

Timber in Temiskaming.

This country as yet, practically speaking, is a timber country, with immense quantities of excellent timber, commencing at the Temagami forest reserve, which is one of the richest assets held by the Ontario Government. There are, also, great quantities of valuable timber that is not in this reserve in Temagami. Coming north on the railroad from North Bay, as you pass the Montreal River, you will at once perceive that you are in the midst of a great lumbering district, commencing at Latchford, a station north of the Montreal River, which is central to two large timber limits, which are worked by the Gillies Bros., and the Lumsden & Booth Timber Company. At this station they have two large saw and shingle mills, and also a planer. One of these sawmills will be capable of manufacturing 150,000 feet of lumber per day, and will need 100 men to run it successfully.

The most of the timber is white pine; there are also large quantities of cedar. This part of the country is rocky; it lies in the immediate vicinity of the great mining district, and the prospectors are anxiously waiting for the time when the limit will expire. As you proceed north, when you are getting near to the town of Hanbury, you will perceive that the timber and the land are changing; instead of rocks you will begin to see land that is free from rocks, and you will also see more varieties of timber. As you are nearing the town of New Liskeard, you may be sure that you are certainly starting in the great clay loam belt of Ontario.

I will now give you a description of the timber on this belt. In some places, especially along the rivers and large creeks, which are capable of floating the timber, there has been a large quantity of the pine, spruce, tamarack and cedar already culled. These are the kinds of timber that will float. Every one of these lots will have the birch, balsam of Gilead, balsam, etc., yet uncult, as these last-named will not float. There is also a great quantity of excellent timber that has never been culled; too far from the rivers and streams to get out with profit. But now the only plan with this timber will be the use of mills, portable and otherwise. There are now several sawmills being put in at the several stations on the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, that will make it handy for the settlers within a radius of four miles; but there will be a large quantity of lumber that will need the portable sawmill, the timber to be afterwards drawn to the railroads for distribution. I believe by the advancement of this country that all the timber that can be manufactured will be needed right here. As yet there is not sufficient lumber; but next summer, after all the sawmills get started, they will likely keep pace a great deal better. We can supply every farm in Ontario with cedar fence posts, if we could get better freight rates. This will be an important question to lay before the Railway Commission, which is advancing the interests of the railways. Give us proper rates and every farm in Ontario will be benefited, and the railways will have a large revenue for drawing this cedar out, and it will also leave a large revenue to the settlers of this country. In some places you will find large quantities of gray elm, black ash, white oak and hard maple, but where the white oak and the hard maple are found you will also find a rocky ridge.

New Liskeard, a Thriving Town in New Ontario.

New Liskeard is considered the most central town in this country. It is built on a most beautiful slope overlooking the bay, which is an accessory of the picturesque Lake Temiskaming. The town is divided by the Wabi River, with a bridge to cross from one part of the town to the other. When I landed here, in the year 1901, there were only three general stores in the whole place, no hotels, one or two boarding houses, which were filled. We now have a most progressive town, composed of nearly every kind of business houses, including two incorporated banks—the Union Bank of Canada and the Imperial Bank of Canada—each of which is doing a live business. We have also a mining broker, who buys or sells any inspected claim, and two law offices, which are capably filled, several real-estate offices, four first-class barber shops, a photograph gallery, and two up-to-date drug stores. The mercantile part of the town is run by a large list of excellent general stores. We have two first-class hardware stores, two lumber yards, three tailor shops, and several millinery and dress-making establishments. There is also a large post office here, and two printing offices, the Temiskaming Herald and the New Liskeard Speaker. I might mention also four good general blacksmiths, and several implement salesrooms, two butcher shops, three excellent bakeries, a planing factory, and another door and sash factory under construction, two brickyards, two yards for making concrete blocks—which are now in great demand for building—one greenhouse, and several fruit and confectionery stores. There are several supply stores that sell by wholesale as well as retail. I must also mention a large reading room and library, ice-cream parlors when in season, three hotels, six or seven restaurants, besides numerous boarding houses. The religious part is supplied quite acceptably by clergymen of the following churches, Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist and the Anglican. There is also the Salvation Army, which has a very respectable place for worship, and a Roman Catholic church. I must not forget the public schools. There are two now under construction in town,

one large schoolhouse suitable for all children in town, with several rooms, the estimated cost of which is over ten thousand dollars. I must also mention the station and freight house, which the Government has built, and A. R. McDonnell's large office, used by the officials for the railroad under construction. We are having a grand winter, with snow about twenty inches deep.

