

## CHEAP FOREIGN LABOR CAUSE OF CANADIAN DIFFICULTIES

(Continued from page one.)

employment to about 2,500 hands in this and kindred lines and pay annually in round numbers, in wages, \$1,000,000.

### As To a Combine.

Continuing, Mr. Kemp said that during the course of the development of this industry the manufacturers in Canada have consulted with each other, and have worked together in an association, the objects of which have been to adopt such methods in respect to manufacture as would lead to the greatest consumption of the wares which could be produced in Canada, with a view of having their plants occupied. There has at no time been an attempt made to restrict production, but on the other hand, the controlling factor which has determined the policy of the manufacturers is, that the amount of their product which could be sold was capable of being increased indefinitely by cheapening the cost.

### Canadians Are Satisfied.

"We venture to say," Mr. Kemp concluded, "that the trade in Canada, as well as the consumer, are thoroughly satisfied with the dealings of the Canadian manufacturers. They realize fully that they do not possess any monopoly, but that he is desirous of conducting his business that he may win the approval of the Canadian people by fair methods; he is also aware that whilst the sentiment of 'Canadians buying Canadian goods' is a sound one, yet in the course of business he knows that the purchaser will buy the piece of goods which suits his or her own fancy and taste, whether he likes, regardless of whether it is manufactured in Canada or elsewhere. He feels then doubly anxious to produce the best quality of goods and offer them at the lowest possible prices, in order that he may have his home market."

Mr. Kemp also submitted a list of minor changes on certain articles which he would like to see made in the tariff.

### What It Means.

"Then you suggest, Mr. Kemp, that the articles you have mentioned be placed under the maximum tariff, whatever that may be when we revise the duties?" Mr. Patterson asked.

"Yes, that's our idea," Mr. Kemp answered.

### About Copper Sheets.

Continuing, Mr. Kemp complained of the condition of English-made copper sheets, the finish of which is not equal to the finish of American copper. Canadians are anxious to buy from Great Britain, but the British apparently cannot deliver the goods. He also drew attention to the practice of American firms who ship into Canada so-called copper kettles, which are partly made of tin. As there are no makers of copper sheets in Canada, and as the British cannot supply the Canadian trade he thought the present duty on the American product excessive.

The deputation then spoke of the demand of the brass manufacturers who had asked for a duty on all brass goods.

"They should not ask for a duty on brass goods which cannot be turned out in this country," said one of the delegates.

### Duty on Stoves.

Col. Gartschke, manager of the McClary Manufacturing Company, then addressed the committee. He said that the chief complaint in stoves is that they are largely made by his company, comes from the United States, and it is extremely hard to apply the dumping clause. Labor in Canada, the manufacture of stoves is quite as high as in the United States, and the Americans make them in such bulk that Canadian makers cannot compete with them. He asked that a specific as well as an ad valorem duty be placed on stoves, as it is very hard nowadays to get at the value of such articles, and the customs is easily deceived.

Col. Gartschke spoke of the many hardships Canadian manufacturers are compelled to undergo. There is the expense of patterns, the big firms on the other side of the line, change these as often as the styles of ladies' bonnets are changed, and of course the Canadian stove maker with a smaller market to deal with, is hard hit. Then there are the freight rates to be considered, in which the American firm has the advantage. It costs from 25 to 40 per cent of the cost of the stove to market it and get a return on its cost.

### A Dumping Case.

He read a letter from an American firm offering to sell certain classes of stoves in Canada at 2 1/2 cents a pound, "in order to advertise" its goods, and at the same time get rid of surplus stocks. This firm's freight rate to Winnipeg on stoves was 55 cents, and from London to Winnipeg, 75 cents a ton.

"As stoves go into every household, anything like a heavy increase in the tariff would not be advisable would it?" "I think the competition in Canada will keep the prices down," was the Colonel's reply.

"Were not Canadian manufacturers at first reluctant to make sheet iron stoves?" asked Mr. Patterson.

"No, we have always made them," Col. Gartschke replied.

"If the Americans can sell stoves 10 per cent cheaper in the west than a Canadian firm they will get the trade," interrupted Mr. John McClary. "If the Americans can meet the Canadians on an equal footing they will get the trade," he said.

Continuing, Mr. McClary said there is no branch of business in Canada in which the competition is so great as in stoves. In Canada there are very many small manufacturers who make practically but one line of stoves, and they make competition for the big manufacturers very keen."

### A Cement Grievance.

The cement dealers of London were next heard. They were represented by Mr. Geo. E. Mann and Mr. Ben. V. Hole. Mr. Mann asked that the duty on cement bags, which are returned, should be refunded. He said that the Canadian manufacturers of cement now enjoy a protection of 12 1/2 cents on the cwt., and 25 per cent on the bag. He thought this protection was too high. Since July last when this tariff was put in force trade in American cement has fallen off.

"But you only pay the duty on the bag once. When you send it back and

have it filled, you do not pay duty on it again," Mr. Patterson said.

"We have imported 100,000 bags this year," Mr. Mann said, "and we have been able to identify only 3,000 bags. We paid duty on all the rest."

