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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 trader 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.

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.

IMPORTS OF LUMBER INTO CANADA.

ACCORDING to figures published in the Northwestern Lumberman, and which appear to have been obtained from an official source, and must therefore be taken as correct, there were imported into Canada from the United States, during the year ended June 30th, 1897, over 58,000,000 feet of lumber, consisting of boards, deals and similar stock, having a valuation of \$809,250. These figures do not include the manufactures of wood, such as doors, blinds, furniture, etc., which represent an import value of more than one and one-half million dollars, or, to be exact, \$1,564,358.

Granting to the lumbermen and wood-workers of this country the same protection as is accorded the manufacturers of the United States, a right to which they are justly entitled, the duty of two dollars per thousand feet would practically retain the home market for Canadians, and the distribution of orders for some 58,000,000 feet, now supplied by United States manufacturers, would greatly tend to the betterment of their present position. It could scarcely be expected that

such a duty would exclude all American lumber, as such stock as walnut, mahogany, whitewood and oak would continue to be imported, but in such quantities as to be a small factor in the market.

It is refreshing to observe the sentiments expressed daily in favor of the utilization of home products in preference to those of foreign manufacture, for proof of which the reader is referred to the extracts from letters of piano manufacturers appearing on another page. In this industry whitewood is gradually being replaced by native woods.

The figures, \$1,564,358, as representing the value of manufactures of wood imported from the United States, show the importance of these industries, which may be classed as branches of the lumber trade, depending upon the product of the forest for their raw material. Does it not seem strange that Canada, with her vast timber resources, should import from the United States in one year manufactures of wood valued at more than one and one-half million dollars? The policy of allowing our raw materials to be exported, in many cases only to be manufactured into a finished product and shipped back to this country, is, we believe, responsible in a large measure for the position in which we find ourselves to-day.

Whether or not the Dominion government will place an import duty on lumber is, to say the least, problematical; certainly very little encouragement is found in a perusal of the budget speech, although the justice of the demands of the lumbermen in this respect is almost unanimously conceded. Replying to the financial statement, Hon. Mr. Foster expressed his regret that the government had not already taken some action to assist such an important industry. He pointed out that the present tariff arrangement was very unfair to Canadians. There is little reason to hope that any material change will be made in the near future in the United States duty on lumber; it therefore behooves our lumbermen to put forth every effort to increase the home demand, by promoting wood-working and furniture factories and similar establishments, and endeavoring to retain in Canada the two and one-half million dollars which are now sent annually to the United States.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE LUMBERMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

THE Lumbermen's Association of Ontario to-day exists in more than name only—it is now an active organization, and we hope we will not be considered too optimistic if we predict that in the near future it will become exceedingly useful in promoting the interests of the chief industry of the province. Since the formation of the association some years ago until recently, no questions were considered of such vital importance as to demand its special attention, the natural result being that the interest of the members in the welfare of the association gradually relaxed.

The developments of the past year have shown conclusively the necessity of always having an association in working order. While the action of the Ontario government in prohibiting the export of saw-logs after May next can undoubtedly be attributed to the influence of meetings of lumbermen held in Toronto, it cannot be disputed that there has also been felt the necessity for a

live provincial association. The circumstances which have necessitated prohibiting the export of saw-logs, as well as of imposing an import duty on American lumber, were the means of reviving the association. Matters of this character affect the trade in general, therefore it is to be hoped that lumbermen in every section of the province will see it to be to their interest to aid in building up the association, as a means of improving the condition of the lumber trade.

It augurs well for the immediate future of the association that its chief office is to be filled by Mr. John Bertram, a gentleman possessing in a high degree the qualifications of an efficient executive officer. In Messrs. Scott and Edwards the association have also two able vice-presidents.

A word as to the hardwood trade. There exists (as shown by letters received at this office) a strong sentiment in favor of some organization of hardwood lumbermen, whether it be in connection with the Lumbermen's Association of Ontario or as a separate body. To our mind, the formation of a separate association is the least desirable. As the existing association is intended to include manufacturers of lumber of all kinds, it would certainly be more advantageous to have one strong association than two smaller and weaker ones. It might be found desirable to form a hardwood section of the present association, and on this the CANADA LUMBERMAN solicits the views of the hardwood trade. The fee has been reduced to five dollars for the first year and two dollars for each succeeding year, the object being to secure a greatly increased membership. The secretary has issued a circular to lumbermen, requesting them to join the association, to which both hardwood and pine manufacturers should respond at once.

In a letter received previous to the recent meeting, a well-known hardwood manufacturer says:

"I hope a hardwood section will be organized, so that the entire lumber interest will be represented by this association. The hardwood men when left to themselves do not appear to be strong or energetic enough to organize for their own protection, and they are consequently forced to submit to occasional arbitrary rulings in the shape of increased freight rates of the most absurd nature. I trust you will continue to remind the lumbermen of the necessity of embracing the hardwood interests in the association."

Another correspondent of the LUMBERMAN, referring to the meeting, says:

"We are pleased to see the association re-organized, and hope that by the time we have another meeting we will have enough of the hardwood mill men interested that a few of them will attend and join our association. We think that if the association numbered hundreds instead of twenty, our voice as an association would be listened to and its influence felt, as was demonstrated last fall in reference to the export of pine logs. We would like you to drum up the hardwood mill men, and endeavor to induce them to join, as we believe there is work to be done in the interest of the hardwood trade that cannot be done by individuals nearly so well as through the association."

These and similar letters show that the movement in favor of organization is growing among the hardwood manufacturers.