

LUMBERMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO.

A special meeting of the Lumbermen's Association of Ontario was held in the Board Building, Toronto, on August 15th, in the presence of Mr. Waldie, the President, in the chair. Matters of interest to the lumber trade were discussed.

The President explained that the Board of Lumbermen had not seen their way to affiliate with the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. The association desired that, in respect to an export duty on lumber, an exception should be made in the case of hardwoods, and that these should be admitted free. To this proposition the Lumbermen's Association would not agree, as the desire of the lumbermen that all lumber imported from the United States should be subject to a duty.

The Secretary, Mr. Tyndall, brought up the question of union labor in respect to the load-

ing of lumber, and such high prices for pork, oats, etc., and such high wages, to go on and force their business.

It was pointed out that there was much difficulty in greatly curtailing operations, as it was almost necessary, where there was a large investment in plant and where an operator was the owner of a large number of horses, to provide employment for such plant and horses.

Mr. N. Dymont, of Barrie, stated that it was his intention to curtail operations in the woods the coming winter to the extent of 50 per cent.

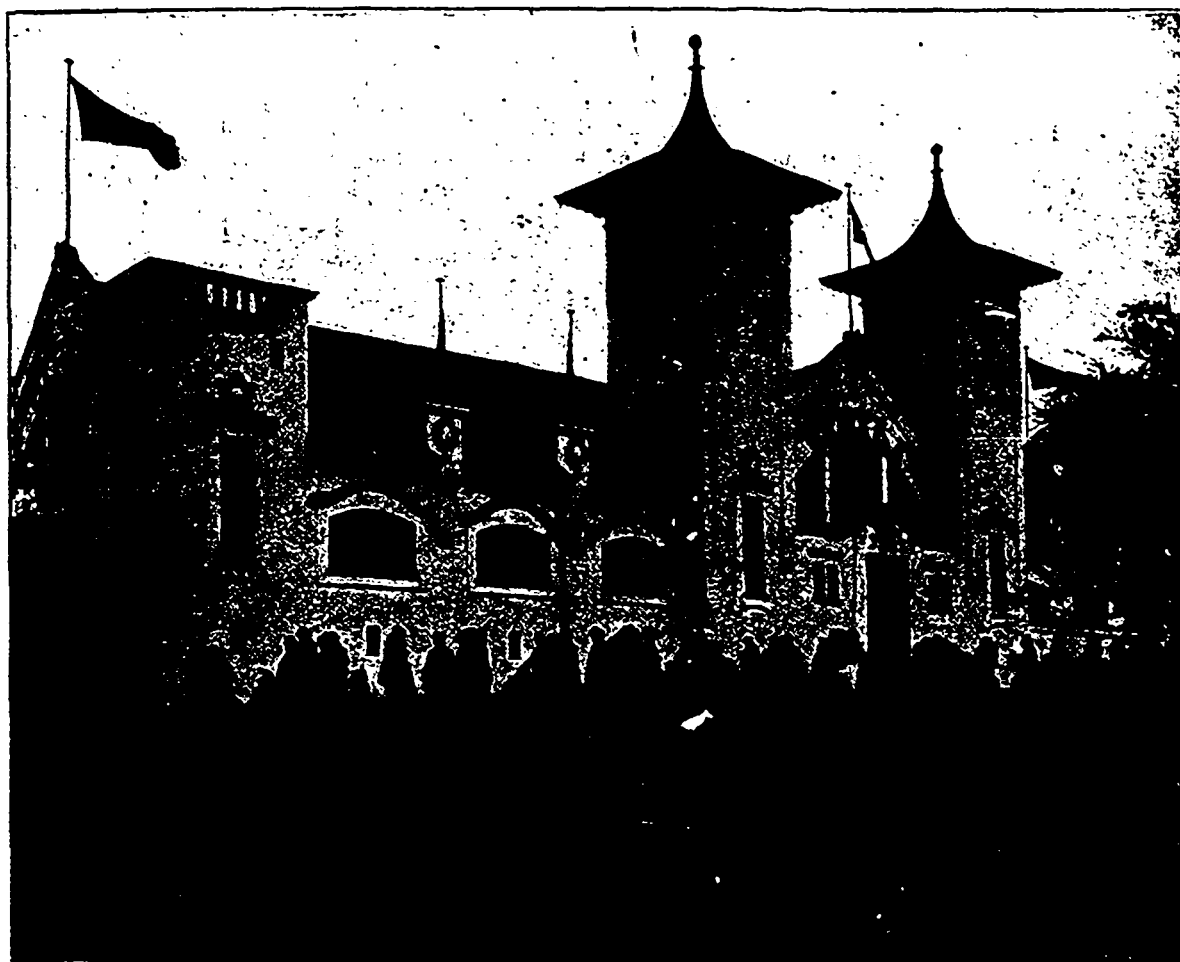
The President remarked that in the winter of 1897-98 wages were about \$16 per month, but in 1899-1900 they were \$27. He thought that it now cost about \$7 per thousand feet to get logs out of the woods and into the booms. Pork was 40 cents higher than one year ago.

A general discussion followed on the cost of taking out logs and manufacturing lumber. In logging labor was said to represent about

Mr. Bertram endeavored to impress upon lumbermen the necessity of following the policy above outlined. It seemed to him that it would pay lumbermen better to consider their holdings of timber in the nature of an investment, and to extend their operations over ten years rather than to cut out their limits in half that time. He referred to the good fortune of the present holders of white pine timber. In about five years, he said, all the merchantable white pine on the south shore of Lake Superior would be cut, and Canadian owners of white pine, after that time, would certainly reap the benefit.

Mr. George Thomson, of Goderich, said that the timber in the north of Michigan would be completely exhausted in five years.

The President brought up the insurance question. He characterized the action of the insurance companies in respect to the recent



CANADIAN PAVILION, GLASGOW EXHIBITION.

ing of boats. He said that a handler's union had been formed, and their demands were such as to seriously affect the interests of all shippers. While they had the same wage scale as was paid in other and similar places, they were not willing to give an equal service with these

question of wages of men in the industry was then discussed. It was shown that wages had been steadily increasing for the past few years, and that the cost of supplies was higher. This brought up the question of the log output during the coming year. Mr. John Bertram stated that they had three years of fairly good prices for lumber, and he thought it would be unsafe for lumbermen, when they had to pay such

55 per cent. of the cost, while the average cost of manufacturing lumber, including saw bill, repairs, piling, etc., was about \$2.

The following resolution was then submitted and unanimously adopted:

"Moved by Mr. N. Dymont, seconded by Mr. C. Beck, that in view of the present conditions attached to the carrying on of the lumber business, the increased value of stumpage, the difficulty of procuring suitable labor, and the uncertainty of demand for the product, the members of the Lumbermen's Association are of the opinion that it is very desirable to decrease the quantity of logs to be taken out next season, and those present agree to curtail their operations, and advise that all the members of the association follow this course, and so conserve their timber holdings."

advance in rates as most arbitrary and unjust. For instance, a water power mill with a first-class steel burner had been advanced in equal proportion with a steam mill with a poor burner. The underwriters had made a scale based on the distance the lumber is piled from the mill, without regard to the character of the mill, style of burner, or yard arrangements. If an advance was necessary, he thought it should have been a percentage instead of a flat advance.

Mr. Bertram said that his mill had been standing since 1852, and for nineteen years he had paid insurance premiums without ever having a fire either in mill or lumber yard, yet his insurance had been raised from 1 1/4 to 4 per cent.

Mr. Charles Beck proposed that the lumber-