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Benjamin Franklin Dixie
Essays

WHY CANADA
SHOULD PROHIBIT
THE
EXPORT OF
UNMANUFACTURED
WOOD

EVIDENCE OF 549 WITNESSES

BARNJUM
\$2,000 PRIZE ESSAYS
IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH
CONTAINING ARGUMENTS
IN FAVOR OF
PROHIBITING THE EXPORT OF
UNMANUFACTURED WOOD
FROM CANADA

ALSO

A PEN PICTURE OF FOREST
CONDITIONS
FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA
TO CAPE BRETON

BY 549 AUTHORS

VOLUME No. 1

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Published for free distribution in the interest of Forest Conservation by
FRANK J. D. BARNJUM
New Birks Building
Montreal

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These thirteen machines, when erected and running full, will consume more than 350,000 additional cords of wood a year.

Not counting these machines, Canada is already consuming and exporting annually more than 5,000,000 cords of pulpwood, representing the growth of a century or more, from 1,250,000 acres of land, in addition to the much larger cut for lumber and the several million acres destroyed by insects, fungi, fire and wind.

Every *new paper machine* installed in Canada and *every new issue of pulp and paper securities* brought out and sold to our people is an added reason for prohibiting the export of raw wood from Canada.

F. J. D. B.

God has lent us the earth for our life; it is a great entail. It belongs as much to those who are to come after us as to us; and we have no right, by anything that we do or neglect to do, to involve them in unnecessary penalties, or deprive them of benefits which are theirs by right.

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And in this connection the *Boston Herald* very wisely and tersely says:

"What adds to the pity is that most of the timber destroyed by our woodland fires now is so young as to belong to generations not old enough to protect it."

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Ontario contributed 185 essays, Quebec 79, Nova Scotia 130, New Brunswick 74, Manitoba 17, Alberta 20, Saskatchewan 18, British Columbia 17, Prince Edward Island 9.

This volume contains the first instalment of 549 essays in English and French favoring prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood.

Only the prize-winning essays herein printed are given in the numerical order of their standing. Those that follow have not

been awarded precedence in accordance to merit, and their arrangement in this volume is not intended to indicate the rank given them by the judges.

The character of all the essays submitted made a deep impression on the minds of the judges. They are all excellent treatises on the subject at issue and reflect great credit upon the contributors, affording a striking illustration of the intelligence of our Canadian citizens and of the keen interest which they are taking in this very grave question.

Montreal, March 31st, 1923.

F. J. D. B.

Why Canada should Prohibit the Export of Unmanufactured Wood

FIRST PRIZE ESSAY

Until this Wholesale Exodus of Mature Timber Ceases, "Conservation" is mere Gesture and Self-deception

The scroll of Canada's forest deficit, now unfolding before the Canadian people, is as actual and tangible as the National Debt. We have built our house on the fiction of a "perpetual" timber supply, not knowing that the Canada of "unscratched resources" had passed from us sixty years ago. "Inexhaustible forests" is nothing but a figure of speech and only the uninitiated speak it. Seven hundred thousand square miles of the "Inexhaustible" have gone the way of smoke and charcoal. Our hundred pulp and paper mills, yesterday "impregnable" in their wood supply, have doubled consumption in five years and now are in a scramble for supplementary limits.

Forests facts, indeed, are stranger—and stronger—than forest fictions.

To-day, the Canadian people call impatiently for far-reaching remedies. "Conservation" as a principle is everywhere demanded, nowhere opposed. It remains for us to remember that Forests are Wood and any remedy for forest depletion must be in terms of Wood.

The starting point of forest conservation is riddance of the annual plague of fire. That done, constructive forestry, the application of silvicultural management, must follow.

But neither fire prevention nor silviculture can grow new trees by 1930. They cannot add to the present stock of Canada's pulpwood for from fifty to seventy years. And in the meantime?

The present reservoir of pulpwood provides but a few years' maintenance for our chain of industries, their dependent municipalities, their equally dependent workmen.

Two options are presented: Close the pulp and paper industry of Canada for half a century, between exhaustion of present forests and the coming of the problematical new crop, or

Lay our hands upon an immediate supplementary supply of paper-making wood.

That supply must come from Canadian acres that now are working at one-fifth efficiency for Canada and four-fifths for the United States.

The export of raw wood from freehold lands in Canada is over a third of the total pulpwood harvested annually in this country—twelve hundred thousand cords, a century's growth on 250,000 acres. Those who do the exporting, of course, get paid, but for their muscle only, never for their stumpage. The real "dividends" are gathered in by Uncle Sam, who from our Canadian wood supports scores of American communities, American mills, American pay-lists. He saves his own forests at the expense of Canada's. On this flood of export—this "rescue crop"—we forfeit the only source of immediate relief for our Crown forests, we give up sixty to eighty million dollars a year in failing to complete the manufacturing process within our Canadian borders. On top of that we lose a million dollars a year in uncollected taxes, for half the freehold wood sent out is from unpatented lands.

Until this wholesale exodus of mature timber ceases, "Conservation" is mere gesture and self-deception.

What, then, blocks the way to a Dominion Government embargo?

Is it fear of United States retaliation? The U. S. industries, the U. S. Forest Service fully anticipate a stoppage of further raw wood from Canada. And they are neither surprised nor resentful.

Is it pity for the "Canadian farmer"?

Not one per cent. of our farmers live near pulpwood, own any of it, or are concerned in anything but sensible conservation of it.

As for the pulpwood owner himself, the proposed embargo will lose him not a penny.

The courage, the foresight, the shrewdness of a self-governing people have been flatly challenged. No private interest can seriously affect the issue. The verdict must be the verdict of alert Canadian Citizenship.

JAMES R. BLACK, Ottawa, Ont.

SECOND PRIZE ESSAY

Our Actuating Motive Contains Nothing Unfriendly to World Neighbors; it Seeks Merely to Safeguard our National Life.

The forest, "Parent of Industries," yields wood, most universal of all materials, without which practically nothing we eat, use or wear can be produced. Despite substitutes, wood becomes increasingly indispensable to civilization. Yet already waste and greed have dissipated most of the virgin timber wealth of America. This orgy of reckless living on mature and growing forest capital gravely threatens our prosperity and safety.

The situation is alarming. Look at the United States: original virgin forest 830,000,000 acres, now 130,000,000 acres; and from all causes a yearly deforested area of some 26,000,000 acres.

Canada has conditions still more perilous: rapidly dwindling softwood supplies only a fraction of amount left to the United States; growth rate much slower; mossy, coniferous forests more inflammable; annual cut 11,000,000,000 board feet, and prices rocketing, with Quebec pulpwood stumpage trebled this winter. The cumulative absolute loss from fire, insects, disease, wind, drought and destructive lumbering staggers the imagination.

Realizing these facts, opinion in Canada strongly favors prohibiting further export of unmanufactured wood. Canadian press editorials have for years been almost a unit in calling for an embargo as a matter of vital concern. In response thereto further export of raw wood from either federal or provincial Crown lands has been practically prohibited, and export from private lands must likewise cease. This demands federal action.

Exporting raw wood fosters no industrial development; we remain hewers of wood for outsiders. But domestic manufacture of wood products ensures industrial plants; skilled workers; new urban centres; desirable immigrants and expanding home markets for the products of farm and factory.

Americans expect this embargo. Graves says: "Exportation of natural resources for foreign manufacture does not build up a country, but destroys its prosperity." Pinchot says: "Canada has no great supply of timber and purposes to keep what she has"; while Greely also corroborates probable "extension of Canadian embargo."

Canada is, on a per capita basis, actually exporting more coal to the United States than we import from her. Belgium now prohibits the export of rags to America for paper manufacture. Surely, then, it is timely for Canada to forbid further export of her most essential primary resource.

With a debt of nearly \$3,000,000,000, involving interest charges of \$140,000,000, dare we permit our foremost revenue-producer to be destroyed by allowing foreign nations to drain away its life-blood? Meighen advises: "Canada is rapidly approaching the end of its timber resources and I would urge a prohibition on the export of pulpwood." Piché, Quebec's Chief Forester, urges: "We must stop the exportation of unmanufactured wood; our failing supply demands such action."

Great industrial centres are starting in our Northland whose life-expectancy does not outlast their mature timber supply. The "Lake States" offer impressive warning of how this policy results in happy communities being ruthlessly left to utter stagnation and bankruptcy. For lack of vision and science as their timber

was harvested, numberless industries and towns sank into poverty and decay. Our prime duty is to obviate such folly and shame in Canada.

The situation demands research to ensure us highly productive forests instead of the second-growth hardwood rubbish and balsam we now have; and because of the long time needed to create a "normal forest" and the certainty that long before such time elapses the vast industrial life consuming our raw wood will be starved for supplies, immediate and effective action is now demanded to stop further export of unmanufactured wood from Canada.

JAMES R. DICKSON, Dominion Forestry Branch, Ottawa, Ont.

THIRD PRIZE ESSAY

No Remedial Measures are Adequate that do not Prohibit Entirely the Export of Unmanufactured Wood.

The economic prosperity of Canada is inseparable from her forests and water-powers; the disappearance of one involves the disappearance of the other. The rapid exhaustion of the forests is admitted. Authoritative voices have warned us that the situation constitutes a national emergency.

No remedial measures are adequate that do not prohibit entirely the export of unmanufactured wood. Exported pulpwood brings no return to Canada's industries and involves no industrial development, whereas its home manufacture encourages mill construction, increases employment, fosters immigration and attracts capital.

Over \$300,000,000 have been invested in our pulp and paper industries, and, as the end of our pulpwood is in sight, it is our duty to conserve it to provide continuous supplies for our own mills.

The potential loss to this country by exporting pulpwood is incalculable. The value of pulpwood exported in 1922 was \$10,000,000. Had this wood been converted into its pulp and paper equivalent, the value would have been over \$50,000,000.

Opponents contend this proposal would work injury to settlers and limit owners; that it violates property rights and is confiscatory and discriminatory, and, finally, that the United States would retaliate with embargoes.

If the United States is denied our wood, its pulp and paper equivalent will be required—the demand for paper assures this.

The settler will thus sell his wood to Canadian mills. He may establish his price by limiting his cut. The less he cuts, the greater his eventual profit.

Property rights are subject to the laws of a country. Owners of property subscribe to this truth by submission to taxation. There is ample precedent for this measure. Provincial liquor legislation dealt more drastically with vested interests far more numerous and powerful than the minority herein affected.

No confiscation of property is involved. Private owners may still market or manufacture their wood, or, if desired, sell their limits at greatly enhanced value.

This prohibitory legislation would not be discriminatory; but it is argued that the United States would retaliate with an embargo on coal. Other considerations aside, coal and pulpwood are not analogous. Unlike coal, the value of pulpwood is greatly increased by manufacturing process. A coal embargo, therefore, would be discriminatory, coercive and unjustified.

The United States sends us coal because it is profitable to do so; an export market is indispensable for the surplus normally produced. The United States coal industry will not consent to any sacrifice to make a Roman holiday for a few paper interests.

The United States depends on Canada for 50 per cent. of their newsprint and 30 per cent. of their pulp. A coal embargo will become a boomerang if it ever ceases to be a threat.

One more consideration. The United States is covetous of a share of our inexhaustible water-powers—the only solution of the accumulating problems of the industrial East—and our neighbors realize that coercive acts would be fatal to their quest for Canada's white coal.

Finally, the inevitability of this legislation is recognized—witness the steady construction of mills in Canada by American paper interests. Chief Forester Greeley at Washington declared this measure to be a foregone conclusion. The United States Senate, in deleting the pulpwood penalty clause from last year's Tariff Bill, admitted its futility and possible embarrassment.

Our course, then, is clear; this safeguard must be applied immediately. If we fail in this, then will our children say of us: "Intimidation turned them from the path of duty; they sold our birthright for a mess of pottage."

H. C. SCOTT, 5 Golf Avenue, Pointe Claire, P.Q.

The Arguments in favor of Keeping every Stick of Pulpwood in this Country are so Overwhelming that it seems quite Ridiculous to have to state them.

It cannot be denied that it is a very stupid policy to allow pulpwood to be sent across the border. Canada is the place par excellence to turn the majority of it into ground woodpulp, because of the abundant water-powers available and their nearness to the pulpwood limits. Every stick of the balance should be made into chemical pulps.

The policy of sending pulpwood logs into the U.S.A. to compete directly with us in products made therefrom is surely bordering on the insane, particularly as that country is very short of pulpwood and must buy our newsprint in enormous quantities, so there is every incentive for us to make all the newsprint we can and ship them the finished article in place of the raw material.

The arguments in favor of keeping every stick of pulpwood in this country are so overwhelming, that to anyone in the paper and pulp business it seems quite ridiculous to have to state them.

1. The available supply of spruce and balsam, which make the best ground wood, sulphite and paper, is rapidly diminishing in Canada, and it already appears to be a serious question, whether the present mills already running in Eastern Canada will have enough pulpwood to last them for more than a few years. This is really a most serious matter, and any person travelling over the railways of Eastern Canada finds himself asking, "In Heaven's name, where are those wonderful pulp forests we hear so much about?" It is to be noted that a large mileage of these lines runs through what was originally a dense stand of excellent pulpwood, which has now almost totally disappeared. On the known facts of shortage of available supply alone, an immediate stoppage of the export of pulpwood should be brought about.

2. The advisability of converting the raw wood into manufactured articles is self-evident. Pulp and paper mills are generally erected near some large water-power, and not infrequently in some unsettled part of the country, resulting in opening up that country to general settlement. The pulp and paper mills, in comparison with other industries, employ very large numbers of men and pay out very large sums in wages, to the general benefit of the district and the country at large.

It is obvious that if this pulpwood is exported, the return in dollars to Canada is very small as compared with the big returns on exported paper, if made from that wood.

The average Canadian does not realize the enormous rate at which pulpwood is consumed in any of the large plants. Anyone seeing the huge scale of operations and consumption of wood in these mills for the first time, will at once say, "Where is it all coming from?" If he travels up into the timber limits and uses his eyes, he will ask the still more significant question, "How long

can these huge mills which I have seen continue to run if these so-called pulpwood limits are all they have to rely upon?" The answer would be very unfavorable to the mills, to the huge amounts of invested capital and to the future of Canada's export trade.

To sum up the situation—

The condition of the pulpwood forests is actually extraordinarily bad, both as regards general conditions and future supply. Energetic action should be taken at once as regards the remaining supply, and the first and simplest move is a cast-iron prohibition of the export of pulpwood or wood available for pulp-making.

FRED BARNES, Belgo Paper Co., Shawinigan Falls, P.Q.

When our Forests are Gone we shall have Lost all.

"Cheer up, old lumber-jack: why are you so blue?" "Yes, blue is the word. How could any red-blooded fellow that has done any thinking or figuring be anything else but blue when the figures show him that a pulpwood pile one thousand six hundred miles long is leaving Canada each year? Yes, a pile of pulpwood of standard cord height and width that would reach from Halifax to Winnipeg going out unmanufactured. Think of the loss to our Canadian industry, think of the thriving cities, towns and villages that could be developed on the pulp and paper mill payroll. Yes, it would be some pay-roll from the working up of one million cords of wood into pulp and paper. Think of the homes that could be founded under the old flag. Think of the sturdy men and women employed in the industry. Think of the thousands of little boys and girls that would be born and reared under the flag of Canada to aid in the development of their mother land."

"Well, what of it?"

"Why, you blockhead, we are losing it all. Our forest wealth is going to foreign mills, to develop foreign towns, to enrich a foreign people and to breed and feed the people of a foreign nation. Enough to make any lumber-jack blue. Did you ever hear of the insane lumber-jack opening the veins in his wrists that his life-blood might flow? Canada is doing the same. When our forests are gone we shall have lost all."

L. STEVENSON, Box 713, Oakville, Ontario.

New Mills mean New Towns, New Railways, New Schools, and New Farming Populations to Supply Food for these New Centres.

Go back with me one thousand years and follow the cruise of Lief, the Norseman, who sailed from Greenland over uncharted seas to unknown shores. Those covered with the dense primeval forest he called Markland, the Land of the Woods (now known as Nova Scotia).

Neither the Norse, at that time, nor the French, five hundred years later, could vision this continent, as we, with our later knowledge, can—an awe-inspiring vision of the virgin forest, stretching from the Atlantic to the Lake of the Woods, from the Prairies to the Arctic Ocean, from the Rockies to the Pacific—a hundred varieties of trees, untold wealth, countless possibilities.

Your heritage. Think. We Canadians have a population of nine millions and we own about eight hundred million acres of forest land. Aside from our collective responsibility, you as an individual are responsible for almost ninety acres.

What have you done about this in the past?

You answer that it is the duty of the Government to protect your land. Yes, and it is your duty to send to Parliament a man who will pass laws to protect your forests and prohibit the exportation of wood.

Look forward ten years. What will be our fate if devastation and exportation go on? China was once a land of forests. To-day, owing to her lack of conservation laws, she is a land of Famine, Drought, Pestilence and Want. A dying forest means a dying nation.

Loss from insect life alone in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick has cost "a money loss of more than twelve billion dollars, a sum that would pay off our national debt four times over."

Surely such a calamity as this will cause us to save what we have left, by prohibiting the export of our raw material.

But there is no time now to waste in lauding our unrivalled natural resources, or in deploring our useless unnatural losses. One startling statement only. Owing to depletion from insect life, fire and lumber operations, only eleven years' supply is left.

Canada's future in electricity depends upon the water supply given by our forests, and our forests now depend for their very life upon the prohibition of exportation of wood.

The phenomenal growth of the pulp and paper industry in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick is due to their measures of prohibition, to keep their raw material for their own mills.

Canada has a hundred mills, with a capital of three hundred and fifty millions.

New mills mean new towns, new railways, new schools and new farming populations to supply food for these new centres.

We need population, but we must have work to give the immigrant. A million dollar contract for a dam to be built this summer near Chicoutimi shows prohibition provides work.

Prohibition of raw wood would mean that dozens of American mills that now get their supply from us would come here. Towns like Grand Mere, La Tuque, Kenogami, Chicoutimi, Donnacona, Fort Frances, Kipawa, Edmundston and many others would spring up.

Prohibition would give us, for every cord of wood exported at twelve dollars, a return of fifty dollars, if manufactured here. It would also be a blessing to the owner of private lands, for he could then get a fair price from the paper companies, and the bogus settlers would fail in the exploitation of our lands.

A Dominion-wide law prohibiting the export of raw wood must be passed at once.

Your unguarded treasure. What will you do with it?

E. J. CHURCH, 85 Grand Boulevard, Montreal, Que.

Prohibition of the Export of Unmanufactured Wood is thus the Inaugural Step in an Adequate Scheme of Forest Conservation.

Preliminary to the introduction of a national programme of Forest Conservation in Canada must come a law prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood. Such legislation is as necessary for the protection and perpetuation of the capital value of our timberlands as woollen wraps for a new-born baby. Both are threatened with wastage of vital forces. The strength lost to each by early neglect can never be restored.

A tree destroyed for an industrial use is as surely lost to Canada as one destroyed by fire or disease. Man's handiwork achieves as certain a decrease in our forest wealth as either of these twin plagues. Replacement, with its consequent expense, is inevitable in both cases for the proper conservation of this form of national wealth. Therefore, if we are not to lose as much, or nearly as much, by our own action as by the ravages of fire or disease, we must insist that we receive, for every tree voluntarily destroyed, the real value.

The real value of a tree is its manufactured value. In such a definition we take, of course, no account of the value of standing timber in relation to water supply, propagation of game, etc.; such considerations are beyond the scope of this argument. We treat of a tree simply as raw material upon which important and essential industries depend and upon an adequate and cheap supply of which our future as a country rests. This definition, so restricted in application, is easily proved.

A country which does not manufacture its own wood products must buy the same in the world's markets. (It has not the alternative of doing without them. They are essentials in present-day civilization.) For these articles, purchased so, shall be paid not only the value of the raw material, the tree, but also the cost of manufacturing. And the cost of manufacturing includes all expenditures for labor, the over-head costs and the capital value of the producing mills, the taxes levied by the country wherein the mills are located; and all the concomitant expenses and profits incurred and derived in the evolution of a tree into the finished product.

Canada must receive this value for each tree she destroys. Failure to insist upon this essential condition means that our forest capital is being conserved simply to be wasted. The safeguarding of our forests against damage from fire and disease, the adoption of a wise and systematic policy of renewal of destroyed areas, are alike vain and useless if, at the same time, we wilfully waste in another way what we save by these methods. And this we do when we permit the export of unmanufactured wood.

In 1922, more than a million cords of pulpwood were exported. The amount of unmanufactured timber exported in the same period ran into millions of board-feet. This trade represents a countless total of destroyed trees. For each of them we received only partial value. Their potential worth was graciously given away. Bit by bit, if this condition of affairs continues, we are selling our birthright for less even than the proverbial mess of pottage.

This cannot go on. Canada is not so rich that she can afford such lavish use of her forest wealth. The one means of stopping it is a law to prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood.

Such a law will not stop the revenue we receive from this export trade. The United States, which benefits most by this laxity of ours, is rapidly nearing the end of its own sources of supply. Year by year, its demands upon us grow greater. Such a law will compel it to come to us for the finished article. The same applies to our other customers. Capital will pour into Canada and remain in Canada. The national income will increase in proportion.

Prohibition of the export of unmanufactured wood is thus the inaugural step in an adequate scheme of Forest Conservation, which will comprise concern about the utilization as well as the protection and perpetuation of our national forest capital.

P. S. MANLEY, 856 Lorne Crescent, Montreal, Que.

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Only the prize-winning essays herein printed are given in the numerical order of their standing. Those that follow have not

been awarded precedence in accordance to merit, and their arrangement in this volume is not intended to indicate the rank given them by the judges.

The character of all the essays submitted made a deep impression on the minds of the judges. They are all excellent treatises on the subject at issue and reflect great credit upon the contributors, affording a striking illustration of the intelligence of our Canadian citizens and of the keen interest which they are taking in this very grave question.

Montreal, March 31st, 1923.

F. J. D. B.

Why Canada should Prohibit the Export of Unmanufactured Wood

FIRST PRIZE ESSAY

Until this Wholesale Exodus of Mature Timber Ceases, "Conservation" is mere Gesture and Self-deception

The scroll of Canada's forest deficit, now unfolding before the Canadian people, is as actual and tangible as the National Debt. We have built our house on the fiction of a "perpetual" timber supply, not knowing that the Canada of "unscratched resources" had passed from us sixty years ago. "Inexhaustible forests" is nothing but a figure of speech and only the uninitiated speak it. Seven hundred thousand square miles of the "Inexhaustible" have gone the way of smoke and charcoal. Our hundred pulp and paper mills, yesterday "impregnable" in their wood supply, have doubled consumption in five years and now are in a scramble for supplementary limits.

Forests facts, indeed, are stranger—and stronger—than forest fictions.

To-day, the Canadian people call impatiently for far-reaching remedies. "Conservation" as a principle is everywhere demanded, nowhere opposed. It remains for us to remember that Forests are Wood and any remedy for forest depletion must be in terms of Wood.

The starting point of forest conservation is riddance of the annual plague of fire. That done, constructive forestry, the application of silvicultural management, must follow.

But neither fire prevention nor silviculture can grow new trees by 1930. They cannot add to the present stock of Canada's pulpwood for from fifty to seventy years. And in the meantime?

The present reservoir of pulpwood provides but a few years' maintenance for our chain of industries, their dependent municipalities, their equally dependent workmen.

Two options are presented: Close the pulp and paper industry of Canada for half a century, between exhaustion of present forests and the coming of the problematical new crop, or

Lay our hands upon an immediate supplementary supply of paper-making wood.

That supply must come from Canadian acres that now are working at one-fifth efficiency for Canada and four-fifths for the United States.

The export of raw wood from freehold lands in Canada is over a third of the total pulpwood harvested annually in this country—twelve hundred thousand cords, a century's growth on 250,000 acres. Those who do the exporting, of course, get paid, but for their muscle only, never for their stumpage. The real "dividends" are gathered in by Uncle Sam, who from our Canadian wood supports scores of American communities, American mills, American pay-lists. He saves his own forests at the expense of Canada's. On this flood of export—this "rescue crop"—we forfeit the only source of immediate relief for our Crown forests, we give up sixty to eighty million dollars a year in failing to complete the manufacturing process within our Canadian borders. On top of that we lose a million dollars a year in uncollected taxes, for half the freehold wood sent out is from unpatented lands.

Until this wholesale exodus of mature timber ceases, "Conservation" is mere gesture and self-deception.

What, then, blocks the way to a Dominion Government embargo?

Is it fear of United States retaliation? The U.S. industries, the U.S. Forest Service fully anticipate a stoppage of further raw wood from Canada. And they are neither surprised nor resentful.

Is it pity for the "Canadian farmer"?

Not one per cent. of our farmers live near pulpwood, own any of it, or are concerned in anything but sensible conservation of it.

As for the pulpwood owner himself, the proposed embargo will lose him not a penny.

The courage, the foresight, the shrewdness of a self-governing people have been flatly challenged. No private interest can seriously affect the issue. The verdict must be the verdict of alert Canadian Citizenship.

JAMES R. BLACK, Ottawa, Ont.

SECOND PRIZE ESSAY

Our Actuating Motive Contains Nothing Unfriendly to World Neighbors; it Seeks Merely to Safeguard our National Life.

The forest, "Parent of Industries," yields wood, most universal of all materials, without which practically nothing we eat, use or wear can be produced. Despite substitutes, wood becomes increasingly indispensable to civilization. Yet already waste and greed have dissipated most of the virgin timber wealth of America. This orgy of reckless living on mature and growing forest capital gravely threatens our prosperity and safety.

The situation is alarming. Look at the United States: original virgin forest 830,000,000 acres, now 130,000,000 acres; and from all causes a yearly deforested area of some 26,000,000 acres.

Canada has conditions still more perilous: rapidly dwindling softwood supplies only a fraction of amount left to the United States; growth rate much slower; mossy, coniferous forests more inflammable; annual cut 11,000,000,000 board feet, and prices rocketing, with Quebec pulpwood stumpage trebled this winter. The cumulative absolute loss from fire, insects, disease, wind, drought and destructive lumbering staggers the imagination.

Realizing these facts, opinion in Canada strongly favors prohibiting further export of unmanufactured wood. Canadian press editorials have for years been almost a unit in calling for an embargo as a matter of vital concern. In response thereto further export of raw wood from either federal or provincial Crown lands has been practically prohibited, and export from private lands must likewise cease. This demands federal action.

Exporting raw wood fosters no industrial development; we remain hewers of wood for outsiders. But domestic manufacture of wood products ensures industrial plants; skilled workers; new urban centres; desirable immigrants and expanding home markets for the products of farm and factory.

Americans expect this embargo. Graves says: "Exportation of natural resources for foreign manufacture does not build up a country, but destroys its prosperity." Pinchot says: "Canada has no great supply of timber and purposes to keep what she has"; while Greely also corroborates probable "extension of Canadian embargo."

Canada is, on a per capita basis, actually exporting more coal to the United States than we import from her. Belgium now prohibits the export of rags to America for paper manufacture. Surely, then, it is timely for Canada to forbid further export of her most essential primary resource.

