



MONTHLY AND WEEKLY EDITIONS

C. H. MORTIMER

PUBLISHER

CONFEDERATION LIFE BUILDING, TORONTO

BRANCH OFFICE:

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE BUILDING, MONTREAL

The LUMBERMAN Weekly Edition is published every Wednesday, and the Monthly Edition on the 1st day of every month.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

One Copy, Weekly and Monthly, One Year, in advance..... \$1.00

One Copy, Weekly and Monthly, Six Months, in advance..... .50

Foreign Subscriptions, \$2.00 a Year.

ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED ON APPLICATION

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interests of the lumber trade and of allied industries throughout the Dominion, being the only representative in Canada of this foremost branch of the commerce of this country. It aims at giving full and timely information on all subjects touching these interests, discussing these topics editorially and inviting for discussion by others.

Special pains are taken to secure the latest and most trustworthy market quotations from various points throughout the world, so as to afford to the trade in Canada information on which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present an accurate report not only of prices and the condition of the market, but also of other matters specially interesting to our readers. But correspondence is not only welcome, but is invited from all who have any information to communicate or subjects to discuss relating to the trade or in any way affecting it. Even when we may not be able to agree with the writers we will give them a fair opportunity for free discussion as the best means of eliciting the truth.

Any items of interest are particularly requested, for even if not of great importance individually they contribute to a fund of information from which general results are obtained.

Advertisers will receive careful attention and liberal treatment. We need not point out that for many the CANADA LUMBERMAN, with its special class of readers, is not only an exceptionally good medium for securing publicity, but is indispensable for those who would bring themselves before the notice of that class. Special attention is directed to "WANTED" and "FOR SALE" advertisements, which will be inserted in a conspicuous position at the uniform price of 25 cents per line for each insertion. Announcements of this character will be subject to a discount of 25 per cent. if ordered for four successive issues or longer.

Subscribers will find the small amount they pay for the CANADA LUMBERMAN quite insignificant as compared with its value to them. There is not an individual in the trade, or specially interested in it, who should not be on our list, thus obtaining the present benefit and aiding and encouraging us to render it even more complete.

TO VISITING LUMBERMEN.

Lumbermen visiting Toronto are invited to use the office of the CANADA LUMBERMAN as their own. We shall take pleasure in supplying them with every convenience for receiving and answering their correspondence, and hold ourselves at their service in any other way they may desire.

THE RECENT SALE OF TIMBER LIMITS.

In some respects the result of the sale of timber limits held by the Ontario government on the 18th ultimo came in the nature of a surprise. Much of the timber was located in gold-bearing districts, and the fear of destruction by fire, together with the agitation of miners that the property be opened for disposal under the Mines Act, influenced the government in their decision to place the limits on the market. The prices realized, when the extent and class of timber is considered, were, we believe, as great as was expected. The limits in the Rainy River district which were withdrawn consisted largely of local timber, and were not particularly valuable.

For one limit the sum of \$6,600 per mile was realized. At the government sale in 1887 the highest price paid per mile was \$6,350, but at the sale in 1892 the Gilmour Company, of Trenton, paid \$17,500 per mile for a limit. It is freely admitted, however, that this figure was beyond the commercial value of the timber, and left no margin of profit in manufacturing the same into lumber.

Before the limits were offered for competition the announcement was made that a condition of the sale would be that all the timber on the

limits must be manufactured in Canada—a provision which many thought would affect the result of the sale. There was also the United States duty of two dollars on lumber to be taken into consideration, rendering the probabilities of obtaining even fair prices extremely doubtful. But in the face of these adverse circumstances the lumbermen gathered in large numbers, and showed in no uncertain manner their undoubted faith in Canada and Canadian timber limits. It would seem that notwithstanding years of depression lumbermen have lost none of their courage, but are constantly on the look-out for investment.

THE LUMBER SITUATION DISCUSSED.

