

APPENDIX No. 6

business any other man could buy from him, it is a matter for each individual to decide whether they will buy from him or not.

Q. But doesn't it work out this way, that if he is not kept on the harmonious list he will not get the business ?

By Mr. Herron :

Q. I have right here a list of letters, I suppose twenty of them, from all over, which prove most conclusively the very thing you are talking about at the present moment, that is that a man cannot buy lumber unless members of this association.

Mr. KNOWLES.—What dates are they ?

By Mr. Herron :

Q. January, February and March, 1906. Now, here is what I take to be the tail end of a very important letter, I would judge it to be so, I would consider it very important in view of what we have heard. It is signed by George P. Wells, who is the secretary-treasurer of the Mountain Lumber Manufacturers' Association. I am sorry I have not the first page of the letter, but this part of it reads as follows :—

'to whom to ship. It is very important that I be supplied promptly with a full list, and also additions to your membership as they occur. If this is done I think that I can assure you that all of our members will restrict their shipments to recognized dealers, and any mill not doing so will be dealt with in a businesslike manner, upon being reported and verified.

'I understand that the Pioneer Lumber Company of Moosejaw have purchased a considerable amount of lumber from the Sparwood Lumber Company. The latter are not members of any manufacturers' association, and consequently should be eliminated from your purchasing list. If the former firm are members of your association, action should be taken against them in this matter.'

Now, here are a whole lot of letters backwards and forwards between Mr. Wells, secretary of the Mountain Mills Association, and Mr. Cockburn, secretary of the Retailers' Association, and every word of them is just along that line ; that they will not sell to men unless they are members of the Retail Association and recommended by your association ?—A. That letter as you read it does not say 'recognized dealers' ?

Q. Well, it says 'recognized dealers,' but these other letters go further and state that they must be members of your association ?—A. Well, that is not the case because there exists a great number of lumber yards that are able to buy lumber. This man that I spoke of to-day, Mr. Shields, has twenty lumber yards. He keeps a supply of lumber, and I think he can buy lumber just as freely from any mill as any member of the association. That was the pronouncement at the time this Whyte episode occurred ; that they would sell to any recognized dealer regardless of their membership in the association, and I think that they have adhered to that.

By the Chairman :

Q. The evidence is all the other way unfortunately ?—A. Well, if so—

By Mr. Crocket :

Q. I called your attention this afternoon Mr. Sprague to a resolution that was passed in 1906 ?—A. Yes.

Q. It is in the minutes produced that resolutions were passed against sales to non-members of the association ?—A. Well, I will grant you this : I would like to have every retail dealer a member of the association.

The CHAIRMAN.—You pretty nearly have them all.

The WITNESS.—We had not anything to do with outside dealers, with dealers who are not members.