

**THE LUMBERMEN'S CASE.**

THE following is the memorandum presented to the Ontario Government by the deputation of lumbermen on Friday, 10th December :

Toronto, December 10, 1897.

To the Honorable the Attorney-General and his colleagues :

The importance of the question to all lumbermen in western Ontario is our justification for again waiting on you to present our views and ask for your favorable consideration to the resolution passed by a representative meeting of lumbermen held at Toronto, October 6, where it was declared to be in the public interest "that when new licenses are issued after April 30, 1898, a regulation be included in every license that all timber cut on the Crown lands of Ontario shall be sawn, made into square timber or otherwise manufactured in Canada."

We deem the present an opportune time for now offering you some reasons why we ask your Government to take this course.

(1) The retaliatory clause of the Dingley bill passed by the United States has made it difficult for the Dominion Government, without grave hardship and dislocation of trade being threatened, to place an export duty on saw logs.

(2) Under present conditions of free logs for export and a duty of \$2 per thousand feet, sawing on the Georgian Bay for the American market could not be continued; the business of sawing lumber would, of necessity, be transferred to Michigan.

(3) This would affect not only Canadian operators, but also Americans who have established their saw mills in Ontario, and who are certainly entitled to consideration.

(4) It would be a ruinous policy to provide the raw material free from our forests for competition against our own mills, who would be handicapped by the \$2 duty.

(5) If the exportation of logs cut on Crown lands was entirely stopped Canadian lumbermen would enter no complaint of the \$2 duty, considering it entirely a matter under the jurisdiction of the United States.

(6) While fully recognizing the rights of proprietorship, both of Canadians and Americans, in all licenses issued by the Crown, we consider the retaliatory clause an interference with our rights, and as Americans have induced the situation it is for them to apply the remedy.

(7) What Canadian lumbermen want is simply equality and fair play in the work of utilizing the product of their own forests.

(8) If a duty of \$2 is charged on lumber entering the United States, then an equal export duty should be charged on logs.

(9) Until the privileges contemplated by clause 7 be enjoyed, the only remedy is to prohibit the export of logs cut on Crown lands, and place American stumpage owners on the same footing as Canadians.

(10) Whenever, therefore, an equalization of conditions is brought about the embargo placed on the export of logs could be taken off.

This statement was signed by Messrs. J. Scott; Huntsville Lumber Co., N. Turnbull, secretary; E. W. Rathbun, Wm.

Irwin, John Bertram, Thos. M. Sheppard, the Imperial Lumber Co., C. D. Warren, president; J. & T. Conlon, James Playfair, W. J. Sheppard, Chew Bros., Burton Bros. and J. S. Playfair, on behalf of the deputation.

The Premier promised careful consideration.

**AN ENGLISH VISITOR'S OPINION.**

Mr. J. Y. Henderson, of Henderson, Craig & Co., Limited, England, has just returned from a month's tour among the United States and Canadian pulp and paper mills. Mr. Henderson made some remarks about his trip at the British Wood Pulp Association's annual dinner at the Hotel Cecil as follows: I have been asked to say a few words about my recent visit to the United States and Canada. I may say that I visited most of the larger pulp and paper mills in these countries, and they uniformly admit that there is no profit in selling paper at 1d. per lb. in this country. I visited many large pulp mills, amongst others the Sault Ste. Marie, and the general impression I received was that in America and in the greater part of Canada they cannot compete with Scandinavia, if prices fall to what they were two or three years ago. Prices of chemical pulps are likely to be maintained for a year or two, but there are many new mills being built in both Scandinavia and in Canada, and the eastern provinces of Canada will always be able to compete in this market. The problem is a difficult one for us dealers, because, of course, we always try to get the price down for the consumer and up for the pulpmaker.

**A WOOD PULP KLONDYKE.**

The Land Magazine says: "We shall probably see in the near future a most interesting development in connection with the spruce lands of northern Ontario and northwest Quebec, which will shortly be opened up by the canalization of the Ottawa, Mattawa and French Rivers in order to make a waterway for large vessels to the great lakes. In the great watersheds of these rivers are over a million acres of the finest spruce in the world for pulp, technical reports showing that the pulp made from it is distinctly superior to that of Norway, and still more so when compared with Swedish, the superiority being attributed to the wood itself, which seems to mill better and to be of a tougher, as well as a finer, texture. With a million acres of fresh spruce opened up to the outer world, it may be safely predicted that such mills will spring up all along the new route and that the pulp business will be revolutionized."

**A DESTRUCTIVE CONSUMPTION.**

One factor in the pulp and paper business is not always recognized by the owners of spruce forests. When a pulp mill grinds up a million feet of logs into paper product, and the same is sold to the great newspaper corporations and printed upon day after day, that paper practically goes out of existence. Few think of saving a newspaper. The individual newspaper reader throws his paper after reading into the waste basket or kindles a fire with it, or it becomes the property of the old junk dealer, and practically passes out of existence. On the other hand, the piece of lumber which is manufactured goes into a substantial building, which lasts for generations. So that the great consumption of spruce for pulp and paper really amounts to so much raw material taken out of the market forever, and practically wasted so far as any subsequent use to which it may be applied is concerned.