdust is injurious to fish life or whether it is not. Perhaps it would be correct to say that nothing has been absolutely and scientifically settled upon this point. This much, however, is admitted, that there has been a great falling off in river fishing in places where sawdust has not been deposited at all, and fish have managed to continue to live in rivers where sawdust has been steadily and copiously deposited." We have not the least doubt