

Cyclopaedia under the head of "Arbor Vitae"—*T. Gigantea*—"found west of the Rocky Mountains, and attains a height of 100 to 200 feet." The same authority says under the head of "Cedar": "No true cedars are native of North America. The tree called red cedar is a juniper, while the term white cedar is applied at the east to a cypress and at the west to an arbor vitae. The 10th census report of the United States, the volume of forest trees, was brought into service to bear testimony on the matter. There, it is stated: "The *Thuja Gigantea* is not a cedar, but an *Arbor Vitae*; no true cedar grows in North America."

Not the least interesting of the botanical information placed before the Board of Appraisers by Mr. J. G. Scott, of the Pacific Coast Lumber Co., New Westminster, B. C., who so ably represented the case for the Coast lumbermen, is the following list of the various cedars grown, with the local name, botanical name, and place of growth.

LOCAL NAME.	BOTANICAL NAME.	HABITAT.
White Cedar...	<i>Libocedrus decurrens</i>	Washington, D. C., Oregon, East Canada and N. E. States.
White Cedar....	<i>Chamaecyparis sphaerodia</i> .	Southern Maine and along coast of Florida.
Red Cedar....	<i>Thuja gigantea</i>	Washington, Oregon, and B. C.
Red Cedar....	<i>Juniperus Virginiana</i>	Widely distributed over the continent of North America.
Red Cedar....	<i>Juniperus occidentalis</i>	Washington, Oregon, B. C., and Alaska.
Yellow Cedar or Yellow Cypress.	<i>Chamaecyparis Nutkensis</i> .	B. C., and Alaska.
Port Orford Cedar or Lawson's Cypress....	<i>Chamaecyparis Lawsoniana</i> ..	Oregon and California
Sinking Cedar or Savin.....	<i>Torreya taxifolia</i>	Western Florida.
Sinking Cedar or Cal. Nutmeg.	<i>Torreya Californica</i>	California.
Cedar Pine, Spruce Pine, or White Pine....	<i>Pinus Glabra</i>	South California to Florida.
Cedar Elm....	<i>Ulmus crassifolia</i>	Arkansas and Texas.

The strongest evidence submitted, at least it would seem so to the ordinary observer, was that which showed that out of the 314 woods tested as to their power to resist indentation, *Thuja Gigantea* takes the 297th place—proof enough, surely, that this is a soft wood and not a cabinet wood. And out of 429 woods tested as to their specific gravity *Thuja Gigantea* ranks 411th in its relative order of weight—another strong item of evidence.

At this writing we are still unable to say what decision has been reached by the Board of Appraisers, but whether from the business point of view, or the technical, the case would seem complete in every particular, so far as the claim of the British Columbia red cedar men is concerned.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Western Retail Lumbermen's Association is meeting with some criticism, because of its determination, and success has met it in this particular in the past, to maintain a paying list of prices. The charge is being made that the Association is only another name for a combine to keep up prices. Its history during the several years of its existence shows very conclusively that it has done an excellent work for every one interested in lumber, not the least the consumers themselves. The president, in his address at the annual meeting, which was fully reported in the LUMBERMAN at the time, said distinctly, "that in no instance is the price of lumber being advanced by the Association." We had thought ourselves that the Association was very open and frank in its methods of doing business, as was shown by a reduction made in prices when freight rates were made sufficiently favorable to permit of this. So much injury has been brought upon the community by the greed of the monopolist and the arbitrary steps assumed by various combines, that public opinion swings sometimes to the other extreme, and reasonable men forget that a combine may be necessary for the protection of all concerned. A condition of trade that permits of a cutting of prices to such an extent that failure becomes a rule of the business, rather than success, and a mere fraction on the dollar is received by creditors, can never be healthy for any community. This is invariably the outcome of a cutting system, and when conditions reach this point, and it is too often the case, then the business

falls into the hands of a few who put up prices unreasonably. An organization of business men that will go on the principle of securing to each other a living profit, must always work for the benefit of the consumer. A community never thrives on the bankruptcy of its business men.

ON the evening of February 25th, and less than half an hour after the employees had left the building, a small upright boiler in a soda water factory on Sherbourne street, Toronto, exploded, completely wrecking the building and knocking but the windows and otherwise damaging surrounding residences. Luckily the absence of employees from the factory and of foot passengers from the sidewalks opposite the building, avoided more serious results. Portions of the outer shell of the boiler were found imbedded in the frozen ground in the yards of the locality, having cut their way through the felt and gravel roof of the factory. The force of the explosion is sufficient evidence that it was not caused by low water. Had five hundred pounds of gunpowder exploded inside the building, it could not have exerted a more destructive force. It is supposed that the fire in the boiler had not been securely banked for the night, and that it had burned up, causing a rise in steam pressure to at least 300 lbs., and that the safety valve was not in proper working-order. This occurrence should suffice to dispel the prevalent notion that while proper inspection and skilled supervision are required for steam plants of large capacity they can safely be dispensed with in connection with small plants. It should likewise direct the attention of the municipal authorities to the necessity for an ordinance to prohibit the locating of factories in the center of thickly populated residential districts, like the one in which this accident occurred.