Thanks We Should Strike while the Iron is Hot.

Geo. W. Wilcox, Oxford Co., Ont., writes "The Farmer's Advocate," suggesting that part of the surplus accumulated in the Dominion treasury last year might be applied to providing a system of free rural mail delivery. He says in part: "This twelve million dollars' surplus would send the rural free-delivery man to every farmer's home in Eastern Canada without another dollar of outlay on the part of the Government or anyone for five years straight. But if we farmers and country people in old Canada, who number at least seven-tenths of its population, stand around with our hands in our pockets and fail to take advantage of the financial conditions that exist at Ottawa at this time, and not insist upon the instituting of rural delivery, we deserve to go down from our position of prosperity, intelligence and freedom, as did ancient Greece, to poverty, ignorance and bondage." We do not know whether Mr. Wilcox's calculations will commend themselves to the Postmaster-General and the Minister of Finance, but free rural delivery is bound to come sooner or later, and it is just as well to keep the pot simmering away.

A Successful Seed Fair at Guelph.

On March 10th a successful seed fair was held in Guelph, under the auspices of the South Wellington Farmers' Institute and Puslinch Farmers' Club. There were over thirty exhibitors in all, and an extra fine lot of grain was on exhibition. The largest number of entries were made in oats and barley, although the classes in peas and potatoes were very strong. In spring wheats the class was represented by about a dozen entries of the wild goose variety only, a fact which would seem to indicate that farmers were well satisfied with this variety. The chief aim of the society is not only to award prizes for the best exhibits, but to encourage the sale and exchange of seeds of the very best quality. The importance of using the best seed is not yet appreciated to the extent that it should be. If seed fairs were more common, farmers would have a better chance to keep abreast with the times, and would endeavor to change the variety of the seeds which they sow, and, as a result, a great improvement in the yield would be manifested. Experiments in using good and poor seeds have shown astonishing results. Why are there not many more fairs of a similar nature over the Province? A. E. Whiteside, Foreman of Experimental Department at the College, who acted as judge, penalized several samples of apparently good seed for the reason that it was not properly cleaned, and refused to give prizes to varieties not correctly named.

Will the Embargo be Repealed?

Canadians, whether west, east, or centrally located, will watch with interest the efforts of a considerable faction of Old Country politicians and cattlemen to secure the abolition of the British embargo on Canadian cattle. The supporters of the measure have so far advanced their case as to have introduced in the British Parliament a Bill to repeal the law of 1896. This Bill is in the hands of Mr. Thos. Cairns, Newcastle, and Mr. Hamar Greenwood, York, a Canadian by birth and education, and is backed by strong representation of cattle-feeders. As we said before, the disposition of the embargo is essentially within the jurisdiction of the British Government, but, as it has so direct a bearing upon the Canadian cattle-raising interests, the British treatment of it will be closely followed. The Bill, which proposes to abolish the embargo, is slated to come before the House of Commons on the 6th of April, for debate upon its second reading, and there is quite a general impression that it will carry, since the present personnel of the Government party is so decidedly representative of the farming and commercial classes, who are more generally politicians of expediency rather than of tradition, in which respect the present House of Commons differs widely from the average. Difficulty, however, is expected for the Bill in the House of Lords, who are more conservative in their views, and more strongly wedded to the theory of the unalterableness of British laws.

Trade Expanding by Leans and Bounds.

For the eight months of the current fiscal year up to February 28th, Canada's foreign trade amounted to \$358,277,966, a gain of \$51,517,264 over the corresponding period of the previous year. Domestic exports increased nearly \$30,000,000, and imports \$16,000,000. In the exports, agricultural products increased by \$14,840,733, and animals and their products by \$4,362,207.

Notwithstanding our repeated caution, enquirers frequently omit name or address. Sometimes we hold such questions for a time in hope of hearing from the writer again. We do not like to slight anyone's request, still we must, in fairness to subscribers and ourselves, insist upon our rules being absolutely complied with. If "York County Subscriber," from Ringwood, will forward name with address, we will attend to his questions.

Immigration Figures.

