

of the lumbermen of the Northwest, than can be presented for concessions granted to many other lines of manufacture.

The question of lumber still further received the consideration of the House by Mr. Foster moving that elm logs be included among the logs, upon which the government will have power to put an export duty, not exceeding \$3.00 per thousand ft. The logs coming within this schedule are pine, Douglas fir, balsam, cedar and hemlock.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

To his other schemes, Gen. Booth, of the Salvation Army, will, it is said, in his efforts for the relief of the unemployed, enter the lumber business. The intention is to purchase a timber limit in Muskoka, upon which will be erected a comfortable shanty. The proposition is to send men from the city, who are out of employment, to work there, and a wood yard, which is to be established in Toronto, will furnish a market for the product.

THE Manitoba Government are wrestling with the question of granting aid to the South-Eastern railway. The extension of this road would be a boon to the lumbermen of the Lake of the Woods district. In the face of recent tariff regulations, making lumber free, of which we have something to say elsewhere, these lumbermen are going to have hard times unless relief is secured in improved shipping and freight conditions. The promoters of the road promise the logs will be brought from Lake of the Woods for manufacture in Winnipeg. Competition in freight rates will also be secured by the extension, and viewing the matter in this light, a late report from Winnipeg says that Ministers are disposed to grant a favorable bonus. The Prairie Province will strengthen its position generally every time that new railway competition can be secured.

AS an evidence of the dullness of the lumber market in Canada and in the United States for the past year, it is pointed out that seldom have investors been more slow to make any move in the purchase of lumber or timber limits. One writer draws attention to the fact that, while timber in the Saginaw district is practically out of the market, and speculators must look to the neighboring states of Wisconsin and Minnesota, or to Canada, in all of which places they have already made large investments, yet, just at the present time there is almost no trading going on. One of the largest speculators has said that he could not remember any time when so many tracks were offered or such opportunities presented for bargains as now. Concessions could be obtained to-day that, 18 months ago, would have been laughed at.

IT has been known to business men for some time that the system of gathering export statistics of various products going from Canada through the United States has not shown our export trade in the fairest light. The writer remembers some time ago speaking to a Canadian oatmeal exporter, who sent his product to the West Indies through a New York commission house. "All this stuff," he said, "reached the Indies as United States meal." The Canadian Manufacturer has drawn attention generally to this question and states that collectors have been instructed to use every effort to ascertain correctly the country of destination of all goods entered for export at their port to the end that the export statistics of the department shall be as correct as possible as to such foreign destination. "It is this lack of accuracy in ascertaining the destination of merchandise exported from Canada," says our contemporary, "that has heretofore told so unfavorably against our trade with countries other than the United States. We have occasion to know that much of our exports of agricultural implements to Australia has been credited to the United States trade with that country because the shipments were made to a United States shipping port without the statement at our export port of the precise destination; and in the same manner much of our Canadian lumber, intended for the West Indies and other foreign markets, sent in bond through the United States, has been credited to this latter country through the lack of accuracy alluded to, and which the Government is now seeking to remedy.