COMPLAINT is made by the Mississippi Valley Lumberman, of Minneapolis, that in the competition between yellow pine and white pine the success of the latter is handicapped by the discriminating freight rates given in favor of yellow pine. The Minneapolis journal recognizes that yellow pine is now an important factor in the market, but does not think that competition should be intensified, as against white pine, by unreasonable freight rates. It is claimed that the rate on yellow pine to Kansas, Nebraska, and other central western points is fixed at a very low figure, and that yellow pine is being brought into Chicago at a rate of 22c. The Mississippi Valley Lumberman goes so far as to say that the difficulty, if not remedied, will resolve itself into a decision by the northwestern mills to close down, until such time as the railroads see it is to their advantage to grant an equitable rate all round. The rate of white pine from Minneapolis to Omaha, Neb., is 17c, a distance of 325 miles, while the yellow pine is carried to Omaha, a distance of about 1000 miles for 22c. The rate from Minneapolis to Lincoln, Neb., is 20c for 100 lbs. as compared with a 22c rate on yellow pine, brought more than double the distance from the south. The white pine people claim they should get a rate of 12c to Nebraska. We mention these facts to indicate the unreasonable position constantly taken by railroads in the fixing of freight rates. We experience this unfairness in Canada in different ways. Just one condition seems to guide railroads in fixing rates and that is how far they can go in keeping rates up. And where pressure of the strongest kind, or competition from another road, cannot be brought to bear, railroads become quite unreasonable. The information imparted by our Minneapolis contemporary also shows that the lumbermen in that state, as well as in the eastern states and in Canada, are recognizing that yellow pine is every day becoming an increasing element in the lumber situation, especially in its relations to white pine.

WICKES Bros., of Michigan, say that they have furnished machinery this winter to American lumbermen operating mills in the Georgian Bay district, capable of adding about 1,000,000 feet a day to the cut of these mills. For the season, these figures, according to Mr. Wickes' calculation, will represent about 180,000,000 feet. The Northwestern Lumberman takes this fact as a text for reiterating its complaint that the recent change

in tariff legislation will be productive of good to Canadian lumbermen, largely at the expense of United States lumber interests. The argument is that wherever this lumber will go, and of course, it is taken for granted, which is the fact, that it will be shipped almost entirely to the United States, that it will displace just that much white pine of the northwest or yellow pine from the southern states. We do not know that this is exactly the position, for we are greatly mistaken, if our Chicago contemporary, when it has been in the mood to adopt another line of argument, has not pointed out that after all the shipments of lumber from Canada to the United States would represent so small a percentage of the entire output of that country that it would be a mere drop in the bucket. It has taken Chicago, as an illustration in this respect, pointing out that of the lumber consumed in that district alone the exports from Canada would represent a mere fraction. This also is the case: United States lumbermen have purchased heavily of limits in Canada, because in Michigan in particular, the forests have become so denuded of timber that it has been necessary that they should seek other fields of operation, and Canada, in no small measure, has been the choice. At the same time the tariff is working two ways, for, as we have pointed out before, lumber is coming into Ontario from Duluth, and also from the southern states. Even the Washington shingle men are making a bold effort to get their shingles as far in as Ontario. Minneapolis lumbermen have the opportunity, and are taking advantage of it, of increasing their exports from that state into Manitoba and the district thereabouts. Besides what about the 400,000,000 logs that are towed across to Michigan and there cut into lumber at the mills of that state?

THE very full report of the excellent lecture by Mr. H. G. Joly, on the value of our forests, that we give in another page, once more brings to the front the question of forestry in its many different phases. We shall not, at this time, enter into any general discussion of the question, though it is worth noting that more than ever the question of practical and intelligent forestry is being taken hold of by lumbermen themselves. We do not know a time when the lumber journals of the country have given so much attention to this question as during the past year, and, perhaps, more particularly, within the last six months. A reference here to a suggestion that has been made for the re-forestation of pine lands may fitly be noted. We are clearing away the white pine of this country rapidly enough to make it important that consideration should be given to this distinct phase of reforestation. Mr. Austen Cary, a special agent of the forestry division of the agricultural department of the United States government, who has been making investigations of pine growth in Lower Michigan, has expressed the opinion that the cut over pine lands in that district will rapidly produce a second growth of pine, were only forest fires and stock prevented from pasturing on such acres. Further attention to this particular phase of work is embodied in an article written by Mr. A. K. Ferguson, of Manistee, Mich. He claims that white pine (pine strobus) is the quickest growing tree that abounds in the pine belt. His suggestion, however, is that white pine, birch and poplar, also rapid growers, should be planted with pine trees in order to protect them and force their growth upward, and thereby secure long, clean trunks. The denser the growth of the young trees the fewer limbs will be thrown out and the taller, straighter, smoother will be the trunks, an important consideration when the commercial value of the tree is taken into account. The Northwestern Lumberman, commenting on Mr. Ferguson's letter, suggests that men of wealth might devote some of their means to the converting of the vast wastes of denuded pine lands into areas of health giving, climate equalizing, water preserving, profit bearing, beautiful forests. The question is also asked, why should not single individuals, who have large denuded lands on their hands, replant pine trees and eventually reap a rich and perpetual harvest of profit from the enterprise? What do Canadian white pine lumbermen say to these suggestions?

The Guelph Heading & Stave Co., of Guelph, Ont., has been granted incorporation.