With a debt of nearly \$3,000,000,000, involving interest charges of \$140,000,000, dare we permit our foremost revenue-producer to be destroyed by allowing foreign nations to drain away its life-blood? Meighen advises: "Canada is rapidly approaching the end of its timber resources and I would urge a prohibition on the export of pulpwood." Piché, Quebec's Chief Forester, urges: "We must stop the exportation of unmanufactured wood; our failing supply demands such action."

Great industrial centres are starting in our Northland whose life-expectancy does not outlast their mature timber supply. The "Lake States" offer impressive warning of how this policy results in happy communities being ruthlessly left to utter stagnation and bankruptcy. For lack of vision and science as their timber

was harvested, numberless industries and towns sank into poverty and decay. Our prime duty is to obviate such folly and shame in Canada.

The situation demands research to ensure us highly productive forests instead of the second-growth hardwood rubbish and balsam we now have; and because of the long time needed to create a "normal forest" and the certainty that long before such time elapses the vast industrial life consuming our raw wood will be starved for supplies, immediate and effective action is now demanded to stop further export of unmanufactured wood from Canada.

JAMES R. DICKSON, Dominion Forestry Branch, Ottawa, Ont.

THIRD PRIZE ESSAY

No Remedial Measures are Adequate that do not Prohibit Entirely the Export of Unmanufactured Wood.

The economic prosperity of Canada is inseparable from her forests and water-powers; the disappearance of one involves the disappearance of the other. The rapid exhaustion of the forests is admitted. Authoritative voices have warned us that the situation constitutes a national emergency.

No remedial measures are adequate that do not prohibit entirely the export of unmanufactured wood. Exported pulpwood brings no return to Canada's industries and involves no industrial development, whereas its home manufacture encourages mill construction, increases employment, fosters immigration and attracts capital.

Over \$300,000,000 have been invested in our pulp and paper industries, and, as the end of our pulpwood is in sight, it is our duty to conserve it to provide continuous supplies for our own mills.

The potential loss to this country by exporting pulpwood is incalculable. The value of pulpwood exported in 1922 was \$10,000,000. Had this wood been converted into its pulp and paper equivalent, the value would have been over \$50,000,000.

Opponents contend this proposal would work injury to settlers and limit owners; that it violates property rights and is confiscatory and discriminatory, and, finally, that the United States would retaliate with embargoes.

If the United States is denied our wood, its pulp and paper equivalent will be required—the demand for paper assures this.

The settler will thus sell his wood to Canadian mills. He may establish his price by limiting his cut. The less he cuts, the greater his eventual profit.

Property rights are subject to the laws of a country. Owners of property subscribe to this truth by submission to taxation. There is ample precedent for this measure. Provincial liquor legislation dealt more drastically with vested interests far more numerous and powerful than the minority herein affected.

No confiscation of property is involved. Private owners may still market or manufacture their wood, or, if desired, sell their limits at greatly enhanced value.

This prohibitory legislation would not be discriminatory; but it is argued that the United States would retaliate with an embargo on coal. Other considerations aside, coal and pulpwood are not analogous. Unlike coal, the value of pulpwood is greatly increased by manufacturing process. A coal embargo, therefore, would be discriminatory, coercive and unjustified.

The United States sends us coal because it is profitable to do so; an export market is indispensable for the surplus normally produced. The United States coal industry will not consent to any sacrifice to make a Roman holiday for a few paper interests.

The United States depends on Canada for 50 per cent. of their newsprint and 30 per cent. of their pulp. A coal embargo will become a boomerang if it ever ceases to be a threat.

One more consideration. The United States is covetous of a share of our inexhaustible water-powers—the only solution of the accumulating problems of the industrial East—and our neighbors realize that coercive acts would be fatal to their quest for Canada's white coal.

Finally, the inevitability of this legislation is recognized—witness the steady construction of mills in Canada by American paper interests. Chief Forester Greeley at Washington declared this measure to be a foregone conclusion. The United States Senate, in deleting the pulpwood penalty clause from last year's Tariff Bill, admitted its futility and possible embarrassment.

Our course, then, is clear; this safeguard must be applied immediately. If we fail in this, then will our children say of us: "Intimidation turned them from the path of duty; they sold our birthright for a mess of pottage."

H. C. SCOTT, 5 Golf Avenue, Pointe Claire, P.Q.

The Arguments in favor of Keeping every Stick of Pulpwood in this Country are so Overwhelming that it seems quite Ridiculous to have to state them.

It cannot be denied that it is a very stupid policy to allow pulpwood to be sent across the border. Canada is the place par excellence to turn the majority of it into ground woodpulp, because of the abundant water-powers available and their nearness to the pulpwood limits. Every stick of the balance should be made into chemical pulps.

The policy of sending pulpwood logs into the U.S.A. to compete directly with us in products made therefrom is surely bordering on the insane, particularly as that country is very short of pulpwood and must buy our newsprint in enormous quantities, so there is every incentive for us to make all the newsprint we can and ship them the finished article in place of the raw material.

The arguments in favor of keeping every stick of pulpwood in this country are so overwhelming, that to anyone in the paper and pulp business it seems quite ridiculous to have to state them.

1. The available supply of spruce and balsam, which make the best ground wood, sulphite and paper, is rapidly diminishing in Canada, and it already appears to be a serious question, whether the present mills already running in Eastern Canada will have enough pulpwood to last them for more than a few years. This is really a most serious matter, and any person travelling over the railways of Eastern Canada finds himself asking, "In Heaven's name, where are those wonderful pulp forests we hear so much about?" It is to be noted that a large mileage of these lines runs through what was originally a dense stand of excellent pulpwood, which has now almost totally disappeared. On the known facts of shortage of available supply alone, an immediate stoppage of the export of pulpwood should be brought about.

2. The advisability of converting the raw wood into manufactured articles is self-evident. Pulp and paper mills are generally erected near some large water-power, and not infrequently in some unsettled part of the country, resulting in opening up that country to general settlement. The pulp and paper mills, in comparison with other industries, employ very large numbers of men and pay out very large sums in wages, to the general benefit of the district and the country at large.

It is obvious that if this pulpwood is exported, the return in dollars to Canada is very small as compared with the big returns on exported paper, if made from that wood.

The average Canadian does not realize the enormous rate at which pulpwood is consumed in any of the large plants. Anyone seeing the huge scale of operations and consumption of wood in these mills for the first time, will at once say, "Where is it all coming from?" If he travels up into the timber limits and uses his eyes, he will ask the still more significant question, "How long

can these huge mills which I have seen continue to run if these so-called pulpwood limits are all they have to rely upon?" The answer would be very unfavorable to the mills, to the huge amounts of invested capital and to the future of Canada's export trade.

To sum up the situation—

The condition of the pulpwood forests is actually extraordinarily bad, both as regards general conditions and future supply. Energetic action should be taken at once as regards the remaining supply, and the first and simplest move is a cast-iron prohibition of the export of pulpwood or wood available for pulp-making.

FRED BARNES, Belgo Paper Co., Shawinigan Falls, P.Q.

When our Forests are Gone we shall have Lost all.

"Cheer up, old lumber-jack: why are you so blue?" "Yes, blue is the word. How could any red-blooded fellow that has done any thinking or figuring be anything else but blue when the figures show him that a pulpwood pile one thousand six hundred miles long is leaving Canada each year? Yes, a pile of pulpwood of standard cord height and width that would reach from Halifax to Winnipeg going out unmanufactured. Think of the loss to our Canadian industry, think of the thriving cities, towns and villages that could be developed on the pulp and paper mill pay-roll. Yes, it would be some pay-roll from the working up of one million cords of wood into pulp and paper. Think of the homes that could be founded under the old flag. Think of the sturdy men and women employed in the industry. Think of the thousands of little boys and girls that would be born and reared under the flag of Canada to aid in the development of their mother land."

"Well, what of it?"

"Why, you blockhead, we are losing it all. Our forest wealth is going to foreign mills, to develop foreign towns, to enrich a foreign people and to breed and feed the people of a foreign nation. Enough to make any lumber-jack blue. Did you ever hear of the insane lumber-jack opening the veins in his wrists that his life-blood might flow? Canada is doing the same. When our forests are gone we shall have lost all."

L. STEVENSON, Box 713, Oakville, Ontario.

New Mills mean New Towns, New Railways, New Schools, and New Farming Populations to Supply Food for these New Centres.

Go back with me one thousand years and follow the cruise of Lief, the Norseman, who sailed from Greenland over uncharted seas to unknown shores. Those covered with the dense primeval forest he called Markland, the Land of the Woods (now known as Nova Scotia).

Neither the Norse, at that time, nor the French, five hundred years later, could vision this continent, as we, with our later knowledge, can—an awe-inspiring vision of the virgin forest, stretching from the Atlantic to the Lake of the Woods, from the Prairies to the Arctic Ocean, from the Rockies to the Pacific—a hundred varieties of trees, untold wealth, countless possibilities.

Your heritage. Think. We Canadians have a population of nine millions and we own about eight hundred million acres of forest land. Aside from our collective responsibility, you as an individual are responsible for almost ninety acres.

What have you done about this in the past?

You answer that it is the duty of the Government to protect your land. Yes, and it is your duty to send to Parliament a man who will pass laws to protect your forests and prohibit the exportation of wood.

Look forward ten years. What will be our fate if devastation and exportation go on? China was once a land of forests. To-day, owing to her lack of conservation laws, she is a land of Famine, Drought, Pestilence and Want. A dying forest means a dying nation.

Loss from insect life alone in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick has cost "a money loss of more than twelve billion dollars, a sum that would pay off our national debt four times over."

Surely such a calamity as this will cause us to save what we have left, by prohibiting the export of our raw material.

But there is no time now to waste in lauding our unrivalled natural resources, or in deploring our useless unnatural losses. One startling statement only. Owing to depletion from insect life, fire and lumber operations, only eleven years' supply is left.

Canada's future in electricity depends upon the water supply given by our forests, and our forests now depend for their very life upon the prohibition of exportation of wood.

The phenomenal growth of the pulp and paper industry in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick is due to their measures of prohibition, to keep their raw material for their own mills.

Canada has a hundred mills, with a capital of three hundred and fifty millions.

New mills mean new towns, new railways, new schools and new farming populations to supply food for these new centres.

We need population, but we must have work to give the immigrant. A million dollar contract for a dam to be built this summer near Chicoutimi shows prohibition provides work.

Prohibition of raw wood would mean that dozens of American mills that now get their supply from us would come here. Towns like Grand Mere, La Tuque, Kenogami, Chicoutimi, Donnacona, Fort Frances, Kipawa, Edmundston and many others would spring up.

Prohibition would give us, for every cord of wood exported at twelve dollars, a return of fifty dollars, if manufactured here. It would also be a blessing to the owner of private lands, for he could then get a fair price from the paper companies, and the bogus settlers would fail in the exploitation of our lands.

A Dominion-wide law prohibiting the export of raw wood must be passed at once.

Your unguarded treasure. What will you do with it?

E. J. CHURCH, 85 Grand Boulevard, Montreal, Que.

Prohibition of the Export of Unmanufactured Wood is thus the Inaugural Step in an Adequate Scheme of Forest Conservation.

Preliminary to the introduction of a national programme of Forest Conservation in Canada must come a law prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood. Such legislation is as necessary for the protection and perpetuation of the capital value of our timberlands as woollen wraps for a new-born baby. Both are threatened with wastage of vital forces. The strength lost to each by early neglect can never be restored.

A tree destroyed for an industrial use is as surely lost to Canada as one destroyed by fire or disease. Man's handiwork achieves as certain a decrease in our forest wealth as either of these twin plagues. Replacement, with its consequent expense, is inevitable in both cases for the proper conservation of this form of national wealth. Therefore, if we are not to lose as much, or nearly as much, by our own action as by the ravages of fire or disease, we must insist that we receive, for every tree voluntarily destroyed, the real value.

The real value of a tree is its manufactured value. In such a definition we take, of course, no account of the value of standing timber in relation to water supply, propagation of game, etc.; such considerations are beyond the scope of this argument. We treat of a tree simply as raw material upon which important and essential industries depend and upon an adequate and cheap supply of which our future as a country rests. This definition, so restricted in application, is easily proved.

A country which does not manufacture its own wood products must buy the same in the world's markets. (It has not the alternative of doing without them. They are essentials in present-day civilization.) For these articles, purchased so, shall be paid not only the value of the raw material, the tree, but also the cost of manufacturing. And the cost of manufacturing includes all expenditures for labor, the over-head costs and the capital value of the producing mills, the taxes levied by the country wherein the mills are located; and all the concomitant expenses and profits incurred and derived in the evolution of a tree into the finished product.

Canada must receive this value for each tree she destroys. Failure to insist upon this essential condition means that our forest capital is being conserved simply to be wasted. The safeguarding of our forests against damage from fire and disease, the adoption of a wise and systematic policy of renewal of destroyed areas, are alike vain and useless if, at the same time, we wilfully waste in another way what we save by these methods. And this we do when we permit the export of unmanufactured wood.

In 1922, more than a million cords of pulpwood were exported. The amount of unmanufactured timber exported in the same period ran into millions of board-feet. This trade represents a countless total of destroyed trees. For each of them we received only partial value. Their potential worth was graciously given away. Bit by bit, if this condition of affairs continues, we are selling our birthright for less even than the proverbial mess of pottage.

This cannot go on. Canada is not so rich that she can afford such lavish use of her forest wealth. The one means of stopping it is a law to prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood.

Such a law will not stop the revenue we receive from this export trade. The United States, which benefits most by this laxity of ours, is rapidly nearing the end of its own sources of supply. Year by year, its demands upon us grow greater. Such a law will compel it to come to us for the finished article. The same applies to our other customers. Capital will pour into Canada and remain in Canada. The national income will increase in proportion.

Prohibition of the export of unmanufactured wood is thus the inaugural step in an adequate scheme of Forest Conservation, which will comprise concern about the utilization as well as the protection and perpetuation of our national forest capital.

P. S. MANLEY, 856 Lorne Crescent, Montreal, Que.

**Surveying the Countries and Peoples of the World which most
Freely Export Raw Material, we invariably find they are
by no means Occupying Forward Places in the Universe.**

The export of unmanufactured timber from this country cannot but be condemned by any right thinking person, and the total prohibition of any such export should be the urgent business of a government which had the interests of the nation and of its natural resources at heart.

The temporary pecuniary advantage that such a proceeding is likely to produce, is much more than outweighed by the economic and moral loss sustained from following out such a practice to any large extent. The growth of such an exporting movement, once started, is bound to become of large dimensions. "Our neighbors need it in their business." There is, under a raw material exporting plan, a loss, first, of direct profit to the manufacturers of wood products, such as pulp, paper, lumber, etc.; second, the absence of incentive for manufacturers to establish themselves in Canada, and the consequent loss of opportunity to employ the workers of this country in such established manufacturing plants.

Did such a set of conditions exist in Canada as to make it inconvenient, unduly expensive through lack of available power, or the inability to obtain the proper kind of labor to manufacture successfully, there might possibly be an excuse to export to a region where more favorable conditions existed for such economical manufacture. Such conditions do not obtain in Canada. On the contrary, abundance of available electric power is running to waste. Labor of the most suitable kind for the manufacture of wood into practically any finished product of which it is capable is readily procurable. Transportation would be taken care of by judicious location of factories or mills, so that the manufactured would be more easily transported to market, or seaboard, than would the unmanufactured article.

Surveying the countries and peoples of the world which most freely export raw material, we invariably find they are by no means occupying forward places in the universe. On the other hand, they are for the most part backward people whose standard of living is not of the highest. We, as Canadians, strive to be in the forefront of civilization and economic development. We have the natural resources to become one of the most influential and enlightened nations, provided always we have the men with vision to know how to develop and conserve them for our use and enjoyment. Any leader who permitted the vandalism of unrestricted export of our most valuable asset, our splendid timber, with the accompanying waste and destruction such a course would open up, would be unworthy to class himself a Canadian, much less a statesman.

It is a shortsighted policy to export the raw material, taken from a purely selfish monetary point of view, for by far the larger share of profit goes to those who manufacture and market finished

goods as compared with that garnered by the original producer of raw material, be he a logger, a pulpwood cutter, or even a farmer producing wheat. The lumber combine, the paper company, and the miller invariably far outstrip him in actual margin of profit made.

When in course of time we arrive at an ideal communistic state, when there are no longer any international boundaries, no tariff laws, and equal benefits to all mankind, then can we afford to distribute our national resources in their raw state, in order to build up some less fortunate locality on the continent, and thus furnish the means of stimulating an industry languishing for need of raw material. At present, however, the depletion of our forests by ravages of fire, of insects, and by wasteful methods of obtaining timber for our home consumption, is sufficient, without leaving the way open for wholesale export of Canadian timber in the form of unmanufactured wood.

CHARLES A. LEWIS, Ochre River, Man.

On Present Financial and Economic Grounds, as well as from the Standpoint of Forest Conservation, the Export of Unmanufactured Wood is Indefensible.

To anyone who has given any degree of intelligent and practical thought to the above question, there can be but one answer. That our forest wealth constitutes our greatest national asset should be evident to the most casual observer; that our forest resources are not inexhaustible, and that mismanagement, wanton wastefulness, and heedless prodigality, together with the ravages of insects and the scourges of forest fires, have brought us to a danger point past which it would be national folly to go, should be obvious to anyone who will pause to consider the situation.

Should the export of unmanufactured wood be prohibited? In sections of Canada where twenty years ago little or no pulpwood had been cut, even the highways have been robbed of their scenic attractions in order to supply the demands of the American market for pulpwood. A survey of the immature trees, cut in cord lengths, piled at Canadian sidings for shipment to American mills, furnishes one of the strongest arguments against the export of unmanufactured wood. What will the situation be twenty years from now if the free export of unmanufactured wood is continued?

The export of unmanufactured wood in any form diminishes the country's natural wealth and leaves but a small part of the money received therefrom in the country. It is a policy that exhausts the Canadian forests, provides the minimum of employment for Canadian labor, retards the development of Canadian industry, and keeps reduced the amount of money in circulation in the Dominion. On present financial and economic grounds, as

well as from the standpoint of forest conservation, the export of unmanufactured wood is indefensible.

Canada's immense water-powers, nourished and protected by their forest reservoirs, endow her with almost unlimited industrial possibilities. Her wood industries and their allied and tributary industries must ever be fundamental in her industrial expansion. It is essential to our country's growth and prosperity that all trees of mature growth (no others should be cut except where growth has prematurely ceased) should be entirely manufactured in Canada. Canada's future need of forest products is beyond present calculation, and for this reason alone immediate steps should be taken to conserve our God-given heritage, and one of the first steps should be to prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood.

There is need of vision and foresight in our national councils. One wonders at the enthusiasm displayed by politicians over the necessity of encouraging and protecting industries that are not basic, while great basic industries are left largely to take care of themselves. Let more of our public men and leaders of thought study our forest problem, and there will be less talk about our wonderful resources, and more effort to safeguard our priceless heritage.

Our forest problem is not sectional or provincial, it is in the broadest sense national, it is vital to the interests of all classes, rural and urban. The pressure of public sentiment can move governments to action: to this end a Dominion-wide campaign should be carried on. Let the press, public organizations, educational authorities, and all thoughtful and patriotic citizens do yeoman service for the cause of forest conservation.

In the interests of Canadian labor, for the protection of Canadian industry, for the benefit of this and coming generations, for the sake of the golden future we anticipate for our country, should the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada be prohibited? Yes!

CHARLES L. PATTERSON, Cody's, N.B.

In a Matter so Vital the Government must take Immediate Action. Delay is Dangerous, nay, Criminal.

Canada must, in her own interests, prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood.

The case is urgent. Our country has reached a crucial time in her history, and if her future progress is to be ensured, our rulers must exercise wisdom and foresight in the solution of the vital problems of the day. Conditions have been created as a result of our shortsighted policy in the past, by which Canada is retarded in her development as an industrial country. Rich in natural resources, with ample room for expansion and growth in every

enterprise, it remains for our Government to take effective measures to safeguard our natural heritage, and utilize our wood resources for the internal development of Canada.

None other of our vast resources has been exploited with such utter recklessness as our forests.

To-day, we are facing the inevitable result of our ruinous lumbering methods and lax export regulations. Our forest areas, once extensive, have been depleted and the choicest of our wood wasted. And although in the process some companies may have profited and a few private individuals amassed wealth, Canada has reaped little material benefit.

While we deplore the mistakes of the past and the enormous losses that can never be made good, yet the experience acquired at such cost should awaken our rulers to the vital necessity of conserving what remains of our forests for the future needs of our country.

Allowing our unmanufactured wood to be exported is utter folly from an economic point of view. By so doing, we are striking at the foundation of our industrial life. We hand over our raw material—the source of wealth—to another country, to be by that country converted into wealth, despoiling our own country to enrich another.

Canada, by reason of her climate and varied resources, should develop into a self-contained, prosperous country. The co-operation of our agricultural and manufacturing interests is necessary to this end. Agriculture, the basic industry, is seriously affected by the depletion of our forests.

In the New England States, farmers are being encouraged to devote thousands of acres of land, which have become too barren for raising crops, to the creation of new forests to replace those cut down by lumbermen.

Canada's financial burden, incurred by her war efforts in support of the Empire, her comparatively small population and heavy per capita tax, is a cause for grave concern. If this burden is to be lightened, she needs must make use of every possible source of revenue, increase her population and develop her industries. And to this end her wood, her greatest asset, must be retained to be manufactured in the country. Posterity must bear a share of the obligations which we voluntarily assumed. We should, in justice to them, see that the forest resources, of which we are only trustees, are not bartered away, but conserved for the use of coming generations.

In a matter so vital the Government must take immediate action. Delay is dangerous, nay, criminal.

Political expediency should not influence them in considering the problem. Politicians may perhaps dislike the idea of putting an embargo on our wood exports, fearing this policy may cause

ill-feeling in a neighboring country, but we, as Canadians, must to our own selves be true. We cannot continue to disregard the simple laws of cause and effect, which continue in operation notwithstanding Government indifference.

We cannot continue to share our wood with any other country, no matter how friendly, if the wants of our country are to be supplied. Economic considerations, like charity, should begin at home.

R. D. MACLEOD, Orangedale, Nova Scotia.

It Threatens the Future of Canada's Great Pulp and Paper Industry, with a Capital Investment of Approximately \$380,000,000.

Widespread is the devastation caused by fire, insect pests and fungi. The spruce bud worm alone, it has been estimated by the best authorities, destroyed in Eastern Canada during the last ten years 200 million cords of wood, or twenty times the annual cut of pulpwood for the whole Dominion, while fire has destroyed at least twenty times the amount of timber cut to date and fungi appears to have caused damage as extensive as either. Further, to this must be added the annual cut of 11 billion feet. Competent authorities now predict the early exhaustion of the Eastern forests.

In view of these facts the export of raw wood should be prohibited for the following reasons:

1. The annual export of unmanufactured wood, including over one million cords of pulpwood, constitutes too great a drain on Canada's forests, particularly in view of the nature of the cutting operations under which it is produced—namely, the progressive destruction of immature trees and the leaving of unburnt slash, forming a breeding place for insect pests and a standing fire menace to the surrounding forests.

2. It threatens the future of Canada's great pulp and paper industry, with a capital investment of approximately \$380,000,000, and a yearly production value of over \$200,000,000. This industry employs over 30,000 people, paying in wages \$28,000,000, and uses 644,805 horse-power, or nearly one-fifth of the developed hydraulic resources of the Dominion. During the past twenty years this industry has given proof of the most commendable enterprise and confidence in Canada's future, and deserves a better fate than to be left on the rocks by a policy which hands its raw material over to foreign competitors.

3. It is economically unsound to produce raw wood with a minimum employment of labor and to sell it out of the country at a price which represents only a fraction of its value, had it been processed in Canada. It is a policy full of peril to our forests

considering the vastly increased appropriation needed by our Forest Services to render possible a vigorous and effective campaign against the ever-multiplying enemies of our forests.

4. It will hinder the industrial expansion of Canada, as wood is indispensable to practically every industry. Even Pittsburg, the centre of the American steel industry, has a per capita consumption three times greater than that of the whole of the United States.

5. It is inimical to the development of Canada's rich Prairie Provinces, which will require for their permanent agricultural exploitation incalculable quantities of timber for structural purposes. To deprive them of this is to relegate their people to an agricultural and social mediocrity and conditions of living that are mean and comfortless.

6. Such continuous cutting and devastation of our forests must result in the stripping of watersheds, with consequent lowering of water-levels, increasing the fire hazards of the forest, lessening hydraulic resources, decreasing the productivity of agricultural lands and eventually exposing the whole country to the droughts, floods, famine and pestilences which are the inevitable fate of deforested lands. Of this, China is a fair example.

7. Its prohibition would result in substantially enhanced prices to the advantage of every one connected with the industry, and to none other will greater benefit accrue than to the settler with wood to sell.

Our most urgent duty is the conservation of Canada's forests for Canada's future.

W. J. GALBRAITH, Mapledene, Stayner, Ont.

Our Natural Resources, if Disposed of Without Manufacture in this Country, bring Revenue only to the Few.

The exportation of the rude produce of our forests—logs and pulpwood—is a sin against economic law and results in a reduction from the degree of prosperity that otherwise would be ours.

The whole produce of the land and labor of a society is the fund which supplies it with all that it consumes. The price of this produce constitutes a revenue to the three constituent orders of every country—the land-owner, the capitalist and the laborer; and whatever regulations tend to increase the revenue to any of

these orders, tends to increase the purchasing power of the society, and thus its prosperity.

Our natural resources, if disposed of without manufacture in this country, bring revenue only to the few land-owners possessing the resources and to the laborers and capitalists, engaged in marketing them, but for a full utilization of our resources, and to obtain their maximum value, their manufacture into a consumable commodity must be accomplished within the country, thereby increasing the revenue to the laborers and capitalists many times over.

This has been recognized for many years. New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia all prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood from Crown lands. The remarkable development of the pulp and paper industry alone is evidence of the soundness of the principle. Foreign capital to the extent of three hundred millions of dollars, which previously was used in manufacturing our wood within those foreign countries, is now expended in this country on equipment, wages and supplies, with a beneficent result retroactive to all classes of citizens and to all corners of the Dominion.

But we must not rest where we are. The need for further regulation is seen when attention is directed to the amount of unmanufactured wood still being exported. In 1920, of the cut of pulpwood, 31% was exported as wood with a value of \$16,000,000; 28% as pulp with a value of \$76,000,000, and 25% as paper with a value of \$87,000,000. If that exported wood had been exported as pulp it would have brought in \$84,000,000, and if exported as paper \$105,000,000.

Such a prohibitory act would wreak hardships on those mills in other countries dependent on the rude produce of our forests for the profits of their manufacture. But such hardship is at present ours, and but proves the need of prohibitory measures.

For, alas! our supply is only too limited, and anything that ekes it out, and will lengthen the period that our own mills will find available supplies, is to be welcomed. It is enough that our forests are being reduced quickly to a state of inefficient productivity or worse, without that we should be deprived of all their benefits while we have them.

Being convinced of the beneficial results on our society of prohibition, it is our duty to pursue it to the logical end—Dominion prohibition of the exportation of unmanufactured wood from all lands whatsoever.

