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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interests of the lumber trade and of 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 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 on which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present an 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 affecting 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 15 cents per line for each insertion. Announcements of this character will be subject to a discount of 25 per cent. if ordered for four 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.

EXPORT LUMBER FIELDS.

WITH lumber holding a position as one of the richest of our natural resources, it is well that we should consider all possible fields of outlet for this product. We state a very simple truism, when we say that the main market for Canadian lumber is to be found abroad, and not at home. Already large quantities of lumber from this country find their way, not only to the United States and Great Britain, but to Australia, South America, China, Japan, the West Indies and other points. But with the wealth that we possess in this direction and the high character of our forest products, there is no reason why our field of exports should in any way be "cabin'd, cribb'd or confin'd" to any particular territory.

A recent publication issued by the State Department of the United States shows to what a wide extent the lumber of North America is valued by the peoples of almost all parts of the world. We are told that nearly all the building lumber imported by Africa comes from North America; that Japan buys it, and that no other lumber enters South American ports. In Samoa 4c. a foot is paid for real Oregon pine and California red wood. Australia buys \$1,000,000 worth every year, and would, it is said, take as much more if it could be bought readily. The great difficulty is one of transportation.

This pamphlet points out that the principal rivals of the United States in the world's lumber trade are Canada and Norway, excepting England, where Russia and Germany are competitors and in Austria, which is supplied by countries on the Mediterranean.

This information indicates very clearly that there is hardly a point where, all other things being equal, Canadian lumber may not find a market. So far as white pine is concerned, it is known by everyone, who has studied the question, that Ontario possesses the most desirable white pine to be found in any country. When a reference is made to Oregon pine, or to the redwoods of California, it has been demonstrated beyond any question that in British Columbia we have parallel woods to these, in Douglas fir and red cedar, which have a preference even by experts in the United States, over their own timber.

The entry of Canadian woods into foreign countries will be helped in so far as satisfactory commercial treaties may be made with foreign nations. Whilst some prejudice has existed in France against Canadian and United States woods, it is known that from the lower provinces considerable quantities of pine, spruce and oak are exported to France, and with the new treaty just consummated between Canada and that country an impetus ought to be given to the lumber trade with France.

The completion of the Nicaragua canal will, in point of transportation, be a great help to the export lumber trade of British Columbia.

The figures given in the official paper of the United States, to which we have here referred, do not fairly represent the division of lumber products from North America as between Canada and the United States, and the error is one that is sometimes repeated by our own press. We refer to the fact, pointed out in these columns only two months ago, that many shipments of lumber, as well as other exports from Canada to foreign markets, sent in bond through the United States, are credited altogether to the latter country. Our government cannot too speedily see that this error is rectified.

TARIFF CONDITIONS OF THE MONTH.

No new developments in tariff matters, as affecting lumber, have shown themselves since our review of the situation a month ago. Senators at Washington continue to wrangle over the Wilson Bill, and the developments of the past week would indicate that legislation has reached a dead-lock, extrication from which may not be easy, and will possibly lead to the complete destruction of the Wilson Bill. The Senate and the House of Congress can find no common ground of cleavage. The sugar question would seem to be the serious bone of contention, but out of it grow issues touching other phases of the tariff. A House and Senate favorable to free trade were supposed to have been elected a year ago, but it looks as though Democratic free traders were just as thoroughly saturated with protection principles as could possibly be the most straight-out Republican. Self interest is evidently the governing motive with the majority of these legislators, and it is the old story of each one being influenced according as whether it is his own ox or his neighbor's ox, that will be gored. The most hopeful feature of the case, viewing the question from the point of view of free trade, and it is here that lumbermen are most interested, is found in the resolute stand taken by President Cleveland, and reflected in a letter to Mr. Wilson on the dead-lock. His intimation is clear that unless some reasonable attempt is made to stand by the election pledges of the Presidential year he will veto any bill that is too absurdly inconsistent. While legislators are making uncertain the future course of the lumber trade, lumbermen in different parts of the country are discussing the outlook. Southern lumbermen are opposing free lumber in any shape with the utmost energy. Saw-mill and planing-mill men in the east appear to have made up their minds to accept free lumber so far as rough lumber is concerned, but the voice of other sections is expressed in the resolution of the Buffalo Lumber Exchange in placing themselves on record as opposed to the free admission from Canada of dressed lumber. It is not alone, however, United States lumbermen who fear that their interests may be injured by free lumber. From what we have to say elsewhere it will be noted that British Columbia lumbermen are not so sure that free lumber will be a good thing for them. A boom is on in the Rainy Lake section of Minnesota, and a local journal there points out what a benefit it will be to that territory to receive all the Canadian cut timber free of any duty. There is also this feature of the case when we consider the possibility of Michigan lumbermen establishing mills on the Canadian side. Some of these say, and with a good deal of force, that even though they are American citizens they have invested their capital in timber in Canada and if the plan seems the most practicable, why should they not saw this timber near their own limits in place of rafting it many miles with all the attendant risks?

