

then be in the interest of those who secured its imposition to have it repealed. If it were not repealed the advantage would be on the side of our own lumbermen." Better get your "pinching" process patented for fear somebody might be inclined to pinch back; or, in lieu of this, how would it do to take off your tariff on condition that we repeal our export duty and give our lumbermen a chance to meet you squarely in an open market?

#### SPLINTERS.

WE are in receipt of "The Timberman's Vest Pocket Inspection Book" issued by the *Timberman*, 161 and 163 Randolph Street, Chicago. It is a convenient arrangement for persons engaged in the lumber business.

AN Order-in-Council has been issued placing white ash lumber, sawn but not shaped, planed or otherwise, upon the list of articles that may be admitted into Canada free of Customs duty until the end of next session of Parliament.

THE amount deposited by the Collins' Bay Rafting and Towing Co. for the release of their tug McArthur, seized at Prescott, will be refunded, the offence committed being of a trivial nature, and without any premeditated attempt to evade the law.

THE Ontario Government timber inspectors have been through the mining regions of Algoma putting up "fire notices." This is a move in the right direction, as the timber must be protected, and mining parties must be more careful as to where and how they build fires.

THE Prince of Wales is in demand, or it would appear so from a Winnipeg despatch, which states that the Chief of the Wabigoon Lake Indians has cabled the Prince of Wales that white men are cutting timber on Eagle Lake and asking him to come and settle the matter.

If the Americans really want the Canadian export duty on logs repealed, why not offer an inducement by taking off their import duty and give our lumbermen a chance to compete with them on an equal footing? This would be far more commendable than resorting to retaliation.

THE shipments of lumber from the Saginaw river during the month of May this season were about 9,000,000 feet less than last year, but the shipments for the season to June 1st are 658,000 feet more than last season. It is believed, however, that the entire season's shipments by water will be the least for many years.

THE losses by the recent flood in Pennsylvania were by no means confined to the Conemaugh Valley, as it is stated that the lumbermen of Williamsport lost sixty millions of lumber and three hundred and fifty millions of logs. The withdrawal from competition of three hundred and fifty million feet of the season's supply will necessitate the substitution of stock from other points. As the lost stock was mainly hemlock and other cheap varieties there is no doubt but it will have a tendency to stiffen prices for low grades.

THERE is no better proof needed of the rapid progress of industrial interests in the Southern States than is shown in the growth of the *Southern Lumberman*, published in Nashville, Tenn. Started some ten years ago as a sixteen page experiment it has blossomed into a sixty-four page mammoth journal, and it is at present the leading and only paper published in the hard wood, cedar and pine section, where the future supply of lumber will be largely furnished. The current number has a very presentable appearance, it is gotten up in good style, and contains a large amount of pertinent and valuable editorial matter, reliable market reports, and has an able and trained corps of correspondents in every locality. In view of the fact that it is the exponent of a vast section of timbered area, it is not surprising that nearly all manufacturers of wood working machinery are represented in its

advertising columns. It is published twice a month at Nashville, Tenn. Subscription price \$2.00 per annum, in advance.

THE *Ottawa Free Press*, a paper noted for its eminent ability in looking upon one side of a question and then through a pair of political spectacles, has evidently had its "funny bone" struck, as it endeavors to be facetious over our lifting the veil and showing up both sides of the log question. It concludes its funnygraphs by saying: "It is clear that if our lumbermen were to accept the Peterboro' paper as a guide they would be led into the woods." Just exactly! That's the place where they want to be; if we had no woods we would have no lumbermen. If the lumbermen were to follow the leadership of such guides as the *Free Press* we would soon have no woods to lead them into.

THE statement of revenue and expenditure for the eleven months ending May 31 of the current fiscal year gives promise of a substantial surplus. The revenue to May 31, amounted to \$34,234,337, and the expenditure to same date to \$29,587,424, showing a surplus of \$4,646,913. The revenue during the corresponding period last year was \$31,856,724, and the expenditure \$29,452,213. The net debt of the Dominion on May 31 was \$234,480,424, a decrease of \$57,000 in the month. The expenditure on capital account to May 31 was \$4,500,000, \$120,000 higher than at the same time last year.

IN order to give a proper definition of what constitutes a log used for piling purposes, an Order-in-Council has been passed confirming are commendation of the Treasury Board which removes a great deal of the difficulty hitherto experienced. It provides that all logs found to measure, inside the bark, eleven inches or less diameter at the end thereof, irrespective of the length of such logs, when exported for piling purposes or as piling, be not subject to the export duty of \$1 per 1,000 feet board measure. This decision will mainly affect the exporters of small spruce timber in the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia.

IN the Southern States trade is not very satisfactory, as is evidenced by the low prices prevailing for the product of nearly all its sections. One of the shrewdest observers at the Southern Pine Manufacturers' Convention at Montgomery, Ala., remarked that there are no very large stocks on hand, and that the output is restricted in accordance with the demand. He said yellow pine was selling far below its real worth, oftentimes below cost of manufacturing, leaving nothing for stumpage, or interest on the investment. The fact is that while Southern pine has of late years become an important factor in the market it is as yet, compared with Northern pine, restricted in the uses to which it has been considered adaptable. The volume of Southern production is in excess of the requirements of such markets as make it their staple, and the surplus as a consequence becomes a disturbing element to values when brought in competition with Northern pine.