C. E. WESTLAND, 21 Mountview Avenue, Toronto, Ont.

The Teeming Population, so Confidently Expected and so Ardently Hoped for, in the Prairie Provinces will need Large Supplies of Timber.

During this stormy weather, watching the snow swirling past the window at blizzard speed, I have tried to conjure up memories of how we weather-fared in my young days in this same region. The picture is of plenty of snow and frost, and calm stillness—no blizzards. In summer the cropped land yielded abundantly, almost spontaneously, for we had not then the many pests and blights that cause us now so much sweat before we can harvest a comparatively meagre crop. The country abounded in noble streams peopled with lusty trout, where now in summer are disreputable trickles of muddy water, inviting neither to the eye of the aesthete nor the heart of the angler.

The mill rumbled continuously with the force of its own water-wheel, where now it relies on steam-power, no moderate outlay in conservation dams being adequate to hold the spring freshets, and no water of consequence running at other seasons.

Our suburban home, then a delight of sylvan purity and greenness, is now a target for fierce bombardments of sand, to the chagrin of the gardener and the house-cleaning staff alike.

These changes are due to the clearing away of the surrounding forests. So profound a philosopher as Peter McArthur speculates as to the probability of our country following the gardens of ancient civilizations via the path of human destructiveness to a state of uninhabited wilderness.

Be this latter possibility as it may, there is no doubt that conditions previously described will follow the destruction of the forests in other parts of Canada, and I would lay emphasis on the prospect of our much-lauded stores of "white coal," as in the case of the old mill, being available only at enormous expense in conservation dams.

It should not be forgotten that the teeming population, so confidently expected and so ardently hoped for, in the Prairie Provinces will need large supplies of timber.

A Chicago paper boasted that its Sunday issue alone denuded 35 Canadian acres, while somewhere I read that the paper covered with advertisements of a brand of chewing gum would carpet a good farm—I forget how many acres. Surely the lovely trees perish in an ignoble cause.

It is conceded that the world's supply of natural timber growth is within sight of the exhaustion point, and it is manifest that wisdom would dictate the conserving of ours. Should it be found that natural replenishing will allow us a margin over our needs, it should be sold in a finished state, any advantage in the business of manufacture accruing to our own country and our own people.

E. WHITEBREAD, Allandale, Ont.

Is it not Enough to have the Losses by Spruce Bud Worm, Bark Beetle Borer, and Fire, without Denuding our Forests in Order to Promote Trade in other Countries?

When we consider that the lumber lands are one of the greatest assets of this Dominion, the most possible use should be made of them to produce the manufactured goods, and thus help to build up our trade.

In 1921, in the Dominion of Canada, 2,180,578 cords of wood were used, which produced in pulp and paper 108,677,520 dollars, whilst we exported 1,092,553 cords which only realized 14,617,610 dollars.

Had this been manufactured in the same proportions as the other, it would have resulted in trade of over 94 millions more in this country, sufficient to run 50 more mills, and give employment to over 13,000 people.

Take New Brunswick, for instance. During 1921, 213,000 cords of pulpwood were exported, whilst the 5 pulp mills used only 121,000, a difference nearly enough to run 5 more mills.

What a loss of trade to New Brunswick both now and in the future!

Is it not enough to have the losses by spruce bud worm, bark beetle borer, and fire, without denuding our forests in order to promote trade in other countries?

In 1922, from April to December, 749,811 cords were exported from the Dominion and 133,328 cords in January, 1923, a total for 10 months of 883,139 cords, which, if manufactured, would have had a selling price of 90 millions.

During the past year extensive additions have been made to existing mills, and some new mills are now in operation, so there is no fear but that the lumber we now export could all be used.

In 1922 we exported 874,008 tons of newsprint and 17,061 tons of kraft wrapping of the total value of 105,624,324 dollars, and there is no reason whatever why we should not export more.

The pulp and paper mills are among the most important trades, seeing that in 1921 it had an invested capital of 379,812,751 dollars, paid out in wages and salaries 34,199,090, and the total value of output was 151 millions.

In 1922 our exports were:—

Mechanical Pulp.....	280,266 tons.
Bleached Sulphite.....	138,446
Unbleached Sulphite.....	192,344
Sulphate.....	137,187

Total..... 748,243 tons.

Prohibit the export of pulpwood and we should be able to double this, and thus relieve our unemployment and at the same time help to balance trade.

GEORGE MEAN, Bathurst, New Brunswick.

A Timber Policy Without an Embargo is Inadequate, as American Firms are Buying up, at an alarming rate, Pulp Limits throughout Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces for the purpose of Shipping the Wood to the United States.

Men of vision and sound judgment warn us that our greatest national resource, Canada's forest wealth, is nearing the point of depletion. Forest Conservation, therefore, is the most vital problem facing Canada to-day; because the depletion of our timberlands would cause the collapse of many of our most important industries, and would also produce climatic conditions which would make our country uninhabitable.

Our present policy of slashing timber, regardless of size, and shipping it out of Canada, is the greatest menace to our future supply. Over 1,615,000 cords of pulpwood exported in one year, more than 25,000,000 trees: half of the total annual requirements of Canadian pulp and paper mills! And these mills will be facing a timber famine in the near future.

A timber policy without an embargo is inadequate, as American firms are buying up, at an alarming rate, pulp limits throughout Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces for the purpose of shipping the wood to the United States. And while American buyers will take wood as small as 2½" in diameter, and from Canadian points necessitating a freight charge per cord, to their mills, exceeding the cost of the wood delivered at the rails, it is rather hard to imagine an export duty sufficiently heavy to be effective.

What immediate action can be taken, then, to conserve our rapidly failing supply?

Legislation prohibiting the export of all unmanufactured wood.

How would such legislation benefit Canada?

It would enable Canadian wood-working industries, which are second in economic importance only to our agricultural industries, to compete successfully with those of other countries.

It would provide material for Canadian pulp and paper mills, the consumption of which has doubled in the past five years: for sawmills, and for several of our other great industries; lumbering, shipbuilding, etc.

It would provide work for the men employed in the mills and by the other industries; also in the factories which produce the equipment required by those mills, etc.; all of which would go far toward solving our unemployment problem and eliminating the discontent caused thereby.

It would enable us to export, instead of raw material at a low price, a product of much higher value through Canadian manufacture; unquestionably the more profitable for Canada, and the manufacturer as well.

It would ensure a perpetual supply for ourselves and for future generations, to whom we owe a share of our splendid Canadian heritage. By cutting immature trees we have been robbing the coming generation.

By furnishing wood to our Canadian industries the farmer or settler is building up a market for his farm product, against which the United States discriminates by putting in force an embargo in the form of high tariff.

Should the United States retaliate by withholding coal because we have no more raw wood to export, we should again benefit, as this would undoubtedly lead to the development of Canada's coal fields. The supply system of the present winter has cost Canada anxiety, positive suffering, and too much money.

Finally, it would arouse Canada to the fact that we are imperilling the future of our country. 1,615,000 cords of pulpwood in one year: \$38,000,000 spent annually by Canadians for American literature advertising American products and opening a Canadian market for our neighbors in competition with our own producers.

And Canada, aroused, can still redeem the situation through the thorough co-operation of all agencies existing for the protection of Canadian Forests and Canadian Industries; and no government, having the interest of its people at heart, can fail to give the lead in this matter by prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood.

MRS. A. J. MACLAURIN, Box 96, Dalkeith, Ontario.

**This Wood that is being Exported, Sufficient to Supply
Half of Canada's Mills, is not an Annual Crop that
can be Replaced Year after Year, but is an Inheritance
that has taken Nature from 75 to 150 years to Produce.**

Few people in Canada or anywhere else now question the propriety or the economic advantage in the restrictions placed by the Canadian Provinces on the disposition of wood cut out on the lands owned by the people at large. A decade of success with the present regulations is good proof of the soundness of the principle that the employment of thousands of Canadians should not be jeopardized by the depletion of necessary raw materials through preventable causes. One of the primary factors, tending to reduce employment in Canadian mills, and one of the most easily corrected, is the unrestricted export of pulpwood from freehold lands.

The battle for the forest, which is a fight for the wood-using industries, in any case costs money. The concern cutting wood from Crown lands is obliged to contribute to this protection, but the farmer or settler who sells wood cut in clearing his homestead, or for export, does not so contribute, although his cutting operation creates one of the greatest fire hazards that menace the forest. This wood could easily bear its share of the burden of protection, not merely of the forest, but of the jobs of thousands in the wood-using industries, by imposing a heavy export tax on such quantities as pass out of the country. For the past ten years the export of pulpwood has averaged a million cords per year, while the domestic requirements have gradually increased from less than 900,000 to more than 2,700,000 cords in the same period, largely on account of the Provincial forestry regulations preventing export of unmanufactured wood cut on Crown lands.

This increase in domestic pulpwood consumption means increased employment for Canadian people and, through rents and fees, puts money back in the taxpayer's pocket, while the wood exported, not only puts nothing in the people's treasury, but is a positive drain on Canada's wood supply and a source of serious danger to the future of the wood-using industries and thousands of jobs.

This export is a double source of anxiety; it reduces the total wood available for Canadian industries and it provides a supply of raw material that may tide over Canada's keenest competitors until their own forests are rehabilitated and restored to productivity. On the other hand, an export tax would not only tend to lessen the amount exported, but would also provide funds for reforesting an area equivalent to the ground cleared to obtain such wood and for a fairer share in the cost of forest protection. A higher level of prices would doubtless result, but with higher wood costs in the United States, our governments could demand and our mills could afford the introduction of modern methods of forest management, which, while temporarily expensive, would eventually mean lower wood costs and a perpetual wood supply.

This wood that is being exported, sufficient to supply half of Canada's mills, is not an annual crop that can be replaced year after year, but is an inheritance that has taken Nature from 75 to 150 years to produce. The people of Canada, largely through the efforts of the Press, are beginning to realize that we must conserve every tree possible until our belated attempts at forest regeneration can become productive. Canadians now engaged in handling exports would find employment in providing a Canadian market, enlarged if necessary, by a limitation of cutting on Crown lands proportionate to the check on exported wood.

J. N. STEPHENSON, Gardenvale, Que.

If the Wholesale Export is allowed to Continue, our own Sulphite Mills will be Shut Down for Material in a Few Years' Time.

Why export what we need for Canadian industry? Large quantities of wood are exported from Canada yearly, and manufactured into furniture, pulp and paper, etc., in other countries. The foundation of a great industry lies in our possession of the material for pulp and paper making. Why export it? Cannot we turn out the finished article here? We have a few pulp mills, and would have more if the export of pulpwood was stopped. This commodity is shipped wholesale to the U.S. to be made into pulp and paper. The only part that falls to the Canadian workers is to bark and saw into blocks and load steamers. The rest of the business, which gives steady employment to thousands of workers, is carried on outside the Dominion. For example, a barking mill which employs about forty men for the summer months only, disposes of six times the lumber required for a sulphite mill employing two hundred and fifty men the year round.

This question has been brought before the House and debated upon, and, as a result, a regulation was passed prohibiting the export of pulpwood cut on Crown lands. This is very vague, and who could tell (once the lumber was barked and cut into blocks) where it was cut? There are communities to-day requesting a delegation be sent as soon as possible to try to stop the shipment of pulpwood altogether, and it is to be hoped that our members of parliament will be honorable enough to put their country first.

There is a tariff amounting to approximately 43% on manufactured paper coming into Canada from the U.S., and yet, in the wallpaper business, they can send goods over here and successfully compete with our manufacturers. The heads of paper-making industries in the States, aware of the shortage of their own supplies, have laid plans for getting possession of the necessary pulpwood from Canada. The International Paper Company's cut this year in the Maritime Provinces, if investigated, would prove interesting. If the wholesale export is allowed to continue, our own sulphite mills will be shut down for material in a few years' time. Each succeeding year they find it more difficult to procure the necessary supply of logs. By taking drastic action and forbidding the export of pulpwood of any description, the Government would be doing the country a great service. Present owners of pulp plants would thus be encouraged to extend their operations, and with such protection, capitalists would be more likely to speculate in this country. The rise in this industry would also mean improvement all round, as every branch of business or profession would feel the benefit of steady industrial employment of several thousand men. We have the spruce, and by judicious conservation we have an inexhaustible supply for home industry.

H. WOOSTER, Chatham, N.B.

Increased Development Raises the Wages and so Stimulates Immigration

The wealth of a country consists (1) in its natural resources which furnish raw material and (2) in the development of its natural resources.

Increased development raises the wages and so stimulates immigration.

Increased population develops the man-power and the wealth for increased development of natural resources.

Let us take an example: Mr. Brown ships 40 cords of pulpwood to the United States at \$8.00 per cord. Canada is \$320 richer. Suppose that pulpwood were made into paper which is exported and yields a price of \$2,160. If Canada sells pulpwood she is \$320 richer. If she sells paper she is \$2,160 richer.

The difference in the price, namely, \$1,840, is diverted into two main channels: (1) workmen's wages, (2) manufacturer's profits and supplies.

The manufacturer uses his money in two ways: (1) he gets his living, (2) he uses the surplus to develop natural resources. So that anywhere from 10 to 25 per cent. of this \$1,840 is reinvested in natural resources.

The laborer uses his money in two ways: (1) he gets his living, (2) he puts his money in the bank.

The money which the laborer puts in the bank forms a reserve fund for the manufacturer, who in case of temporary financial difficulty may obtain a loan from the banks and so save his business from ruin. Thus we see that all monies belonging to both manufacturer and laborer are used in either direct or indirect development of natural resources, except so much as he uses for living expenses.

Take as another example the case of an expensive violin selling for \$150. If Canada sells the wood she is \$1.00 richer. If she sells the violin she is \$150 richer, a difference of \$140.

A pair of skis sell for \$2.75. The wood costs 24 cents.

Manufactured wood calls for transportation by (1) railways and (2) by boats.

Most manufactured wood products, such as pulp, paper, matches, violins and others of the same nature, are transported by rail. This means greater prosperity for the railway, more men employed, more cars and engines built. This again leads to another industry, namely, the manufacturing of railway cars, engines and tools. This in its turn leads back to the development of three natural resources: lumber, iron and coal.

All these combined increase the agricultural development, as miners, mechanics and laboring men must be fed.

It is not alone the lumber industry which is benefited by having Canada's wood products manufactured at home. Good transportation becomes imperative: mining, manufacturing and agriculture are stimulated. Canada's national wealth is increased; Canada's labor problems are solved.

All these are the results of Canada's forest products being manufactured in our own country. Only in so far as they are developed can Canada attain her full national growth.

LESTER BOWES, Almonte, R.R. 2, Ont.

It Deprives the Pulp and Paper Mills of Raw Material, Hastening the Time when Many will have to Close Down

The two chief arguments are:—

I. The established, by all experts acknowledged, fact, that Canada has not got an inexhaustible wealth of timber. Fires, insects, fungi, unregulated cutting have brought many of our pulp and paper mills close to the point where their limits are exhausted, so that they will have to find means of getting wood or close down.

II. The fact that pulpwood can only be exported from private forests and settlers' lots. The demand of wood from these, comparatively small, areas is so great, that it is creating unsound—to the forest destructive—colonization, which has for its aim not farming, but logging.

How does the export of unmanufactured wood affect:

1. THE PUBLIC?—It deprives the pulp and paper mills of raw material, hastening the time when many will have to close down, thereby creating—

A. Unemployment;

B. Enormous loss of money to bond and stockholders in these companies;

C. Evacuation of towns and villages, supported by the mills, this meaning huge economical loss to citizens.

It deprives the country of a yearly amount, equal to difference between the value of raw and manufactured wood, thereby creating—

A. Reduction of our trade balance with the States with at least \$100,000,000;

B. Reduction of employment with 10,000 men;

C. Indirect loss in taxes, trade, consumption of home products of above-mentioned 10,000 family supporters.

It deprives the railroads of an immense amount of freight. Every car of wood hauled to a paper mill means four additional cars of other materials and supplies. The yearly exported 1,250,000 cords means a loss in haulage of 400,000 carloads, which would materially decrease the deficit in the national railways.

It creates unsound colonization by opening up land unfit for cultivation, land only taken up for its timber, and abandoned when cut, thereby creating—

- A. Loss of money spent on construction of roads, etc., in districts unfit for farming;
- B. Loss of money spent on clearing of land unfit for colonization, only spent to appease settlers' law.

It induces the farmer to cut his wood-lot, thereby destroying the numerous small groves which are essential for the regulation of the water-table and for the prevention of floods.

2. **THE FOREST?**—It is the cause of many forest fires. The farmer can only cut five acres the first year; only when those are under cultivation can he continue cutting; but if the land is burnt, there are no restrictions. Farmers' burnings are, even under ordinary circumstances, the cause of most forest fires; when there is a premium for them, they become disastrous.

It keeps back forestry. Who will start improvements on land which next year might be "colonized" to supply American competitors with wood?

Canada is competing with itself, selling pulpwood to its greatest customer of paper, thereby keeping the price of paper low. This prevents costly, but necessary forest protection, only possible when prices are high enough to pay for it.

3. **THE FARMER?**—It creates low prices for pulpwood by keeping the prices of paper low, in making American competition possible. There is sufficient market for pulpwood in Canada to prevent cutting down of prices.

It destroys his winter's work, and deprives him of a customer for his products by causing the mills to close.

It induces him to spoil his wood-lot, thereby depriving him of future fuel and building materials.

4. **THE STATES?**—It keeps back forestry, as there is no pressing need for it as long as Canada will supply wood.

It keeps up a doomed and struggling industry, which was better removed to states with supply of raw material.

It will create a paper shortage, which will hit the States, the greatest consumer of Canadian paper, hardest.

OTTO SCHIERBECK, Forest Engineer, Price Brothers & Co. Ltd.

"How can we Keep Native-born Canadians at Home?"

Canada's two greatest needs are, first, Canadians and, second, systematic development of natural resources for Canadian benefit.

For some years past—especially since the collapse of the post-war boom—Canadians who have been interested in their country's welfare have been more than a little concerned over the immigration problems. Even our most sanguine optimist cannot fail to admit that Canada has "lost" in population during the past ten years: not in actual figures, but in proportion. Between 1911 and 1921 Canada's increase (considering births and immigration as opposed to deaths) should have resulted in a population of approximately one million more than is shown by the 1921 census figures: proving beyond a shadow of doubt that Canadians are leaving the country. Ninety-nine out of every hundred of these migrants—who have gone to the United States in most cases—will admit that they did so, not because they prefer to live under the Stars and Stripes, but because they are able to get work in the United States when they are not able to get it in Canada, and because "better jobs" are available south of the border. This condition prevails because of lack of industrial development in Canada.

Political sloganeers with single-track minds glibly urge the necessity of securing more agricultural settlers as the panacea for all our economic ills. Although all will agree to the excellence of this proposal, it only solves part of our problem. It fails to answer the question, "How can we keep native-born Canadians at home?" Almost a million have left during the past decade. Would it not have been better if these Canadians had remained in Canada, than to have brought twice that number of mixed European nationalities into the country? Is it not of the utmost importance that we take immediate steps to prevent another million Canadians from leaving Canada during the next decade?

That we need an increased rural population is an economic axiom. Let us (if we can) make conditions on our farms so agreeable that those who are already there will remain. Let us encourage others to join them. Let us do this; but let us not lose sight of the fact that farm life is not universal in its appeal. There are those to whom it is not suited and others to whom it is distasteful. These classes invariably seek urban occupations: educational, professional, clerical and industrial: industrial, because of obvious reasons, claiming by far the greatest numbers. The industrial workers first look for employment close at hand. If they find it, they accept it; if not, they go elsewhere. Wherever they locate, they soon begin to compare their wages, working conditions and cost of living with those which prevail in other places where the same or similar employment is given: either on the other side of the street or on the other side of the international border. If what they have does not compare favorably with what they can get, they move. It is natural that they should. That is what has happened in Canada,

is happening and will continue to happen until it is made financially worth while for Canadians to remain at home.

Legislation preventing the export of raw material which can be manufactured in Canada will result in industrial stimulation; it will encourage the systematic development of natural resources for national benefit; it will provide an incentive for foreign capital to come into the country for that purpose; and, last but not least, it will provide employment which will tend to keep our industrial migrants at home.

E. W. MACDONALD, P.O. Box 102, Wolfville, N.S.

We have a Monopoly given us by Nature and the Extravagance of our Neighbors. We have the Prestige of a Great Empire behind us. It is for us to Dictate in what Form we will give our Neighbors our Lumber.

Canada has need of every foot of her lumber, cut or uncut, for industrial uses and for purposes of construction.

The urgency of the need for construction is shown by the steadily increasing cost of lumber for building purposes. At present, soft wood for building costs around 50 per cent. more than in 1913.

Lumber is the most essential material in the construction of dwellings in Canada. The dearer the lumber the fewer the dwellings. And the price is being kept up by the exportation of lumber.

Canada's biggest customers for lumber are countries which have squandered their own wood resources. In the United States the fact is proclaimed every other day by public speakers, and in newspaper articles, that the extravagances of the past have so diminished their supply of growing wood that they are dependent on their neighbors to supply them.

Associations have been formed and campaigns inaugurated in the Republic to the South to encourage tree planting and forest conservation with a view to making up for former extravagances. And meanwhile they come to Canada to supply the material which their own depleted forests can no longer furnish.

If Canada's wood goes out of the country without labor having been applied to it, a self-seeking owner of cutting rights makes some profit, the rest of Canada makes nothing but loss.

If we will not give our neighbors our lumber rough, they have to take it manufactured. If they cannot have pulpwood, they must buy our wood-pulp, and the pulp mill and its workers get the benefit. If they cannot have woodpulp, they must ask us for newsprint, kraft and other papers, and all the workers in Canada's

paper mills get the benefit; more workers will come from the Southern mills, where they will no longer be needed, to find work in Canada's mills. They will pay taxes in Canada, and Canada's National Debt will benefit proportionately.

The same applies to other forms of wood manufacture. As our neighbors must have our wood, they must take it in the form we are willing to give it. Let that form be the most highly manufactured form, so that Canadian labor may get the biggest benefit.

They in the States have no hesitation about calling for an embargo on coal exportation when they think they are likely to suffer from giving their coal to Canada. They are equally ready to prohibit the entry of Canada's products when they fear competition, as in the case of grain.

Why should Canada's customer pick and choose what she shall take and what she shall give in return, and Canada stand by and say nothing?

We have a monopoly given us by Nature and the extravagance of our neighbors. We have the prestige of a great Empire behind us. It is for us to dictate in what form we will give our neighbors our lumber.

If Canada's lumber must be squandered, let it be squandered by Canadians, and let Canada pocket the profit.

A. E. PERKS, 3477 Bickerdike Avenue, Montreal.

If we would Keep our Young Canadians at Home we must Give them Work. "Canada and Her Resources for Canadians."

Canada's natural resources are many and varied, among which her forests rank high.

Consider the miles of railway sleepers, the wood necessary for cars, carriages, tool-handles, buildings, decorative work; the schooners which still find a place on her rivers and coast-waters. Consider what it would mean to our people should her forests become so depleted that lumber for such purposes would not be procurable.

What, then, should be our attitude to this great heritage? Surely to see that not a tree is wasted, and that, as far as possible, re-forestation be carried on, lest we do irreparable wrong to our country and its future generations.

To make every tree count most for Canada and her people, there can be no question that manufactured lumber and its products are of intrinsic value, as compared with exportation of raw material in the form of pulpwood.

The spruce forests of New Brunswick are being depleted every year, the logs cut up into blocks in the rossing mills and

shipped to the United States, there to be manufactured into pulp and paper. Let us look at the loss to our province from this exportation of raw material.

Suppose the logs were sawed into boards, deals, shingles, how many men would be employed? In one of our larger mills, not less than two hundred and fifty. On the other hand, a rossing mill employs regularly not more than from thirty to forty men.

If spruce wood is to be made into paper, which in this age of books and newspapers is a very necessary article, why not manufacture the pulp and paper in Canada instead of sending the raw material to the United States? Think of the exodus annually from our Maritime Provinces because of unemployment. If we would keep our young Canadians at home we must give them work, and surely there can be no better occupation than a part in developing our industries, thus making them feel they have a part in the nation's progress.

'Tis a sad fact that Canada loses millions of dollars yearly because the products of her forests are exported in an unmanufactured form. She is obstructing her progress towards becoming a great nation if she loses yearly hundreds—yes, thousands—of the youth of the land, the bone and sinew of any country, who no doubt would prefer to stay at home if there were sufficient industries to keep them employed.

I have in mind a town on the banks of one of our beautiful rivers whose head waters have long been noted for their lumber forests. Once it had two large saw-mills employing several hundred men. In recent years, one of these mills has been bought by an American company and converted into a rossing mill, which employs about thirty-five men when in operation. The block boats which carry the rossed wood to Portland load in about twenty hours, so that the money left in the town by the rossing mill is a minus quantity, compared to the amount distributed to the employees in the lumber mill.

In brief, my argument is this—Canada's forests are her people's heritage, and should be preserved for her people; such industries being developed as will result in most benefit for Canadians.

Let our motto be, "Canada and her Resources for Canadians," now and for all future time.

VICTORIA C. WRIGHT, Box 36, Chatham, N.B.

It will Reduce the Per Capita National Debt, and will enable the Government to Carry on and Develop Public Works.

The future of a country depends on its natural resources; these may be its people, its agriculture, its mineral wealth or its forest areas. Canada is still sparsely settled with only three people per square mile, but within this great area are vast resources, of which timber is not the least, and upon which the prosperity of Canadians depends. To export raw material is for the country to reap only a part of the reward that should belong to it. Forest lands are one

of the great natural assets of civilization, and with their rapid depletion, the growing scarcity of wood and its increasing cost in all countries, it is necessary to conserve and husband these resources for the future. How can this be done? It can be done best by a wise policy of forest conservation and utilization in the fullest sense of these terms. Conservation which will maintain our present forested areas in a highly productive state, with the elimination of loss from fire, disease and insect pests, and extend the forest by planting and natural seeding over great areas that are now waste lands and unproductive. Utilization which will obtain from the forests crops of wood for paper, building purposes, railroad ties, telephone and telegraph poles, interior finishing and furniture, and of high grade material of desirable species. No higher aim can a country set for her statesmen and administrators than such a wise policy of forest administration for the benefit of her people.

The Province of Quebec has prohibited the export of pulpwood from Crown lands, thus requiring the manufacture within her borders of all pulpwood cut on these lands, with the result that large paper industries have developed within the province. These industries have brought about the development of water-power and manufacturing plants to supply the various needs of the paper mill and its employees. It has brought to Quebec, in addition to capital, a large number of skilled and technical employees as well as unskilled labor to work in the mill, the power plant and the bush.

Canada's great need is an increase in immigration to people the sparsely settled land. Immigrants can only be assimilated by a wise use of capital in developing the natural resources. The forest produces one of the most important products of international trade, and in what better way can Canada be developed than by prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood so that its manufacture into the finished article for the export trade will have to be carried on at home?

The advantage of such a policy will be in creating home industries. These will require labor and capital which may be secured at home or in the foreign market, but all will be utilized and spent in the country possessing this natural resource. This policy will also assist the Canadian railroads and help in solving their problems. It will assist the state by utilizing the natural wealth of the country, and by creating industries requiring power that will be developed from the innumerable waterfalls now running to waste, and thus populating the land with a prosperous and contented people. It will reduce the per capita national debt, and will enable the government to carry on and develop public works.

