

AN EXPORT DUTY ON PULP WOOD.

THE Toronto World has on several occasions previously given editorial attention to the question of imposing an export duty on Canadian pulp wood. Recently it has again given expression to its opinion upon the subject, and the article is most opportune. It is as follows:

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"A writer in The Canada Lumberman for November says the manufacture of pulp is destined to become the greatest industry that Canada has ever known. Canadians do not realize the magnitude that this industry might assume under favorable conditions. Canada can, and before long will, lead the world in the manufacture of pulp. We have in unlimited quantities the raw material that is necessary for the development of an enormous trade. The best wood for sulphite pulp manufacture can be bought in New Brunswick for \$2.75 a cord, whereas most American mills have to pay from \$7 to \$8 per cord. The difference in the price of pulp wood in the two countries is so great as to warrant our imposing a prohibitive export duty on the wood. The Americans will be forced to buy our pulp if they cannot purchase our pulp wood. An export duty of \$2 per cord would cause our exports to the United States to go out in the shape of pulp, worth \$12 per ton, instead of pulp wood, worth \$2.75 a cord. Even under the present unsatisfactory conditions the industry is making very fair headway in Canada. We can not only make the best pulp in the world, but we can now manufacture the machinery with which pulp mills are equipped. A new sulphite mill was erected in New Brunswick last summer, and it was fitted throughout with Canadian machinery, 'which started off without a hitch, making the finest fibre ever produced on this continent.' Those who intend going into the pulp industry can now obtain all the necessary machinery in Canada at lower prices than prevail in the United States. A thirty-ton sulphite mill can be built for \$140,000, whereas many of those now in operation have cost all the way from \$250,000 to \$800,000. Let the Government impose an export duty of \$2 per cord on pulp wood and the pulp industry of Canada will reach enormous proportions."

There is very little doubt that the election of Mr. McKinley as President of the United States removes the possibility of any present reduction in the tariff, even if it does not result in an increase. It means that the policy of protection will remain in force, and that, growing in strength by virtue of its success, the tendency will be to raise the tariff wall higher than ever. This forces upon the attention of our paper and pulp interests, the fact that the only hope of securing for Canadians the full benefit which they have a right to expect from their rich inheritance of forest wealth is to adopt the methods of their brethren to the south. The United States has long followed a policy, which in its practical operation is based upon the principle of assuring to its citizens the wages paid for the labor necessary and the profit on the work of converting the raw material into the finished article of commerce. In pursuance of this policy, a duty is imposed upon wood pulp entering into the United States, while the pulp wood from which the pulp is made is admitted free. Citizens of the United States have annually received profitable employment in the manufacture of pulp from wood grown in Canadian forests, while the Canadian workman has been looking on in idleness and despair. The Canadian Government by imposing an export duty on pulp wood will compel the work of grinding pulp to be done in Canada, and this will ultimately result in building up a great paper manufacturing industry for which our natural resources are eminently fitted.

The Canadian pulp manufacturers are united in their demand for an export duty. A gentleman prominent in pulp circles, and who enjoys the confidence of the whole trade, recently remarked to Paper and Pulp News: "As long as our Government and the people are willing to be 'hewers of wood'

to the United States the Canadian mills will always be subject to the serious handicap of the import duty in competing with the mills on the other side." The present appears to be a most favorable opportunity of pressing the claims not only of the pulp and paper industry, but also of the people of Canada, upon the consideration of the Government.

THE BRITISH MARKET.

LONDON—The use of American paper is frequently discussed in paper and printing circles, and prominent printers have declared that they found American paper very suitable for illustrated book work and the price decidedly in buyers' favor. The large printing firm of Hazel, Watson & Co., of London and the provinces, are receiving paper from Boston, and other publishing firms are giving special grades of American paper consideration.

Higher freights are giving more firmness to raw materials. Wood pulp continues to offer at low prices. Chemical pulp is also low, but sulphite is decidedly firmer, and quoted at £1 per ton above last month.

THE HOME MARKET.

The demand continues brisk and prices are fairly maintained. News varies from 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ c., and the mills are kept busy. In books and papers trade is brisk and prices fair. Complaints are still heard of the cutting of prices referred to last month by certain firms. There is a disposition evinced on the part of the manufacturers to branch out and cultivate an export trade. Attention in this respect is directed especially to the

PULP WOOD LIMITS FOR SALE

Very extensive pulp wood limits in
New Brunswick for sale.

They lie on each side of a river with unlimited water power. Shipments can be made by rail or ocean vessel.

The cost of cutting and delivering at the water's edge or on board cars is probably less than anywhere else in Canada.

The property is well worthy investigation by large operators. Further particulars on application. Address inquiries care of, Editor,



Canadian Paper and Pulp News

Board of Trade,

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