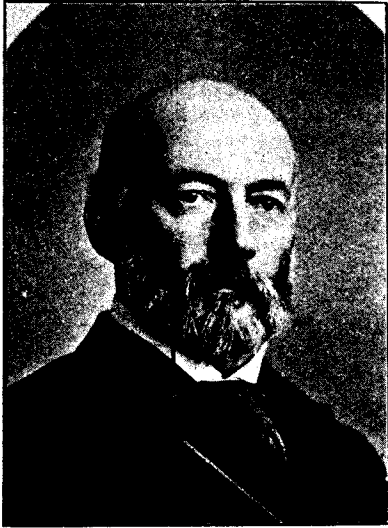


tion, and then if Mr. Beck wishes to bring in another resolution, discuss it separately.

AN OTTAWA VALLEY VIEW.

The next speaker was Mr. Levi Crannell, representing the Bronsons & Weston Lumber Co., of Ottawa. He said: I had a telegram from Mr. Edwards, who expected to be here, and, personally, I regret his absence very much, because I remember that at the meeting in August he coincided with my views very nicely. Owing to fires in the bush, running towards his mill, Mr. Edwards was un-



DR. SPOHN, Penetanguishene.

able to leave last night, as intended. He sent the following telegram:

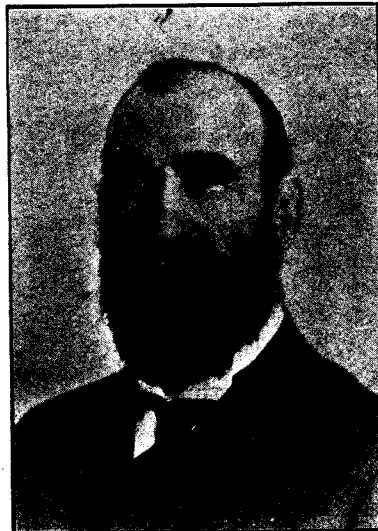
TELEGRAM FROM MR. EDWARDS.

"I sincerely regret at the last moment to find it impossible for me to go to Toronto, earnestly as I desired to do so because of the importance of the occasion. You know my views fully, and I request you to speak and vote for me, as well as for Mr. Whitney, whom I was to represent. I am unalterably opposed to anything of the nature of export duties, or any interference by the Ontario government with license conditions, considering such both wrong and dangerous. If true that the Ontario government indicated to American holders that under their licenses they could not be restricted for this year's cut, while I would prefer from a selfish standpoint that such should not have been done, at the same time American holders of Canadian licenses are tenants of the Crown equal with Canadian holders, and are entitled to the same rights, and I see no impropriety or wrong in the government interpreting to American holders their rights under their licenses, and do not consider the government at all censurable if they did so. I sincerely hope that wise counsel will prevail, and that a few men will not be permitted to seriously injure or perhaps destroy the whole lumber trade of Canada."

W. C. EDWARDS.

Mr. Crannell: Mr. Edwards expressed himself very fully, as I remarked, when he was here before, and the resolution is practically the same thing that was discussed at that time, with the exception that it is changed until another year instead of for the current year, which the original resolution provided for. I think there is no doubt in the minds of the majority of those present that the government has no right to change the conditions of current licenses; they have the right to change the licenses for another year, though. It is very questionable to my mind as to the extent to which they can change. I am no lawyer, but I have heard good lawyers, lawyers of experience, lawyers who have taken a good deal of interest in the Crown Lands regulations, say that while the Ontario government has the right to make changes in their licenses, those changes are only to the extent of a minor degree—they can change for their protection, they can change ground rent and dues, but they cannot make such changes as would destroy the rights which the license holders now have under their license. For instance, I think we all will agree that the Ontario government could not put such a rate of duty on the logs as would practically confiscate the territory. Now, I have no doubt that the lumbermen of the Georgian Bay section feel the present conditions of things very severely. I regret it exceedingly. I am a member of the Bronsons & Weston Lumber Company, one of the largest timber holders in this province, and as such have material interest in the trade. Now, it seems to me an effort should be made some way or other to get the duty taken off of our lumber. We can't stand it, and you can't stand it. You said at the last meeting that you could not stand two dollars, and that