It is said that wealth creates wealth. Then let the wealth of our forests be fully utilized by Canada for the benefit of Canadians in the building up of national industries. This can be done in a large measure by prohibiting the export of the raw or unmanufactured wood products from our forests.

T. G. BUNTING, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, P.Q.

The only Remedy is the Prohibition of Export of Wood not Manufactured, which will give Employment to more and more People at Home, Enlarge our Home Markets and Assist in Paying our National Debt.

Canada has just lately emerged from the World War with a heavy increase in the National Debt. This debt is as yet steadily increasing, and in spite of all attempts of the Government to curtail expenditure the debt is likely to continue increasing from year to year.

The war, as noted, is responsible for this state of affairs. There is the interest on the debt created by the war. Returned soldiers and their dependents have to be provided for in the shape of pensions. This item will show an increase from year to year for a long time to come. Our National Railways will need assistance till they become self-supporting. Add to this the expenditure for the public services. This cannot be reduced, but should rather be increased in a growing country. The result is apparent. The present burden of taxation will remain practically the same for a decade or two at least, unless radical changes are made.

This brings us to the object of this paper, namely, the "Prohibition of Export of Unmanufactured Wood from Canada." This subject needs no argument, or rather, let us say that there can be no possible argument for the export of any kind of raw material from Canada.

Why, may we ask then, if there can be no argument against it, has it not been prohibited long ago? The answer is simple. Our people have not stopped to consider the question and discuss it. The people in general see that something should be done, but they just simply wait for others to make the first move.

Canada's greatest need at the present time is not a high tariff nor a low tariff. Nor will this question likely ever solve our difficulties. What Canada needs is a larger productive population—not just more people in our large cities—but a larger population in our towns and villages and on our farms.

No Act of Parliament would have the effect of increasing our population as would the prohibition of export of unmanufactured wood.

This would at once be seen by thousands of factories being built all over the country, which would mean increased work for those who supply the machinery for such factories, which all in turn would mean increased home market for farm products, which is so urgently needed. With plenty of work in sight, we would not need to seek immigrants, they would flock to our shores anxious to come here and make their homes with us. The more people in the country the less taxes. A larger population will mean better roads, better educational facilities, better churches, all of which will have a tendency towards fostering a happy and contented spirit among

our people, and at the same time enlarge our views and promote a feeling of national pride and responsibility.

As soon as this happy result becomes apparent our Canadian people will see as never before the value of our forests, and the necessity for their conservation, and therein lie our hopes for the future.

The ever-loving Creator of the Universe gave to the Canadian people a great heritage in its forests which has been so necessary to their comfort in the past. Should not this heritage be left to coming generations as valuable as we received it? Shall we continue to deplete our forests year after year? Surely not! The only remedy is the prohibition of export of wood not manufactured, which will give employment to more and more people at home, enlarge our home markets, assist in paying our National Debt, and also assist in turning into a surplus the deficit on our National Railroads.

When the above result becomes apparent to our Government and people, will a proper system of conservation and re-forestation not at once be inaugurated for the purpose of making our forests still more valuable instead of depleting them?

A. J. JENSEN, Salmonhurst, New Brunswick.

On the Wisdom we Display in Handling our Natural Resources Rests the Future Greatness of our Country.

Are we Canadians taking full advantage of the possibilities dormant in our forest resources?

Are we getting all the revenue we should out of them?

Are we throwing away future prosperity for present gain?

Are we protecting our forest resources to the best of our ability?

Are we providing all the employment possible for Canadian workmen by our present methods of handling our forest products?

These are the questions Canadians should ask themselves to-day.

Canada's forests are not inexhaustible. Fire, insect pests and other natural causes are making inroads on them. In supplying our domestic needs and our export trade, millions of acres go down before the axe yearly. Much has been done to stop unnecessary wastage, much more remains to be done still.

Reforestation is in its infancy here. A tree large enough for lumber takes nearly a century to grow.

Last year (1922) we exported and sold a grand total of \$213,145,383 worth of the products of our forests.

We exported and sold a total of \$94,459,239 worth of unmanufactured wood and timber. In the same period we exported and sold only \$43,183,825 worth of manufactured wood products.

Why not manufacture all of our timber at home and sell the finished product—plus so much Canadian labor?

The markets of the world are open to us. Is there any logical reason why we should not stop the leakage of millions of dollars a year in the revenue from our forest products caused by selling unmanufactured timber?

To illustrate this loss of revenue let us take the figures for 1921. That year we cut 3,273,131 cords of pulpwood; we exported to the United States, 1,092,553 cords, and we received \$14,617,610 for it. 1,092,553 cords would be about one-third of our cut. The other two-thirds manufactured at home netted us \$42,326,028. We are losing millions of dollars a year by exporting our timber in the unmanufactured state.

Canada has 100 pulp and paper mills employing nearly 25,000 workers.

The capital invested in these mills is about \$379,000,000 exclusive of timber limits.

The wages paid Canadian labor by these mills totals \$34,000,-000 yearly.

We could and should manufacture all of our forest products at home. The interests of our industries and our people demand action on this vital problem.

The exportation of unmanufactured wood and timber should be prohibited and every encouragement given to the manufacture of the finished product in Canada.

We have nothing to lose, but much to gain, by proper development of our forest resources.

We should conserve and protect Canada's natural resources, encourage and stimulate Canadian industry.

Let us remember that, on the wisdom we display in handling our natural resources rests the future greatness of our Country.

GEORGE NICHOLS, Goldlands, P.O. Ontario.

One Acre Sold as Pulpwood, \$150.00; when Manufactured, brought in \$881.00.

In December, 1921, I purchased the standing wood on an acre of land for \$40.00. About three-quarters of this wood was very fine red spruce, rather undersized, the remainder second-growth hardwood, mostly yellow birch.

We cut everything, a visit to the spot last summer showing the only wood left on the lot being a single piece of soft wood top about two inches in diameter at the butt end and some six feet long.

We hauled all wood fit for barrel stock to the mill, a few fir butts being reserved for shingle stock. This wood in the mill yard with the firewood, sled length, was worth \$281.00.

Then cut into staves, heads and shingles, with the firewood prepared for the stove, the sum of \$541.00 represented the value of

this wood, while the making of the barrel stock into apple barrels made the last value stand at the almost unbelievable figures of \$881.00, the increase in value being practically the result of labor.

To assist in the cutting and hauling, I engaged a young man during the winter, who for lack of a similar job has this winter spent his time in Boston, Mass.

Then during the spring and summer, in cutting and shaving hoops to make up the above-mentioned stock and in coopering the same I had to hire another man. To do his work economically he rented a house in our locality, to which he, his wife and four children were a creditable addition. For besides the man working at his barrel work, the woman was able to help my wife and other farmers' wives do housework, labor of this kind being very scarce in this locality, while the children rendered valuable assistance in berry picking, etc. I was also able to sell him firewood (some off that lot by the way), vegetables, milk, etc., to hire him a team when required, in this way turning the surplus of the farm into cash, and a ready market provided for a lot of stuff, much of which would otherwise have been of little value.

Now the spruce on the lot could have been exported for pulpwood, the price delivered at wharf being about \$150, and then the increase in value as seen above would have occurred elsewhere, therefore the man and family would not have come to this locality.

And what applies in this very small instance is magnified millions of times when we consider the magnitude, the vast mines of wealth locked up in our forests, and so thoughtlessly squandered, so ruthlessly wasted, by those for which these same forests really exist—the people of this fair proud country, the great Dominion of Canada.

C. PERRY FOOTE, Lakeville, King's Co., N.S.

Henceforward, we Must Tenderly Nurse the Resource which has Slid Closest to Exhaustion.

Why the Confederation of Canada, if not to more fully protect the citizenship, and to educate every child to the limit as a gift from the adult generation?

We fled from Europe to America in quest of such conditions, or we had no very vital quest at all.

We drove the Indian from his ancient hunting-grounds, and proceeded to show him (and "effete" old Europe) how much more efficaciously we could use God's lavish bounties for the welfare of humanity. If not that, then we should be ashamed of our quarrel with him.

But somehow our natural public foresight became blurred by the very surfeit of resources surrounding us.

So we began by accusing billions of trees of inconvenience and incumbrance, and slaughtered them. When too late, we discovered that their only "crime" was beauty and service.

We gorgeously ignored the ever accelerating frequency of a long series of fire and pest Armageddons, which have so decimated our forestial assets as to woefully handicap our start as a nation.

The Redman's "reserves" of the centuries have burned and blasted before his helpless eyes almost to the end of the manufacturable timber. A ten-century supply has nearly disappeared in a single one.

Again, he may bitterly smile at our conceit in prematurely rushing crude product foreignwards.

And as fire, pest and "easy" export depleted our forest commissariat, "the poor Indian" has had to remain a rather silent witness of the ever consequent enfeeblement of our harnessable water-power. He may have sighed as many of his fish and traffic streams were permanently crippled.

In our "far-flung" Laurentian and Acadian formations, our native "white water" is a/e pregnant with "white" coal, whose proverbial steadiness of delivery needs only conservation in order to further prove its superiority over the black coal of the foreigner for the purposes of manufacture, movement, and clean heat. Why any additional betrayal of our industries into the control of the outsider?

We must confess to painful consciousness of colossal wastage of resource, material and opportunity. Our economic base is suffering a denudation which sadly discounts our progress.

The glorious heritage, in trust for our own children, is being converted into the completest possible education of many a "foreign" exploiter's children instead. Ours get only what is left. Now or never, we must reverse this.

Surely the Eternal Giver of infant immigration into the world never set these precious souls in the midst of such wonderful resources and production as we have, for any other purpose than the perfect enjoyment of all of life's sweet ends,—at home. Yet, as our young folks grow up, many pass into exile for want of the square deal.

Can we not correct this "misdeal," which so often necessitates the national separation of children from parents in this spacious country, where the self-contained life was long a much practised institution?

How can we look the Redskin in the face while we thus keep him perpetually busy waving a long farewell to millions of our comrades, compelled to follow our raw woods and other goods into alien lands, in order to find work and upkeep in the manufacturing of them?

We have now no choice left but to enter the repentant leg of the race, where plainly it must be the best of business to effect our first drastic tightening-up in the licensed output of raw timber. Henceforward, we must tenderly nurse the resource which has slid closest to exhaustion.

I. S. HENRI, Montreal.

The Attitude of the Provincial Governments is Shown by the Fact that they have Refused to Allow any Timber Cut on Crown Lands to be Exported in an Unmanufactured State.

Statistics of the Canadian timber industry show that millions of dollars' worth of unmanufactured wood is annually exported to the United States. This wood, chiefly pulpwood, is manufactured in the United States, paying profits to United States mill owners and providing work and wages for United States workmen. It has been urged that the export of unmanufactured wood should be prohibited by the Dominion Government. Such action would result in increased profits for Canadian mill owners, the erection of new mills, and greater utilization of our water-powers.

The attitude of the Provincial Governments is shown by the fact that they have refused to allow any timber cut on Crown lands to be exported in an unmanufactured state. In 1910 and 1911 the Provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick followed the example of Ontario by putting into force such regulations, and the immediate result was a decrease in the export of raw pulpwood and an increase in the domestic consumption; new mills were put into operation and more men were employed.

The vast quantities of unmanufactured wood exported to the United States are cut on privately-owned lands, and over these the Provinces have no control. If action is to be taken, it must be by the Dominion Government. The question arises as to whether there is any essential difference between the action already taken by the Provincial Governments and that asked for from the Dominion.

The difference is, of course, that in the former case we are dealing with public, and in the latter with private property. It must be remembered, however, that this property is, after all, part of the national resources, and even though privately owned, should not be administered to the detriment of the Canadian people. Public opinion resents undue government control in personal and business matters, but at the same time it is recognized that the interests of the people must be supreme. This is the foundation of our political system, and is admitted by all political parties.

The real question, then, seems to be, not as to the abstract desirability of stopping the export of unmanufactured wood, but whether the stopping of it would involve too great an interference with individual liberty.

What does the export of unmanufactured wood involve? It involves, in the first place, the export of work for which we receive no return. That more work is needed in Canada surely no one will deny after our recent experience with unemployment, and in the face of the continued exodus of Canadians to the United States. This work is needed, too, for our water-powers, which are awaiting development.

There is no doubt that our present methods of securing pulp are extravagant. Much wood that cannot be profitably exported

could be used in Canadian mills. If all pulpwood exported were manufactured in this country, with proper methods the acreage cut over purely for pulpwood could be materially reduced. The conservation of the forests is not only sound business policy, but it is a duty owed to succeeding generations. We have no right to consider ourselves the sole beneficiaries of the great natural wealth that we had no part in creating.

Is it too much to ask for legislation that will provide work for our citizens, keep Canadians in Canada, build up a great industry, and which should assist the preserving of our great natural resources for those who come after us? Can anyone say that the small amount of control of private action would not be justified in view of the objects to be attained?

E. HILDYARD, Warkworth, Ont.

The Export of Raw Pulpwood is the Most Outstanding Evil Tolerated by the People.

Every true Canadian must be interested in our great national asset, the Natural Resources of Canada. The necessity for handling these resources in a skilful manner is of the utmost importance. They should be in the care of far-seeing men, who not only take into consideration the present, but the future needs as well. Canada is not ours more than our descendants. We have therefore no right to over-exploit our resources to the detriment of generations to come. If Canada is to remain the great Dominion she is to-day, and grow to a far greater Dominion, the natural resources must be developed sanely.

Two of our greatest natural resources are farm land and forest land, and, when handled properly, these two will never conflict, but rather assist one another. Forests can be grown on land unfit for agricultural pursuits, and we have millions of acres of such land, on which there should be a continual growth of forest.

This land is the people's capital; the growth, the interest on their investment. We have entrusted our capital in the hands of our directors, the government whom we have elected. We must, then have a vital interest in the laws which our government makes to control our forest lands.

It is our duty, then, to make known our wants; to show that we are behind any movement which is going to improve the conditions relating to this great natural resource, the forest.

It is hardly necessary to state the deplorable conditions which exist at present. I think we are all very well aware of the tremendous ravages of fire, insects, and other agencies, which have minimized our present, and future forests. A false impression has also been created from the common practice of irresponsible writers, of referring to our forests as "unlimited." Every survey sent into the north country has returned with data showing that vast areas

hitherto supposed to be forested are, in reality, muskeg, and that fire has destroyed much of the forested area. In short, we are approaching a point, indeed we have probably passed it, when we shall not have enough growing stock to supply future demands, at the rate of present consumption.

It is full time to wake up? How can we avert this catastrophe which threatens a vital industry? Let us examine the problem.

We know that our present laws are not adequate to ensure protection from fire, insects, and other factors hindering the growth of the forest. We know that enormous amounts of timber and pulpwood are being consumed annually, but not wholly in this country.

Fortunately, these existing conditions are alterable, and it is the reflection of public opinion that will make remedy possible. We can remedy these by making provision by law to protect our growing, and mature, forests from the varying ravages mentioned above, and by the organization of a force to see that these laws are carried out. But forests take a long time to grow to a commercial size, and the ravages have been so great, that, at the present rate of consumption, our mature forests will have been depleted before the young forests can replace them. This leaves a gap, in which shortage of material will compel many mills to shut down, with consequent disorganization of a great industry, unemployment of many men with highly specialized trades, and the obliteration of whole communities; a deplorable picture indeed, but one which can only be avoided by prohibiting an increase in the number of mills, and the prohibition of export of raw pulpwood.

The export of raw pulpwood is the most outstanding evil tolerated by the people. The overcutting of our forest for the manufacture of more pulp and paper than we need for home consumption, when we are rapidly running short, is blind, but this manufacturing process gives work to many thousands, which partly excuses the action. The export of raw wood, on the other hand, transfers the labor of manufacture and all its benefits from our homeland to a foreign country. By this remarkable shortsightedness we lose, firstly, that which we should conserve; secondly, the increased price demanded for pulp or paper over pulpwood; and thirdly, the cost of manufacture, i.e., labor. It is therefore triply inexcusable.

F. J. JENKINS, 289 Metcalfe St., Ottawa, Ont.

A Country which Sends its Natural Resources Outside its Own Borders to be Manufactured is Overlooking a Tremendous Reservoir of National Wealth.

That nebulous but potent force known as Public Opinion has at last awakened to the fact that we in Canada cannot have our forests and burn them, too. Equally important is it for us to realize that we cannot have our wood and export it as well. Two hundred million dollars' worth of forest products are being shipped out of Canada annually. The vastness of this sum indicates the necessity of focussing our attention upon this vital problem.

Canadian forests yield lumber which should be transformed in Canadian factories, employing Canadian labor and capital, into fully-manufactured wood products for use in this country, or for export. A country which sends its natural resources outside its own borders to be manufactured is overlooking a tremendous reservoir of national wealth whose bounty should be tapped for the benefit of its citizens, and, consequently, to its own ultimate advantage as a nation.

To be more specific; let us trace the course of a log felled in an Ontario lumber camp, and destined for export in an unfinished state to our Southern neighbors. It is transported by team, by water, and by rail to some point in the United States, where its transformation into a finished product or products will take place. En route, it has provided employment for a few skidders, axemen and teamsters, and—indirectly—for the train crew involved in its journey. The amount of wages which it has created for Canadian workers is extremely small, particularly in view of the fact that it has been handled by relatively low priced labor.

On the other hand, the same log, if directed to an Ontario furniture factory, provides the same unit of employment already mentioned, and, in addition, actually creates wealth—in the form of wages—for at least a score of other industrial groups. Among these might be mentioned the sawyers, planers, lath makers, and engineers in the mill where the initial steps in the manufacturing process are taken. Then highly-skilled draughtsmen, cabinet makers, varnishers, grainers, and polishers are also employed because that log is staying in Canada—where it rightly belongs. A secondary group of necessary factory operatives also benefit; machinists, millwrights, firemen, watchmen, and others might be mentioned.

And they all receive their wages in good Canadian currency. Wages is, after all, only another way of saying "purchasing power"; and the extent of the average individual's purchasing power determines whether a country will be a Great Britain or a China. It can, accordingly, be seen that anyone with anything to sell, or any services to market, benefits by the wages paid in the wood-manufacturing plant. Our economic interdependence is a factor which we cannot escape.

Returning to our mythical log—we should remember, also, that its sale, shipment, and re-sale, in its finished form, provides employment for clerical workers, salesmen, advertising writers, executives, and other allied groups of men and women. And their salaries all help to establish and maintain Canadian homes, to the obvious advantage of Canada.

It is estimated that our production of newsprint in 1923 will reach a total of 1,296,000 tons. This huge quantity should challenge our imagination, and awaken us to a sense of the place which the manufacture of our wood products can and should take in the growth and development of the Dominion in which we are proud to live.

H. C. HUDSON, General Superintendent, Ontario Offices, Employment Service of Canada.

Sheer Necessity is the Strongest Argument.

SCOPE.—The following arguments for an export embargo on unmanufactured forest products are from a Western agricultural viewpoint—really therefore the national viewpoint. They apply only to natural forests. Families magnanimous enough to plant artificial forests can be trusted to dispose properly of the results of their own foresight.

POLITICAL.—Protectionists must consistently support an embargo; it being a trade restriction to benefit industry. Free Traders cannot oppose it, as it would hinder none from unrestrictedly exporting the fruits of their own industry.

CONSERVATION.—Sheer necessity is the strongest argument. Canada's remaining forests cannot possibly supply even eight million people pending growth of artificial replacements. Most of the twentieth century must see Canada importing nearly all forest-produced material.

CLIMATE.—The climatic conservation argument, though oblique, is powerful. Persons doubting this are referred to the Urals, Cyprus, the Lebanons, Spain, North China, etc., and to Western Canada itself, where the desiccation, since 1914, is appalling. A total embargo of national scope might stop the destruction of the remaining mountain coniferous forests between Red River and the crest of the Rockies. The "Great Northern Forest" is a myth.

WESTERN ECONOMICS.—The present Western population is lumber-starved; what of the needs of the hoped-for swarms of immigrants?

INDUSTRIAL.—A limiting definition of "unmanufactured" is not attempted here. But certainly all lumber and pulpwood should be embargoed; assuring a large manufacturing development, provided prospective investors doubt not the ability of the remaining forests to provide material long enough to amortize their capital

expenditures. Lack of such sequent development would itself constitute a more powerful confirmation of the need for the embargo than any argument herein.

SOCIAL AND FISCAL.—Embargo-promoted industries would be a healthful and proper national development; reduce commodity costs to the citizen; increase them to the foreigner. None worthy the name "Canadian" could possibly lose; the only sufferers would be exploiters. Gross turnover would increase and taxation be more thinly spread. Wages might increase. No fiscal loss would accrue to the Dominion. Provincial export duties on pulpwood could be transferred to paper. A great increase of publishing, and perhaps of literary activity would result.

THE SECESSION DANGER.—An embargo would be as balm upon the soreness of the Prairies and tend to heal again the now rapidly widening rift between East and West.

MORAL CONSIDERATIONS.—Moral objections cannot be found. The native forests are products of nature; therefore the heritage of the whole people. They are not reproducing—cannot reproduce spontaneously under civilization; therefore are as rigidly limited in quantity as phosphate rock or nickel ore. They should never have been alienated; but having been, they cannot now be confiscated, but should be subjected to every possible fiscal or police regulation tending to delay their final disappearance; but especially to an export embargo. The cheerful acceptance by Western agriculture of its gigantic loss by price-fixing during the war has further cut the ground from under any pseudo-moral objection to a forest products embargo; especially seeing that wheat is the fruit of industry, while Canadian forest products are the gifts of nature.

INTERNATIONAL BEARINGS.—Britain would be untouched by a Canadian embargo, being well supplied from the Baltic, Norway, etc. The United States would be only affected by being obliged to draw on their own forest resources, larger than Canada's and now being wisely held in reserve until the last stick has been cut in Canada.

JOSEPH R. TUCKER, Kuroski, Sask.

Apply The Tourniquet. It is not a Question for Debate; Immediate Action is Imperative.

Should Canada place an embargo on the export of unmanufactured wood? Does a man with a severed artery require the application of a tourniquet to arrest the complete loss of his life's blood? It is not a question for debate; immediate action is imperative.

The colossal depletion of our forest wealth has long been viewed with sombre alarm by far-sighted individuals who have endeavored to awaken a sleeping public to the seriousness of the situation. Yet to-day we are faced with stupendous increases in

natural and unnatural losses of timber. Huge increases in the production of manufactured wood products, alone, mean extensive increases in the annual cut, while we are content to suffer further losses in the export of unmanufactured wood which in the manufactured state is a heritage itself.

Listen to the words of G. H. Prince, Chief Forester for New Brunswick, delivered in all seriousness before a body of thinking men: "An estimate of between 7 and 8 billion feet of timber has been destroyed by the budworm alone, while during the last five years in New Brunswick as a whole the timber supply has been reduced by means of the axe, fire and budworm at least five times as fast as it has been grown." And the present estimate of this season's lumber cut in New Brunswick is over 210 million feet—over twice the amount cut during the previous season.

Nevertheless the Dominion's total production continues to expand while the already dangerously depleted supply diminishes at a rate enormously in excess of the annual cut. Over half the available stands of pulpwood in the Eastern Provinces destroyed by the budworm! Insects destroying billions of feet of merchantable spruce, to say nothing of that demon, fire, into whose insatiable maw two-thirds of the original forest wealth of the country has disappeared, and continues to disappear, while the annual growth does not offset the gross loss from windfall.

Still, we are satisfied to export annually over 1,615,000 cords of unmanufactured wood, over half of the amount required to fill the demands of our pulp and paper mills. In New Brunswick in 1921 the five pulp mills consumed 121,000 cords of wood, while 213,000 cords were exported unmanufactured; almost twice the amount manufactured. Truly a comparison of the financial returns alone will reveal the fact that our great heritage is being sold for a mess of potage.

The handwriting is writ large across the forests of the Dominion. It stands forth from a wilderness of useless stumps. It is written in charcoal across millions of blasted acres whose blackened scars bear mute evidence to the blasting thoroughness of the devastating fire demon. It is written in dull letters where the budworm has feasted. The message is simple, it spells industrial ruin while a heedless populace continue the orgy of devastation. Cut, export, and be merry, for, alas, to-morrow our forests will have passed from our ken. A heritage gone west.

Apply the tourniquet while life yet remains, then pause, consider, and recuperate.

J. G. BRUCE, 174 Aberdeen St., Fredericton, N.B.

Our Past Cannot be Changed, the Future Lies in our Control.

It is only within recent years that Canadian people have given any thoughtful attention to the conservation of natural resources. Yet it is now evident that careful conservation is essential to our future prosperity, because with the exhaustion of our forest and other natural resources all further development must cease.

A world timber famine is approaching.

The United States has consumed its forests with criminal extravagance. The cut, from four to five times the growth, is supplemented by imports from Canada of wood products valued at \$216,000,000 (in 1921). From 1913 to 1921 their lumber exports decreased 50 per cent.

The Canadian consumption of wood is increasing, and the great increase in the number of pulp-using mills in Canada has caused our cut to reach abnormal proportions. The staggering loss of 200,000,000 cords of pulp in Quebec and New Brunswick due to the spruce budworm outbreak, together with huge annual fire losses, and the fact that we are cutting more than the growth, presents a problem with which we must grapple.

The larch, which years ago was completely wiped out, is beginning to grow again, but reappearance of the larch saw-fly banishes all hope. The white pine, once Eastern Canada's most important species, is doomed to extinction due to the ravages of the white pine weevil and the blister rust. It is thus most imperative that our spruce be conserved. Yet in 1921 we exported 1,615,000 cords of pulpwood.

Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick have placed an embargo on the exportation of raw lumber cut from leased Crown lands. These regulations are not enforced. How many licensees have been penalized for breaking these laws? In 1921, 96.7 per cent. of the pulpwood exported came from these provinces. For years our wood has been shipped to New York and Maine.

The Dominion Customs Department could keep a close check on the exported pulpwood by requiring a statement of its origin.

The recent humiliating experience of Canadian newspapers and magazines forced to close down on account of insufficient paper should not be repeated.

The exportation of our raw lumber is the basis of the Maritime question. With vast pulp-wood resources we import all our paper. Our water-powers, one of which is second only to Niagara, remain undeveloped! In New Brunswick alone, if all our pulpwood had been manufactured into pulp and paper in 1921, 4,100 persons would have been employed, instead of 1,041, receiving approximately \$6,000,000 instead of \$1,151,229 in wages. Our railways would be receiving more revenue—manufactured articles command higher rates. There would be more taxable capital;

the farmers would get a more stable home market; the investor of capital would demand stabilization and better cutting methods the materials required by the mills would cause the development of other natural resources.

In short, this is our basic industry, the one in which we can compete with the rest of the world.

Our past cannot be changed, the future lies in our control. Our resources are a heritage to be held in trust and exploited nationally. If we are to be a great nation, it is imperative that we provide for our future needs.

The solving of this problem will be one test of our national efficiency.

W. MACNEILL, Fredericton, N.B.

The Very Existence of our Agricultural and Horticultural Industries Depends on our Forests.

