

Canadian Woodworker

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR ALL CLASSES OF WOODWORKERS

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CANADIAN WOODWORKER

A Monthly Journal for all classes of
Woodworkers.

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Practical men are invited to send to the Editor signed articles or paragraphs upon any subject of interest to their fellow woodworkers.

PROSPECTS FOR EXPORT.

There can be no doubt that the future holds in store many opportunities for profitable export of Canadian articles in the woodworking line, both in respect to goods manufactured of wood and in respect to machinery for making the same. In New Zealand some close observers believe a profitable trade might be developed in sawmill outfits. One or two large mills are to be erected shortly in various parts of the Islands, says the Canadian trade agent there, but as a rule the mills being erected there are small, owing to the restrictions imposed by the Government on the amount of timber land that can be taken up for lumbering purposes.

There seems to be in parts of England a fairly large demand for piano parts. One large London firm expresses a desire to be placed in communication and contract with parties in Canada for a supply of not less at a time than 5,000 white bass keyboards.

Reference has already been made to the large number of applications received from British firms for several different classes of woodenware articles. Harrison Watson, the trade agent for the Dominion in London, speaks of a firm who would gladly do business in Canada in such lines as tools, broom, mop and pick handles, shovel trees, dowels, mouldings, skewers, closet seats, wood door knobs, electric bell pushes, square wood blocks, chair seats and legs, sash pull handles, blind rollers and ends, cornice pole ends, sieve hoops, taps, towel rollers, hat racks, dairy accessories, bread platters, washboards and laundry appliances, wheelbarrows and trucks, spindles, legs and balusters, pedestals, shelves and brackets, tables and various kinds

of furniture; in fact, almost anything that can be made of wood. In many cases no doubt the margin of profit would be small, but these articles are required regularly in such large quantities that the business might easily prove a profitable one to a manufacturer with facilities for producing on a large scale and with good transportation facilities.

UNITED STATES AND CANADA—A LUMBER CONTRAST.

At Ottawa last month took place a meeting of manufacturers, limit-holders, and wholesale dealers in lumber, which resulted in the formation of an important organization under the name of the Canadian Lumberman's Association. The objects of this body will be very similar in scope to those of the National Wholesale Lumbermen's Association in the United States. That is, it will keep a close watch on any proposed legislation affecting the lumber interests, will keep its members posted on all developments, both commercial and political, etc. The first move of the Association after its inauguration was to send a deputation to the Dominion Government to urge them to place a protective duty on southern pine and hemlock coming in from the United States. On a basis of fair dealing for all there is, of course, a good deal to be said in favor of such a step, because Canadian lumber cannot enter the United States on an equal basis. From a practical woodworker's point of view, however, something can be said on the other side. There is no doubt that the United States is rapidly exhausting her lumber supplies. At the present time, owing to the trade depression there and the fact that they need all the ready money they can get, the lumbermen are sending over to this country surplus stocks of wood at a low price, which is some benefit to Canadian consumers of that article. This all helps in the impoverishment of the United States of its forest resources and, incidentally, in the prevention to that extent of a similar impoverishment of our own.

This will bring still nearer the day when the centre of the whole woodworking industry of the continent will be within its northern half. Canada already has great natural advantages in this direction, but they will be increased immeasurably when the exhaustion of the United States supplies is more nearly completed. This is a selfish aspect of the question, but nationally and from a Canadian standpoint it is a very important one.