

**BRITISH COLUMBIA LOGS MAY BE EXPORTED. VANCOUVER ISLAND AND "BACK TO THE LAND MOVEMENT."**

The following order-in-council was promulgated:—

That a condition exists in the timber industry of the Province which demands relief.

That there is in Provincial waters, and unsaleable at the present time, upwards of 125,000,000 feet of fir, cedar and spruce logs.

That as the result of the unsettled conditions attending the present European war, the saw milling industries of the Province have greatly reduced and may still further curtail their operations.

That by reason of inability to dispose of their output, the loggers of the Province find themselves unable to discharge their obligations for labor and supplies.

That in order to secure relief from depressed conditions and avoid material damage to the surplus logs through the activity of the toredo, it becomes desirable to permit the export of all logs now cut within the Province upon terms and conditions.

And to recommend that the undersigned be authorized to issue permits for the export of all timber now cut within the Province upon payment of a tax in accordance with the following schedule:

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
Cedar .....	\$2.00	\$1.50	\$1.00
Fir .....	1.00	1.00	.50
Spruce .....	2.00	1.50	1.00
Pine .....	2.00	1.50	1.00
Hemlock .....	.50	.50	.50
Balsam or Larch .....	.50	.50	.50

such tax to be deemed to include any and all royalties which may be due with respect to said timber; provided, however, that no permit to export shall be given unless all taxes, royalties or other payments due the Crown have been paid; provided further, that the privilege to export such timber may be withdrawn at any time without notice.

**C. P. R. CANCELS THROUGH OCEAN AND RAIL RATE.**

Under date of August 25th, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company has issued the following circular letter:—

"Owing to the war conditions, the impossibility of getting ocean space and the high cost of hull insurance, please take notice that all through import rates to this country, as covered by lake and rail tariff E1982 and all-rail tariff E2013, applying to Western Canada points, and tariffs E139 and E405, applying to British Columbia points, will be cancelled, effective September 8, 1914. Until further notice all ocean rates (which have been increased 50 per cent.), plus local rates from seaboard, will apply."

This is one of the effects of the war upon international trade, and it applies with particular severity to business between Great Britain and Canada. However, it is hoped that resort to this expedient will be but comparatively temporary, and with the gradual settlement of trade through war conditions the cargo market may drop sufficiently to admit of usual rates applying, and perhaps to the re-establishment of through rates.

**OIL STORAGE PLANT FOR VICTORIA.**

The Imperial Oil Co., Ltd., of Vancouver, has asked permission of the Municipal Council of Victoria for the erection of a receiving storage plant within the limits of Victoria. The plant contemplated to be erected will have a capacity of 5,000 barrels of light oil and 35,000 barrels of fuel oil. The Council reported favorably, and stated that when the company were ready a committee would be appointed to go into the matter.

That the scheme launched by the Victoria and Island Development Association, to encourage the cultivation of vacant lands in and near the city, is meeting with the approval of all parties interested in the growth of this portion of the Island, and has met with a ready response from persons who are seeking opportunities to get on to the land, is clearly indicated in a report which Commissioner Cuthbert submitted at a meeting of the provisional council of the Association recently. In response to advertisements inserted in the local press, asking owners to offer vacant property on short leases so that persons with limited capital may have an opportunity of securing small holdings on which to grow crops and enter the livestock industry, a number of most encouraging replies have been received, while a large number of applications from prospective settlers have also been received. The result has encouraged Commissioner Cuthbert to ask the council of the association to appoint a committee to deal with the matter. At that meeting this suggestion was approved, the committee selected being composed of Mr. W. E. Scott, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Dr. Tolmie, Dominion Livestock Commissioner; Mr. John D. Read, Glen Ross Farm, Metchosin; Mr. H. C. Mellin, of the Sooke Development League; Mr. H. B. Thompson, M. P. P.; the Reeves of Esquimalt and Saanich Municipalities; Mr. James A. Grant, of Royal Oak; Councillor Borden, of Saanich; Mr. R. Layritz; Alderman Todd and Mr. Lindley Crease. Other gentlemen who are interested in the idea will be added to this committee later.

The assistance of the Provincial Department of Agriculture was offered by Mr. Scott, who heartily approved of the scheme, and suggested that the department would be willing to develop a vacant lot as a species of demonstration of the possibilities of the work, and that the department would issue a pamphlet on the subject.

Among the offers received from owners, a number stated that the land could be secured on leases of from one or two years in consideration of the payment by the lessor of the annual taxes. One owner offered 100 acres on these terms. A lady has offered to contribute \$10 towards a fund for purchasing seeds for those persons who may not have sufficient funds.

A number of applications received from persons desirous of securing small holdings were read at the meeting. All indicated that the writers were only too willing to get on the land, provided the cost was made reasonable.

An early meeting of the committee will be held, when the following objects, amongst others, will be aimed at:

To induce farmers to cultivate more land and raise every head of stock possible; to secure under lease for two or three years all the farms available at the lowest possible rental; to induce people from outside points who have written the association asking the price of land, to lease these farms, if at the present time they are not prepared to purchase, so as to get these people here anyway; to secure vacant lands in the immediate districts for cultivation at a nominal rental; to secure vacant lots in the city for the same purpose without any charge; to induce citizens who have had experience, to lease some of these farms; to place the unemployed, as far as possible, on the vacant lands, and to help them to cultivate the vacant lots; to offer premiums, if possible, for the best cultivated lots, on the same plan as the cities of Calgary and Edmonton; to secure the modification of the regulation for keeping hogs in Saanich and the taking through that municipality of food for the same, by a system of permits, and to secure a modification of regulations as to the keeping of poultry in the city, under a similar permit system.