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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 trader in Canada information on which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present an accurate report 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 25 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.

TO VISITING LUMBERMEN.

Lumbermen visiting Toronto are invited to use the office of the CANADA LUMBERMAN as their own. We shall take pleasure in supplying them with every convenience for receiving and answering their correspondence, and hold ourselves at their service in any other way they may desire.

OUR REVIEW NUMBER.

FOLLOWING our custom in past years, the next issue of THE LUMBERMAN will contain the annual review of the lumber trade for the year 1897. This we desire to make even more complete than heretofore, and would ask the assistance of our readers to this end. In order to secure the required information, printed circulars have been mailed to a large proportion of the saw mill owners throughout the Dominion, and it is earnestly hoped that manufacturers will answer as many as possible of the enquiries and return the circular to this office at their earliest convenience.

Those who through inadvertence may not receive the circular are asked to send us particulars of the season's trade, including volume of output as compared with the previous year, quantity of lumber in stock, and such other information as will assist us in compiling a review which will be of interest and value to the trade generally. A copy of the circular will be sent on application to any manufacturer who may have failed to receive one. Whenever a wish is expressed that the name of the manufacturer should not appear in connection with the particulars supplied, the request will be complied with.

Manufacturers are asked not to confine their remarks to answering the questions asked in the circular, but to supplement these with any comment which they may feel disposed to offer regarding the season's trade and the outlook for the new year. By the kind assistance of lumbermen we hope to present in our February number a more complete review than ever before.

TIMBER POLICY OF THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT.

It was generally understood that the Ontario Legislature was convened earlier than usual this year for the purpose of dealing with the timber question, public sentiment having demanded that some action should be taken. In the speech from the throne on November 30th, the Lieutenant-Governor announced that among other measures to be submitted to the House would be a bill relating to timber and timber licenses. The question was also referred to at length by both the mover and seconder of the address, and the debate thereon continued for several days. Mr. Whitney, the leader of the Opposition, led a vigorous attack upon the Government for not having immediately announced its policy, his contention being that no saw-logs should be allowed to be exported from the country.

While this discussion was in progress, a deputation of Georgian Bay lumbermen interviewed the members of the Cabinet, reiterating their claims for the compulsory manufacture of the timber in Canada. By a report of this conference, published elsewhere in this number, it will be observed that the deputation urged that whenever conditions between the United States and Canada were equalized, then the Government should have power, by order-in-council, to remove the manufacturing clause.

The Government remained sphinx-like, and not an intimation was given as to what course was likely to be pursued. The report gained currency that an effort would be made to relieve the situation by imposing increased stumpage dues on all logs intended for export. This proved to be without foundation. The Opposition also claimed that the delay in presenting the bill was the result of a faint hope on the part of the Government that such reciprocal arrangements might be entered into between the authorities at Ottawa and Washington would relieve the Provincial Government of the necessity of providing a remedy.

When, therefore, on the 20th of December, the Government brought forward a bill which provides that all licenses issued after April 29th next shall contain a provision that the timber must be manufactured in Canada, it came somewhat in the nature of a surprise. That the bill will be passed by the House may be said to be certain, as from no direction is there reason to expect opposition. The firm and decisive stand taken by the Government must be commended, and will, we feel assured, meet with the approval of lumbermen in general. The application of the manufacturing clause to current licenses has some advocates, but the majority are free to admit that it would be an injustice to interfere with the present winter's log production. From statistics received it is shown that the cut by American operators has thus far only slightly exceeded that of last year, and the season is now

too far advanced to admit of any material increase.

The nature of the legislation is different in character from any heretofore adopted affecting the export of saw-logs. In some instances in the past a provision has been made at the time of the sale that the timber should be manufactured in Canada, but the present regulation provides that in future no timber shall be allowed to be taken out of the country in its raw state. Furthermore, no provision is made for changing the regulation by order-in-council, and it will therefore require another Act of Parliament to remove it from the Statute Book.

The legislation as framed at Washington has for years contained a retaliatory clause, by which it was hoped to retain free access to the timber of Canada, while at the same time compelling our manufacturers to pay a duty for the privilege of selling lumber in the United States market. We do not underestimate the value of this market to the lumbermen of Canada; on the other hand, we recognize the advantages of free interchange, but when it is presumed to so legislate as to place all the advantages on one side of the line, then the time for action here would seem to have arrived. The step that has now been taken may serve to bring our neighbors to a realization that there are mutual interests to be considered.

SPAIN AS A MARKET FOR CANADIAN LUMBER.

Mr. William Wyndham, consul at Barcelona, in a communication to the Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa, draws special attention to Spain as a possible market for Canadian lumber. The Spanish forests have been depleted, and supplies are now obtained from Russia, Norway and Sweden. It is gratifying to learn that this market has already received the attention of Canadian lumber shippers. During the past summer the first cargo to Spain was shipped from Quebec, and a second within the past month, while several smaller cargoes have gone forward from New Brunswick ports.

Particulars of only the first shipment from Quebec are to hand. The cargo consisted of 680 standards of 3-inch deals for Barcelona and 166 standards for Valencia, or a total of 1,675,080 feet. The freight from Quebec per standard of 1,980 feet was \$13.20 for deals and \$8.80 for ends, 9 feet and under. The deals were mostly 12 to 16 feet, and 3x6, 3x7, 3x8 and 3x9. The cargo for Barcelona was valued at \$13,810, the manifest value being given as \$15,677, and the 166 standards delivered at Quebec were invoiced at \$3,696. Although we have no particulars of the prices at which the goods were sold, it is believed that the venture proved quite satisfactory to the shippers, as the fact of another shipment being made would indicate. Next season further efforts will no doubt be made to capture this market.

A correspondent of the Northwestern Lumberman furnishes some information regarding freight rates and duties which may be of interest to intending shippers. Rates of freight to Barcelona from Russia and Norway and Sweden rule from \$9.75 to \$12.25 per standard, and from the United States about \$18. The customs duty on a cargo is three pesetas (59 cents) per cubic foot. The duties payable by ship are 4.875 pesetas (94 cents) when coming from Europe and 8.75