THE meeting of lumbermen held in Toronto a fortnight ago, a report of which is given elsewhere, was to a large extent representative of the Georgian Bay interests. The Ottawa Valley and other sections of the province were but poorly represented—a fact which lessened the importance of the meeting. It could scarcely be called a provincial gathering, although such was, we believe, the intention of the promoters. The chief question considered, that of requesting the Ontario government to restrict the manufacture of pine timber to the province, found many advocates, but was not without strong opposition. Able arguments, both pro and con, were presented.

The Georgian Bay lumbermen were almost unanimous in favor of the resolution for restriction. That the United States people should be given the preference over Canadians in Canada seemed to them most unfair. This point was well taken. The prosperity of the country demands that some action be taken to protect our forests, otherwise mills and villages will be wiped out of existence, and population transferred from Canada to the United States. It is said that many of the lumbermen could dispose of their logs at Michigan points at a figure that would bring better returns than if they were manufactured into lumber, but having the welfare of the country at heart, they prefer to cut only a limited amount each year, and thereby extend the supply of timber over a greater period of time.

It is worthy of note, and a point which should carry weight with the government, that, although the lumbermen on the shore of the Georgian Bay are in a most unfavorable position to cater to foreign trade, yet they pronounced themselves as willing to bear the consequences of an export duty on logs, following which would be an additional import duty on lumber shipped to the United States.

It is claimed by some that in a short time the price of lumber in the United States will advance to the amount of the duty, and that we will then be in as good a position as we were before the imposition of the duty. This may be true, but the manufacturer on the other side still has an advantage over the Canadian manufacturer of two dollars per thousand feet.

Mr. Edwards, as representing in a measure the Ottawa valley, strongly opposed the resolution. He is apparently willing to submit to any legislation which the United States Congress may exact. The Ottawa valley has of late years become less dependent upon the United States market, owing to the expansion of British trade. Not only are large quantities of deals shipped to Great Britain, but inch lumber of common grade

is now finding a market in that country. It would appear that Mr. Edwards' opposition is founded on the fear that the closing of the American market would result in the overstocking of the British market, attended by a collapse in prices.

The key-note of Mr. Charlton's deliberations was delay, in the hope of securing a re-consideration of the wood schedule of the bill when the United States Congress shall meet in December. The lumbermen of this country would probably not agree to anything less than free lumber for free logs, and it is scarcely reasonable to expect that this could be obtained under the present administration.

The proposal of Mr. Bertram contained in the resolution meets with general approval, as being likely to solve the question in a satisfactory manner. The Ontario Government reserves the right to make such regulations governing the cutting of timber as may be deemed advisable, and can, in good faith, take the step asked. The time has come when we must legislate for ourselves. For years we have been subject to the changes and uncertainties of the American tariff, and are to-day in no better position than ten years ago. Should an export duty be imposed by the Dominion government the immediate consequences would no doubt be keenly felt in some quarters—the value of timber limits would probably be depreciated; but in a very short time, as new markets were found, this and other drawbacks would pass away.

The apparent ignorance among the trade that a lumbermen's association existed in Ontario did not speak well for the organization. As pointed out by Mr. Beck, the lumbermen stand isolated, there is a lack of cohesion among the persons engaged in the manufacture of forest products. It is hoped that the decision of this meeting to revive the association into greater activity will not be the end of the matter, but that steps will be taken at once to make its influence felt.

There is abundance of work for an association of this kind to do. The finding of new markets is a matter which might profitably be dealt with. Much valuable information could be obtained and placed at the disposal of the trade. The subject of freight rates is another question for consideration. Efforts should be made to obtain lower rates to ocean ports, which would place lumbermen in a better position to cater to foreign markets. Nor should the hardwood lumber trade be forgotten; it is an important branch of the industry. Let the association take action at once to secure from the railway companies a rate on hardwoods as low as that given for pine. By dealing in a vigorous manner with these and other questions affecting the prosperity of the trade its usefulness will be demonstrated.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE space given to a report of the lumbermen's meeting accounts for the absence in this number of some of the regular departments. We believe, however, that all interested in any way in the manufacture of forest products will find a perusal of the report both interesting and instructive.

OWING to the failure of Messrs. McLachlin Bros., of Arnprior, to dispose of their timber limits, they are said to have decided to operate