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IN 1890 the Customs tariff imposed a duty on imported lumber, plain, of 20 per cent. In 1894 parliament, acting under the pressure of public opinion, voiced largely by the Opposition, placed "sawed boards, plank deals, and other lumber undressed, or dressed on one side only" on the free list, under item 739. Parliament has since resisted all pleas for a reimposition of the duty but those who want legislation to make or help make them rich never tire in their persistence, and on Tuesday a deputation of lumbermen waited on the government at Ottawa and asked for the imposition of a duty of two dollars per thousand feet on imported lumber. The reason given was that the United States imposes a duty of that character. The Manitoba and Northwest members of parliament are strenuously opposed to the request, and always have been, and as they are in this parliament enormously stronger than in the last it is unlikely that the government will be able to accede to it. Those who have seen the struggling settler on the plains endeavoring to get lumber to build a little house and stable, and know the difficulty that confronts him, would loth to make it so much harder for him.

POLITICAL changes are taking place in the Province of Quebec. Premier Parent has lost three of his colleagues by resignation. Mr. Monet was a member of the House of Commons in the last Parliament and took a decided stand against what may be termed imperialism, and criticized the Government for sending a contingent to the South African war. He did not offer for re-election last year and Mr. Estey gave him a seat in the Quebec Cabinet without portfolio. This gave Mr. Gouin and his two colleagues an excuse for which they were probably looking, judging from

the avidity with which they seized it. They immediately resigned and apparently intend to make a campaign against Mr. Parent. Mr. Parent is regarded as retaining office too long and monopolising too many of the good things. His large majority in the recently elected legislature is perhaps one of the factors tending to create a revolt within the ranks. Whether Mr. Parent or Mr. Gouin has the largest following on the Liberal side of the new House will be determined when the legislature meets some three weeks from this date.

MR. R. L. BORDEN was on Saturday, Feb. 4, elected by acclamation for the county of Carleton, in the province of Ontario. He lost his seat in Halifax, N. S. at the general election last fall, and Mr. Edward Kidd resigned his seat in Carleton to make room for Mr. Borden. With one or two exceptions reflected by two Toronto Conservative dailies, the party were unanimous in asking Mr. Borden to resume the leadership. Notwithstanding the many and substantial sacrifices he had made he again consented, and on Tuesday took his old seat in the House. He was heartily received, the Liberals being mean enough to send over a bouquet of flowers, thus lending color to the rumor that they were anxious to have the Opposition led by Mr. Borden.

WE have repeatedly drawn attention to the fact that Mr. Chamberlain while in office, and possessing sufficient influence, declined to do Canada the common justice of removing the embargo on our live cattle. He is never tired of telling us on the platform how much he loves us, but he is too much like the young man who sparks the longing girl for a number of years without proposing marriage. If Mr. Chamberlain would develop his affection to the extent of trying to restore Canadian cattle to their former privileges he might bind us to him with those hooks of steel of which the poet writes. The latest hug received by Miss Canada from the Mother country was administered by Lord Onslow, the minister of agri-