An item in to-day's press headed "Forty Thousand Acres of Nova Scotian Pulpwood Sold to an American Firm" is most significant to thinking men of this Canada of ours. Why is this exploiting of our natural resources permitted to our detriment and the benefit of our American friends? Have we, as Canadians, no patriotism? Are we not as astute business men? Verily, if an awakening of industrial sense and of Canadian patriotism does not take place resulting in legislation prohibiting the export of pulpwood in its raw state to the United States, our business future, yes, our very existence, is seriously threatened, and our forefathers, who virtually hewed from the Virgin Forest the foundations of what should be our solid business enterprises of to-day, may well charge us with exchanging our birthright for a veritable "mess of pottage." Can any right-thinking business man question this? If they do, note that—

For the six months ending January 31, 1923, from Nova Scotia alone, approximately fifteen thousand mechanics, wood workers, builders, etc., passed through Yarmouth gateway to the United States. Why? Because our legislation permits the export of raw material such as pulpwood, the manufacturing of which provides in the United States.

1. Work for all of them.
2. Extension and betterment of pulp and paper mills.
3. Resulting betterment of other industrial factories, furnishing machinery, parts, etc., therefor.
4. Distribution of wages amongst the grocers, hatters, clothiers, etc., all of which rightfully belong to we Canadians.

Can any person of ordinary patriotic feeling, that good Canadian citizenship demands, afford to ignore this deplorable state of affairs? If they do, I warn them to note—

1. Those of our better class of workers in any capacity, seeking betterment financially, will in a large majority of cases become citizens of the United States, and be lost to Canada forever.

2. The very existence of our agricultural and horticultural industries depends on our forests, as it is well known that as a land is denuded of its forests, the water supply diminishes accordingly.

3. Our own Canadian Anthem boasts of our "lordly pines and maples." Shall we, then, permit the necessity for a change in a part of our very national life, for the want of proper legislation preventing the wanton destruction of our forests? No, a thousand times no! Rather let us say, "They shall not pass" other than statutes protecting our industrial and national life to the uttermost, or in other words,

"O Canada, we stand on guard for thee."

Let us, then, awake and provide for the necessary local industries by ensuring the proper selection of raw material from our forests, the manufacture thereof within our own borders giving employment to thousands of those now forced to migrate with our exports of raw material, and thus extend our industrial life, adding to the growth and success of all our enterprises, both rural and urban, and in so doing add to our peace and happiness, making Canada for all time to come in very truth:

"The land of hope for all who toil,
The land of liberty."

ARTHUR T. SMITH, 117 Hollis St., Halifax, N.S.

Why Pursue an Energetic Immigration Policy, while our Sons are Leaving us by Thousands?

The answer seems obvious.

We have some ten million people in Canada. They have over one hundred and ten million in the United States—giving us more than one hundred million reasons for manufacturing our timber and providing work for our citizens, rather than for theirs.

We have over one hundred different species of trees in Canada, yet the lumber industry, as such, supplies few people with a livelihood; partly because we have lumbered so recklessly and burned so carelessly in the past, that our limits are well-nigh exhausted; partly because the cutting and driving of the logs is the smallest part of the wood-working industries. For example, in 1919 we had—

Capital invested.....	\$231,203,247
Men employed.....	73,480
Wages paid.....	\$ 60,999,020

or, 10.77 and 18.84 per cent. respectively of the total number employed and wages paid in all Canadian industries. If we saved the waste and distilled the by-products to maintain the

hundred and fifty-odd kindred industries, into what figures should we not run?

Such industries call for the expert. Why should he not be a Canadian in Canada? Why pursue an energetic immigration policy, while our sons are leaving us by thousands?—literally by thousands, as any one can see who reads in the daily press of farewells to popular youths who are going to the United States to make the living we deny them, although we promise it freely to strangers.

If our laws forbade the exportation of unmanufactured lumber, or imposed duties which would make its exportation prohibitive, these skilled men would remain at home, employed in the many wood-using industries; pulp and paper mills would flourish; or our forests would stand for future generations.

If we have been reckless in the dispersal of our forest wealth, so have the Americans; but they are repentant, and seek our raw materials, that their forests may be preserved while their sons receive employment.

The amount of newsprint consumed yearly in the United States is stupendous, forcing them to buy abroad. Let us see to it that what they buy from us is manufactured in Canada. Let us hold as a trust for our children the forests which remain.

Millions have been spent in protecting industries which only endure through artificial stimulus. Our wood-working industries require no Government expenditure. We have the raw material—have, or had up to a year or so ago—and may have again if we will—men capable of transforming that raw material into the hundred and one articles which we and our Southern neighbours require every day.

Our Government have expressed their belief in a moderate policy of protection. If our wood is not protected we must perish.

No unmanufactured lumber should be exported; the export of our brains, our skilled labor, will thus be prohibited; not by legal enactment, but by the establishing of so many wood-working and—because of the wealth they create—other important industries, that our youth will remain here, rather than seek abroad the living they know they are capable of earning, and of which they are deprived by our shortsighted policy of exporting unmanufactured wood now, for the benefit of the few, without thought for the greater benefit even those few would derive were the products of our forest manufactured in our land by those who, native born and bred, have the greatest interest in the growth and prosperity of Canada.

It is the day of slogans. Let this be ours,
Canada for Canadians,
Our forests for our own;
Let our trees be manufactured in
The land where they are grown.

S. W. A. ALMON, 35 Hollis Street, Halifax, Canada.

It would Seem that the Pulp and Paper Industry was Worthy of every Encouragement by Legislation and other Means.

That Canada will add materially to her population, under wise guidance during the next ten years, there is little doubt. Such an influx of people will necessarily mean new problems to be met with, and that of employment, ranking first in importance, will have to be solved.

As in the past, agriculture will absorb a goodly number of such immigrants, but all are not suited to such labor physically, or by training, and would have to be diverted to other channels of labor. To what industry can Canada look with reasonable assurance that it will absorb a large number of new Canadians? Surely the pulp and paper industry combined with that of lumbering presents the greatest possibilities, ranking, as it does, first in exports, and possessed of a fine healthy growth year by year. The industry now employs directly and indirectly approximately 50,000 and, combined with lumbering, is a very big factor in the labor situation to-day.

Contributing as it has and presenting such a brilliant future, it would seem that the pulp and paper industry was worthy of every encouragement by legislation and other means, and the insistence that paper and wood products leave Canada with the maximum amount of labor expended upon them.

Canada imports to-day, in spite of having the whip-hand in this particular industry, 10 million dollars of specialized papers, the bulk of which could be produced here, no doubt, and the manufacture of which would employ many chemists and skilled mechanics, as well as a large proportion of female labor.

We do not care to witness, as we have in the past, the filtering of such a large proportion of our population into the United States. Steady profitable employment is the only means of diverting this tide, and surely those industries which show the greatest ability to absorb labor ought to be encouraged in every possible way.

Its ability to come back to a peak production basis after the 1921 depression puts it in the premier position among Canada's industries, and presents a great contrast to many others more or less in a paralyzed condition, due directly or indirectly to European conditions, among which might be mentioned the harvesting machinery business, in which no great recovery is expected.

With the War and other debts incurred becoming increasingly burdensome, it would appear that the Dominion and Provincial Governments ought to make special efforts to encourage this particular industry and to cut down the export of the raw material to the vanishing point; in fact, it would seem under present conditions that they have but little choice in the matter.

By its present position and by what the immediate future seems to hold in store for it, the pulp and paper and allied industries would seem to be inseparably linked up with Canada's greatest problem, that of Immigration.

J. A. SHIELDS, 221 Paisley St., Guelph, Ontario.

Shall we Continue to Build up Other Lands and Neglect our Own?

There are a great many reasons why we should manufacture our Canadian lumber at home and sell only the finished product and no reasons opposed.

First—It would afford employment to a great number of laborers, which would tend to increase our population, and the large amount of money expended for wages would come into general circulation, and all other branches of our industries would receive a large amount of benefit therefrom.

Second—Our country would stand to gain by selling the manufactured article at the increased price, thereby keeping the profits of manufacturing at home. Also we might manufacture the by-products of our lumber at home, which would give a large amount of additional employment, and in the future there is no doubt but that the manufacture of the by-products from lumber will become an industry of considerable importance in itself.

Third—It would increase our self-respect as a manufacturing people capable of turning to our best advantage one of the greatest natural assets God has given our country.

Fourth—It would afford greater scope for training to a large number of business men, who would have a very direct interest in conserving our forests in order to insure a continued supply of raw material for manufacture and also in reforesting burned areas. These men would also have it in their power to a certain extent to regulate the supply according to the demand and material available and would also be in a position to make sales to the best advantage.

The above perhaps are only a few of the advantages to be gained by manufacturing our lumber at home, but to my mind they are sufficient reasons to cause all Canadians who have the best interests of the best country in the world at heart, to pause and consider the situation. We have a young country, an enterprising people, vast natural resources in lumber, mines, water-powers, fisheries and fertile agricultural lands. Are we Canadians, who when occasion demands have not been backward in offering our best and bravest in successful defence of our great natural wealth and unequalled liberty; are we who with our comparatively small population have been able to accomplish some of the greatest commercial achievements of the world, and indeed whose rate of commerce per head is greater than that of any other nation, are we to confess weakness in this respect? Are we not capable of developing to the fullest extent our own most easily developed resources with millions only waiting to enter our land to aid us should the opportunity offer? Shall we continue to build up other lands and neglect our own? What do we receive in return from those that benefit by what we might call our generosity? In the hour of our country's greatest commercial need we receive from those who have benefited by the emptying of our purse and the shedding of our best blood to as great a degree as ourselves, we receive a very

forcibly backed up intimation to the effect that unless we are willing to pay our last dollar into their public treasury for the privilege of trading with them that they want nothing of us, and I think that it is up to us as self-respecting Canadians to let them have just as little as they want until they are willing to pay a fair price for what they receive. I think that the advantages to this country would be very greatly in favor of manufacturing our lumber at home.

FRED A. HOBEN, Upper Gagetown, N.B.

The Returns on Logs Exported are only about 30% of the Returns on Manufactured Lumber.

While so many of our public men are preaching conservation of our forest products, billions of feet of unmanufactured lumber are being shipped to other countries, particularly to the United States, a country that has large timber tracts of her own, thus enabling her to conserve her natural resources at the expense of our forests. The maintenance of the Forestry Department at Ottawa, and branch offices, fire rangers, etc., across Canada, is very costly, although a necessary expense, to the taxpayer. The returns on logs exported are only about 30% of the returns on manufactured lumber. Thus the country is the loser, and the burden of the taxpayer greater.

UNEMPLOYMENT.—Our present epidemic of unemployment could be largely remedied if all Canadian lumber were manufactured at home before being exported. As the lumber industry is carried on in the most thickly populated parts of Canada, particularly the Maritime Provinces, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, employment would be found for thousands of men, now idle and discontented, and indirectly another load for the already overburdened taxpayer.

REMEDY.—Write to your representative to-day, calling his attention to this state of affairs in the lumber industry, and request him to rectify the same as soon as possible.

W. A. RODDICK, Ioco, B.C.

Owners of its Forest—The Citizens of Canada.

I beg to present to you the following argument in favor of prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada.

Such prohibition would tend to—

(1) Conserve our forests.

The forests of the old world are greatly depleted. The United States is using lumber four times as rapidly as she can grow it; and Canada is being called upon to export her priceless timber to countries which have been prodigal of their own supply. If she

does so, she will ultimately be in the same position, as her losses from forest fires and disease have been very great. Then, too, a tree cannot easily be replaced, for while to cut down a tree is a matter of moments, to grow it is a matter of years. We are the custodians of the natural resources of our country—not only for our own use, but for future generations. We must be faithful to our trust. It is imperative therefore that Canada conserve her forests.

(2) Automatically lessens the amount of wood sent out of the country, and the country is correspondingly benefited by having its forests to beautify the land, furnish cool and refreshing shade, protect the country from floods and hurricanes, retain the rainfall which is so vital to agriculture, and finally to furnish a home for beasts and those sweet songsters who fill the air with their melody.

(3) Encourage the establishment of industries in Canada

Not many countries can manufacture in the immediate vicinity of their raw material. For example, Brown & Co., of Berlin, who have a mill at La Tuque, Quebec, have to ship their pulp a distance of at least four hundred miles. Canada can manufacture on the spot. It seems absurd therefore to allow her raw material to be taken out of her own country and manufactured in another, when, with her wonderful natural advantages, she ought to be building up and enriching her own. Industries would attract to Canada increased population, and of a more skilled class than mere lumbering would bring, and this increase would bring its consequent increase of general business. Industries would also bring further gain of freight on sulphur, lime and other raw materials used in manufacturing.

(4) Force industries of other countries to come to Canada.

An example of this is seen in Quebec province. The International Paper Co. of New York has built a seven-million dollar plant at Three Rivers for the manufacture of their pulp and paper. America cannot maintain her mills without Canadian products, and the prohibiting of the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada would force their industries to come here.

(5) Put a premium on brains of Canadians. Never to have to think of creating or to create, is to limit the field of invention. Many things are now made from wood, but who knows what wonderful thing may be manufactured here of which it shall be said it was "Made in Canada."

Citizens of Canada, I ask you to bring in a verdict in favor of prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada. Then from the tall timbers of the West to the sturdy spruce of the East shall our land be filled with rejoicing, and even "the trees of the field shall clap their hands."

CLARA A. DENNIS, 45 Coburg Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Why should the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada be prohibited?

For three reasons.

First.—Our wood is one of our most valuable assets, which with careful handling can be made a perpetual source of revenue. Half of Canada, because of climate, is unsuitable for agriculture or pasturage, but much of this is thickly wooded. And much of the warmer half is suited for only trees. If we continue cutting trees faster than new ones grow, as we are doing now, we shall have vast areas of barren land good for nothing until reforested at vast expense. If we continue leaving slash (which should be used for fuel or pulp) on the ground, fire will greatly hasten the devastation of the country. Then, to keep up our revenue comes taxation—probably direct—of a heavier kind than the present imposts on lumber. And we must buy lumber from the foreigner—at his price—or do without. The United States, European Russia and other countries have ruthlessly wasted their lumber; China, Central Asia, Spain and many other districts are bare, and the value of lumber is annually increasing. Why waste our forest and kill the goose that lays the golden egg? Why leave our children a bare country? Our forests, as in Sweden, should be thinned only as fast as new trees grow, and all the trees cut utilized.

Second.—The exporting of unfinished wood products deprives our workmen of the most important and profitable part of the work. Doors, window frames, boxes, furniture, paper are worth much more than mere boards and pulp. We export our wood to United States cities for American workmen to turn into paper—and let our sons go there to work on it! Poor business. Let us stop our emigration southward by having all our wood fully manufactured at home. If Americans must manufacture our wood, let them come over here to do it, buying their food from our farmers and paying taxes to our Government and becoming British citizens. Home manufacture of wood will build up our country and, along with our agriculture, and other industry, make it self-supporting, as it is extremely unsafe for any country not to be.

Third.—Good farming land needs to have woods on the watersheds and along the streams that feed the main rivers in order to check evaporation, keep the ground moist and, therefore, the springs steady and the rivers full as long as possible. Without woods so placed the tilled land becomes drier and the desert increases. Hillsides need woods to keep the sides from wearing away. River banks need trees to hold them firm. Palestine, when its hills were forested, before the groves of the high places were cut down and the trees of the plain destroyed, supported five hundred to the square mile—now it has less than seventy. Mexico City, when the white men came, was built on an island in a large lake. The Spaniards cut down the forests—the lake disappeared. Let us not repeat their mistakes. A country with about a quarter of

its area wooded will produce more food than if all the land were cleared and cultivated, to say nothing of the lumber and fuel obtainable annually from the wooded part.

The aesthetic value of woods should not be overlooked.

To sum up, we need to conserve our wood for financial, patriotic and sentimental reasons of the strongest kind.

HENRY H. STUART, Sunny Brae, N.B.

The Whole Future of Canada from a Defensive and Economic Standpoint is Bound up in our Forests.

Why should Canada prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood?

Because, the late Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the twentieth century belonged to Canada, which meant, that during that time, in growth and industrial development, Canada would lead the World.

Taking that far-seeing view as correct, one of the first requisites to industrial development is to have accessible suitable raw material, and if Canada is to grow, a continuous stream of immigration must flow in. These people will first need to be housed. This will require lumber, preferably from our own forests. Will there be enough left if we continue to export it? Decidedly no! These houses will need furniture, preferably "made in Canada" from our own forests. Will there be enough material if we continue to export it? Decidedly no! Then, we will suppose the material is retained for possible demands for houses and furniture, but the surplus exported, what would happen to our wood-working, paper and chemical industries that need the product of our forests for their raw material? They would be at the mercy of foreign supply and they and the nation generally would pay dearly for the short-sightedness of those who guided Canada's destiny and failed to conserve our resources. Strong nations want our raw material and are jealous of our timber resources, then why should we send them what constitutes our strength?

The yearly increased population of Canada would necessitate some form of labor, other than in agriculture and the trades generally. If our forest products are retained in Canada, the ever-increasing population could find employment in our forest areas, gradually clearing them, to the benefit of the miner, the manufacturer, the farmer and the householder, who needs some for fuel.

If our forests are cut down and exported, what would become of our fur supply in this cold country? It would practically vanish, as the natural habitat of the fur-bearing animal would be changed.

If our forests were removed (which would soon be the case if export is continued) we would have larger drought areas because the presence of a forest area helps to conserve moisture.

We must look to the future. We fought the last war for the sake of our children and their future, and we must save our timber for the same reason. In the years to come it will be imperative for Canada to engage extensively in shipbuilding and in building aerial craft. How can that be possible if our rock elm and other necessary timber for marine and air ships is exported? Our needs of the future will grow faster than our young trees. The whole future of Canada from a defensive and economic standpoint is bound up in our forests. Why, then, should we help foreign nations by sending them what will enable them to conserve their own supply?

If we export any of our unmanufactured wood, it will sap the vitality of Canada and make it a weakling among the nations, instead of the lusty giant which can otherwise be produced.

"The twentieth century belongs to Canada" only if we as a nation retain for our own industries and people the product of our forests.

F. HOMER MOORE, Uxbridge, Ont.

Our Wood Exported as a Finished Product would Give Employment to Thousands where Hundreds are now Employed.

No one can doubt but that Canada will double its population within the next twenty years. The Prairie Provinces will absorb the bulk of this population. The Maritime Provinces could settle a million on vacant farms, Ontario and Quebec twice as many without any crowding, and British Columbia is capable of sustaining a vast population. We don't need to draw on our imagination to realize the vast drain this will make on our timber resources to settle so large a population, on the farms, in towns and villages and cities; besides, this will create a great demand for a variety of articles manufactured from wood.

Our wood exported as a finished product would give employment to thousands where hundreds are now employed. Especially is this true as regards pulp and pulpwood. Here I would point out the strong economic position of all countries owning raw material of prime importance. Wood ranks first among them all, as no suitable substitute to take its place economically has yet been found.

Unless our Provincial and Federal Governments take immediate steps to stop the destruction of our white spruce by the bud borer and other insect pests, we shall have none of this valuable timber left in fifteen or twenty years, thus cutting down our timber resources to an enormous extent. Further, it should be remembered that there is nothing done to encourage reforestation, and while nature will do much in this regard in the Maritime Provinces, Ontario and

Quebec, British Columbia, on the other hand, does not lend itself to the reproduction of the Douglas fir. A scientific system of reforestation will have to be adopted. It should be remembered that while there are timber areas in the Far North, only a small portion generally speaking is suitable for lumber. The bulk, only large enough for pulpwood (and the white birch the only hardwood growing in those regions suitable for firewood), when once destroyed, is not likely to be replaced. Nature does little to reproduce them, and as it takes from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty years to grow a tree of the same size that will grow in the Maritime Provinces in about forty years, thus we may fairly calculate the value of these timber areas.

The loss of our forests covering our watersheds, affects our water supply, for power, causing very low water in the dry season and dangerous freshets in the rainy season and during the melting of the snow. This was brought home to the people of Southern California, who for years looked upon the Los Angeles forest reserve as a joke, only a scheme to find jobs for forest rangers, the foothills and mountain-sides being only covered by sage brush, grease wood and scrub manzanita, but after a few destructive fires such freshets occurred that now this brush is closely guarded. The loss of our forests would affect our bird life, especially our migratory birds, which destroy millions of pests destructive to crops.

Finally, I wish to draw your attention to the great neighboring republic with its fast growing millions, whose economic necessity will in a few years force them to enter into more favorable trade relations with us. Let us manufacture our wood at home, it will help to bring this about.

RONALD GILLIES, Point Clear, N.S.

The Answer to this Question can only be Given by the Men at Ottawa to whom we Gave the Mandate to Protect our Interests.

Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for a mess of pottage whereby Jacob became the possessor of what in those days was great wealth, also the progenitor of a commercial people of whose prominence in trade and finance we are all so well aware. Esau per contra became the progenitor of a people whose identity has been completely lost in the dim mists of antiquity. Now the question arises, Are we, the people of Canada, destined to become Esaus? Are we, as hitherto, to continue to sell our birthright of natural and, to a partial extent, irreplaceable resources, to the Jacob living across our southern boundary? The answer to this question can only be given by the men at Ottawa to whom we gave the mandate to

protect our interests, and the solution is that these, our representatives, place an embargo upon the export of our pulpwood, so that our brother Jacob will be forced to come to Canada and build his paper mill, employ our labor and water-power, and turn our forests into a manufactured article instead of raw material, which could then be exported at a greater profit and the money for which would be spent, kept or invested in Canada, all adding considerably to our prosperity, instead of going to the enrichment of another people. This would enable us to enjoy the benefit of our birthright, which Providence has so abundantly endowed us with.

There is a bugbear, a fear of retaliation, which seems to frighten some people. This bugbear would be faced without fear if these timid pessimists would cast their mind's eye over the past history of trade differences with the United States and the results of threats that have been made to us in the past. They would then see that American legislation aimed at Canada had proved a boomerang, and in every case has been a blessing to us, waking us up to our possibilities and forcing us to find a better market elsewhere. I could go into the proof of this statement, but it is well known to all who are conversant with recent Canadian trade history.

Let me ask what would the coal operators and miners across the border say to their Government shutting off their Canadian market? Imagination can easily answer that question. We have only begun to develop our water-powers, which are unsurpassed. The increased development of electricity will decrease the demand for coal. The day of white coal (electricity) is only breaking. Mr. R. O. Sweezy in a recent pamphlet writes:

"That paper mill owners in the Province of Quebec are earning \$20,000,000 per annum, but it would be wrong to attribute this to operating conditions alone. A large part of any profits is due to cheap pulpwood supplies."

Why should we deplete our forests and allow these valuable assets to go out of our hands?

Again he states:

"That in Eastern Canada no newsprint paper company has ever defaulted on its bonds, but on the contrary large profits have been accumulated and reinvested, and that the diminishing supply of raw material in the United States has increased the demand for ours."

Our brother Jonathan has come to us in his investments in our paper industry and is enjoying our prosperity, and at the same time helping us, so mote it be.

Why not, by placing an embargo upon the export of pulpwood, the life-blood of our country, induce American capital or, to use a much stronger word, force Americans who must have paper, particularly newsprint, in large quantities to come to Canada and make it here?

C. L. SHOREY, 314 Notre Dame St. W., Montreal.

Exported Unmanufactured Wood is Leaving Barren Cut-Over Wastes in Canada and Creating Pulp Mills, Paper Mills and Allied Industries in the United States that should be in Canada.

"Never let fear govern your actions," said Stonewall Jackson. The Canadian Government in the past, however, has had no use for the sage advice of the distinguished Confederate General who never lost a battle, because, when the subject of placing an embargo comes up for discussion, fear does govern their action, the fear of losing votes in pulpwood exporting districts and fear of retaliation from the United States if they should be robbed of our unmanufactured wood which is so vital to many of their industries.

For the sake of Canada, this last great Tutankhamen of natural resources, let us pray that the present Government will rise above all fear and stop the carrying away of our precious raw materials.

To use an "Irish-ism," the best argument for the prohibition of unmanufactured wood from Canada is publicity along easily understandable lines which will appeal to that very important gentleman "the man in the street." Efforts have been made to obtain his ear before and failed. Why? The answer is easy—too many statistics.

The lumber, pulpwood and paper fraternity love to quote figures. They have a jargon all their own. They talk glibly of millions of superficial feet of logs and lumber and hundreds of thousands of cords of pulpwood valued at so much, etc., etc., ad lib., and also ad nauseam. Eliminate the statistics. Few people understand them and they make most people yawn. On the other hand, where is the Canadian who is going to contradict a statement simply made that it is better to sell Uncle Sam the finished article, say newsprint for instance, than sell him for a pittance the stick of pulpwood to make the paper for himself?

Statistics here are as unnecessary as the parsley the chef in the big hotel insists on sprinkling on your ham and eggs.

Tell Canadians that their exported unmanufactured wood is leaving barren cut-over wastes in Canada and creating pulp mills, paper mills and allied industries in the United States that should be in Canada.

Show them in moving pictures our treeless wastes, also the actual pulpwood freighting to the border, train load after train load of it, and do not forget to show them some of the mills and factories in the United States kept in operation, and in being, by our pulpwood.

For the benefit of those whom only statistics will convince, I will say that figures in favor of the argument in hand are so common that I need go no further afield than my own town, Chatham, New

Brunswick, for in 1920 pulpwood valued at \$425,700 was exported to the United States. What is happening in Chatham is happening in countless localities all over Canada.

It is high time indeed that we stopped handing Uncle Sam our natural resources pocketbook and telling him to help himself. He must chuckle inwardly as he does so—and well may he, lucky Uncle Sam. For he has about come to the end of his own unmanufactured wood to feed his mills and factories, but Canada has stepped nobly into the breach and said "Take my Forests." I would rather keep your mills going than have mills of my own. I have no use for increased population, more wages for my workmen, more freights for my railways and less taxes all around!" Sounds impossible, you say? Wake up! It is happening right now and will continue to happen until the Government is told to end it by the people of this country.

H. D. SUCKLING, Chatham, N.B.

The United States have Set up a Barrier Against our Farm Produce. No Slight, however, is Offered towards our Forests.

Assuming that Canada has a fixed political destiny, we shall take it for granted that she will preserve her present form of government. To continue as a separate nation Canada must grow in population. This will require industrial expansion. In this article I must keep in mind only those industries that require wood.

Wood products are so numerous and varied as to include almost every article in common use. They include building materials for houses, factories, ships, railway cars and ties, motor bodies, furniture, farm implements, boxes, buckets and matches. Articles made from woodpulp are paper of all kinds, boxes, bags, tubs and even silk. The list is growing constantly.

It may become necessary to use wood as fuel. A wood fire is more healthy, clean and cheerful than one of coal. The wood lots of older Ontario were the sole sources of warmth to many during the past winter. It will not be safe henceforth to depend upon American coal. Transportation charges on Canadian coal delivered to Ontario are as yet prohibitive.

We export what other countries use and cannot themselves economically produce. Our wood customers have consumed most of their forests. They are now practising reforestation. It requires a century's time to reproduce serviceable timber. Meanwhile their wood-consuming industries rely principally upon us.

