

CANADIAN HOO-HOOS.

In the United States there is a society called the Hoo-Hoo, it being a social order composed almost exclusively of lumbermen. It was organized in 1861, and has since grown to considerable proportions, having a total membership of about 6,000. Some time ago the first branch of this society in Canada was formed in Vancouver, B.C., and on November 12th last another Canadian branch was organized in Winnipeg. A number of officers of the order from Minneapolis and vicinity, including Platt B. Walker, jr., the Snark, or great chief, visited that city, and initiated the following candidates into the mysteries of the society:

Richard Dignity Vigars, Vigars Bros., Port Arthur, Ont.

Arthur Frederick Ernest Phillips, Brunette Saw Mill Co., Winnipeg, Man.

Henry Scoots Burns, G. B. Housser & Co., Winnipeg, Man.

George Oliver Aulsebrook, Brown & Rutherford, Winnipeg, Man.

John Malcolm Chisholm, Dick, Banning & Co., Winnipeg, Man.

George Welgord Campbell, B. C. Mills, Timber and Trading Co., Winnipeg, Man.

John Campbell Graham, Rat Portage Lumber Co., Winnipeg, Man.

Theodore Arthur Burrows, Winnipeg, Man.

Gideon Boyd Housser, G. B. Housser & Co., Portage la Prairie, Man.

Robert Hugh O'Hara, Barclay & O'Hara, Brandon, Man.

Daniel Boyce Sprague, D. E. Sprague, Winnipeg, Man.

John Dick, Dick, Banning & Co., Winnipeg, Man.

Douglass Cameron, Rat Portage Lumber Co., Rat Portage, Ont.

Magnus Stockholm Eshjornsson, Abbott Bros., St. Paul, Minn.

After the ceremony was completed an adjournment was taken to the Holmes restaurant, where an excellent banquet was participated in. Short addresses were made by all present, and the most cordial and friendly relations established between those who, while living in different countries, have many interests in common.

The appointment of a vicegerent for Manitoba was referred to the newly initiated members, and John C. Graham was univously selected for that honor. Mr. Graham is one of the representative lumbermen of the province, a genial gentleman and a general favorite.

MAKING CLOTHESPINS.

THERE are probably very few people outside the trade who know anything concerning the vast number of clothespins that are annually required to supply the millions of housekeepers throughout the United States. It is estimated that as many as 50,000,000 dozen, or 600,000,000 single pins, are manufactured in eastern and western factories every year. Clothespins are made principally of beech and maple. Blocks of this wood are fed to a very ingenious and exceedingly rapid-running machine, which has three separate compartments. One of these cuts a block up into a dozen or more pieces, each of which is suitable for forming a pin. It next seizes and cuts the "crutle," or place that is to grip the wash on the clothesline, and the final operation turns the neck and head of the pins and smoothes and finishes them off by the bushel, ready for use. The pins are then packed into boxes, each containing 720, and the boxes are then nailed up by another labor-saving machine, ready for the market.

THE LATE MR. F. S. RATHBUN.

In lumber circles in Canada no name is more familiar than The Rathbun Company, of Deseronto, Ont. Widespread grief will therefore be felt at the death of Mr. F. S. Rathbun, one of the active partners and treasurer of the company, who was called away on the morning of November 26th, his death being due to heart failure. He appeared in the best of health and spirits the previous evening, arose in the morning at his usual time, and went to his dressing room, where he suddenly expired. His death is indeed a great loss to his relatives, the Rathbun Company, and the community at large.

Frederic Sherwood Rathbun was the son of the late Hugo Burghardt Rathbun, the founder of the Rathbun Company, and brother of Mr. E. W. Rathbun, the manager of the company. He was born in Deseronto on January 26th, 1856, and was one of a family of ten children, of whom four survive. He attended school in New York city, and at the early age of sixteen entered the office of H. B. Rathbun & Son, subsequently taking the duties of accountant in that firm.



THE LATE MR. F. S. RATHBUN.

When it became incorporated as the Rathbun Company, he was appointed secretary-treasurer of that great business organization. The position was one of great responsibility. His ready tact, prompt decision and wonderfully methodical arrangement of duties enabled him to perform the difficult task in a manner which won the admiration of all. He was always approachable by the members of the office staff, and secured their confidence, respect and loyal support. He was a thorough man of business, giving his close attention to the management of the department immediately under his supervision, and with every detail of which he was conversant. He was closely identified with the general management of the extensive business of the company, and in this respect his loss may be said to be irreparable, Mr. E. W. Rathbun losing in him a wise counsellor and strong right arm, as well as an affectionate brother.

In addition to his position in the Rathbun Company, deceased was also treasurer of the Bay of Quinte Railway Company, president and treasurer of the Oshawa Electric Railway Company, treasurer of the Thousand Islands Railway

Company, treasurer of the North American Telegraph Company, president of the Deseronto News Company, and treasurer of the Muskoka Slide and Boom Company. He avoided publicity, but nevertheless always took a deep interest in the affairs of the country, and more particularly in the town of Deseronto. He especially interested himself in educational affairs, being a member of the High School board.

Mr. Rathbun held the position of treasurer of Deseronto ever since it was incorporated as a town. He was postmaster of Millpoint and Deseronto for twenty years, and gave much attention to the proper management of the office. He was fond of yachting, boating, bicycling, and all kinds of manly sports, was for several years captain of the Deseronto Canoe and Boat Club, and, it will be remembered, held for one year the honorable position of Commodore of the American Canoe Association. He was very firm and constant in his friendships, and in his intercourse with men of business he was regarded as the soul of honor; hence the sorrow for his loss in such an extended circle of friends.

In religion Mr. Rathbun was a Presbyterian, being a trustee and a member of the board of managers of the Church of the Redeemer. On October 23rd, 1877, he married Miss Jean McMurrich, daughter of the late Hon. John McMurrich, of Toronto; three children survive him. His funeral was made the occasion of a spontaneous expression of respect for the dead and sympathy for the bereaved.

HOW FLAG STICKS ARE MADE.

THE little sticks to which flags are attached are produced automatically by an ingenious machine recently invented for the purpose. By the old methods of manufacture it would hardly be possible to supply the demand, and certainly not at the remarkably low price at which this machine turns them out. Under the old method each stick was rounded separately, and the operation was very tedious and slow. By means of the new invention the whole board is fed into the machine. These boards are first sawed into the length of the finished stick. There are two sets of cutters, one cutting on the top and the other on the bottom of the board. These cutters are especially shaped, the upper cutter cutting one-half the circle of the finished stick, the lower cutter cutting the other half, and this is done so nicely that when the board has passed the cutters it is cut into finished round sticks, each separate from the other, and each so nicely rounded that the meeting point of the two sets of cutters cannot be observed. After leaving the machine, the finished sticks drop into a large box or hopper, and are then stacked up ready for the flags. The machine is made so that it will cut any size of stick, from the very smallest up to any diameter desired, by simply changing the cutters on the cutting mandrels. The machines are arranged so that these cutters can be removed from the mandrels very readily, and new cutters can be put in place in about a minute's time. The upper and lower cutters are placed in an almost vertical plane, so they will cut the stick at almost the same time, and after the sticks leave the cutters they are fed into circular grooves before they leave the machine, so that each separate stick is held firmly in place and a smooth cut ensured.—Invention.