BRITAIN is not only supreme at sea but supreme in commerce. In both she demonstrates her ability to hold front rank. It is something to be wondered at to find the people of the Little Island the dominating power of the world. Numerically the British, compared with the other nations, are a mere handful, and territorially the Little Island would afford amusement for the waves of one of our internal lakes. But there is in the British a steady skilfulness to get, and an unyielding firmness to hold, all that contributes to a nation's power. The United States is very progressive and very enterprising in matters of trade. But comparing one nation with the other the British stands far ahead. The imports of the United Kingdom, according to the latest consulate reports, are two and a-half times as much as those of the United States and the exports twice as great. Thus with a population of about half that of the United States, the United Kingdom carries no more than twice the business, or at the rate of four times as much per capita. The value of the annual imports of the U. K. are \$1,811,137,820; of the U. S.,

\$725,202,489; the value of the exports of the U. K. are \$1,403,815,805 and of the U. S. \$691,777,444.

#### EXCHANGE ECHOES.

Fredericton Reporter.

But Fredericton is also happy. The recent rains have raised the hopes of our people that the lumber hung up in such large quantities may be got out; the Short Line route between Harvey and Salisbury is being surveyed; then skilful base ball players have been engaged to teach the sporting youth how to play; the Capital is going to start a subscription for a park, and we too are not going to be outdone by St. John but are going to have a new Mayor.

Northwestern Lumberman

It looks as if the present protective administration did not propose to desert its theories for awhile. It is reported to have been arranged that the import duty on box shooks shall be advanced \$2 a thousand. It is said that over 250,000,000 Canadian box shooks have been imported into the United States under an appraisement which has cost the government several thousand dollars, besides driving American manufacturers out of the market wherever there was Canadian competition. Having cared for the box shook interests, it is likely enough that the government will adjust the log and lumber matter, as between the United States and Canada, in a manner that will prove satisfactory to petitioners.

Mississippi Valley Lumberman.

On the Mississippi and its tributaries there are 150,000,000 feet of logs of last winter's cut, on which not a man is working. They are hung up waiting for rain, and they will remain in just that fix until the rain comes. The water in the main river has fallen 16 inches in ten days at Brainerd and the general condition on all the waters is the same as this. The first drive of the season was all in Thursday and the boom company will stop work this (Friday) evening for five or six days, when the second drive will be in. The rear of this drive left St. Cloud dam Tuesday noon and was at Thousand Islands Thursday. This drive contains from 40,000,000 to 60,000,000 feet. It is coming very slowly with 150 men working at it. The first drive of new logs will leave Brainerd in about two weeks. It will have between 50,000,000 and 70,000,000 feet.

The Timberman.

It is recalled that a Canadian company is associated with the California Redwood Company, which secured twenty-five sections or 16,000 acres of heavy growth redwood timber in California some time ago, and it is also recalled that unfair influences were introduced into the methods of purchase by this company, who finally secured the valuable property on which it is said the trees stand densely thick, and range in size from three to ten feet in diameter, and from 200 to 300 feet in height. It is estimated that 150,000 to 200,000 feet could be cut from each acre of this property, which if valued at \$1 per thousand feet, would approximate \$1,750,000. And the same company, in which there is a great deal of Scotch blood, and which was organized six years ago in Edinburgh, has obtained possession of an additional 64,000 acres in the same county.

Toronto Monetary Times.

In some parts of Northern Ontario extensive and valuable pineries abound, but from distance they are sometimes inaccessible with the existing means of communication. Sometimes the railway affords the only means of communication, and it has got to be brought into existence in these distant regions. Given the value of the timber and cost of the railway, it is a question of arithmetic whether the utilization of the forests by means of railways will not pay. The decision rests with the Ontario Government. To its energy mainly we must look for the making of these pineries accessible by rail. The right to cut timber will bring large sums of money; from first to last millions, but how much is, with our present knowledge, beyond the power of estimate. A beginning was made in the necessary grades for this purpose last session, and it will probably be followed up with energy in the future. The liability of our pineries to destruction by fire has a direct connection with the policy of putting an export duty on saw logs. It is better to utilize by exportation a part of our timber in the form of saw logs than to run the risk of having the trees burnt up on the ground. The provinces which own the timber have a special interest in the commercial policy which deals with the exportation of the saw logs, while the right of legislation is in the Dominion. The case is one in which, if the provinces were agreed on the policy that ought to be pursued, their united request should command respect from the legislative authority of the Dominion. Here is a practical question on which the provinces might compare notes, and if they agree upon what ought to be done, their wishes would probably have weight. But it is not certain that they should agree upon the lines of policy which it would be desirable to pursue.