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

A CRITICAL time with men of commerce is when their business is developing rapidly. Few things are more difficult than for a man to hold in the reins when he seems to see an opportunity to expand his business. The trouble just here is that in this expansion so many men bite off more than they can chew. We have seen abundant illustration of this in the past year or two of financial depression, when the record has proven that it is the big concerns that have been doing the risky business and little concerns the safest business, and paying their bills the quickest.

THE destruction by fire of Mr. J. R. Booth's large mill at Ottawa has created a blank in Canadian saw-milling, that cannot easily be filled. The hope is that Mr. Booth, who is known to be a man of enterprise and courage, will see his way to rebuild, but from what is stated by our Ottawa correspondent, it seems to be among the possibilities that this step may not be taken. The loss in the meantime is a serious one from whatever point of view we consider the recent disaster. It is computed that directly, as between the total loss and the full amount of insurance, Mr. Booth will suffer to the extent of not less than \$100,000. This, however, is but one small part of the loss. A large season's cut was before him and the profits on this must necessarily be sacrificed now. About 1000 workmen are thrown out of employment. Then come the lumber jobbing firms, who had placed their orders with Mr. Booth for supplies with which to fill their orders this season. These in turn are going to suffer a loss. That the valuable water power that has operated the Booth mills can long remain idle is hardly to be expected, but the universal wish and hope is that none other than Mr. Booth himself will utilize this.

RAFTING operations in the vicinity of French River are being carried on with not a little activity this season, despite the depression in the lumber market. It is given out, that there are 8,000,000 ft. of logs in the different drives, on the way down. These in the main are as follows: Moore Lumber Co., Bay City, Mich., three rafts; Hardy Lumber Co., Alpena, Mich., four or five rafts; Beck Lumber Co., Penetanguishene, Ont., four rafts; Ontario Lumber Co., French River, 5,000,000 ft.; A. T. Bliss & Co., Saginaw, Mich., one raft; Emery & Holland Lumber Co., Tawas and Bay City, Mich., have a jam of 14 miles on the Wahnapiatae, which will make ten rafts; in all about 14 rafts. Rafts representing, probably, 60,000,000 ft. have already left the north shore this season for Michigan. The high water in the district has been favorable to the taking out of logs and it is not anticipated that there will be any logs "tied up." Lumber in considerable quantities is to be found at various piling grounds along the north shore waiting a market. The Ontario Lumber Co., have, it is said, in its French river yard 18,000,000 ft. in good condition. Operations are to some extent effected by the delay in the final passing of the Wilson Bill.

THE London Timber Trades Journal is puzzled over a statement printed in a recent sale catalogue describing some oak by steamer, as being "from Quebec via New Orleans." The Southern Lumberman says, that in this country we would easily get over such slips by putting the blame on the proof reader or "the intelligent compositor," and tells the story of an agricultural association, that went for the publisher of their annual catalogue, because it reported them as offering a large premium of the "best bushel of cats," when they meant "oats," but the publisher's attorney had no difficulty in convincing the jury that it was simply a mistake made by an irresponsible printer. The "poor printer" is certainly made the scape-goat for a good many queer blunders; but with our friend John Bull, when it is a geographical mistake, we are not so sure that it is the "intelligent compositor" who has mixed things. Even authorities like the London Times and the Saturday Review have marked up against them some very wild blunders made, when occasion has required them to speak of this country geographically. They seem to forget that America covers rather more ground than "the tight little island" across the sea. We are a country of great distances, and distance counts.