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Necessity to Co-operate in Export Lumber Trade

Organized Effort on the Part of Canadian Lumbermen Needed to Take Full Advantage of Export Trade Opportunities—Campaign of United States Lumber Interests.

Under the caption "Canadian Lumbermen Should Get Together," the Weekly Bulletin, of the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, issues the following call. It should be borne in mind that the lumber interests of the United States are presenting a united front in their attempt to avail themselves to the full of the great overseas demand for lumber that is at present arising and that in the opinion of those who have made a close study of the situation will arise on the coming of peace. It is undoubtedly true that the Dominion will benefit from the United States' propoganda in world lumber markets yet to get the full benefit, Canadian lumbermen must undertake a co-operative campaign alongside of that being carried on in the United States. The article follows:

Canadian lumbermen in all the provinces of the Dominion should get together and concert measures for the efficient disposal of their products in the wide opening markets of the world. There will be an immense demand for lumber in Europe during the reconstruction period following the war. Why should not Canadian lumbermen get their share of this trade? In Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, China, the West Indies and South America there are opportunities for the sale of Canadian lumber awaiting organized efforts on the part of the great lumber interests.

As a result of a conference between the various lumber manufacturing organizations of the United States and representatives of the United States Government, a corps of experts will start for Europe early in November to study the conditions of the lumber market likely to prevail during the reconstruction period following the war. The expedition is being largely financed by the lumbermen themselves.

Before taking up the question of how to organize the American lumber industry to best secure the great volume of foreign lumber business that must come to the United States even before the European war ends, there are some detailed reports given of the conditions abroad by the varied interested organizations, as well as from govern-

mental agencies. These conditions were briefly summarized as follows:

Belgium.—Forests entirely destroyed, the nation so wrecked physically and financially that it will have to be entirely rebuilt, and this rebuilding will have to be financed by the major powers.

France.—Northern France must be rebuilt, enormous distances of railroad lines laid, with a consequent demand beyond estimate of quantity for railroad ties, sleepers and lumber to entirely rebuild the farm buildings, villages and cities of northern France. This need will be definite, regardless of the outcome of the present war.

England.—Its forests, as well as those of Scotland, denuded, the supply of lumber already exhausted, and imported lumber needed for all future building, until new forests grow to take the place of the timber cut for war purposes.

Italy.—The supply of timber is gone, used in war operations, either for Italy herself or her allies, and great quantities in immediate demand.

Spain.—The forests cut, and the lumber sold to warring nations.

Germany.—No estimate made of conditions, but the need only less than that of the allied powers in proportion to the extent to which the German Government has foreseen the future and prepared to meet the emergency by the holding of great tracts as public forest.

Russia.—Has great supplies of standing timber, Baltic pine chiefly, but not during the war, at least, available to the other

allies and even after peace is declared not suited to the demand, owing to its lower quality.

To secure this business, it was declared to be only necessary for the American lumbermen to go after the trade systematically, with an advance knowledge of the needs of the various nations, and the securing of information as to the markets and business practices. It was stated that the French Government has already offered to buy enormous quantities of railroad timber, on twelve months' interest-bearing notes.

Mr. John E. Rhodes, secretary of the Southern Pine Association which sent a representative abroad several months ago, told the conference that the reports received indicated that the demand for lumber would be beyond be-

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