

**Lumber Cuttings.**

J. R. Sutherland, lumber dealer, Winnipeg, contemplates opening a branch yard at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

Lee & Snyder, who have a saw mill at Goldstream, near Victoria, B. C., will establish a sash and door factory at Victoria.

The duty on Lumber imported into Canada is twenty-five per cent. on finished or partly finished lumber, and twenty per cent. on rough.

Cooks lumber yard, at Serpent River, with 50,000,000 feet of green lumber, has been burned. Serpent River is in the Sault Ste. Marie district of Eastern Algoma. The saw mill was saved.

The Columbia River Lumber Company, of Donald, B. C., has about 220 men taking out timber at the Blueberry, and also two camps within a mile of Donald, putting in logs to be sawed at the Beaver mills.

Men have been sent out by Capt. Robinson, to Moose Creek, Lake Winnipeg, to get out logs for next season's operations at the mill owned by him at that place. It is reported nearly double the quantity of logs will be taken out at that point this winter, as compared with last.

The last Manitoba Gazette contains a notice of application for the incorporation of the Western Lumber Company of Winnipeg, with headquarters in Winnipeg, and a capital of \$50,000. The applicants are W. B. Scarth, W. E. Macara, and A. Burrows, Winnipeg; A. Shields and John Montgomery, of Toronto.

The barkentine, William Renton, from San Francisco, will take on a cargo of rough and dressed lumber from the Royal City Planing Mills, New Westminster, B.C., for Adelaide, Australia. Arrangements have also been made whereby another ship will probably load a little later. The mills have been running night and day for some time past, and the arrival of these ships will necessitate still more rapid work.

J. Kean, Sr., and J. F. Ritchie have been awarded a contract, says the Lethbridge News, by the Northwest Coal & Navigation Company for getting out timber on the limits near the Crow's Nest Pass. The contract calls for between 50,000 and 100,000 railway ties, 50,000 mining props and a quantity of saw logs. The contract involves between \$50,000 and \$60,000. For the last year or so the timber for the Company has been got out in the mountains near Banff and brought there by rail.

The lumber cut on Lake Winnipeg for the present season is estimated as follows by a lumberman doing business on Lake Winnipeg:

	Feet.
Brown & Rutherford	1,250,000
Selkirk Lumber Company	2,000,000
Jonassen & Co	1,000,000
Brouse & Co	500,000
Capt. Robinson	1,000,000
Total	5,750,000

This is about 2,000,000 feet under last year.

Lumber dealers in the interior of British Columbia have for a long time been kicking against the freight rates charged by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company on lumber shipments eastward from their mills. Last spring the railway company reduced the freight

rates from both the interior and coast mills, five cents per 100 pounds, to all points eastward as far as Regina from the mountain mills, and as far east as Winnipeg from the coast mills. It is now claimed by the railway people that the lumber manufacturers have advanced the price of lumber, to cover the reduced freight rate, thus taking the advantage of the lower rate themselves, instead of using it to extend their eastern trade, as it was previously claimed was their desire for lower rates.

Several Winnipeg dealers are in the toils, charged by the customs department with undervaluation of lumber imported from Minnesota. Several seizures of lumber here have been made. It is alleged that two sets of invoices have been used. If this is true, it will probably appear that the way of the transgressor is hard. It appears that invoices have been shown to the customs officials giving the cost of lumber in the rough, while the dealers here have been billed in a separate invoice for the cost of dressing the lumber. Some of the lumbermen claim that they thought this was perfectly legitimate, but other dealers here who were forwarded two sets of invoices, by the parties from whom they purchased in Minnesota, sent both sets of invoices to the customs people. This probably led to the detection of the frauds. It is said that no less than five dealers are implicated. Query—Is it less dishonest to endeavor to beat the Government or a railway corporation than it is to cheat a private individual.

The telegrams from Washington, and published in St. Paul papers, regarding the stealing of timber off lands in Minnesota, along the Rainy River, by Canadians, is simply wilful lying throughout. The telegram makes it appear that Canadian lumbermen, who own the mills on the Lake of the Woods, are the deprecators. The whole thing sounds like the loud-mouthed talk of some virulent, petty Yankee official, who greatly overestimates the importance of his position. The Canadian mill owners do not and have not stolen Minnesota timber. What they do is to buy logs from contractors and others who own timber lands on the Minnesota side. If any timber is stolen off Indian or government land in Minnesota, along the Rainy River, it is stolen by citizens of the United States. The Canadian mill men, who purchase the logs from the parties claiming to be lawful owners thereof, are not in the least responsible for any trespasses. It would be very easy for a citizen of the United States, owning a timber limit in the district, to trespass on adjoining lands, while cutting timber on his own property, and the Canadian mill men, to whom the timber is sold, are not in any way responsible for such thefts. But to talk of Canadian lumbermen taking outfits into Minnesota and stealing timber by the million feet, is simply rot. If this lying Yankee official was as anxious to correct the abuses he complains of, as he is to stir up a little strife, he would put the blame upon the right shoulders, namely, citizens of his own country, and not cast reproach upon the honor of the Lake of the Woods lumbermen.

M. WILSON, blacksmith, Newbury, Man., will move to Gladstone.

**Insurance Briefs.**

The death of Alex. Ramsay, jr., of Hamilton, superintendent of agencies of the Canada Life and a well known insurance man, has been announced.

The appointment of Elms Steele as cashier of the Manufacturers' Insurance company for Manitoba, the Territories and British Columbia is announced.

Mr. Miller, the general manager of the North American Life Insurance company, was in the city last week, afterwards proceeding to the Pacific coast.

W. Scott, formerly provincial manager, has been appointed general western manager of the Manufacturers' Life Assurance company for a term of five years.

J. B. Somerset, who retires from the position of Protestant Superintendent of Education for Manitoba, has accepted the general agency of the Confederation Life Assurance Association for Manitoba, duties to commence on Nov. 1st. Life insurance seems to be drawing some of the best men in the country, and it is a business which is rapidly expanding, and its importance is daily augmenting.

A question of much interest to insurance men and more particularly to companies founded on the assessment plan has just arisen. According to the law they have to be incorporated by the provincial government and obtain a certificate from the Dominion government before they can commence business. Recently the Home Benefit and Life Insurance company applied to the Ontario government and received a charter of incorporation. Application was then made to the Dominion government for the usual certificates but it was refused on the ground that the society's incorporation was illegal. This has resulted in something like a panic amongst the assessment companies, who have now retained Hon. William McDougall to look after their interests. The Minister of Justice gave his opinion that these companies cannot be incorporated under the Ontario Act and consequently the certificate referred to was refused. The other companies doing a similar business have also been notified that unless they obtain proper legislation during the winter these certificates would not be renewed. They will require a federal act to make them legally constituted companies.

**Dairy Matters.**

Several of the best factories at Belleville, Ont., have been offered 11½¢ for their September's and October's, but they declined. Board meetings are over for the season.

Arrangements have been made to hold a convention in Winnipeg under the auspices of the Manitoba Dairy Association, on the 28th and 29th of this month. A good meeting is expected.

The Manitou Mercury says: Another shipment of cheese from the Manitou factory to Grant & Horn, Winnipeg, was made a few days ago. The consignment consisted of 21,000 pounds, and the price received was 9½¢ per lb. at the factory here. This price is equal to 16¢ per lb. for butter.