

already been installed, and in every case were so quickly extinguished that the damage was trifling.

The Acadian Recorder, in commending the work of the Canadian Forestry Association, says that it is a work of true patriotism, in which all Canadians should join. The objects of the association are the preservation of the forests for their influence on climate, fertility and water supply, the exploration of the public domain and the reservation for timber production of lands unsuited for agriculture; the promotion of judicious methods in dealing with forests and woodlands; reforestation where advisable; tree planting on the plains and on the streets and highways; the collection and dissemination of information bearing on the forestry problem in general. This plan is so broad that there are few who cannot render aid of some kind. Every tree planted or saved represents a substantial addition to the wealth and beauty of the country. At the same time, the work should be done with intelligence and judgment, and herein is the value of the Forestry Association.

A glance over the trade returns of past years shows that Germany has been hard hit in its tariff war with Canada. In 1901 we imported from Germany goods for consumption to the amount of \$7,821,405. The year following our purchases from that country for consumption went up to \$10,823,169, and in 1903 they stood at \$12,282,637. The year following the effect of the surtax was felt, and imports for consumption dropped to \$8,175,604. Last fiscal year our total imports from Germany were \$6,642,130. Of course, there will be certain goods, such as musical instruments, that we will continue to get from Germany.

Among the questions considered at the recent meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, held at Liege, Belgium, was the desirability of devising an international postage stamp for use in all countries in the International Postal Union. The idea is to provide a stamp which could be bought in all countries and used for all correspondence between all countries. Under this plan a merchant in Toronto could, by the use of these stamps, provide return postage for a correspondent in Europe without the bother and expense of purchasing the stamp issued by the European country. He could also remit small amounts in stamps to his foreign correspondents, sending a stamp which could be used by the correspondent at any time. The idea of the international postage stamp has many attractive advantages and no disadvantage has as yet appeared, except such as could be quickly overcome by completion of arrangements between the various countries in the Postal Union.

English manufacturers and merchants are much concerned over the usurpation of their home market by American and German manufacturers. The English

appear slow to realize that the conditions in the commercial world have changed, and that the markets so long dominated by sentiment can only be retained by competitive selling. An example of this national belief in British loyalty to home manufacturers is seen in a patriotic stamp which an English merchant has suggested be affixed to each article of British manufacture. The stamp would be sold in perforated sheets of regulation postage size, printed in the three colors which make up the Union Jack. Either the manufacturer or the retailer would be authorized to affix these to goods, but it would not be long before unscrupulous dealers would be using the stamp to dispose of cheap foreign wares at fancy prices.

"Too busy with home trade" is the reason often advanced by manufacturers for failure to seek export trade. When domestic business slackens a bit and these manufacturers conclude that they need a few foreign orders to keep their shops busy, they find that they cannot get export business at a minute's notice, and wonder why it is so hard to obtain. For their reply, let them study the methods of the consistent exporter, the man who cultivates his foreign trade persistently every month in the year, and they will learn something to their advantage. How they can regard export customers as conveniences to be accommodated only when convenient, it is hard to understand. They would never think of applying such methods to their home trade.

German technical papers report that Mr. Cowper Coles, an Englishman, has invented a new process of galvanizing, and has recently demonstrated the same with samples of iron, copper, aluminum, and other metals. The objects to be galvanized are simply heated to 260° in a bath of zinc vapor, the duration of which depends upon the desired thickness of the coating, but which is always short. After heating the objects are thoroughly coated with a layer of zinc, which on the surface has formed an alloy with the other metal by penetrating into it to a considerable depth. A copper rod can in this way be almost entirely transformed into brass, while the temperature employed remains far below the melting point of both metals. A great advantage of the process lies in the evenness of the coating, which is so perfect that such zinc galvanized screws and bolts afterwards fit perfectly into the nuts, while with other methods they have to be polished. It is also very convenient that the objects to be galvanized have not first to be cleaned. The retorts in which the heating takes place are of iron, and are heated from the outside. Another peculiar advantage is that the zinc does not adhere to the walls of the retort, but that these, after months of use, are entirely clean. The explanation for this is that the walls of the retort are heated most, so that no zinc vapor condenses on them. Experiments to use the process with metals other than zinc have been so far made with copper and antimony, and have been partly successful, but not to a degree to make them of practical use.