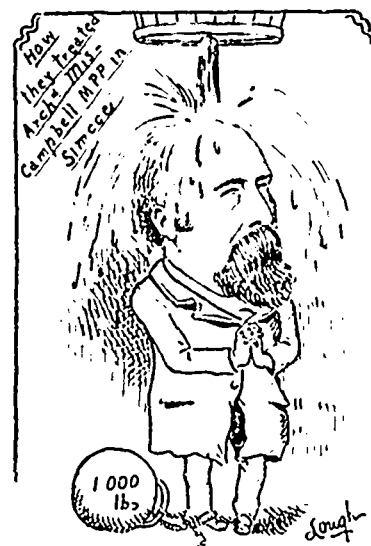


EDWARD Jack, of St. John, N. B., who has for years given considerable attention to lumber matters, has expressed himself on the question of the log export duty. United States lumbermen having paid large sums into the Ontario treasury for certain timber limits, subject to no restrictions as to where the logs might be cut, he considers the government would have been guilty of a breach of trust should they have inserted afterwards, that these logs be cut within the province. "Suppose," says he, "that after a man had bought a thousand barrels of flour in Toronto, deliverable in one year from date, the Dominion government imposed an export duty of \$1 per barrel on this flour, who would justify such an act? Placing to one side questions of justice, as well as the implied rights of purchasers, how much money is lost when logs are taken to the United States to be manufactured? The cost of sawing, about \$1 per M feet B. M.; the log hauler wants no export duty imposed, for he usually receives a higher price for hauling from Americans than he can get from the Canadians. Why, then, close his best market merely to please the mill owner, in aiding him to shut out all competition in the matter of log purchasing. In New Brunswick we want no export duty, in fact a duty could not be collected here unless at a most enormous expense, as the rivers St. John and St. Croix are for a considerable distance the boundary between Canada and the United States, and when a log floats across the centre line of these rivers into the United States, it can be sawn there without the payment of duty. Further, it is not to be supposed that our friend Jonathan will look calmly on and see his sons wronged, and there cannot be any doubt but that if the Dominion government imposes such an export duty, he will act and will place, much to our detriment, a duty on sawn lumber additional to present charges sufficient to counterbalance an export duty which the Dominion government may place on sawn logs."

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JOS. OLIVER, of the firm of Donogh & Oliver, Toronto, is one of the best known lumbermen that takes the road. Whether at home or abroad he has a large clientele of friends. Like all great men he has a hobby on which he works off his surplus energy, and fills in the spare hours from business and domestic duties. Oddfellowship is his hobby. Mr. Oliver at the present time occupying the position of chief executive officer of the order in Ontario. I am glad to be able to present here a picture of Mr. Oliver and his favorite goat; with which he has about as familiar acquaintance as with 1 x 10 dressing, or xxx shingles.



UP in Simcoe they have always treated Mr. A. Miscampbell, Simcoe's lumberman-representative in the Local Legislature, with a decent majority of votes, when the hour of counting the ballots has arrived, and he expects that on the 26th June they will be equally kindly with him. But with the best of them, the road of the politician is beset with trials and tribulations, and our artist has depicted Mr. Miscampbell as he experienced some of these pleasantries when being initiated the other evening into the mysteries of one of our secret orders, membership in which is supposed to count for something when the day of election arrives.

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He is not exactly a lumberman, but the well-known registrar to Toronto, Mr. Peter Ryan, has rubbed against prominent lumbermen of the Dominion often enough to become fairly well posted in lumber affairs. Moreover, it is said, he owns a timber limit or two, not excepting the Quebec deal that has been bringing him some newspaper notoriety recently. I dropped in on Mr. Ryan in his office a few days ago to see if he knew of anything special going on in the trade. Of course he was modest enough, as is the wont of an auctioneer, to tell me that the newest and best thing was the big timber trade sale he had announced for the Board of Trade rotunda in August next. I had seen the printed list of properties and must say he is going to make it worth while for lumbermen from anywhere to visit Toronto at that time. Peter Ryan has a notion that he can hold at least one big timber limit sale here once a year, and I don't know but what the scheme is a good one. But enough of shop, said I to my friend of the hammer. I asked: "What is the outlook for lumber so far as your somewhat frequent meetings with lumbermen would indicate?" "Well, just at present," replied Mr. Ryan, "things seem in the dumps, and yet I find that everybody has confidence in the future of lumber. What is wanted for this country is free lumber; and it is free lumber, that is going to give renewed vigor, also, to the lumber trade of the United States. Knowing this much, at least, of the views of lumbermen, it makes me mad." And who wouldn't give a quarter, thought I, to see Peter Ryan mad, if he could ever be got there. "Yes, it makes me mad," said he, "to think that as lumber matter stands to-day there should be some folks, calling themselves statesmen, at Ottawa, who would want to raise a disturbance over the log export duty just at this particular time. What are they thinking about?" "You know Ontario forests pretty well," I remarked. "Do you think they are as nearly denuded of their timber as we are sometimes told?" "There is more timber yet in Ontario," said Mr. Ryan, "than many people suppose, and yet the real fine white pine, those old stalwarts of the forest primeval, that have been made memorable in song and story—there are few of them to-day in Ontario. The best of our pine has gone." "By the way," said Mr. Ryan, as I was about to take my departure, "Did you see my letter in the World re that attack of L'Electeur, of Quebec, made on me concerning that same Quebec timber steal, as they call it. I rather think I laid out Brother Pacaud. Read it and see."