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ADVERTISING RATES FURNISHED ON APPLICATION

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interests 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 by others.

Special 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 on which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present an 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 affecting 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 15 cents per line for each insertion. Announcements of this character will be subject to a discount of 25 per cent. if ordered for four 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.

NO LOG DUTIES.

MR. IVES' resolution: "That it is expedient to impose export duties on sawlogs and spruce pulpwood when exported from Canada," did not receive very hearty support from the members of the Commons, and its defeat settles for some time the agitation for a tariff change in Canadian lumber.

The principal participants in the debate were the mover, Mr. Corbould, of British Columbia; Mr. John Charlton, himself a lumberman, operating Canadian limits and with an office at Tonawanda, N.Y.; Mr. Sproule, Mr. O'Brien, who represents the lumber constituency of Muskoka, and the Finance Minister. The mover did not make out a particularly happy case for his side of the question. His speech was faulty in the important particular of not exhibiting a mastery of the actual facts of the situation. He was quickly taken up, by Mr. Charlton, in his statement that the Americans could not do without our spruce and would have to pay any duty we might choose to put on. It is stated by Mr. Charlton that there are immense tracts of spruce in the Adirondack mountains, in New Hampshire, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, as well as in the Southern States. Mr. Charlton further pointed out that it was a mistake to say that the only reduction made by the United States was the duty on white pine from \$2 to \$1 per thousand. There were five reductions made, including that on shingles from thirty-five to twenty per cent. And we opine that LUMBERMEN readers are aware that during the past year Canadian shingles in considerable quantities have been exported to the United States, and the trade is growing. Whilst engaged in writing this article the writer was called from his desk to talk with a manufacturer engaged largely in the shingle trade, who states that the entire shingle output of his mill goes to the States. Mr. Charlton takes common ground with the Algoma Advocate, published in an important paper wood section, that it would be unjust to the small farmers who have pulpwood to sell to compel them to wait until Canadian manufacturers were ready to buy it. There is this important fact to be considered in a dis-

cussion of the duty question, and perhaps not generally known to lumbermen, that the trade and navigation returns show that while in 1891 there were exported 228,500,000 feet of spruce, there was imported in the same time eight or nine times that quantity for manufacture in Canada. In the last seven years, Mr. Charlton says, our spruce imports represented \$8,500,000, while our exports during that period amounted to the value of only \$3,280,000.

The real position, as it exists to-day, was perhaps as fairly stated by the Minister of Finance as by any of the speakers, when he said that there were diverse interests in connection with this matter, but the policy of the Government had been fixed, and whilst from certain points of view the spruce industry had probably been unfairly dealt with, yet considering the entire lumber interests, together with the conditions that were an embodiment of the McKinley bill, it would be disadvantageous to the lumber interests of Canada to reimpose the duties on lumber.

This is the position the LUMBERMAN has taken on the question from the commencement of the agitation for a reimposition of the log duties. Our friend the Canadian Manufacturer, when saying some kind things of the CANADA LUMBERMAN a month ago, expressed the hope that we would bend our enlarged energies to the advocacy of a reimposition of the log duties. The answer of Mr. Foster, whose trade policy finds special favor in the eyes of the Manufacturer, is the answer of the LUMBERMAN. We take the situation as it is to-day and, with the Minister of Finance, ask: What advantages could lumbermen gain by a re-imposition of the duties? It is not relevant to the issue to say that Sir John Macdonald should never have consented to an abolition of the log duties. He did consent. We are prepared to admit that in the change certain local and individual interests connected with lumber have suffered. But let us remember that other branches of the lumber trade, and the business record of the past year is its own complete answer on this point, would, if the Government were to revert back to former conditions, suffer in a degree immeasurably greater than is the case with any particular branch under present conditions. It cannot be forgotten that we have not the shaping of the lumber tariff altogether in our own hands. Were this so, we might do something we cannot now do. As we have repeatedly remarked, the McKinley bill is an important factor in any re-adjustment that may be proposed, and it is useless to shut our eyes against this element in the case.

INDIVIDUAL AND NATIONAL EXTRAVAGANCE.

Is the oft-repeated statement correct, that individually and as a people, we are spending more than we are earning, and steadily drawing on capital account? The large growth per capita in the national tax bill would seem to furnish only one answer to the latter part of the enquiry, and the Government have called a halt none too soon in deciding to cut down expenditure in various important particulars. Irrespective of party the overburdened tax-payer is ready to admit that much.