Canada possesses two considerable areas of forest. One stretches across Northern Ontario and Quebec. The other is the Pacific mountain slope. Their geographical situations distant

from lines of transportation alone preserve them to us. These timber lands abound in water-powers. Nature herself intended to foster a home industry.

Since we possess such a supply of material vital to the making of so many necessities of life, it may be said we hold a balance of power. Civilization cannot endure without that from which is made almost everything from the house in which we live to the newspaper we read.

The chief industrial centres of the neighboring republic are in easy communication with our forest belts. Many plants in Minneapolis, Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago, Grand Rapids, Detroit, Cleveland, Buffalo and Boston are flourishing upon Canadian wood. Restricted export of unmanufactured wood will curtail operations in many plants in the aforementioned cities. The demand for their products will continue. Capital and labor will be forced into this country. It has occurred already. American publishers have controlling interests in newsprint plants here. Restricted export might develop a tariff of retaliation. Why should we fear? We have the goods that are necessary to life.

We export great surpluses of produce from farm and forest. The United States have set up a barrier against our farm produce. No slight, however, is offered towards our forests. They are looked upon with envy. We have another surplus that we give away. This is our young blood. Industrial development being backward here, we do not absorb this overplus. Thousands of Canada's best are yearly attracted by the higher scale of wages made possible by American industrial expansion. Our neighbors have become enriched by this gift of Canada's life-blood.

We can no longer afford to merely hew wood and draw water. We have a huge capital debt. The products of our forests must remain here until they emerge from the shop as the finished product. We have helped other countries to prosper; Canada now demands our attention. The twentieth century should belong to us. It can be ours for the acceptance. This can be done to a very great extent by keeping our raw wood at home.

W. L. McILWRAITH, M.D., Thamesville, Ont.

We must Learn to Guard Well for Future Canadians that which is theirs.

This is an age of thrills. We must have them: literary thrills, musical thrills, pictorial thrills. We insist upon them in our newspapers, in our fashions, and in our sermons. In fact, anything which does not make our spines record at least one real live thrill is useless and void.

Yet, do you know, Canada has, to-day, almost unknown to her people, about 900,000 square miles of forest thrills. No, I am not speaking of wolves, or of wildcats, but of just trees.

The responsibility of such an heritage should "give us pause." We must take, from this great storehouse of nature, only what is ours; and we must learn to guard well for future Canadians that which is theirs; lest some day they point to our unworthy stewardship.

In our schools, all the children are taught that the life of a banana tree is one year; but comparatively few people know—or knowing, they do not weigh its significance—that our own forest trees take from seven to eight years to grow one inch in diameter. Think, then, how long our "tall timbers" have been in the making.

That New Yorkers may have their daily papers, 9,000 spruce trees must fall. Forty acres of these trees are required to furnish paper for a single issue of one big Sunday publication. The world's annual supply of white paper takes from the world's forests 11,000,000 cords of wood, or the equivalent of a belt round the earth, four feet high and four feet wide, at the latitude of the International Boundary. If we add to all this the many smaller modern uses to which wood is being put, from decorative "marble" to "fibre silk hose," and all the age-old uses, from a ship to a tooth-pick, how insane becomes the very sound of the phrase "illimitable forests."

No, our forests are not illimitable; but with proper care they are invaluable. And, just here is where we need some real patriotism. Not the flag-waving, three-cheers-and-a-tiger kind, but the kind which can forget all selfish ends in a vision of the country's needs.

From Canada, each year, a vast quantity of unmanufactured wood is exported. It is manufactured in other countries, and it swells our export revenue by about \$123,000,000. Why not?

For every seven people in Canada, one Canadian has gone to the United States in search of employment; and so, one-seventh of our should-be Canadians are paying taxes elsewhere; we have lost them. Again, why not?

Mr. Earnest Canada, we need you in our parliament to-day. We want you to weigh against the greed of to-day the need of the unborn generations of to-morrow. If the unmanufactured wood which we export were manufactured at home, it would furnish many lines of employment, from the machinists in the mills to the chemist in the research laboratory. The Canadian people will do their part when they know it; so, let us have an intensive educational campaign at once. Tell our people why millions of small trees should not be exported for table decorations; let them know, that without the practice of conservation, we shall soon be within measurable distance of a timber shortage.

From the small boy, whittling the willow whistle, to the great scientist, still wondering why the sap rises, let us all remember that, whatever we may achieve with wood, "only God can make a tree."

EVELYN ELLIS, School For The Blind, Halifax, N.S.

Had the Wood Exported in 1921 Alone been Manufactured Here, its Sale Value would have been Increased by Fifty-seven and One-half Million Dollars.

The labor required to manufacture our wood is the very bread of our citizens. Since the War many are still seeking employment.

When our wood is exported it is lost, fails to maintain existing industries or supply new ones. With it goes the means to buy food, fuel and the necessities of life. The payroll is over one-third the cost of newsprint.

The Parliament of Canada alone can regulate exports. Provincial legislatures controlling their own natural resources grant no cutting rights on public lands without stipulating the manufacture in Canada of all wood cut. Thus the pulpwood exported is only cut on private lands.

Pulpwood exports average over one million cords annually. Canadian mills are now able to absorb more than this quantity. New mills building and extensions are making this readjustment easier.

The census of industry shows that during three years wages and salaries paid to convert pulpwood to pulp and paper averaged fourteen dollars per cord. During the same period three and two-thirds million cords were exported, and Canadian payrolls lost fifty-one million dollars. Within the last seven years one hundred and ten million dollars were thus lost to our workers.

Let us glance at the heavy loss to the industry and to the country as a whole caused by the export of all this wood. For example, the figures show that had the wood exported in 1921 alone been manufactured here, its sale value would have been increased by fifty-seven and one-half million dollars.

Various official estimates of the pulpwood resources of Canada have been published. More accurate information is now being obtained. Recent figures show less than half of former estimates. In some districts mills will be out of wood in a few years. Large northern areas of scattered timber must remain commercially inaccessible. The end is dangerously near. The annual cut averages now five million cords.

The end of our pulpwood means the end of present methods of paper making. This industry now employs over thirty-five thousand operators, not including the host of men who cut and bring the wood to the mills. Both classes support many dependents.

All these facts speak for themselves. More could be said. The above is surely a sufficient argument to warrant the immediate prohibition of unmanufactured wood.

W. F. V. ATKINSON, Toronto, Ont.

The World is Faced with a Growing Demand and a Steadily Diminishing Supply to the Extent that Price is Soon Likely to Become a Secondary Consideration.

Canada's national wealth will grow in direct proportion as her people exercise intelligence, skill and enterprise in developing her abundant natural resources, amongst the most important of which are her forests. Our complementary heritage of ample coal and unlimited water-power capable of easy distribution at low cost imposes a distinct obligation upon the nation to convert these resources into the utmost of realizable wealth and to so husband them that they will yield the highest rate of interest compatible with the present and future welfare of the country. This is possible only if we follow the raw log to its completion as a manufactured article before permitting export. Such a policy will benefit the country by augmenting the dwindling tide of immigration, attracting a more desirable class of settlers, and stemming the heavy exodus of our skilled workers to the United States. If we persist in angling solely for agricultural immigrants, the farming industry will itself eventually suffer from such an unbalanced national growth and our forests will speedily become exhausted, as the agriculturist is prone to regard standing timber as an enemy to be destroyed rather than a friend to be cherished.

With our special manufacturing facilities, our wide range and ample supply of commercial woods, and our progressive people, we are not likely to rest content as mere hewers of wood when the more skilled processes require no artificial stimulus or adventitious aid to exist. Our Atlantic seaboard commands the European markets, our Pacific coast the Orient, and the large consuming centres of the United States are right at our door. The Canadian people have attested their faith in our wood manufacturing possibilities by retaining over 70 per cent. of the billion dollars already invested in our lumbering and pulp industries. This confidence is justified. Wood is the most widely used of all materials and fresh uses are being discovered yearly; consequently the world is faced with a growing demand and a steadily diminishing supply to the extent that price is soon likely to become a secondary consideration.

If we blindly follow the economic urge to equalize our exports with our imports by attempting to speed up the export of unmanufactured wood, we are simply sacrificing our princely birthright by encouraging the maximum exhaustion of our forests at the minimum employment of labor. Are we to permit this loss of potential units of labor capable of conversion into wealth considerably greater than the returns obtainable for the raw logs? Knowing that on the average only about one-half of the cubic contents of a standing tree is finally used in the finished manufactured article, are we to ignore this criminal waste of material, cargo space, and hauling power? If we do, we aggravate when we might alleviate our present national problems and drive the country into a condition of bankruptcy by

comparison with the prosperity which would follow a more economical and scientific management of our timber resources.

By developing the manufacture of wooden wares we follow one of the most logical and profitable ways of increasing our exports. We build up our wage-earning population, thus decreasing the per capita burden of taxation, and draw fresh capital from other countries to augment the national fund available for wages. We promote the reproduction of capital, and afford healthful and remunerative employment stimulating to artistic development and remarkably free from seasonal fluctuations. In short, we go far towards realization of the statesmanlike ideal of cementing our citizens and industries into one harmonious and effective nation.

ALLAN MCKENZIE, 117 Royal Street, Fort Rouge, Winnipeg.

Only the Few who are very Closely Connected with the Interests of our Forests can Realize the Great Destruction of our Canadian Forests through the Spruce Bud Worm.

Passing through an era of re-establishment, Canada must adjust the task of re-establishing her forests. This task can only be facilitated by the proper administration and conservation of her forests, and one of the greatest factors towards the conservation of our timber would be the prohibiting of the exportation of the unmanufactured pulpwood.

DEVASTATION AND DESTRUCTION OF THE FOREST.

Without an absolute prohibition of the exportation of our pulpwood we are encouraging a speedy destruction of our very limited supply of forest growth, which we must not and cannot allow, for with the destruction and devastation, which we have already witnessed to an alarming extent in our Eastern forests, we are not only robbing ourselves by not having absolute restriction, but we are also stealing from the generations which are to follow in our wake. Only the few who are very closely connected with the interests of our forests can realize the great destruction of our Canadian forests through the spruce bud worm plague, followed by the several species of bark beetles and wood borers, which alone has cost Canada the loss of billions of feet of pulpwood. This agency has not only made our forests the most appalling fire hazard, but has made the forest floor in many sections void of reproduction. Our timber supply has been reduced, during the past five years, five times as fast as it is growing. Is this not enough for the enforcement of the prohibiting of the exportation of our pulpwood ?

PREVENTION OF AN INDUSTRY WHICH SHOULD BE WHOLLY OUR OWN.

With the exportation of our pulpwood we are preventing one of our greatest industries which should be wholly our own, whereby we depopulate Canada and discourage the stability of the Canadian people. Through the establishment of this industry (which would eventually come with prohibited exportation of the round wood) a great stride in the development of our natural resources would result, and thus an improvement in the financial standing of our fair Dominion would be inaugurated from an international status.

For an example—during the last year of open navigation to a certain port of New Brunswick, enough pulpwood was removed to be manufactured in the United States to provide employment for many, many times the Canadians who were employed to cut and load the wood, had it been manufactured in Canada (and we presume this was granted land or farm lot wood since it was exported without restriction).

Official statistics for one province show that for the year of 1921 almost twice the amount of wood was exported as the amount manufactured within that province. The manufacture of all this wood within the province would have meant the employment of twice as many more employees as were employed in the pulp mills of that province.

DENUDING THE SOIL AND REDUCED WATER-POWER.

The soil is already showing the effect of too great a removal of the forest growth. The ground water level has become lowered, and as a result the vegetation suffers in the dry seasons. There is greater difficulty in stream driving the round lumber, due to the shorter period of the run-off of the spring freshet water, which is a direct result of less forest cover to hold the water for a better regulated run-off. This phase is a minor one in comparison to the waste of the soil fertility which is essential for the reproduction of a new stand.

The removal of the forest growth has materially affected the water-power problem, which with the continued cutting and burning of the forest lands shall become even more difficult. There is no greater reservoir than our green forests—a reservoir which means health, wealth and prosperity to Canada.

We have many game protective associations throughout Canada with the protection of our forests one of their aims, but "protection" here is generally thought of as a precautionary against the fire fiend and not from an exhaustive standpoint of our limited raw material. With the support of such organizations, public opinion must be aroused in favor of prohibitive exportation, for without public opinion behind this most vital cause, Canadian wood will still be manufactured into American paper. Let us make our slogan, "Canadian wood for Canadian paper."

We may sum up the reasons for the prohibition of our unmanufactured pulpwood as follows:—Because

1. We are encouraging the devastation and destruction of our forests, whereby we are robbing ourselves and stealing from the generations to follow in our wake.

2. We are encouraging and feeding an industry elsewhere which should be wholly our own.

3. We are building up a foreign population at the expense of our own.

4. Foreign capital must be attracted to Canada from the United States and Europe.

5. The supply for shipments from private lands is very nearly at an end.

6. We are destroying the canopy of our wild game.

7. We are causing the reduction of our water-power.

8. The foreign market for raw material is wholly in the United States while the foreign market for the finished product is not confined to the United States.

9. There is a competitive market for the finished product in the Empire and in Europe.

H. P. WEBB, Chatham, N.B.

The Forests are the Natural Reservoirs of Moisture.

The primary object of all law should be the greatest good to the greatest number. We have many laws which limit the personal liberty of certain individuals, yet such limitation is not only justifiable but necessary for the well-being of the nation as a whole.

The nation may be likened to a body composed of different parts or members. It may be sometimes necessary to remove certain parts to save the whole from death or disaster. The greatest Healer and Lawgiver who ever lived said: "If thy right hand offend thee, cut it off; for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell."

All our natural resources, properly speaking, belong to the nation and not to private individuals; they should be considered and used as such.

Just as the future prosperity of an individual can be foretold by his present habits of thrift and industry, so the future prosperity of a nation can be calculated from the manner in which it conserves and uses its natural resources.

Like the prodigal son of the parable, we have been wasting our substance in riotous living, and it is high time we were pulled up with a jerk; for the destruction of our forests by fire and other

means as well as by the hand of the wood-cutter, if long continued at the present rate, cannot but seriously impair our supply of wood and timber for the future; and it will also tend to decrease the productivity of our farms, for it is a well-known fact that the forests are the natural reservoirs of moisture, the humus in the soil formed from the decaying leaves of the trees holding the rainfall which otherwise would be washed down the gullies and into the streams and be lost to the growing crops. Where forest growth is abundant the rainfall is distributed more uniformly throughout the growing season; but in countries where the forests have been cut away there are long periods of drought which often result in complete crop failure.

But the great basic industry of agriculture is not the only one that would benefit by restricting the market for unfinished lumber. Canadian industries dependent upon timber for raw material are second in economic importance only to agriculture. The encouragement given to these industries through the lowering of the price of lumber as the result of prohibiting its export would bring about noticeable improvement in business conditions. By lowering the cost of production of all those articles manufactured from Canadian timber, we should be able to buy cheaper such products as furniture, flooring and other building materials, paper, certain parts of farm implements and other tools, etc. This would naturally result in cheaper buildings, lower rents, more houses, more homes, more marriages, more Canadian children—and what is there we need more than these? Then, too, increased activity in manufacturing and in the building trades would attract more skilled workmen to our country. Thus, better living conditions, increased business and more population would go a long way towards solving Canada's pressing problems at the present time.

EZRA SNIDER, R.R. 1, Orillia, Ont.

Raw Wood "Shall not Pass" Out.

Without introduction, permit this leaf to be added to the book of Canadian Forestry. As space is limited, brevity and boldness must be the note of this call. Stern necessity summons vision and action. The case has been proven, judgment is demanded.

To-day we face the black ruin of our sylvan lodges and the desolation of the hinterland. Quebec has done something, Ontario put an embargo on saw logs; but townships of forest and cataracts of power have been permitted to bloat the dividends of foreign despoilers.

May we ask if education is an industry? Canada from Halifax to Vancouver is a laboratory of intellect, but has it "vision"? We have fruits and flowers, cattle and culture, grain and gold, metals and men. With competence comes education, then, too often

migration of "raw youth" to seek the diamonds of success in foreign fields. The "professions" at home are crowded thickets, so educate for work. Universities may be the pinnacles of a nation, but "tall chimneys" are its silos. What proportion of virile Canadians now populate New England, Michigan and Western States, educated and polished in Canada? We need schools for the mentally blind.

The "fourth estate," as the Press has been called, is our trust and hope; it is the ultimate educator. On its advocacy of forest preservation the salvation of Canada's most vital asset must depend. Every confidence can be placed on the monitorial pages which warn greed, instruct ignorance and attack apathy. The Press makes and unmakes governments, diagnoses the diseases of the body politic, detects the stains of partisan canker, and sprays the budworm of graft, which dieth not. That is the education that will conserve Canada for Canadians.

May we now approach our legislators, great and small? Why not? They approach us at election time. We ask them to stop whittling shingles with a penknife, and hew to the line with a broad-axe. Who mutters "retaliation," or fears to place an embargo on raw wood? Let us answer with other questions, so that the man who runs may read; there is no need of flag-waving, Brother Jonathan is astute. Who loads our wheat with an import duty of 30c. per bushel? or practically bars out our live stock? Who made an alien rake-off on nickel during the war? How can Canada pay its debts to Wall Street? Shall it be in gold, or scraps of paper peeled from our dying forests? Shall Canada be a hewer of wood and drawer of water for their stocks?

Then assume an aggressive defence: Did ex-President Taft hesitate to refer to Canada as a prospective "adjunct" to the United States in 1911? That word won the campaign for Borden. Our great Macdonald referred to the Reciprocity idea as the "jug-handled system"; Canada's own Laurier feared not in making an ethical point to speak of Columbia as a "Godless country." They spoke plainly. No offence is meant by these allusions, but a compliment is offered as—their statecraft is older, so they are more acute. The many boundary and fishery disputes prove their astuteness as well as British obtuseness. As friends, we may be pardoned for comparing the greater relative decline of their Indian population and reservations; the total extinction of their buffalo, depletion of fisheries, the massacre amid their seal rookeries, and exhaustion of their own forests and homestead farms, etc. It is not bad form to allude to their superiority in exploitation when defending our most vital, and as we pray, our ever-perennial asset—"the merry greenwood." Canada first. This appeal is to publicists and legislators, patrons and rangers, scientists and the patriotic public. Man the walls, and wage war against war—against the slaughter of the innocents. If you forget the Trees of the Garden which God

planted for you, He will forget you and drive out your heirs. Then Canada will become a howling wilderness and the mockery of nations.

In conclusion, let not a stump of curly birch, a block of bird's-eye maple, or a sheet of white birch bark be exported in raw form. Artistic toil will add many thousandfold to the value of wood products—especially paper. Make the publishers of lurid foreign literature, the twin-pest of picture shows, pay a tax rate modeled on their own tariff shears. At least take a toll of the grist, which may, if fed in such gross form, vitiate the minds of Canadian children.

WILLIAM HENRY TAYLOR, 246 Gladstone Ave., Toronto, Can.

As a Result of Careful Observation and Study, Experienced Woodsmen say that, if the Present Rate of Tree Wastage is Maintained, this Generation will See the Extinction of Canada's Forests. Stringent Measures in aid of Conservation have already been put in Force in the States.

Canadian writers and orators have so often, and with so much enthusiasm, referred to their country's "inexhaustible forest, coal, and fishery wealth," that we are proud to believe the original conditions will last forever, and that up to the end of time residents of this country will be able to point with pride to teeming waters, undeveloped mining areas, and untouched tracts of forest. This optimism, as far as Canada's forest wealth is concerned, is very much misplaced. As a result of careful observation and study, experienced woodsmen say that, if the present rate of tree wastage is maintained, this generation will see the extinction of Canada's forests.

The agents that are hurrying this disaster on are fire, wind, insects, and the annual cut. On the other side, waging a losing fight, are natural growth and reforestation. Had reforestation been commenced early enough, and on a properly generous scale, there would be now nothing to fear as far as destruction by the annual cut is concerned. But it takes a seedling fifty years to grow to maturity, and as the planting of forests began in this country only in very recent years, it follows that the crisis will have arrived before the new crop is available.

If the possibility of forest exhaustion is thought of at all by the public, the catastrophe is measured in terms of its relation to the lumber industry. That alone would be grave enough. Thousands of workmen now employed in pulp and paper mills, in lumbering itself, and allied industries, would be thrown out of employment; the capital invested in these enterprises would disappear, and the revenue accruing to the nation from their operations would be lost.

The effect, however, would come home in a more personal way. As the forests go, the water supply diminishes in streams, wells, and soil. Fertility and agricultural production suffer; hydro-electric service and community water supply are curtailed; industries now running on inexpensive water-power must install more costly equipment; and fire risks become greater

Of the destructive influences mentioned the annual cut is the most easily controlled. To fight the other agents the services of an army of foresters, entomologists, and fire rangers are required. Their efforts cannot immediately become effective, and their cost is high. The only way to secure immediate conservation—and conservation that is without cost—is to slacken up on lumbering operations, and that is best effected, without interfering with national industry, by government action prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood.

Against such a move it is urged that the United States might retaliate by imposing an embargo on some commodity imported in great quantities by Canadians. That action is very unlikely. Stringent measures in aid of conservation have already been put in force in the States, and it is unlikely that American legislators would regard any similar move on Canada's part as an act calling for reprisal. It should only be necessary to point out that at the present rate of tree wastage it will only be a very short time when everybody connected with the lumber industry, and allied trades, will be forced to seek some other means of livelihood. The great majority of these workmen will not be disturbed by the proposed curtailing of the annual cut.

C. J. MACGILLIVRAY, Box 423, Antigonish, N.S.

The Quebec Government had Wisely Prohibited the Export of all Wood from its Public Lands.

As the conservation of the natural resources of the country is, or ought to be, very near the heart of every patriotic citizen, it is rather a pleasure to have the privilege of writing on this subject.

Briefly, I had occasion to ramble, while hunting, on a timber limit of a large lumber company in Quebec, and on inquiry found that the system of lumbering this seven hundred square miles of territory was to cut all spruce and fir trees down to a minimum of six inches at the stump, and take from this around fifty thousand cords of pulpwood and saw logs yearly. The larger logs were sawed into deal and boards for building purposes and the balance was utilized for pulp; this wood if prepared for export would net the owners around twelve dollars per cord, F.O.B. on the Bay Chaleur, and would consequently bring \$600,000. But instead they built a

pulp mill costing some millions of dollars. The building of this mill alone gave employment to hundreds of our Canadian citizens, and inside of three years from its inception a town of at least 1,500 inhabitants had sprung up around it, and has by this date increased to about 2,000 persons. At least 250 men are employed about this mill. When it is running normally it starts operation at one o'clock Monday morning and does not stop until twelve o'clock Saturday night. These are not all who find employment, as where there are a couple of hundred families there must be clergymen, doctors, lawyers, blacksmiths, grocerymen, hotels, etc., and every other class of tradesmen that are necessary to make life worth while in a small town.

In the manufacturing of pulp at this place there are used about fifty thousand tons of coal a year. In the production of this amount of coal there are employed many hundreds of men in other parts of Canada. The cost of this coal alone is in the vicinity of \$400,000. We can therefore see what a benefit there is to Canada as a whole. Following this there are a great number of men employed on the railroad to freight this to where it is needed.

Then we must look into the product as it is finished. This is made into pulp of different kinds. Some of the pulp brought as high as \$95.00 per ton, while others as low as \$50.00 per ton.

The machinery for this mill was not all made in Canada, but a great deal of it was, and this again was money spent in our own country.

There was about four million dollars' worth of pulp sold, although the pulp was not made into newsprint, nor, I believe, was any of it finished at this place; not even wrapping paper was made here. Yet pulp and lumber amounting to about four million dollars was sold from here, instead of delivering it at the water's edge to a foreign country for the sum of \$600,000, a net balance in favor of doing this work in Canada of \$3,600,000 on a four-million-dollar deal.

As this pulp mill develops financially, it is the intention to manufacture paper for all purposes and of all kinds, for which its lumber is suitable; and this will greatly increase the number of men who are paid wages in connection with this business. Before this proposition had developed, or could with any degree of safety have been started, the Quebec Government had wisely prohibited the export of all wood from its public lands, and the manner in which it has handled the timber business will greatly increase the population as well as conserve the wealth of the province, and consequently be a benefit to the whole of Canada.

T. M. LINKLETTER, Summerside, P.E.I.

A National Necessity.

The next generation will live in practically a woodless country unless some action is taken in the near future to prohibit the exportation of unmanufactured wood from Canada.

Our forestry experts have for some time been sounding the alarm that, unless we curtail the exportation of our wood in the raw state, in less than fifteen years our available supply of standing timber will be exhausted.

Our greatest national asset is rapidly being destroyed by each year shipping many thousands of cords of unmanufactured wood to the United States, keeping the wheels of American industry turning, providing cheaper paper and building material for them while we receive a few millions of dollars as a small remuneration for our heritage, which will soon be depleted. The wood for export if manufactured here would increase in value six or seven fold. Therefore, why export our unmanufactured wood? Keep it here, manufacture in our mills, giving employment to citizens of Canada, which in turn will create a demand for the products of the farmer, and will ultimately help the business man, the banker and manufacturer.

To prohibit the export of wood in its raw state would be looked upon by some as a selfish act, but if the United States were in our position they would not hesitate for a moment to prohibit the export, if their available supply was menaced as ours is to-day by the ruthless cutting and wholesale export with no thought of the morrow.

People of Canada stop, look, and listen! You are selling your birthright for a mess of pottage. Soon you will be paying thrice the present-day prices for wood for domestic purposes. Consequently we as a nation will be importers of wood, paying many times over the amount we received for our God-given heritage of stately forests, blindly sacrificed for personal gain.

So by all means let us prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood, which is the only way whereby we will be assured of wood to meet our future requirements at a reasonable price. Then those that come after us can say that we did our full duty as citizens of Canada in preserving our forests for the benefit of the nation, while otherwise they would be slaughtered to meet the demand for pulpwood in the United States, causing their paper prices to be lower than if they bought elsewhere, all at the expense of the forests of Canada.

W. E. MACCONNELL, Meadowville, R.R. No. 2, N.S.

Wake Up, Canada!

Canada is losing her young men in great numbers to her next-door neighbor, the United States. These are the men who should be growing up with the country and helping to build it up for themselves and their children, but instead, through no fault and by no inclination of their own, they are forced to desert the country that will yet need them, because of lack of employment.

This is a deplorable state of affairs in a country such as Canada with its great abundance of natural wealth which, if exploited properly and more wisely protected from the ever-clutching hands of non-resident capitalists, would be the means of retaining the young blood of the nation with all its attendant "pep" and enthusiasm necessary to the constructive welfare of any progressive people.

Speaking of unprotected natural resources, let us take the lumber industry as a case in point. Millions of feet of the unmanufactured product are exported yearly. It is safe to surmise that the United States is our largest customer for this material, which they can purchase at a lower price than is asked for the same products grown within their own boundaries. Their manufacturers make this material into automobile bodies, pianos, phonographs, furniture and a few hundred other articles both useful and ornamental. In doing this they are providing work for skilled men and laborers alike by the hundreds of thousands, and at the same time are attracting to their republic our own workers, young and old, at an alarming rate. And what is more to the point, we are buying a large percentage of these manufactures, things that could be produced in the Dominion and sold to the consumer at prices from twenty per cent. to forty-five per cent. less than our hustling neighbor asks for them.