"Are we in a position to supply the Canadian demand now—can the Canadian cement mills do it?" asked Mr. Patterson.

"I think they could," Mr. Mann said. "Is there competition?"

"I don't think so. All the prices are the same."

The request will be considered.

### The Handle Industry.

Mr. John Stevely, of the Columbia Handle Company, waited on the commission on behalf of the handle manufacturers of the country. He asked that when the tariff is revised the present duty of 15 per cent be made the minimum. He alluded to hammer, sledge, axe, pick, fork handles, etc., etc. He asked for certain classifications of these goods so that no underhand games can be worked on the customs officials. The Canadian manufacturers cannot compete with the big factories of the United States, especially those of the south and southwest, where timber and labor are very cheap.

"Do you ask for a specific duty?" asked Mr. Patterson.

"Yes," Mr. Stevely explained. "We want the Government to place average values on all different lengths of handles, and then collect the duties on these goods. This would do away with any deception upon the customs authorities."

"But," said Mr. Patterson, "this would mean that the poor grade handles and the high grade handles would pay the same duty?"

"Yes," Mr. Stevely replied. "Four companies were represented. London, St. Thomas, Stratford and Tilbury. A valuation list was submitted, and Mr. Stevely stated that all four companies had agreed on these valuations of American handles."

### Printers Object.

Mr. A. Talbot, printer, protested against the duty on calendars asked for by the local lithographers in the morning. He said that a duty of 15 cents a pound on lithographs would be prohibitive.

To Mr. Hyman Mr. Talbot said he was also alluding to art chromocards. In conclusion, he asked that the present tariff be not interfered with.

To Mr. Patterson, Mr. Talbot stated that what the lithographers had asked for would amount to practically a duty of 100 per cent on the value of the goods.

### The Drug Trades.

The London Drug Company introduced the matter of a revision of the tariff on drugs. Mr. James Mattinson appearing before the commission. He also drew attention to the practice of American firms who ship into Canada so-called copper kettles, which are partly made of tin. As there are no makers of copper sheets in Canada, and as the British cannot supply the Canadian trade he thought the present duty on the American product excessive.

The deputation then spoke of the demand of the brass manufacturers who had asked for a duty on all brass goods.

"They should not ask for a duty on brass goods which cannot be turned out in this country," said one of the delegates.

"If the Americans can sell stoves 10 per cent cheaper in the west than a Canadian firm they will get the trade," interrupted Mr. John McClary. "If the Americans can meet the Canadians on an equal footing they will get the trade," he said.

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## Bad Blood

Is responsible for most of the diseases and ailments of the human system. It seriously affects every organ and function, causes catarrh, dyspepsia, rheumatism, weak, tired, languid feelings and worse troubles. Take Hood's Sarsaparilla which purifies and enriches the blood as nothing else can.

For testimonials of remarkable cures send for Book on the Blood, No. 3, C. I. Hood Co., Lowell, Mass.

A Little Different.

"Some of the farmers think the duty on buggies is too heavy," said Mr. Patterson. "They say the Canadian manufacturers are charging too much."

"We don't make the cheap buggies here that are made in the United States," Mr. Greer said.

"If it were not for the second-hand American coaches coming in to Canada," he said, "he could employ fifty men."

Mr. Frank Westlake brought up the question of the combine of photographic goods of the American manufacturers. He said the agencies in Canada are all controlled by the trust, with the exception of one anti-trust house in Toronto.

The commissioners pointed out that they had no jurisdiction in such matters. This ended the hearings.

## RATS' HAVOC IN ROMAN ARCHIVES

Documents in Lateran Palace May Be Rescued at Government's Suggestion.

Rome, Nov. 22.—The Italian Government officials have just called the Pope's attention to the fact that an immense number of important documents is stored in some rooms of the Lateran palace. Many of these papers are of great importance in settling disputes of succession to estates which are brought by descendants of the old inhabitants of Rome and of the Pontifical States. It seems that soon after the occupation of Rome in 1870 the papal archives of the city of Rome were intrusted to the care of three notaries who were in sympathy with the Papal views of the rights of the Pope to the temporal power. These notaries were the direct descendants of the notaries who had held the same position for centuries under the popes, and they continued to exercise their rights as papal notaries and kept the documents which had accumulated in their offices for centuries.

The late Pope toward the end of his pontificate, was made aware of the fact that some of the documents contained in the archives were of the greatest importance to students of archaeology and history and to the descendants of the former inhabitants of the Pontifical States. He was there found the records of all the transactions made by their ancestors under the reign of the Pope.

Leo XIII. was impressed by the information and made up his mind that the documents contained in the archives would be better placed under the ownership of the Italian government authorities. Therefore he ordered the purchase of the archives in a body and ordered them sent to the Lateran Palace with the view of appointing some experienced archivist to the work of the classification and indexing of all the documents in order to make easy future researches. It happened, however, that no funds were then provided for the purpose and the documents have been for many years under lock and key in some of the Lateran rooms. It is even said that rodents have played havoc with the collection and that because of this the Italian Government officials have thought it advisable to notify the Pope that the documents would be better placed under the ownership of the Italian government authorities. 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