

season. This was pointed out at the recent convention in Toronto. Any new conditions imposed could only apply to licenses granted after the 30th of April, 1898, and as to this step the government has not yet announced its policy.

An important decision was reached at the meeting in regard to alien labor, the provisions adopted, and which are printed in another column, providing for the employment only of Canadian workmen and materials in the cutting of the timber. There is ground for satisfaction in this action. It is a step in the right direction and evinces an apparent desire on the part of the government to protect the rights of Canadians. But the lumbermen of Ontario find no relief in the new regulations, the enforcing of which is likely to be found difficult. They may operate slightly in favor of the Canadian workman when once he has succeeded in proving his nationality; failing to do this, he will be regarded as a foreigner and refused employment.

Acting on the resolution passed at the meeting of lumbermen in Toronto, the committee appointed waited upon the government in due course and presented their views, and were promised the usual consideration. On the 7th of September an opposition deputation was heard. This was composed largely of United States owners of timber limits, and included Hon. J. T. Rich, of Detroit; Joseph Turner, Bay City, Mich.; D. Couller, Grand Haven, Mich.; Albert Pack and W. L. Churchill, Alpena, Mich.; F. Pitts, Detroit; E. Searle, Duluth; C. E. Mould, Cheboygan, Mich.; Mr. W. A. Charlton, M.P.P., and Mr. John Charlton, M.P., of Lynedoch, and several others. The interview was secret, and the points considered can only be judged by the composition of the deputation.

What action the government will take remains to be seen. There are two distinct factions, the one being composed of the Georgian Bay manufacturers and a portion of the Ottawa Valley lumbermen; the other comprising the Michigan lumbermen interested in securing Canadian saw logs, and perhaps the greater portion of the Ottawa lumbermen. Each have presented their arguments, and now await an announcement from the provincial authorities. It is not reasonable to suppose that the interests of the Canadian lumbermen will be allowed to suffer.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE destruction by fire of two large saw-milling establishments has taken place within the past fortnight. The loss to the St. Maurice Lumber Company, of Three Rivers, Que., exceeds \$50,000, but is largely covered by insurance. The mill of the Hull Lumber Company, at Hull, Que., which was burned on the 20th inst., was one of the most complete establishments in Canada, and was valued at \$100,000. The company will operate their second mill day and night, and by this means hope to make a fair season's cut. Nothing definite as to rebuilding has yet been decided. Should the government impose an export duty on logs, it is probable the company will not rebuild.

WE have watched with much interest the growing favor accorded to American white pine doors in foreign markets, and especially in Great Britain. When once introduced, they are said

to become a fixture. Numerous inquiries received at this office requesting the address of Canadian manufacturers of these goods show that British importers are desirous of extending their trade in this direction. The latest enquiry comes from Mr. J. J. Bone, of Salisbury road, Plymouth, England, who writes as follows: "I am anxious to obtain the address of some Canadian firms who manufacture doors, mouldings, etc. Can you favor me with the address of same?" THE LUMBERMAN has a wide circulation in the foreign markets, and manufacturers of stock for export should keep their announcements before the trade.

THE increasing employment of iron and steel for building purposes has been the means of displacing enormous quantities of timber. Buildings are now erected in which the wood used forms but a small factor in the materials. The advantages claimed for iron and steel construction are greater strength and better fireproof qualities. Recent fires have demonstrated that this method of construction has not proven as satisfactory as was expected, supposed fireproof buildings being completely destroyed. It will be interesting to lumbermen to learn that in some places a return to timber has been made. In Pittsburg, Pa., architects have become dissatisfied with iron and steel for floors of large buildings, and are specifying 2x12 joists, placed on edge, and spiked together so as to make a solid floor 12 inches thick. On this is laid a double floor in the usual manner. A large building in that city in which this class of floor was used was recently burned, but the floor is said to have resisted the fire, the effect being simply to convert the outside of the wood to the depth of an inch or so into charcoal. Should this method become generally adopted, it would result in great benefit to the lumber trade.

COMMENTING on the question of an export duty on saw logs, the Winnipeg Commercial says: "The pine resources of the United States are nearly exhausted, and in a few years the people of that country must get their lumber from us, tariff or no tariff. But, in the meantime, the fight would paralyze or seriously disturb the Canadian lumber trade, and it is a question if it will not be better to let nature work out the problem." In an attempt to prove the independence of the United States, the Lumbermen's Review, c. New York, points to the statement of the Clerk of Forestry of Ontario that the manufacture of white pine will be a permanent industry, inasmuch as it is now conceded that pine timber can be reproduced as a crop. But our contemporary overlooks another important statement made by the same authority, namely, that white pine, even under favorable circumstances, requires forty years to obtain a marketable size, while it would be more profitable to allow the trees to attain a greater growth. No practical system of forestry has yet been commenced by the United States, and it is admitted they have only about ten years' supply of white pine. When that becomes exhausted, they will find themselves entirely dependent upon Canada, as their forests are now too far denuded to permit of any reforestation which would be likely to produce sufficient timber to be of much service to the country.



I HAVE often heard it stated that no hardwood logs of any consequence are taken from Ontario to the United States, and when talking with Mr. O. G. Anderson, of the Anderson Furniture Company, of Woodstock, last month, mentioned this matter to him. He appeared surprised that this impression should prevail. "Well," said he, "there are large quantities of elm and basswood logs taken from the vicinity of the St. Clair river to Detroit—millions of feet, all of which is required in this country for our own manufacturers. Unless some steps are taken to prevent the export of the same, Canadian industries will in a very few years be compelled to close down for want of raw material. We already find some difficulty in getting suitable timber." Mr. Anderson explained that each year his company use some five million feet in the manufacture of furniture, much of which is exported to Europe. I was impressed with the magnitude of his business, and could not but reflect upon the greater benefits the country derived from five million feet of timber manufactured into furniture and the same quantity exported in the log to the United States. For every thousand feet ten dollars of money is circulated throughout the country by the first method to every dollar spent in merely getting the logs out of the woods and floating them across the border, to build up saw mills and wood-working establishments in Michigan.

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TALKING with a lumber dealer not long ago, the subject of advertising was touched upon. He was a staunch believer in printers' ink, but took occasion to dwell at some length upon the amount of advertising placed where no adequate returns could be expected. Others have no doubt observed the same thing. Advertising is like every other detail of a business, it requires to be given the same careful attention. Results cannot be expected if advertisements are placed in mediums that do not reach the class of customers desired, as is too often the case. Some of the largest advertisers do not err in this direction, but render their advertisements less valuable by allowing the same copy to be used, perhaps, throughout the whole year. It assumes a stereotyped appearance, and is more likely to be overlooked by the average reader. If I were an advertiser, my first step would be to choose the most suitable mediums; this being done, I would furnish a change of "add" for every issue, or nearly so. By this method the advertisement pages would soon become as attractive as the reading pages, and would be as carefully read. The dealer of whom I have spoken referred to lumber, in which we were both, perhaps, most interested. "Do you know," he said, "I cannot understand why more lumber manufacturers do not make known, through THE LUMBERMAN, what stocks they have for sale. This would be of great assistance to dealers, especially in the case of hardwoods, which are so scattered that we have often to travel from one place to another before we find what we want." This suggestion is worthy the consideration of enterprising mill men.