The total immigrant arrivals into Canada for the eight months of the current fiscal year, ended February 28th, were 62,693, a net decrease of 621 when compared with the same period of the previous year. The arrivals at ocean ports numbered 40,537, and from the United States 22,156, a decrease of 241 in the former and an increase of 1,780 in the latter. There were 3,179 arrivals in February, a falling off of 74 compared with the same month last year. British immigrant arrivals numbered 1,892, or 133 more than in February, 1905.

No need to worry over the slight decrease. There is lots of time to give our lands away. One would think sometimes, from the strenuous efforts we have put forth to secure immigrants, that our Western lands were a burden, to be disposed of gladly, instead of a priceless heritage that will be increasingly valuable as the years roll by. Nothing is more patent than that Canada possesses the last great land area peculiarly adapted to settlement by the Caucasian race. Why be in haste to give it away to the riff-raff of the world? Let us discriminate severely in our admission of immigrants, and not be in haste to boom Western settlement in order to expedite returns to land speculators, who are, in an economic sense, one of the very worst parasites upon industry and national wealth.

Eastern Dairy School Final Examinations

The long course at the Eastern Dairy School, Kingston, Ont., closed on March 2nd. The written examinations included dairy science, cheesemaking, buttermaking, cream separators, milk testing, dairy bacteriology and dairy chemistry. The last named was a subject added this session for the first, and the lectures by Dr. Goodwin, which were very practical and helpful, were much appreciated by the class. In addition to the written examinations, the students were required to take practical examinations in the different departments of the school. Twenty-six students in all wrote on the final examinations, twenty-two out of this number being successful. This is a somewhat larger number than that of last year. The following is a list of the successful candidates, arranged in order of their general proficiency:

Maximum	Total.
Maximum	1200
First-class Honors.	Second-class Honors.
C. J. Brennan..... 1075	C. V. Jones..... 886
A. E. Keays..... 1027	J. R. McIntyre..... 877
J. A. Murray..... 1017	W. J. McDonald..... 867
R. T. Jones..... 1016	John O'Shea..... 861
Thos. Ishbister..... 1014	A. Miller..... 859
H. Greatrix..... 990	A. McKinley..... 857
G. Valteau..... 980	J. Charbonneau..... 840
C. R. Lloyd..... 933	S. H. Bishop..... 813
W. Irwin..... 900	H. G. Fleming..... 757
	J. A. Morphy..... 749
	H. Gour..... 740
	D. V. Rady..... 734
	C. Curtis..... 720

J. W. MITCHELL, Supt.

The Live-stock Commissionership.

(Ottawa correspondence.)

There seems but little probability of the appointment of a Live-stock Commissioner to succeed F. W. Hodson until some time next summer. Though his ultimate retirement is an accepted fact, Mr. Hodson is still in office, for he has not yet been gazetted out of the public service, and, indeed, it is understood that he will supervise the live-stock branch until the middle of July. In his absence from the office the details are being attended to by J. B. Spencer, Deputy Live-stock Commissioner. Naturally the choice of a successor to Mr. Hodson is being anticipated by the many interested in agriculture. Talk in departmental circles turns upon two names, that of J. H. Grisdale, Agriculturist of the Experimental Farm, and J. B. Spencer, Mr. Hodson's deputy. It is thought by many that Mr. Grisdale's services in his present position are so valuable that the Government will be reluctant to transfer him, and it is this consideration that has focussed attention upon Mr. Spencer. However, as previously stated, the matter is a waiting one, and not likely to be dealt with until the heavy work of the session is over.

New Accountant to National Record Board.

F. M. Wade has, since the nationalization of the Live-stock Records and the establishment of the Record Office at Ottawa, acted as Accountant to the National Record Board, in addition to his duties as Registrar for the Clydesdale, Shire and Hackney Associations. Owing to the large increase in the number of registrations, he will hereafter devote his entire time to the work of recording. Mr. Wade has been associated with stock records in Canada and the United States for more than twenty years, and is well versed in the work. John W. Brant, of the Live-stock Branch of the Department of Agriculture, has been appointed Accountant by the National Record Board.

Is it All Worth Reading?

An item of Ottawa correspondence, dated March 14th, reads: "Evidence taken before the Tariff Commission, consisting of nine volumes, containing eight thousand odd pages of typewriting, was presented to the House to-day." No wonder the tariff revision is postponed!