The naked truth of the matter is that, through lack of foresight on the part of our leaders, whose duty it is to conceive and put into force the necessary protective legislation, Canada is helping build up Uncle Sam's country while neglecting her own. True Canadians want a Canada for Canadians, and that means keeping at home the materials and men needed to lay the firm foundation upon which their ideal structure is to be fabricated.

The solution, or at least a great step towards the consummation of the same, is to prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood. This may seem a selfish policy to some, yet let those who think it so bear in mind that to be successful one must be selfish enough to safeguard one's own interests.

Canada needs to conserve her forests. Even now, and for some years past, the United States has and has had on foot extensive plans for reforestation. It is high time for Canada to look out for herself.

STANLEY DIXON, 17 PLEASANT ST., AMHERST, N.S.

Our Forests are One of our Chief Assets, and they are Disappearing at an Alarming Rate.

There are a number of reasons why our wood should not be exported in an unmanufactured condition.

Our forests are one of our chief assets, and they are disappearing at an alarming rate, much faster than they are growing up again and when a piece of woodland is cut over and everything taken that is of any use, what is left is so scattering that the majority of the trees die in a few years; so that the next cut has to grow practically from small seedlings, which come up so thickly that the largest part of them are smothered out and die; and it will take twenty-five or thirty years for even a cut of small pulp wood to grow and from fifty to one hundred years for another cut of hardwood lumber.

If enough of the smaller trees could be left to grow, to protect one another from the wind and sun, there would be another cut of timber in a very much shorter time. With practically all the growing wood being useful, there would not be the same decay and waste.

Then, too, the men at the head of operations are often from another country, and have no interest in the future of our forests.

Whereas if the manufacturing plants were near the timber limits, and depending on them for a steady supply of raw material, those in authority would have an interest in them in growing all they could.

If the lumber and pulpwood were made into finished products here in Canada, it would give work to a lot of our people here, who at the present time go to the United States, where many of them find work manufacturing the raw materials that come from Canada, living on the products of the United States farmers, or paying the high duties imposed on the products of Canadian farmers, thus supporting the United States at our expense.

Stopping our pulpwood from supplying their pulp and paper mills would only be squaring things up for our people, who were hard hit by their high tariff on our cattle, etc.

This would build up our own country, as the finished products could be sold to other countries just as well as the raw materials.

It would make lots of business and work, create new towns, increase growth of present towns and cities, make us a home market (and there is none better) for our products of farm and factory, save all duties on what was consumed at home, also a lot on transportation charges.

Another thing, too, if this country is ever developed as it should be, and probably will be, a large part of our timber will be wanted here in the developing of our other resources, such as mining, which requires considerable lumber.

Already here in Eastern Canada, on land once covered with the best of timber, lumber has to be purchased for the farmers' use.

Our government should be composed of men who can see farther ahead than those farmers who cut and sold their last stick, and are now buying lumber to use, at treble the price they got for theirs.

E. B. HODGE, Bury, Que.

We Fight Bud Worm and Forest Fire, and let those who do not have the Fruits of the Task.

Undoubtedly the proper conservation of the Canadian lumber resources is one of the most important problems for our economists and statesmen to deal with, and one of the greatest obstacles to the solution of this question is the present practically unrestricted exportation of lumber, in its raw state, to our Southern neighbors.

Now, far be it from me to imply that we should not trade and live peaceably with these people. But at the same time, I hold we should not be responsible for their mistakes. They have been profligate and wasteful of their timber lands, and not yet having learnt the lesson of conservation, they are treating our forests in the same way they have ravaged their own.

From scores of lumber camps all over Canada, lumber in its raw and most unprofitable state is, in enormous quantities, shipped across the border. There it is manufactured, and the profits that should be ours go to build homes, schools, churches—all that makes life worth living for—in a nation not our own.

Think of the prosperous towns that a thriving lumber manufacturing industry would develop. Think of magnificent sites for such industries that are at present stark and lifeless. Consider the general improvement that their development would mean: increased population with a consequent increase in the market for agricultural and industrial products, the inevitable growth of huge power plants, and thus contribute directly to the welfare of the Dominion. And in the face of the wonderful opportunity we sit, tongue-tied, silent, like helpless infants.

American corporations think little of the future of our forests. As long as their greedy maw is filled they do not worry. Their chief aim is to get the rough lumber to their factories in the States as quickly and as cheaply as possible.

On the other hand, concerns with factories located in Canada would be more interested in preserving a perpetual supply. Naturally there would be more co-operation between them and the forestry experts of our governments. Reforestation would soon become practical. At present, the bitter competition between Canadian and American companies does not allow them to pay much attention to this problem.

To-day a large amount of money is being spent by our Dominion and provincial governments on our forests. This means taxation in some form or other, and the citizen, the ultimate taxpayer, has to pay the cost. Men from city and country have to contribute their share. Now is it fair to ask these to pay directly their hard-earned money that industries in the States may be developed? That is precisely what our present policy stands for. We fight bud worm and forest fire, and let those who do not have the fruits

of the task. Is it fair? No. The taxpayer must get a maximum return for his outlay, otherwise he may falter and forest conservation may receive a serious setback.

For these reasons, then, I maintain that steps should be taken in order to ensure that our lumber be manufactured at home. And let there be no delay.

WILLIAM MACODRUM, Mineral Rock, Cape Breton Co., N.S.

The Great Cry of the World to-day is Paper. It is Used by Every Firm on the Face of the Earth, and at Present Canada controls this industry.

Korea at one time was a wealthy nation. Her people were contented and happy.

Years have passed. The people are poor to-day, cold and starving.

Why this economic demoralization of a great country?

The generation of yesterday stripped the country of the cream of her resources to the prejudice of the future of the country itself. The Giant Pine was shipped unmanufactured to Japan by thriftless forebears.

That is all. You see the moral—Japan is rich today and Korea are her beggars.

Now come back to Canada. To-day we are wealthy—tomorrow, what?

Lumber and the products of the forests are our most valuable heritage. Minerals and oil are exhaustible and cannot be replaced but timber always.

To-day we have nearly 150,000,000 acres of forest reserves and Parks in Canada, we supply 20% of the lumber of the world and 32% of the pulpwood. Then why should we worry as to the future? Simply this—it is found unprofitable to carry on lumbering operations in the greater portion of our forests owing to transportation costs. The lumber is being cut away from the country adjoining our railways at such a rate that not only railroading but lumbering is unprofitable. It is too much to expect a railway to go into a new country, let vandals skim the lumber and ship it all out in a year or two, and then leave hundreds of miles of rail to show a loss.

Where pulp and paper mills have been established at such points as Iroquois Falls in Ontario and in Quebec by Price Brothers, towns and cities have sprung up in what would otherwise be a wilderness. The result is that railways pay, hungry mouths are fed, and the country is assured of a continued prosperity.

Canada's exports in one year of unmanufactured timber approximate forty millions of dollars.

If this were stopped our exports of products manufactured from wood would reach the half-billion mark each year. Why, we would have sufficient to pay off the National Debt in a few years and also have ample moneys with which to carry on much-needed reforestation.

The great cry of the world to-day is paper. It is used by every firm on the face of the earth, and at present Canada controls this industry. But if we allow our forests to be cut and the rough unmanufactured timber fed into the saw-mills and pulp and paper mills of the United States, how long shall we retain control?

If these pulp and paper mills are moved to Canada it will add materially to our prosperity, but if we allow the stripping of the cream of the nation's resources to-day, to-morrow we shall be a second Korea. A banquet to-day and a crust of bread left when we wake up in the morning.

Furthermore we are leaving an enormous National Debt for our sons to pay, so we are morally bound to leave a country with resources which will be able to bear the burden of such a debt. I ask nothing more than a plea for continued prosperity.

G. M. COOK, 87 Strathcona Ave., Brantford, Ont.

The Great Brules of the North Cry Out in their Desolation, Miles of Ridge and Slope Stand Denuded of their One commercial Growth.

The sending away of unfinished products from any ambitious country is foolish and wrong. Such products, especially logs, go to turn wheels in a foreign country, they furnish material for allied industries there, give employment to foreign workers, create wealth, promote general, more refined well-being, besides helping to conserve forests and solve the problem of wood-famine; they leave behind immense, useless areas, undeveloped factory sites, and a tithe of the timber's worth.

The end of the immense supply of forest material in this country can be seen, and we have profited comparatively little. It is not hard to understand. Our resources and activities for nation-building should not be measured by or compared with any other countries. Our policy should be distinct, based on the building up of industries and making the most of such natural products as we have. Only in that way can we gain individuality, keep the most desirable citizen at home—the native-born—and help pay the enormous debt of our railroads. By selling the finished article only, finished by Canadian workmen, patronizing Canadian tradespeople, who in turn support Canadian institutions, and

shipping the product over Canadian railroads, can we hope to get the benefit of our heritage.

It would seem that of the three great basic industries that pertaining to wood products should be developed most. The timber was left by a prodigal nature. It was to be a trust of the people. Their duty was to conserve it, to take only such surplus as could be replaced. It was pure stupidity to slaughter the trees and ship them out in a raw state. For too long we followed this course. As late as this winter a picture appeared in a paper showing an immense pile of logs in the East waiting to be transported to American mills for manufacture. That was one of the greatest spectacles of national failure ever put upon paper. It has its counterpart in Ontario too. The great brules of the north cry out in their desolation, miles of ridge and slope stand denuded of their one commerciable growth. And because in a large measure the woodman was in a hurry to ship the logs out. Years before he took butt cuts only from the virgin growth, leaving a great slash behind, perfect tinder for flame. Most of the logs went to Michigan. Americans by the thousands were employed manufacturing them there. In Canada a handful of lumbermen and limit-holders only reaped a benefit and that through carrying on a national crime.

If we wish to gain the sorely needed population, to grow and rise as a nation, we must develop ourselves from within. The money for all this wealth of forest material must be spread. The individual must have his chance. His chance lies in opportunity to work. Opportunity is what we owe the youth of the land. Even now, though the timber line has been pushed back hundreds of miles, the time was never so opportune for restricting export of the raw. Resources in other parts of the world are becoming exhausted. Those parts will be eager for our finished things. By selling only such the forests will be conserved, the economic balance better maintained and national character and power gained for ourselves. By taking the opposite course speculation in this great commodity will be promoted, material made scarce and high at home, besides many other industries robbed of their basic feeder, and the annual loss of forest growth increased.

Clutching the tithe futilely in her fist, Canada is very apt to buy some of the foreign-finished articles back!

R. W. SCHOOLEY, Box 113, Humberstone, Ont.

Our Governments and Legislators—Federal and Provincial— should be Alive to the Pressing Needs of Our Country.

Canada's beautiful and valuable forests of timber and wood lands—as originally appeared and existed—a gift of nature—a "talent" of Providence—given her for the use and benefit of all her people—old and young—past, present and future—are now rapidly becoming depleted and destroyed, through carelessness, indifference and want of proper conservation.

Fires, insects and extravagant settlers were ever, in the past, formidable enemies of their worthy endurance, but now there is, in addition thereto, a new heavy-weight enemy to be reckoned with, viz., the unwise exportation of the tree in the raw, unmanufactured state to feed foreign mills and foreign labor, robbing Canada of the "gift," hiding the "talent" in the ground unaccumulating, taking from us the profit, the labor and the bread-winner from our children, carrying upon its dastardly tide many an industrious inhabitant of this country, together with his family, his friends and probably the whole community.

The exportation of our unmanufactured trees destroys the true course of our forest wealth, takes from us and our people the benefits obtainable from its home manufacture, and gives us idle mills, rusty machinery and an unemployed people; while across the line they reap the blessings of our despair and the rich accumulations that follow in the death-giving wake of the outward suction born of the exportation of our raw material.

About one million and a quarter cords of pulpwood are annually exported from Canada to the United States in the raw state, realizing but some \$18,000,000 to Canadian citizens, which if manufactured here would yield us \$100,000,000.00, a direct loss to Canada of some \$80,000,000.00. That lost money would build a city of 16,000 homes worth \$5,000.00 each. It would pay annually a salary of \$1,000 to 1,000 persons for a period of 80 years, would build a railway 4,000 miles in length at a cost of \$20,000 a mile. It would keep a pulp mill with a capacity of 100 cords a day running full time for 12,500 days, or for more than forty years.

The various Governments of Canada spend annually millions of dollars of public funds for encouraging incoming immigrants, but fail to see the need to legislate intelligently to retain contentedly at home the people we already have. By compelling the manufacture of our raw material at home, the labor, cash value of the finish and the workmen would all remain in Canada. And as labor always seek centres of industries to locate, therefore our population would automatically increase with the increase of active industries.

Our Governments and legislators—Federal and Provincial—should be alive to the pressing needs of our country, and without further delay pass necessary laws prohibiting, by embargo, the exportation of our valuable raw materials and encourage their manufacture at home. They should cease looking at these questions through political glasses—glasses that would rather see the country sink into the depths of poverty, destitution and depopulation than risk the loss of votes to themselves and party at future elections.

Our raw materials—all—should be wholly and completely manufactured in Canada—manufactured to the final stage of useful and valuable finish—to the last syllable of perfection. Then would Canada and her people thrive and soar to industrial supremacy and contentment.

THOS. FISHER, P.O. Box 121, Bridgewater, N.S.

The Continual Drift of our Youths to the United States is the most Serious of all Losses to our Country.

Some few years ago it was my privilege to live in two villages in the Eastern Townships bordering the United States. I noticed that it was customary for American buyers to come over and buy up all the logs and pulpwood. At one of these places we could see a succession of trainloads of pulp timber being hauled to the United States. Though a free trader in principle, I felt compelled to modify my economic creed. I was fully convinced that this reckless exportation of our raw material was a detriment to our country. True, it brought gain to a few individuals, but it was depleting our forests and robbing posterity and the commonwealth of our invaluable asset. It was a penny wise and a pound foolish policy.

To forbid the free sale of this material might seem to infringe upon the right of the owner to sell his goods in the best market.

We need to remember that man is not simply an individual, he is a member of the community. Though he may look no further than his individual interests, yet his life and property are preserved, enriched, developed through his connection with the community. In view of this fact the community or the State has a perfect right to restrain the individual trader in the larger interests of the commonwealth. The moral ideal in ethics, the greatest happiness for the greatest number, should be the economic ideal, the greatest trade for the largest number. Therefore in the interests of the community the exportation of our forest timber should be prohibited.

I would forbid the exportation of this raw material because our resources of this commodity are rapidly declining. Twenty-five or fifty years is a brief space of time in our national life, yet in that limited time our hills and bush areas have been sadly depleted by our bad laws, thoughtless lumbermen and bush fires, hence the urgent need of rigid conservation.

Another reason why I would forbid the exportation of our bush timber is that, with the growth of science and the development of our industries, timber of every kind is increasing in demand and in value. We only have to think of the many things which are being produced out of pulp, besides we are now gathering new chemical products from our timber. It is folly to kill the goose which is laying the golden eggs.

A further reason I would advance against the exportation of our bush timber is that we may develop mills and factories in our own land, so that instead of the few being benefited some thousands may share in this benefit.

American capital is ever seeking new fields of profitable investment, and if we can forbid our material crossing the lines, enterprising men would soon build on this side as they have done in other manufactures. This policy would be the best solution of the unemployment problem so prevalent and persistent in our land

of plenty, besides it would be the most effective way of keeping our young people in the country. The continual drift of our youths to the United States is the most serious of all losses to our country. Let us build factories and open up suitable avocations for our energetic men and women, and they will stay with us to be prosperous contented Canadian citizens.

Then, again, much might be done to conserve our forest timber. First, by making it a penal offence for any one to cut young timber below a certain size at the butt. Second, by guarding our forests against the fire scourge.

Every township should be obliged by law to install one large portable pump workable by gas, or preferable by hand, employing three or four men, and one or two miles of hose, for wherever there is bush there is water not far away. The same law should provide a fire brigade. Such an apparatus to be under periodic inspection. Fire is the deadly enemy at our door, and in country places we have no organized way of fighting it.

Further, much could be done to reforest our immense hills and valleys, which have been so wretchedly denuded by fires and careless hands.

REV. ANDREW GALLERY, Vankleek Hill, Ont.

If we Prohibit the Export of Raw Materials, there can only be One Result, and that is that these Materials will have to be Manufactured at Home.

Why we should prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood from this country.

In considering the above question, it seems to me that we have only to apply ordinary business reasoning to arrive at the conclusion that this is sound business policy, and one which will result in the development and building up of this great country of ours.

If we prohibit the export of raw materials, there can only be one result, and that is that these materials will have to be manufactured at home.

Our neighbors to the South are largely dependent upon us for their supply of pulpwood. Then why should we allow them to take this supply out of our country without first being manufactured?

If the situation were reversed and the United States had our abundant supply of pulpwood, and ours were as depleted as theirs, would they allow us to export their pulpwood in the raw state? I think not. Then why should we allow our wood to go into their country without first being manufactured?

They will soon come over here and manufacture it when they find that they cannot get it in the raw state.

This will mean more industries for Canada, more capital invested in Canadian industries, more work for the men of this

country, more money earned and spent at home, and better business conditions for all concerned.

The men who now spend their winters in the woods cutting pulpwood and go to the United States in the summer to seek employment in the pulp mills across the border, will then find lucrative employment at home throughout the year, thereby conserving the man-power of our country, and reducing one of the great drains on our population.

We need, and must have, more industries in Canada if we are going to build up and develop this great country, and attract a desirable class of immigration to our shores.

We have the natural resources in abundance, and one of our greatest national assets is our forests.

To exist as a nation we must have forests. Logs, lumber and forest products are the foundation of national life, therefore, let us conserve our forests.

To reap the benefits of our forests we must have men to operate them. Therefore we must also conserve our man-power.

To conserve our man-power we must have industries to keep them employed at home. Therefore let us foster and protect our industries, and strive by all means in our power to create new ones. Let us therefore take warning by the experience of our neighbors to the South, who have allowed their forests to become so depleted in the past that they are now largely dependent upon us for their supply of pulpwood, and let us take action at once before it becomes too late, to prevent a similar fate happening to our own great forests, by securing such protection as will ensure to Canada the full benefits of her great natural resources.

E. J. FLEETWOOD, 67 Dock Street, St. John, N.B.

It will take Time to put in Motion a Satisfactory Law for the "Prevention of Cruelty to Forests."

The wholesale slaughter of our forests, and the subsequent export of the raw material that has been and is at present taking place, is nothing short of criminal.

In this depletion of the lumber value of our country we are proving unworthy of the trust vested in us by our forefathers. Through a travail of hardships, they conquered this, the New World, and passed it down to us, yet rich in virgin timber. We are not living up to their traditions if we ruthlessly possess ourselves of the monetary value of this in order to lie in idleness, luxury and irresponsibility—caring naught for the fortunes of those who come after us.

With careful, systematic selection and intelligent handling, a sufficient portion may be ours, to insure us a reasonable prosperity without robbing the succeeding generations. When we export

out of our country the unmanufactured wood, we are giving back to our land nothing in exchange for that which we take, hence we are despoilers—unworthy of our heritage.

Since the selfish we have always with us, the only efficient method of preventing this evil is by direct legislation. Were we compelled to sell only to industries within our own Dominion, what a dearth of unemployment there would be! The products of our forests the world must have, and we cheat our own people of a job when we allow the work of manufacturing to be done in outside factories. Those across the line and over the sea would be compelled to bring either money and their shops into Canada with the resulting added employment and consequent prosperity of our working class. For every tree that we cut, then, we would be giving back to our country full value and to our sons an unencumbered estate.

The burning of lumber piles throughout the provinces, during the past years, is a blot on our civilization which never can be effaced. This could not have occurred had the forests not been wantonly robbed of trees that should not have been cut for years, and nothing but the lure of the gamble in foreign markets would have produced this quantity of unsold lumber and the consequent huge numbers of bankrupt companies.

The growth of a tree, as our forests stand to-day, takes nothing from a man, yet he will, through selfish greed, cut, or allow to be cut, millions of trees which in a very few years would have doubled in value. Trees should be allowed to be cut only when in their prime. This happens only once in the life of a tree, and yet, if proper precaution was taken, there would always be plenty to supply the demand.

It will take time to put in motion a satisfactory law for the "prevention of cruelty to forests." But unless a beginning is speedily made, we will as a generation be bankrupt in this, one of our greatest natural resources.

MRS. ARTHUR M. PURDY, Oxford, R. R. 3., N.S.

Let Canada's Forest Trees Stand in Future as a Monument to Canadian Forethought Canadian Statesmanship and Canadian Patriotism.

The following, are reasons why unmanufactured wood should not be exported from Canada:—

1. Canada is a new country, bristling with undeveloped resources—expansive prairies, untold mineral wealth, inexhaustible water-powers, abundant fisheries and (shall I add) wonderful forests. Yes, wonderful, save for the criminally destroying hand of the ruthless pioneer. These, together with a healthful and invigorating climate, offer every inducement to immigration, especially from the weary, war-worn countries of northern and western Europe. In the near future, Canada is thus destined to become

the home of a countless multitude of people, all anxious to become prosperous citizens and useful sons of our great Empire. When this time arrives what a scathing, blighting thought to wake up and find, when it is too late, that we have blasted their prosperity, by selling to other nations, for a mere pittance, that which is absolutely necessary for them to have, in order to establish themselves in their new home, and make our Great Dominion hum with the countless wheels of industry.

2. The future prosperity of Canada depends entirely upon these industries, all of which require more or less wood for their operation. By using strict economy, and every known method of conservation, our forest resources will still be inadequate to supply the ever-increasing demands of those industries. We have no wood to spare in an unmanufactured state to other countries whose industries are in keen competition with our own. Conserve your forests and you conserve Canada's industries; sell your forests and you sell Canada's future.

3. While the efforts of our legislators to restore and preserve our forests, by the planting of new trees, airplane patrol, silviculture, etc., are to be highly commended; it is useless to try to build up, and at the same time pull down. It is useless to plant trees requiring a hundred years of careful supervision, before they reach maturity; while trees, more or less mature, are being sold to other countries for a mere fraction of what it will cost to replace them.

4. At present, the rate of depletion of our forests is much in excess of the rate of production, and unless an active, energetic policy is inaugurated, at once, by both Provincial and Federal Governments, we will soon reach the end of our forest reserves.

5. If we sell our birthright to other countries for a mere mess of pottage, we are selling them what an all-wise Providence intended us to use for ourselves and perpetuate for the benefit of our children. By selling our forests we are thus doing a great injustice to future generations, who will upbraid and censure us for our shortsighted, selfish and injudicious policy.

6. Other countries, and especially the great manufacturing countries of to-day, have shockingly devastated their native forest resources; and now, when it is too late to conserve their own wealth, they are turning covetous eyes upon our rapidly diminishing forest areas. Now is the time to arouse ourselves to the seriousness of the situation and turn a deaf ear to their appeals; now is the time to profit by their mistake and enact such legislation as will conserve our own forest wealth, while we have something left to conserve. Their forest slash stands to-day as a monument to their own profligate destruction. Let Canada's forest trees stand in future as a monument to Canadian Forethought, Canadian Statesmanship and Canadian Patriotism.

DR. ANNIE HENNIGAR-SANFORD, Noel, Hants Co., N.S.

The Farmer would Save a Large Amount in Freight Bills if he could Sell at Home. In Exporting Unmanufactured Wood we are also Exporting Employment and Wages that should be Kept in the Country.

The forests of Canada constitute a great portion of the country's wealth, and it is to the benefit of every owner of timber to make the most out of the forests. There is no doubt that a great portion, if not all, of the wood now exported in an unmanufactured state could be made into the finished article at home. This would mean the building of well-equipped factories, and would require capital, which could easily be obtained from outside, especially in Britain or the States.

The great need of Canada at present is to encourage immigrants, and by building these factories to handle the products of the forests it would give employment to many in the country and would also attract many from other countries. This would mean a better home market for farm produce and would be a great inducement to get more people on the land, as the farmer would save a large amount in freight bills if he could sell at home.

At present the number of wood-working factories in Canada is very small considering the output of lumber, etc. One of these factories should be within easy reach of every lumberman, so that the logs could be taken to the factory without the expense of freighting long distances or handling them several times. There is a certain amount of waste in manufacturing wood, and by exporting it unmanufactured this waste has to be handled several times as well as freight being paid on it. The finished products of the forests could be sold much cheaper if manufactured at home, and still net more profit to lumberman and manufacturer.

The farmers and other land owners would do their best to conserve the timber, and many would plant trees on the land that is no use for other purposes if a good market for their labor was at hand. There is a great waste of timber at present, especially among new homesteaders, who have to cut and burn to clear the land. If a wood-working factory was within reach of these people they could make something for their labor, by selling what they now burn. Thousands of dollars would be saved in this way and would give many a new homesteader a good start towards getting machinery and stock.

Canada is in a splendid position as regards power for running the necessary machinery in these factories, as the country abounds in rivers and streams that could supply cheap power, and also a cheap way of getting the logs to the factory. Rail and water facilities for transporting the finished article also abound.

In exporting unmanufactured wood we are also exporting employment and wages that should be kept in the country. One trade helps others, and by building a chain of these factories at home or this purpose, it would also make a great amount of work

in other trades to supply the machinery, etc., necessary. There would be competition with the rest of the world, but Canada should be able to find good markets, and by producing good, well-finished articles be able to hold them when acquired.

The best and right way for a country to become prosperous is to encourage home industries, and Canada is in a good position to do this, as ample supplies of raw material are in the country.

The government should be ready to aid this industry, financially and morally if necessary, as the forests of Canada form a great part of the country's wealth.

WALTER W. SNELGAR, Castleneagh, Colchester Co., Nova Scotia.

The Future of Canada's Agricultural Wealth is Dependent on the Protection of our Forests.

THE NATURAL ASSETS OF A COUNTRY.—There are four great natural assets without which a nation cannot enjoy a full measure of economic freedom; and without any one of which a country must remain more or less dependent upon other countries, contiguous or distant; and be in constant danger of suffering seriously in a time of financial or industrial stress, or war. These natural assets are the mines, fisheries, forests, and agriculture. Their possible total destruction is in the order named. Forests and agriculture are the most important because the most permanent, and, as a rule, they are the main source of supply for the country's export trade, or they may be the principal guarantee for its imports.

The development of mines is by the process of destruction, and replacement can never be made; but the exhausting of the mines does not affect the flow of streams and rivers nor cause floods nor drought. Inland fisheries when exhausted may be restored by re-stocking, or by preventive measures. Deep-sea fisheries may change locality and become more convenient for a rival country to exploit. This latter effect has been noticed in the North Sea, the Mediterranean, and off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of America.

Agriculture is dependent upon forest conditions far more than the average man in the street has any idea. The forest shades the soil from the scorching sun along the valleys of lakes and rivers and on the mountain-sides; keeps the humus moist to retain the rainfall; prevents the rapid evaporation of the surface moisture; allows the surface water to flow slowly to the springs and rivers, keeping the larger streams at a normal level, and thus irrigating by natural means, so that humidity necessary to vegetation is maintained. About the year 1875, at a meeting of the Geographical Society of Vienna, it was pointed out that the rivers Volga, Don and Dneiper were so decreased in volume, owing to the cutting of wood in their valleys, that it affected the level of the Caspian Sea, the Sea of Azof and the Black Sea. Later it was discovered that the Aral Sea,

which has a level of 243 feet higher than the Caspian, was also seriously affected in like manner. In Canada and the United States rivers that were of considerable volume in the 'nineties are now (1923) mere rivulets, drying up completely in the summer months owing to the reckless destruction of the forests.