you might just as well stand four. I don't think that is a correct statement. While two dollars is a hardship, four dollars is absolute prohibition; I think everyone will admit that. I also agree with everything you said as to the desirability of having as much as possible of the lumber manufactured in Canada. I feel we should manufacture all raw material here as far as possible—it cannot all be done. Such steps as are proposed must be taken gradually; you cannot all at once pass new laws, turn over new regulations, reaping the benefit of these things. Now, as regards the duty on logs that has been spoken of, it has perhaps no direct connection with this, but it has in a way. We all know the retaliatory clause. I feel that the same condition will exist if there is any discriminatory duty on logs in any way. To be sure, as the case now stands, until December it would not have any effect, but the very minute Congress meets in December the resolutions would be changed over there to cover this particular point. Then we are face to face with the retaliatory clause in force. A great deal was said at the last meeting with regard to the unfair attitude of the United States in putting this two dollar duty on and framing the retaliatory clause. I feel it was not right, but I feel that Canada makes its tariff law, and has a right to make it according to its own idea of its requirement; so with the United States, France and Germany. The United States tariff does not suit our ideas. Surely if we want to have any charge made, it is right and proper, and our duty, to endeavor to see if reciprocal arrangements cannot be entered into. Very well to say we cannot do it; we don't know, we have not tried, and we could not



MR. C. BECK, Penetanguishene.

try until after the act was in force. It seems to me that all of these matters are appertaining particularly to the Dominion of Canada rather than to the local parliament. You all know, perhaps, as well as I do, that the United States have not cut all their timber; they have cut a large amount, but they have not cut within the last few years the annual growth, and they would like an export duty placed on logs here which would bring it under the retaliatory clause. Nothing would please them in Wisconsin better than to have a duty on logs, and it seems to me that we can only make a bad matter worse by taking the action which is proposed to be taken now. I am not in the confidence of the government, but from what I am given to understand, there is no doubt that arrangements have been made and will be carried out whereby a conference of some kind will be entered into and some reciprocity arrangement made. Congress meets in a few months, the Ontario House meets in a few months, and all of this is before the time that the new licenses will be issued, and we will know before then without doubt whether there is any probability of any re-adjustment of trade arrangements being made. If so, surely we are better off to get what we desire amicably; if we can't do it, then it is in order and the proper course to decide what is best to do for the interests of Canada, not for the United States. I hope, gentlemen, that this resolution will be withdrawn. I hope it will be left over until a later time in the season, when it can be discussed with better knowledge and better likelihood of something being arranged, and it may not be necessary at all.

Ald. Scott: I would like to ask Mr. Crannell a question. In what way would the order compelling the manufacture of saw-logs in Canada affect the Ottawa district?

Mr. Crannell: In this way, as I intended to explain: I believe that any order of that kind will be considered by our neighbors to the south of us as another way of getting around the export duty on logs, and as a result their provision will be changed so that it will read to include just such things—and in fact, if I remember right, the earlier provision of the Dingley bill did provide for that, provided for pulp wood and timber and logs all together; then it was changed and the retaliatory clause was broken in two, and that particular discriminating duty was left out. Whether it was more particularly intended for pulp wood or logs I don't know.

Ald. Scott: I would like just to follow out the question so as to get the whole view of the gentleman. Is it only by further retaliatory action on the part of Congress that Ottawa would be affected by this proposed order?

Mr. Crannell: Yes, because I believe that that would do away forever almost with the possibility of getting any reciprocity arrangements, and we want reciprocity.

Ald. Scott: That is no answer.

Mr. Crannell: Perhaps we won't get it that way, but we have not tried. I don't believe in knocking a man down and—

Ald. Scott: You believe in laying down yourself.

Mr. Crannell: I feel we have not been knocked down. Every country has a right to make its own tariff; then, if any particular clause interferes with another country, that country is justified and has a perfect right to endeavor to secure a change in that clause, and that can be done without any humiliation, without admitting you have been knocked down.

Ald. Scott: I would like to get that clear. Suppose the United States did not enact any further retaliation, would this order that we have asked for affect the Ottawa district in the least?

Mr. Crannell: I thought I said only inasmuch as it would prevent our acquiring any reciprocity treaty in any way. I thought I put it that way.

Mr. Leak: If the American government allow our stuff to go in free, what do you think about it then?

Mr. Crannell: I think we are neighbors and it is desirable to have some amicable arrangement.

A voice: You have employed American citizens.

Mr. Crannell: The alien labor question doesn't trouble us at all. We have never had a man in the third of a century I have been in business.

A voice: That is pretty bad law.

Mr. Crannell: I think it is bad law, certainly.

THINKS IT A DOMINION QUESTION.

Mr. John Charlton, M.P.: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I presume I shall take a stand upon this question



MR. D. DAVIDSON, Penetanguishene.

which will convince all the gentlemen present that I am not fishing for popularity, as I feel that I shall be going against the tide and taking a course which is as much as a man's political life is worth to advocate. I do not claim to be the head of the Michigan delegation; it was headed by my brother, W. A. Charlton; I was a spectator. The government made no statement whatever further than to tell them that they would take their representations into serious consideration.

Ald. Scott: Evidently they did.

Mr. Charlton: Yes, evidently they did; the outcome is in the hands of Mr. Scott, I presume. Mr. Scott adverted rather severely to the Ontario government. This govern-