What is the case of the individual? The individual, after all, constitutes the nation. If his policy is based on principles of thrift and frugality we have not so much reason to dread the policy that governments may pursue. An American lumber journal, that has been keeping a record of the various causes of failure in the lumber trade during the past year, has furnished us with an illustration, that whilst perhaps exceptional in magnitude, places the case of the individual in very clear light. A Wisconsin firm recently failed for a large amount and the estate will pay less than forty cents on the dollar. Three gentlemen constituted the firm, and in their desire to aid in a re-adjustment of their troubles generously volunteered to each reduce their living expenses \$10,000 for this year, in this way creating a saving of \$30,000 a year. What they will still expect to retain per member for their "living expenses" is not mentioned, but we may safely conclude that "living expenses" that will permit of a reduction of \$10,000 a year are likely to still have remaining sufficient to admit of a fairly decent living. The open confession of these men carries but one interpretation, which is that during these years they have been living at the expense of their

creditors, who are now obliged to discount their claims fully sixty per cent.

Business men, and the circle includes men of other callings, who are spending more than they earn, are not confined to this Wisconsin lumber firm, though their case is perhaps an aggravated one, nor to residents of the United States. The individual in the present day appears born to extravagance. The pendulum has swung with a vengeance to the opposite side, and we know little of the thrift and economy that guided the course of our grandfathers. The beginner in business, who has not only his fortune to make but actually his needed capital, must live as well as the independent merchant, who, for a decade of years and more, toiled and saved, pinched and screwed in order to place his business on a solid basis, and not until then commenced to drink in the luxuries of life. The younger man does not intend that he shall overstep seriously the bounds of frugality. If his personal account in the meantime is larger than the actual trade being done would seem to warrant, he expects that shortly his argosies will come home and he will readily recover any extravagance of the present. The system of economy is bad, and more frequently the argosies, if they do come home and none are lost, realize a little short, rather than in excess of the estimate. One result follows. The man begins to find himself pinched, and if he does not pull up with a short rein he is soon in the same boat that sunk the Wisconsin lumbermen.

Political economists draw a sharp dividing line between those trades that are productive in their results, and others which, while representing an outgo, do not add in any way to the wealth of the State. The lumber and wood-working trades furnish a familiar illustration of the first-named class. Starting from the time the tree is felled in the forest until the day it graces our drawing rooms, shaped into handsome furniture, as each day's labor has been put upon it, and capital has been employed to give it other shape and form, its value has gone on increasing, adding to the wealth of the producer and the nation in which the work of production has been carried on. The liquor traffic is often taken by political economists to illustrate a business which gives back nothing productive, or that benefits the individual or nation, in return for the capital and labor absorbed by it.

The individual, who draws upon his earning powers in excess of the amount earned, is violating every rule of sound political economy, so far as his worth to the community is concerned, if not in the same degree, just as certainly as the liquor seller or others who engage in non-productive employments. Every dollar expended beyond his earnings is a dollar wasted to the community. The community, in some of its parts, is going to come short that amount. The position is worse than this. That dollar he has lost by his extravagant living is not only a dollar lost, but, like the talent unused and tied up in a napkin, there has been lost with it the earning power possessed by it. We see the force of this condition when we contrast the position of the business man who loses his dollar with the man who husbands it. The one, in pursuing this policy continuously, becomes a bankrupt; the other is steadily adding to the wealth of the community at large. His business increases, giving him the ability to consume greater supplies of the raw material of his own or other countries. Additional employment is furnished to the laborer; the avenues of transportation have increased business placed in their hands; and all through the net-work of activity that surrounds operations of business the pulse throbs with enlarged healthfulness and strength.

Individual extravagance is a national calamity.

OIL VS. GREASE.

IN English mills fluid oil has largely given way in favor of grease for lubricating wood-working machinery. The best class of grease is a solidified oil, which possesses the advantage of remaining longer in the bearings than fluid oil. It is applied through the medium of a special form of screw or screw-plunger lubricator, the grease being forced into the bearing at intervals by turning the screw. The great point you have to aim at is to secure a lubricant which will not develop fatty acids and clog and gum the bearings up. A common oil or grease is dear at any price for wood-working machinery.