

cles bearing headings which would indicate that they were devoted to the consideration of some solid question, were usually found to degenerate into a windy war against the local contemporary on the opposite side of the political fence. Another fault frequently committed by the local newspaper press is in considering commercial or industrial questions too much in the "boom" spirit. If a reporter is entrusted with the preparation of an article bearing upon such a subject, it is done with a flourish of trumpets, and presented in such a way as to be very misleading to those not acquainted with the real situation. This is a fault which the newspapers of Winnipeg frequently commit, and which it would be well to curtail as much as possible.

CANADA, or rather Eastern Canada, has long been noted for its great forests, and for many years the exportation of lumber and timber has been one of the leading industries of the country. The two principal export markets were Great Britain and the United States. To the latter country a considerable quantity of logs have also been exported, but in order to cause the manufacture of these at home and have the export in lumber instead of logs—an export duty was placed upon the latter. Lumbermen now ask for an increase in these export duties, and this has led to the discussion of the advisability of placing an export duty upon lumber as well as logs. Notwithstanding the great natural resources of the country in forests, it is already contended that the available supply is not greater than will be required for the home demand in the not distant future. Some therefore argue that the policy of the Government should be to preserve these natural forests by placing an export duty upon lumber. The decline of the wooden ship-building industry in Great Britain caused a decrease in the exports of Canadian timber in that direction, but from the United States the demand for Canadian lumber is steadily increasing. The forests of that country are being annually depleted at a rapid rate, thus necessitating the securing of lumber supplies from more distant parts and rendering the exportation of lumber from this country a profitable industry. To those who have considered the forest resources of Canada as of vast extent, it will be news to learn that there is danger of the production not being more than equal to the home demand in a very few years, should exportation continue to increase. Such, however, is the opinion of some who have given attention to the matter. The advisability of placing an export duty upon lumber is therefore worthy of consideration.

THE population of Melbourne, Australia, is 300,000, who are as well off as any equal number of people in the whole world. But the city has grown hastily and carries the signs of it on the surface. The streets are broad. There are splendid single buildings—town hall, university, Parliament houses, exchanges and, again, churches, etc. There are superb shops too, gorgeous as any in London or Paris. But side by side with them you see houses little better than sheds. People have built as they could, and as their means allow them, and they have been too busy to study appearances. But they have boundless wealth and as boundless ambition and self-confidence.

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