

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN.

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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interest of the lumber trade and 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 of them 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 trade in Canada information upon which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present 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 effecting 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 ten cents per line for each insertion. Announcements of this character will be subject to a discount of 25 per cent. if ordered for three 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.

MOST of the lumbering business in British Columbia is being carried on in and around Vancouver, Victoria and New Westminster, the great bulk of the timber manufactured there being exported to other countries. There are a few small saw and planing mill plants scattered in different parts of the province, engaged in manufacturing timber for home consumption; but these plants will be largely augmented, particularly in places where transportation facilities are limited, providing the manufacturers of wood-working machinery would furnish small outfits at prices within the reach of men of limited means. In view of the rapidity with which the Western portion of the province is being settled, and the advantageous terms upon which good timber lands can be leased, it is to us a matter of surprise that manufacturers of saw and planing mill machinery have not paid more attention to the furnishing of small outfits. There are hundreds of locations where little saw mills could be erected and a good paying business done; and a planing mill that will do efficient work on all material used in the construction of country dwellings, &c., and that could be put up and run by men of limited means, would find a ready sale where now no machines are used.

LUMBERING is about over and the condition of the business is as satisfactory as could be well desired. What is wanted now is a good supply of water. Though late in commencing, the winter has been a favorable one for operations in the woods. A large quantity of timber has been prepared for sawing and export purposes, at a less cost probably than for some years past, and large sales of the cut have been made in the differ-

ent districts at considerably enhanced prices over those of last year. There is a demand by Americans for white spruce, cut in four foot lengths, for making wood pulp. The boom in shipbuilding in England and Scotland opens up a demand for white oak, and as negotiations for the purchase of all the land required for the Manchester Ship Canal scheme have been completed, the work will be pushed forward with renewed vigor and an immense amount of timber will be required for that stupendous undertaking. The trade with South American and Australian ports bids fair to be larger than usual. From all directions we hear of active preparations being made for a large cut the coming season, and upon the whole the future prospect of the timber trade is anything but gloomy.

THE forests of the world so far as ascertained, comprise 1,201½ million acres, Russia leading the nations with an acreage of 485 millions, or more than one-third greater than Canada and the United States combined. Although Canada is looked upon to a great extent by the outside world as a nation of forests, though it comprises a greater land area than the United States, yet its acreage of forests is two million less than that of the United States. The acreage of the world, leaving out Russia, is distributed as follows: United States, 176 million acres; Canada, 174; Brazil, 135; Scandinavia, 63; Australia, 46; Gran Chaco, 37; Germany, 33; France, 23; Italy, 11; Spain and Portugal, 8; Algeria, 6; United Kingdom, 2; Netherlands, 1½. Since 1848 the French have converted 9 million acres of waste land into forests, producing about \$2 an acre. Paris burns the timber of 50,000 acres yearly, requiring an area of 1 million acres to keep up the supply. In the United States 10,000 acres are cut daily, or 3 million per annum. There were 15,000 saw mills in the United States and 640 in Canada in 1882. It is stated that in Asia Minor there is not a board of any sort, or even a plank or beam ever sawed there by any other power but that of the human hands.

THE Forestry Inspector's Report for the Province of British Columbia, for the year ending December 31st, 1888, gives the number of saw mills in the Province at 24 in operation and one in course of construction. Twenty-six timber leases have been granted up to the beginning of the present year, comprising 135,063 acres. The annual rentals at which these leases were granted amount to \$15,074.73, from which is deducted the annual rentals, as revised by the Land Act of 1888, which amount to \$5,540.83, making the reduction or amount realized \$9,533.00. The quantity of timber cut during the first half of 1888, is given at 31,868,384. 10,939,040 of which was cut from Crown Lands, 8,169,067 from timber leaseholds, 9,429,365 from timber limits and 3,332,352 from private property. The royalty from this product amounted to \$12,675.59 from which is deducted a rebate from timber exported of \$3,051.40, making the net revenue derived \$9,624.19. This statement, says the Inspector, while showing all the timber upon which royalty is payable, would have been more valuable for statistical purposes had the returns received from the various saw mills been more complete—had they contained more particulars of all timber cut from leaseholders not subject to the payment of royalty, and of all timber cut from Dominion lands and private property, thus enabling such particulars to have been included. It is satisfactory to note that from present appearances and circumstances, there is a prospect of a very considerable increase in the timber business of the Province taking place in the immediate future, as both Eastern and local capital is being directed and invested

in the lumber industry. An extensive saw mill is now being built on the eastern confines of the City of Vancouver, and still more extensive saw mills are being erected on the Fraser River above New Westminster.

THE interests of capital and labor are not necessarily antagonist, but they are often made so. To remove the friction between them various methods have been resorted to, but none have proved to be more successful than the arrangement which some employers have entered into, that of providing a bonus fund to be taken from the proceedings of certain branches of operations to be divided annually with the employes proportionately to the amount of each man's earnings. Some time ago Messrs. John Bertram & Sons, manufacturers of wood-working machinery, machine tools, &c., of Dundas, Ont. entered into an agreement of this kind with his foreman, as representing his employes. It was stipulated in the agreement that in case any employe absented himself without permission, unless on account of sickness, he should forfeit twenty five cents for every day he was absent, the amount to be deducted from his share of the fund, and, should he leave without a month's notice, he should forfeit his share. The system has been in force for nine months, and recently the first distribution was made. The fund amounted to almost \$1,200, and the amounts received by each employe, including apprentices, ranged from \$25 to \$50. Both parties to the arrangement have expressed themselves as well satisfied with the result. Other firms, with which we are acquainted, who have followed this system for years express themselves as eminently satisfied with this method of treating with their employes, as it secures to them a good class of men, and besides, it has proved to them far more remunerative.

UNDER the amended Land Act of the Province of British Columbia, leases of unpreempted Crown Lands may be granted by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council for a term not to exceed thirty years, to any person or corporation duly authorized for the purpose of cutting spars, timber or lumber, and actually engaged in these pursuits, subject to the payment of an annual rental of ten cents per acre, and a royalty of fifty cents per thousand feet on the scaled measurement of the logs cut on the leased premises, provided, however, that any person may hereafter acquire a preemption claim to or upon any part of such leased land by complying with the requirements of the Act. The preemptor is only entitled during the term of the lease, to cut such timber as he may require for use upon his claim, and if he cuts timber on the said land for sale, or for any purpose other than for such uses, or for the purpose of clearing the said land, he forfeits all interest in the land acquired by him, and his claim shall be cancelled by the Commissioner. It further provides that the lease shall contain provisions binding the lessee to erect in some part of the Province, as may be approved of by the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, a lumber mill capable of cutting not less than 1,000 feet of lumber per day of twelve hours for each and every four hundred acres of land included in such lease. "Crown Lands" mean lands which are the public lands of the Province, and do not include lands held under lease. Every lessee of timber land, and every person owning or operating a mill which may cut timber which is subject to the royalty imposed is required to keep correct books of account of all logs brought to his mill, stating from whom they were acquired, where they were cut, the date received and their scale measurement, and make monthly returns to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works showing the measurement of such logs, and such other particulars