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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interests 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 by others.

Special 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 on which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present an 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 affecting 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 four 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.

## TO VISITING LUMBERMEN.

Lumbermen visiting Toronto are invited to use the office of the CANADA LUMBERMAN as their own. We shall take pleasure in supplying them with every convenience for receiving and answering their correspondence, and hold ourselves at their service in any other way they may desire.

## RETAIN THE HOME MARKET.

WHAT can be accomplished by united effort was shown by the success achieved by the lumbermen of Ontario in securing the prohibition of the export of saw-logs. This was a question affecting only the western portion of Ontario, and the interest therein was confined to a small percentage of the lumbermen of the Dominion, except in so far as the legislation might incur retaliation the same as an export duty, and thus increase the import duty on lumber. A matter having a wider interest is that of an import duty on lumber coming into Canada. This directly affects the whole Dominion, but British Columbia, Manitoba and Ontario in particular, as these provinces are made the dumping ground for low grade American stock, which is sold below the actual cost of manufacture.

The lumbermen of the Dominion should unite to secure the passage by the Dominion government at the present session of an act imposing an import duty on United States lumber. While the present tariff arrangements are in vogue, it would seem impossible to advance one sound argument against such a duty. Indeed, there is every reason to believe that such a measure will

shortly be introduced in parliament, and that it will receive the support of both political parties.

In replying to the speech from the throne, Mr. George Bertram, M.P., of Toronto, alluded to the matter in such a way as to raise a strong hope in the breasts of lumbermen. Dwelling on the necessity of making some changes in the tariff to meet new conditions that had arisen, he said:

"Take, for instance, the duty on lumber. We know that the tariff was revised last session, but American lumber is admitted to this country still as it was before, free of duty, while Canadian lumber which was formerly admitted into the United States free of duty, is now dutiable. In the discussion that went on it was impossible to regard the log and the lumber duties otherwise than as interdependent and affecting one another, and it is most reasonable that the legislation of the United States on this subject of the lumber duties should be regarded in deciding upon the legislation upon that subject for Canada. This question has been before the public for a considerable number of years. At present, while American lumber comes free into Canada, there is a duty of \$2 per thousand on lumber going into the United States. Thus a new condition has arisen, and, while I do not say that a duty should be imposed upon American lumber coming into this country, I do say that, new conditions having arisen, the government will be bound seriously to consider the question in the light of those new conditions and decide the problems that are thus raised so as to promote the best interests of the country at large."

From this expression of sentiment the belief might fairly be extracted that the government are alive to the necessity of taking action. It behooves those interested, however, to bring all possible pressure to bear upon the members of parliament to secure the desired end; no opportunity should be lost of making the situation thoroughly understood.

At a meeting of Ontario lumbermen held in Toronto last fall, a resolution was passed favoring an import duty. The British Columbia manufacturers have also fallen into line, and are working vigorously to secure the co-operation of lumbermen throughout the Dominion. At the annual meeting of the Western Retail Lumbermen's Association held at Winnipeg last month, reference was made to the quantity of cull lumber imported from the United States, much of which was said to be simply rubbish, but which found sale with the farmers owing to its cheapness. In each of these provinces the local industries are suffering from the unfair competition; they are shut out of the United States market, and must compete with foreign manufacturers for the local trade of their own vicinity.

There can be but one result of the present conditions, namely, the removal of Canadian mills to the United States, where they will be in a position to supply both the United States and Canadian trade. Already one British Columbia manufacturer has taken this step, and others will be compelled to take similar action unless given some protection. This is certainly not in the interests of the commerce of the country, and should not be permitted by the government. It can only result in depopulation and the enriching of the republic to the south by some of our best and most desirable residents business men whose establishments afford employment for a large number of workmen, and which, in many instances, were the nucleus of towns and villages

in which they are located. With the prospect of a revival of commercial prosperity, by all means let this injustice to our lumber manufacturers be removed.

## ONTARIO LUMBERMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

At the session of the Ontario legislature which recently adjourned, by far the most important question discussed was the timber policy of the province. The measure finally introduced in the House was in accord with the views of the opposition, and the accusation was made that the government had stolen the policy of their opponents. The Premier, in response, pointed out that the credit of formulating the policy was due to the lumbermen themselves, who had met together and framed a line of action, which was submitted to the government. Here is a practical illustration of the benefits to be derived by organization. It shows the actual necessity of having a live association of lumbermen to battle with questions affecting in a general way the lumber trade, similar to the one for which legislation has just been passed. That there exists a strong feeling in favor of reviving the existing association in Ontario into greater activity or forming a new one is quite evident. A Georgian Bay manufacturer, in a letter to THE LUMBERMAN, says: "We think the formation of an active lumber association would promote the interests of both pine and hardwood lumber manufacturers, and also improve prices." This is the view held by many others, but there appears to be a disinclination to take the initiatory steps. Those in favor of the formation of an association are asked to state their views through the columns of this journal, and make suggestions for the successful working of the same. Let there be a hearty response to this invitation.

Since the above was written we learn that the annual meeting of the Lumbermen's Association of Ontario is announced to take place in Toronto, in accordance with the constitution on February 28th. Circumstances being unfavorable to the holding of the meeting on that date, it is proposed to meet pro forma and adjourn until Tuesday, the 22nd of March, at the same time and place. At this meeting it is hoped to infuse new life into the Association, and to endeavor to make it of greater benefit to its members, and to the lumber trade in general. Further announcements will probably be made after the formal meeting on the 28th of February. It is probable that the question of forming a hardwood section will be considered. The pine and hardwood manufacturers represent two distinct industries, and it would seem almost necessary that two separate branches be organized, one to represent the pine manufacturers and the other the hardwood trade. All lumbermen who are desirous of seeing such an association organized, and willing to identify themselves with it, should be present on the 22nd of March.

## WEST INDIA TRADE.

MESSRS. J. A. Chipman & Co., commission merchants, of Halifax, N. S., have done much towards the extension of Canadian trade with the West Indies. To them is due the credit of a large portion of the business which our manufacturers have secured, and while the United States still holds the bulk of the trade, it is believed that