

# THE CANADA LUMBERMAN.

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## THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interest 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 free discussion of them by others.

Especial 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 upon which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present 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 effecting 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 ten cents per line for each insertion. Announcements of this character will be subject to a discount of 25 per cent. if ordered for three 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.

The tenth annual Industrial Exhibition, which is to take place in Toronto this year, from the 10th to the 22nd of September, promises to eclipse all previous efforts in this direction. We have received a copy of the prize list and programme of attractions, both of which are complete in every particular. Any of our readers who may desire a copy of this prize list can readily obtain one by dropping a post card to Mr. W. J. Hill, the secretary, at Toronto. The prospects for the success of this year's show are very promising, and the directors have set apart a more than usually large amount for special attractions.

THE great Joggins raft seems always to be in some fresh trouble. Some wire rope imported for it in the expectation that it would be admitted free as being for a ship and which was entered accordingly has been seized by the Customs authorities who do not recognise the raft as a ship. And then the question as to whether some of the piles are not really sawlogs and subject to export duty has not been definitely decided. Obstacles by sea and land seem to be in the way of the third attempt of trying to carry out this singular venture. There ought to be a good profit on the first successful trip if all the preliminary expenses are to be covered. There has certainly been a display of great perseverance.

A DECISION of importance has been given in the Supreme Court of California. The Santa Clara Valley Mill and Lumber Company owns three saw mills in Santa Cruz County, where there are also other millowners. To limit the cut and keep up prices the Company leased the other mills, or when that could not be done made contracts with the owners to limit the output. One of these contracts bound the millowner to make and deliver to the Santa Clara Company two million feet of lumber at \$11 per thousand and not to sell any other lumber in that or adjacent counties under penalty of \$20 per thousand

so sold. The contract was broken and the Santa Clara Company sued for damages. These were refused by the Court and on appeal the Supreme Court of California has sustained this judgment in favor of the defendant on the ground that the contract was against public policy being in restriction of trade and to create a monopoly.

ON every hand we learn of the great scarcity of long bill stuff, especially 20, 22 and 24 feet stock. The deficiency does not seem to be caused so much through the scarcity of long logs, but mainly owing to the risk entailed in floating long timber to the mills. The large number of jams, and the consequent heavy loss of logs, this season so far, is indeed a serious question to the lumbermen. It is therefore not surprising that they refrain as far as possible from incurring additional risks by putting many long logs into the streams. There is no uniformity in price for bill stuff at the present time, although prices generally rule high. There is certainly a good held for speculation in the manufacture of this class of stock where the risks incurred are not too great.

THE lumbermen of old Canada have begun to turn their attention to the pine on the other side of the Rocky Mountains. More than one of them is likely to be operating on the Pacific coast. As to the quantity and excellence of the pine and other wood there is no doubt, and the only question would be as to the market if the output were greatly augmented. There seems, however, every likelihood of rapidly increasing settlement on the great prairies and this must bring a demand for lumber in that direction. The markets in Australia also should be capable of extensive development, for they have little but hardwood and their requirements are large. British Columbia should certainly be able to compare with Norway in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide if some enterprise were shown in pushing the trade which has its peculiarities.

THE Mills' tariff bill now before Congress is certainly meeting with bitter opposition from numerous quarters, but the following, taken from a Wisconsin paper, takes the palm for unadulterated prejudice. The paper referred to bewails the situation thus:—"Let the Mills bill pass, and this country would stagnate. Our logging and milling interests would result in a failure. Wolf river, now the scene of active life, crowded with logs and covered with log drivers, would be as desolate as a forsaken churchyard. The mills at Three Lakes, Gagen, Cedar, Cavour and Crandon would soon become the abodes of bats and owls. Spiders would spin their webs about the engines and between the saw-teeth: rust would eat away and dust cover up the now brightly polished machinery. The great pulp mill at Monico would digest no more spruce, poplar, balsam or what-not, and pulp wood lands would soon go back for taxes to a county too poor to pay its officers' salaries."

