

As a matter of course the opposition press and speakers have vigorously assailed Mr. Ross' policy of developing New Ontario and building up home industries by stopping the exportation of raw material. It finds, however, a keen and enthusiastic supporter in *THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER*, of Toronto, the organ of the Manufacturers' Association, which certainly ought to speak with a good deal more authority as to the effects of that policy in stimulating a demand for manufacturers than the Tory journals.

*THE MANUFACTURER* quotes approvingly Mr. Ross' Whitby speech last fall as embodying "just such an enlightened and progressive view of the crying needs of the country and the obvious practical duty of the Administration," as entirely coincides with the opinions it has always voiced. It trusts that "measures so wisely calculated to place the province in the position nature destined her to occupy, as a wealthy, progressive and populous community, will commend themselves to the support of the Legislature, as they certainly must to the approval of the public-spirited and enterprising men interested in promoting home manufactures."

Our contemporary disclaims any party feeling in the matter and certainly its record is sufficient to negative any suspicion of liberal leanings. It looks solely at practical results. It shows that the manufacturers of mill machinery and supplies have already benefited largely by the stimulus given to construction of lumber and pulp mills. It expects more important results as time progresses.

Evidently the manufacturers are fully alive to their own interests, and, with satisfactory evidence in hand of the benefits conferred upon home industry by the course of the Government, will hardly be persuaded to the contrary by the factious criticisms of the opposition.—Kingston Whig.

It is understood that the Ontario Government have under consideration an amendment to the regulations respecting pulpwood which provides for the application of the manufacturing clause to spruce logs, thus practically putting them on the same basis as sawlogs. The Order-in-Council will take effect at the close of the present license year, viz., April 30th, and after that date no pulpwood cut on any timber limits sold by the Government can be exported from Canada. A very small quantity of pulpwood is now exported from lands on which the settlers hold the patent. The total amount thus exported in 1898 was about 5,000 cords, but from figures now available, the export for 1899 will be something less. This Order-in-Council is another illustration of the Government's desire to retain for the people of Ontario the full profits resulting from the products of the forests, and will doubtless meet with the same approval as the orders relating to nickel and copper, which were passed some weeks since.

A sub-committee of the Cabinet has been appointed to consider the question of putting an export duty on nickel matte. The members of the committee are Sir Richard Cartwright, Sir Louis Davies, Hon. W. S. Fielding, Hon. A. G. Blair, and Hon. Wm. Paterson.

The Hamburg-American Line and North German Lloyds are each having their two new mail and passenger steamers fitted with ice-making and refrigerating machinery. One of the vessels has already left on her first voyage, and a matter of interest is that in addition to the usual cold chambers and ice making plant, two of the staterooms have been cooled. One of these was recently occupied by Sir Claude Macdonald on his return to China, and the cool atmosphere added great additional comfort to the voyage. This is said to be the first instance of staterooms being cooled by refrigerating machin-

ery though in several cases such machinery is used for cooling dwelling-houses. There appears to be a wide field for this special application, which will certainly add greatly to the comfort of passengers during a voyage through the tropics.

Hon. E. J. Davis, Ontario Commissioner of Crown Lands, has by no means exhausted his list of measures for promoting the interests of Ontario. The question of reforestation is one to which he is giving considerable attention, and in the course of a few days he hopes to put into operation certain measures for the renewal of the forest wealth upon lands which have been stripped or partially denuded of timber. The areas selected for the purpose will be those which are unsuitable for agriculture, but which, with careful attention to certain well-understood principles, can be made to reproduce merchantable timber. One forest reserve has already been set apart in the County of Hastings, and an Order-in-Council will shortly be passed creating reserves elsewhere in Ontario.

Domestic exports from the United Kingdom in 1899, according to official reports, were \$1,287,971,000, while those from the United States were \$1,253,486,000, making a difference of \$34,000,000 in favor of the United Kingdom in the year's exportation of domestic products. From 1875 to 1899 Great Britain's domestic exports increased from \$1,087,497,000 to \$1,287,971,000, or 19 per cent., while those from the United States increased from \$497,263,737 to \$1,253,486,000, an increase of 152 per cent. Adding to the domestic exports of each country, those brought in from other parts of the world and re-exported, we find that the total exports of the United Kingdom, including "domestic, foreign and colonial," were, in 1875, \$1,370,465,000, and in 1899, \$1,640,388,674, an increase of 20 per cent., and those from the United States, including "domestic and foreign," were, in 1875, \$510,947,422, and in 1899, \$1,275,486,641, an increase of 150 per cent.

The new discriminating stumpage dues on pulpwood are now in force in the Province of Quebec. They have been fixed and made effective by Order-in-Council, which has received the signature of the Lieutenant-Governor. No legislation in the matter will therefore be necessary. It is expected that the result of this action on the part of the Quebec-Government will be to largely increase the amount of capital invested there in the manufacture of pulp and paper, and the number of hands employed in the mills. The stumpage dues are increased from 40 cents to \$1.00 a cord, and there is a rebate of \$1.50 per cord upon all pulpwood manufactured in the province.

It is understood that the Dominion Minister of the Interior is urging upon his colleagues that under the act which was passed at the last session of Parliament giving the Government authority in that respect, regulations should be made by the Governor-General in Council for the purpose of providing proper safeguards for the health and well-being of working men employed upon public works. The act confers extensive powers upon the Government to make regulations respecting the medical treatment, sanitary inspection, and other matters relating to proper treatment of laboring men employed upon all railway and public works within the