SOMETIME previous to the first of June notice was given by the Grand Trunk Railway that commencing on the 1st ult. a storage charge of 25 cents per car load per week on lumber would be exacted. This bit of news did not come as a surprise to the Toronto lumber dealers, as the threat had often been made before, but for some reason or other invariably failed to mature. The recent difficulty between the wholesale and retail dealers of the Queen City, however, seems to have had something to do with the recent decision of the Grand Trunk authorities. Certainly the best of feeling does not exist between the middlemen and the retailers, and as a consequence each are making a strong effort to get the best of the situation. Another month has come and gone, but notwithstanding the order above spoken of the question of storage seems to have again fallen through, and the old system is still in vogue. One thing is certain and that is that the lumber trade of Toronto, under present conditions, has to depend altogether too much on the railways for storage room. What is wanted, and what must sooner or later be had, is a central piling ground in close proximity to the various railways, large enough to accommodate the wants of the wholesale trade of the city. The matter is already we understand, receiving more or less attention.

THE stir created by Senator Clemow's sawdust committee of the last session of the Dominion Parliament has resulted in something tangible being effected. Negotiations have been in progress between the Chaudiere lumbermen and the Government in reference to the examination of the Ottawa river for the purpose of determining to what extent the sawdust discharged from the mills injures the river, and it is understood that Sir Hector Langevin has consented to the application of the lumbermen for the appointment of a commission of engineers to investigate the matter. It is understood that Mr. Sandford Fleming will undertake the examination, provided he receives from the Government copies of the survey of the river made for the government some years ago by Mr. Gray, C.E. The lumbermen have agreed to pay all expenses. It is to be hoped that the great lumber interests of the Chaudiere will not be effected by such an examination, but that it will prove to the mutual interest of all parties concerned to allow the matter to drop.

SOMETIMES the settler is told, especially by the party politicians on the hunt for votes, to look upon the lumberman as his natural enemy, or at least as having antagonistic interests. Many a settler in the backwoods knows the truth to be very different, finding in the lumberman his best friend and most remunerative customer. A striking instance is given of this fact by a gentleman who has been visiting Lake Temisaming last winter. He describes the lumberman as being busily at work there and having a number of shanties established in that far away region. Settlers are also becoming numerous and they are looking forward to finding for years to come customers in the lumber shanties for all they can raise, and at good prices. What they consider good prices may be judged from the quotations, \$30 a ton for hay, \$1 a bag for potatoes and 75 cts. a bushel for oats. No wonder the settlers in the Township of Dymond appreciate the lumbermen and wish to keep them to themselves, declaring even that they have no wish to see a railway built so that they may retain this profitable monopoly. Many a now flourishing agricultural community has thus been built up in its early days by the timely aid thus given by the lumbermen, though they do not always remember these past benefits at a later period. A look at the map to note the exact situation of Lake Temisaming shows how far a field lumbering is now carried on in Ontario, what were distant backwoods a few years ago now coming well to the front by comparison.

THE magnificent redwood forests of California are the theme of a recent article by the San Francisco *Bulletin*. It describes the great inroads that have been made in the accessible timber, but fortunately the redwood forests of the Pacific slope seem to have far greater powers of reproduction than the Canadian pine woods, so that in some cases there is a very valuable second growth. Our contemporary says, however, that the redwood forests of Mendocino, Humboldt, Del Norte and Siskiyou are still almost in a virgin state. Not being accessible from the sea nor penetrated by railways, they have to a great extent been left in the hands of the government, though they are open to purchase at \$2.50 an acre. It is expected that railways will traverse them before long, when being made accessible they will become immensely valuable. Michigan lumbermen, the *Bulletin* says, have already invested largely in these forests. We know that these same Michigan lumbermen had already made extensive purchases in the forests of the Southern States and in the pine lands of Ontario. This would seem to indicate that these gentlemen foresee a serious denudation of the Michigan forests at no very distant epoch, and may be taken as a note of warning to our own lumbermen to be somewhat conservative in their operations, and not to sacrifice their prosperity for an insufficient return by being too eager to force sales prematurely if a little holding back would give better results. The Michigan lumbermen by the by are not alone in investing in Pacific coast forests, some of our Ontario lumbermen being reported to have done the same in British Columbia, where the magnificent forests will some day acquire a very high value.

THE Act which has just passed the Dominion Government for the suppression of gambling in stocks and merchandise makes