On the other hand, a country may lose its forests without endangering its agriculture or reducing its animal products, wild or domestic, as, for instance, in Denmark, where the forests cover barely four per cent. and in the Ukraine (Little Russia, excepting Bessarabia and the Caucasus), where they cover about 0.7 per cent. But in these cases the lands are productive because they are contiguous to large areas of forest territories; helped by the favorable orientation of the mountain ranges, or the higher hills; influenced by ocean temperature and humidity, air currents and other physical phenomena directly caused by forest conditions near or far. The great Canadian North West is rich and productive because of the strategic foot-hills. Should a careless generation destroy this timber and leave the Rocky Mountains bare, in that day the rich fields of the North West shall produce no more, and the world shall witness the carrying of wheat to Manitoba, whilst a sorrowing nation shall moan its vanished wealth.

REAL NATURAL WEALTH.—The wealth of a country cannot be judged by its intensive production in the development of its natural assets and their exploitation for home consumption or for export, but by the real profit that is made in the sale and exchange. And this profit can never be more than the value efficient less the actual cost of reproduction and the restoring of the fat to the land, which latter cost is increased every year in ratio as restoration is delayed.

In Canada we have simply wasted our forests. We have "taken the fat from the land" and have not given attention to restoration. And the blindness of our action in the past is better understood when I tell you that since 1860 about sixty per cent. of the forest products exported were unmanufactured, or partly manufactured. These were: fence posts, cedar, pine, spruce, hemlock and other logs; masts and spars, piling, telegraph and telephone poles and railroad ties; match blocks, shingle bolts of pine and cedar and stave bolts, waney board, square timber, etc. In all cases, with the exception of railroad-ties, the United States has been our heaviest purchaser; our exports to that country being on an average about twice our exports to all other countries, Great Britain included. The actual wealth which is created by labor in producing the finished article was made outside of Canada, and went to build up the assets of other countries, leaving us only stumpy wastes, rivers with diminished volume, and the burden of the unemployed.

SHOULD THE EMBARGO BE APPLIED?—In the case of prohibiting the export of unmanufactured forest products it would be a protection because it would help Canada to save her forests, which would

greatly benefit the more important agricultural trade. The argument may be used that it would leave our wood products on our hands. My answer is this: The United States is our largest customer in forest products and it is obliged to buy from us in large quantities. Since the year 1860 it has outstripped Great Britain in purchases of Canadian forest products, for the most part unmanufactured. In 1920 it purchased about $2\frac{1}{3}$ times more Canadian wood than Great Britain, the U.S. purchases being around sixty-five per cent. of our entire forest exports. And about seventy per cent. of it went out of the country unmanufactured, thus depriving Canadian capital of investment and Canadian workmen of employment. We are cutting down our rich timber and shipping it out of the country to provide work for the mills of another country. If we prohibit the export of the raw wood, even to the extent of partial manufacture, we shall bring these mills into Canada and provide work for our people. This means that the export of unmanufactured wood should be prohibited.

I have pointed out that the future of Canada's agricultural wealth is dependent on the protection of our forests. Our mines and our fisheries may go and we shall not miss them. But if we allow our forests to be destroyed then we lose all. I have stated that the wooded foothills of the Rockies are the real source of the wealth of the North West; but that is only in so far as they are supplemented by the forests of the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Ontario. This is a question in which all Canadians should be interested, because it is vital to the wealth of our people, the prosperity of our industries and the freedom of our Country.

JAMES A. WHITAKER, 723 Dorchester St. West, Montreal, Que.

Nearly Three-fourths of Canada is a Liability to Us and an Asset to the United States.

The future existence of Canada depends upon making every acre of land productive. Broadly speaking this can be done only in two ways: by producing agricultural or timber crops.

The habitable area of Canada lies south of the 60th parallel. About sixty-nine per cent. of this area is unsuited for agricultural crops, but will produce a timber crop. With only thirty-one per cent. of her available area productive, Canada has practically reached her limit of population.

It is clearly evident that our future depends upon the intelligent use and conservation of our forest wealth. Hitherto we have wantonly destroyed this, our greatest asset.

Conditions are such that to-day nearly three-fourths of Canada is a liability to us and an asset to the United States. The press of the City of New York uses every year the product of the cutting of 42,000 acres of forest. In return for this about \$3,000,000 is expended in Canada, and New York gets a product of the value

of \$35,000,000. The newspapers of the United States use 2,000,000 tons of paper annually. Canada's contribution to this is 400,000 acres of forest. Canada gets about \$7,000,000, the United States receives about \$80,000,000. The printing industry accounts for less than one-half of the destruction. Conservatively then, Canada is giving \$200,000,000 yearly and receiving \$15,000,000. Canada is further left with a liability of 400,000 acres of desert of disastrous hazard

In twenty years Canada, at this rate, will have disappeared as a timber-producing factor; as a developer of hydro-electric power and waterways; as a habitat of game and wild life; and will sink to the position of a tenth-rate agricultural industry; with a population confined to a haphazard fringe along the American border.

Shall we continue our headlong rush to disaster? Shall we confine ourselves to clap-trap immigration schemes to attract those we cannot keep and who invariably depart for the United States in the wake of our forest wealth? Shall we continue to force our youth to lay down the tasks; to flee from us? To hurry "as if they felt the spectre of a crime behind in breathless terrible pursuing"? Or shall we enact such legislation, enforced by an aroused public opinion, as will compel the expenditure of these vast amounts within our borders and such as will assure the preservation and restoration of our greatest kinetic and potential wealth? A wealth representing an income of \$1,000,000,000 annually, and an unimpaired reserve.

Under such conditions our own will return, and the stranger will clamor at our gates. Shall we accept the worse than mill-stone fate and crucify posterity afresh and become the "Wandering Jew" among the peoples of the earth? Or shall we heed the cry of the forerunner in the wilderness? To-morrow will be too late. Canadians have notably met many a crisis in the past.

Must one commit the folly of asking, will they be recreant to their greatest trust?

FRANK A. BOLSER, Spa Springs, Annapolis Co., N.S.

Every Year Makes Terrible Ravages, through the Agencies before mentioned, Forest Fires, Insects, the Axe.

All the minor reasons for putting a ban on the exportation of Canadian timber in the raw state resolve themselves into one great reason, namely, the welfare of our future Canada and our future Canadians.

In the first place, insects, forest fires, etcetera, are depleting our forests rapidly enough, without the deliberate ruination of them for exportation purposes. If this keeps on, we will soon have our homeland a barren country. Forests are indispensable factors in a land where agriculture is to be a success. Everyone knows that without forest to aid conditions of moisture, the land will become a dry plain.

Surely we should consider the future Canadians enough to not deprive them of the beautiful country which has been our heritage.

Our own timber manufacturing industry is comparatively small to what it would be if we conserved our timber more for our own use. In these days of scarcity of employment, when many are on the verge of starvation from the inability, or rather the impossibility of obtaining work, it would at least alleviate the want of some Canadians, by giving work to the idle, if the pulp and other timber industries were developed more. There is unlimited water-power unharnessed in Canada. Along the Atlantic coast from Canso to Halifax, alone, in many places, as Ecum Secum River, Liscomb River, Gasperaux Brook, Larry's River, Country Harbour River, and many others, from five hundred to six thousand horsepower could be developed.

There are a number of United States pulp companies operating in Guyboro County, Nova Scotia, who are only paying \$2.50 per cord for the raw material, which is less than the people are paying for firewood. The twelve or fourteen dollars profit realized on each cord is spent in other countries.

Wood cut for the manufacture of pulp is small, so we are ruining our forests before they have really become forests. It is a blind course for thinking Canadians to pursue. Canada has latent wealth in her timber lands, and it is criminally unpatriotic to see this wealth go forth without any attempt at prevention, in the raw state, and reappear in manufactured form in other countries, thereby contributing to their betterment.

Other countries are now rivalling Canadian timber industries, while the timber they are doing it with is supplied by Canada!

The Government should be induced to put an export duty on raw material, high enough to make it imperative that it should be manufactured in Canada. What timber Canadian manufacturer cannot handle should not be cut. The Canadian industry should be developed to its capacity, and the rest of the timber carefully conserved.

Our timber was once limitless, not so now. Every year makes terrible ravages, through the agencies before mentioned, forest fires, insects, the axe.

We must consider the future. We are the guardians of our future Canada. Shall he be unfaithful to the promise every loyal Canadian makes when he sings with a patriotic thrill in his heart, "Oh, Canada, we stand on guard for thee"? We must not be. So, Canadians all, let us consider this matter sanely and carefully, and try to bring about the conservation of the forests of our beautiful land.

Let us apply "The Maple Leaf Forever" a little more widely, and for our country's sake, for our own sakes, and for our children's sakes, let us say, "Our Canadian Forests Forever."

MISS NELLIE MACGRATH, Mt. St. Bernard, Antigonish, N.S.

Forests Differ from all Other Natural Resources in Having an Indirect Utility as well as a Direct One.

The most important question in Canada to-day is forest conservation. For the sake of not only this, but future generations also, and for the sake of the country itself, the ruthless destruction of our priceless heritage, now going on, must be stopped. Fire takes its yearly toll of our forests, but a far more serious menace is the steadily increasing export of unmanufactured wood. No one denies that forest fires should be guarded against, but how many have counted the cost of the remorseless destruction being wrought for private gain? Why should a business be carried on, without restrictions of any kind, which is bound to result in so much injury to this country? Millions of cords of pulpwood alone have been exported to fill the ever-increasing demands of the American press for their huge Sunday and daily editions. Already serious damage has been done, and if the present conditions are allowed to go on unchecked, irreparable injury will be done to this country and its people, within the lifetime of the present generation.

Forests differ from all other natural resources in having an indirect utility as well as a direct one. The direct utility lies in the exploitation of the raw material. The indirect utility is the much more valuable of the two, because of the results of its moderating and regulating agencies on a country and its people. The agencies are as follows—(1) Forests reduce the temperature of the air and soil to a considerable extent and contribute to a more equable climate. (2) They increase the humidity of the air and reduce the evaporation of moisture from the soil. (3) They tend to increase the yearly rainfall. (4) They help to regulate the water supply, produce a more sustained feeding of springs, tend to reduce violent floods, and render the flow of water in rivers more continuous. (5) They assist in preventing denudation, erosion, landslips, the silting up of rivers and lowlands and the formation of sand dunes. (6) They reduce the velocity of air currents. (7) They improve the healthiness of a country. (8) They increase the beauty of a country and produce a healthy aesthetic influence upon the people.

The destruction of our forests will therefore, as time goes on, result in greater extremes of heat and cold, a decrease in the humidity of the air and a greater evaporation of moisture from the soil. It will tend to decrease the yearly rainfall and result in a more irregular water supply, a less sustained feeding of springs and an increasing danger of serious floods. Rivers will have a less continuous flow of water. There will be a serious denudation and erosion of the soil, landslips will be more numerous; rivers will silt up and the formation of sand dunes will be encouraged. The velocity of air currents will be increased and destructive tornadoes will be frequent in certain localities.

The future of Canada as a great agricultural country is threatened. Areas in which at present the farmer is confident of a return commensurate with his labor, will in the future be at the mercy of a scanty and irregular rainfall.

The United States have wantonly wasted their forests and to-day are beginning to face these conditions. Shall we not learn from their example and stop while there is yet time? The export of woodpulp and wood manufactured in Canada will build up home industries, but the export of unmanufactured wood should be prohibited. Thus a great step forward would be taken in the preservation of our forests.

ARTHUR GODFREY, Box 576, Pictou, N.S.

The Government should See how Vital this Matter is and Bring About a Policy of Retaining Canada's Timber Supply in the Country.

In this Canada of ours, one of our great resources, which should receive greater Government protection, is our forest wealth, not alone in the lumbering industry, but in our large resources of pulpwood for paper

Why should not Canada with its vast number of lakes, rivers and waterfalls (white coal) for power, own its own pulp mills, and manufacture its wood into paper? The United States, with its supplies of pulpwood almost exhausted, is now looking to Canada for its future supply. At the present time American lumbermen are in Nova Scotia buying pulpwood. This wood is being cut on people's own land, in four-foot lengths, hauled, in some cases miles, and corded along river banks, for the small amount of \$2.50 per cord. In the spring it will be floated to tide-water and shipped, free of duty, to the large paper mills in the United States.

With Government protection prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood, this would mean the expending of large sums of money for plant, equipment and labor, where young Canadians, finding employment, would not be forced to seek employment in the United States. This industry would mean millions of dollars, which would go to build up Canada, that now enriches the neighbor to the South of us. When we take into consideration the amount of wood consumed in Canada for pulp yearly is over 4,330,000 cords, the value of which is approximately \$300,000,000, the Government should see how vital this matter is and bring about a policy of retaining Canada's timber supply in the country, and protect Canadian industry for the employment and benefit of our people.

ARTHUR SUTHERLAND, R.R. No. 1, North Lochaber, Antigonish Co., N.S.

A Total Prohibition of the Export of Raw Products from our Forests would be One of the Wisest Acts of our Law-makers.

I have much pleasure in expressing my views on a subject in which I am interested. By all means prohibit the export of raw woods of all kinds from our Dominion.

Why? Because we want to keep our working men at home and provide enlargement for a much-needed larger population, as the best means of solving our railway problems, which at present are a heavy burden on the country, and unless a remedy is found to offset deficits will lead to disaster, and under the present system of wanton destruction in our forests we will not be able even to furnish ties for our own railroads. Then, too, we have an abundance of undeveloped water-power. What better use can it be put to than manufacturing our own wood materials into finished products, the cost of which will remain in Canada to build up Canadian industries and Canadian homes?

I have in mind one infant industry that is using about two million feet of lumber annually, most of it of a size and quality formerly used for fuel. This means an expenditure of at least three hundred thousand dollars for raw woods, and in the process of manufacture not one foot is wasted, even the sawdust finding a ready market.

When we add to this amount, the cost of production, the annual payroll of the employees, etc., the benefit to a community can readily be seen. One has but to see a small industry of this kind in operation to fully realize the opportunities for many large ones throughout our Dominion if we conserve the raw material, eliminate waste, and market only the finished products of our forests.

I can see no reasonable ground for an argument against a prohibitory act of this kind. Other countries need and must have our lumber, pulp and paper. The demand will seek the supply and establish the price regardless of duties, etc.

I believe some system of reforestation should be inaugurated and encouraged by our Government, particularly in the older provinces, where thousands of acres of land, of no value for agricultural purposes, might be turned into a valuable asset for the future, provided the wholesale destruction of our spruce, balsam and hemlock for Xmas trees was strictly prohibited.

I sincerely believe that by a careful study of this subject any intelligent Canadian having only the welfare of our Dominion at heart (putting aside all personal gain, etc.) must be convinced that prohibition of the export of raw products from our forests would be one of the wisest acts of our law-makers and would prove of lasting benefit to the present and future generation of this our native land.

MAURICE L. DONIGAN, 28 Windsor Ave., Westmount, Que.

It is Apparent that a Country's Growth, Prosperity and Advancement Keep Pace with the full Utilization of her Natural Resources.

The most backward nations of the world are those who export their natural products in a raw or unimproved state. The most progressive nations are those who improve or manufacture their own natural products and, in some cases, import raw products from other countries for that purpose. To line up with the progressive peoples, therefore, Canada should produce the finished article, which employs the most labor and commands the best price.

Among the most important of Canada's natural resources are her wood products, which exist in large areas from the Atlantic, with slight interruption, to the Pacific, and furnish employment and livelihood for large numbers of her population. When the country was young her exports of wood products consisted almost exclusively of sawlogs and square timber, and while conditions remained thus Canada was a poor and unknown land and a hard place to live in. Then sawmills of some size began to appear, and coincidently with the manufacture of lumber came a measure of prosperity and a place in world commerce. Later, when it was discovered that paper could be manufactured from woodpulp, came undreamt-of prosperity to many parts of the Dominion, and areas that were considered worthless became of great value; towns arising in the wilderness through the erection of pulp mills and, in too few instances, paper mills, and transportation and business generally were greatly stimulated; the result of a change in the old policy of shipping out our raw materials and leaving to others the benefits of manufacture. Therefore it is apparent that a country's growth, prosperity and advancement keep pace with the full utilization of her natural resources.

An instance of this truism is found in the meat industry of the United States. A log is regarded as a raw product in a sense in which a hog or steer cannot be—in fact, these are often spoken of as finished products—and yet the meat packers of the United States formed a great industry by utilizing to the limit the capacity of the steer in producing food and other articles that the world called for. This industry tended to make Chicago the second city on this continent, brought prosperity to the agricultural population and carried the name and fame of the United States to all parts of the world. Much has been done in the past twenty years towards turning out the forest produce of Canada in a finished state, but much remains to be done before the full utilization of our wood wealth is attained; but that end cannot be reached so long as we continue to ship out our sawlogs, our pulpwood, and our woodpulp in an unmanufactured state, giving to other nations the profits to be derived from the manufacture of the finished article.

It has been said that the forest resources of Canada are inexhaustible. A little consideration will reveal the fallacy of such

statements. Practically all the get-at-able portions of Canada have been explored and their extent and forest wealth carefully estimated. Every year forest fires reduce the extent of this area of valuable timber, and the ravages of insects and natural decay also lessen the value. Speaking roughly and in round figures, the average pine or spruce tree cut in our woods to-day had taken sixty years to reach its growth, and as the same tree is cut down in six minutes, but little imagination is required to visualize the prodigious rate at which a large gang of men can overtake the natural growth of the forest. When we consider the distance the woods have been driven back in the past fifty years and the rate of cutting at the present time, it is evident that no such word as inexhaustible should be used regarding our timber resources.

Canada should not only stop the export of raw wood products which she would be able to, and has facilities for, manufacturing at home; she should curb the operations of those who, for the sake of personal gain, would use up the country's resources in a few years and leave a barren and impoverished land for posterity.

THOS. G. FRASER, Bruce Mines, Ont.

If this Country does not Conserve her Woods, in a very Few Years from now she will become a Howling Wilderness. What is Wanted is Practical, Hard-headed Business Men, to take this Matter and Lift it Out of the Political Arena.

It is somewhat refreshing to find a wealthy man public-spirited enough to try and remedy one of Canada's difficulties; incidentally to back his endeavour with his money, to bring about a better condition.

There should not be much difficulty in writing up an essay on the prohibition of unmanufactured wood, whether it would be convincing enough would be another matter.

It is a little late in the day to start and remedy the wasteful methods of the early settlers and present generation in their ways of chopping and clearing ground, but something has to be done. A striking contrast are the forests of Scandinavia, which have been lumbered for centuries, and the forests of Canada; of course the government control of each country is too well known to need any comment of mine, sufficient for me to say that, if this country does not conserve her woods, in a very few years from now she will become a howling wilderness. One of the principal things that trees do for a country is to attract water and purify the air.

The time has been and gone when American lumber surveyors should have been stopped coming over here picking out the best wood; exporting it to the States for manufacture. The thing that has struck me as being very amusing is the exportation of unmanufactured wood, seeing that labor is about half the cost of the United States, the raw material right here, transportation charges

doubled, owing to the fact of space taken by raw wood against labored articles. Sweden started sending sashes and doors to England years ago, in place of lumber. Why should not we do the same? Surely we can compete with the American mills and machine shops for the reasons above stated, wages, operating expenses, etc., being about half Uncle Sam's.

The same argument stands with regard to pulpwood. Not a stick should be allowed to cross the boarder except as paper or some manufactured article such as barrels, tubs, pails, and the hundred and one articles that can be profitably made from pulpwood.

One hears little or nothing about the by-products of wood. There is a pretty large field of commercial possibilities in this subject, such as coaldust and sawdust being pressed together for fuel, then again a serviceable brick or block suitable for building purposes. Sawdust and shavings used in a generator of a suction gas plant are capable of making pretty cheap fuel. One of the things that requires the lead argument and is patent to all is that Canada is on the toboggan, for all that the Board of Trade figures and bunk can try and show to the contrary. Men and women are leaving this land of unlimited possibilities for U.S.A. and places unknown in their thousands. "For why?" Many were starving, through lack of work. Capital looking for an outlet in America owing to there being none in this. And it is time something is done to stop this waste of men and material. What is wanted is practical, hard-headed business men, to take this matter and lift it out of the political arena. Nothing will ever be done by allowing parliament to dabble with it: generally speaking they are incapable of running a peanut stand, let alone a nation. The Government must be made subservient to the wishes of the people; the only men capable of saving the country are the business men. In this case we do not have to create a market for the wood, it is there clamoring for all the wood we have got at their price, therefore in the interest of self-preservation time is long overdue when raw material should have ceased to leave the country.

W. A. WILLIAMS, Box 416, Elm St., Amherst, N.S.

We are thus Burning our National Financial Candle at Both Ends.

The conservation of Canadian timber, and the prohibition of its export in a raw state, are points of such dominant interest that no real Canadian can afford to ignore them.

Timber is one of Canada's greatest assets, and the fact that the United States of America is in dire, if not desperate, need of Canadian material for the manufacture of paper is no excuse for Canada to strip herself of her natural forest wealth. If foreign manufacturers are allowed to purchase Canadian pulpwood or woodpulp in Canada, or Canadian speculators are allowed to sell such commodities abroad, the whole of Canada's wealth of spruce

and poplar will be gradually depleted without Canada being appreciably reimbursed for the loss, on account of the leniency, or absence of, excise rates on raw material.

Meanwhile, great paper factories, employing hordes of men and women, operate on the American side of the international boundary, manufacturing their finished wares from raw material that, if manufactured in Canada, would give employment to thousands of Canada's unemployed. If such plants were in operation in Canada (adjacent to the native forests whence the raw material comes), instead of emigrating to the United States to operate American factories, competent mill men might be manufacturing the finished goods right here in Canada: thus giving the Canadian Government the benefit of any income tax leviable on their salaries and also the excise on the manufactured goods sold abroad.

If the Canadian Government would stop the sale of raw material for paper, furniture and finished lumber to foreign countries, and encourage its manufacture into the finished goods at home, far more would be accomplished toward increasing permanent population and toward decreasing the public debt than by encouraging the influx of immigrants that is now being advocated.

In view of our forest wealth, our plants for the manufacture of wood products, to the extent of finality, are so mediocre that no efficient workman immigrating to Canada (who has seen extensive wood-working plants) can be expected to give them more than momentary consideration. He prefers to go on to plants of appreciable magnitude and, by that means, we lose the cream of such immigration to the very countries that are getting the benefit of our raw materials. A skilful and efficient workman naturally goes to a large concern to work, in order to receive the emoluments of which his services are worthy, and which factories of small calibre do not, cannot and will not put up in order to hold him. Small plants can only afford very ordinary workmen who may be secured at a low wage rate, so we can only hope to retain such a class of workers from among our immigrants as our present plants offer an inducement to.

We are thus burning our national financial candle at both ends, spending money to keep up a force of immigration officers in other countries which results in bringing out a crowd of good citizens who speedily become disgusted and move on to countries that are more progressive and provident, and at the same time throwing away the accruant financial bolstering that would result from the export of fully manufactured goods.

Until this great double loss is checked by Canadians manufacturing their own raw material instead of selling it abroad and then buying the finished product from those who bought the raw stuff, there is little hope of Canadian national wealth increasing; and the National Debt may not only be expected to remain at its present stupendous proportions, but to increase instead of decrease.

JESSIE M. ALEXANDER, Melbourne, Ont.

More Revenue and the Lessening of Taxation.

The logical conclusion is that if we do not export our wood it will bring the manufacturing concerns to Canada, which would mean more work, more people, more houses, more trade, more shipping for our national railways, more shipping abroad, more revenue and the lessening of taxation.

MRS. M. MALLET, Whitby, Ont.

Because of Great Damage Caused by Fire, Spruce Bud Worm and Fungi, we will be Without Pulpwood and our Mills will be Compelled to Shut Down Within a Few Years.

The natural resources of our country have, and are still being squandered by ourselves with a wanton disregard of the future.

We are shipping from Canada annually nearly \$100,000,000 worth of unmanufactured wood; included in this amount are 1,000,000 cords of pulpwood, the great part of which presumably comes from the private lands of Quebec and Ontario, and public and Crown lands of the Maritime Provinces. It is an economic fact that the further a process of manufacture is carried on within a country, the greater return to that country. We receive not quite \$10 per cord for pulpwood. If made into paper this would be worth \$65. Thus increasing the value of our exports and bringing into Canada an extra \$55,000,000 annually.

Because of the heavy demand for newsprint from the United States, we have established large pulp mills, which are using up over 4,000,000 cords of pulpwood each year. This amount, if we continue to export raw wood, cannot be maintained. Not only are we encroaching on our resources too excessively, but because of great damage caused by fire, spruce bud worm and fungi, we will be without pulpwood and our mills will be compelled to shut down within a few years.

To prevent the exportation of pulpwood we should impose an embargo. We should not fear retaliation. Our pulp and paper is essential to our foreign purchasers, and they would not be as foolish as to endanger their supply from us. Modern business men do not cut off the nose to spite the face.

Our pulpwood is exported by four classes of people: the speculator, the squatter, the bona fide settler and the law-breaker.

The timber speculator, usually not a Canadian citizen, who has purchased large areas of privately owned land, ships a very large percentage of our pulpwood. This practice should be discontinued. His lands should be acquired by the state, he adequately compensated for his investments, and the property leased to pulp companies.

Great areas of public domain have, and are still being exploited by settlers, not for the purpose of establishing farms, but for the high remuneration derived from the sale of the pulpwood. More rigid laws would prevent this. This man is a menace to national prosperity.

The bona fide settler, who is dependent upon revenue from his wood lot to establish himself, would not be affected by an embargo, because of increased demand and consequent increased price brought about by the reduction of cut in pulpwood on Crown lands. Under the present system the farmer has lost thousands of cords of pulpwood because of lack of demand due to over-production, stimulated by temporary high prices followed by a period of depression.

An embargo would automatically stop any shipments from Crown lands by evaders of the law.

The situation is that we are robbing our country of one of its greatest natural resources. We cannot continue to export our pulpwood. To impose an embargo is not sufficient; we must reduce the cut on Crown lands. This is the duty of the provinces, who must unite in legislation to effect this. The result would be the conservation of our pulpwood, and the placing of our pulp and paper industry on an enduring basis, a source of revenue for all times. Thus a demand would be created for pulpwood from the settler's lands, and he would find a profitable market.

These suggestions are radical and would appear like interference with private business, but if we are to conserve our pulpwood, and maintain our largest manufacturing industry, we must alter existing conditions. Only nations which have an adequate supply of natural resources can remain prosperous.

H. W. CROSBIE, 32 St. Joseph St., Toronto.

No Attempt Made to Check that Which is the Result either of Ignorance or Want of Interest in the Welfare of our Dominion.

Canada's future and that of her people depends largely on the success and extension of the home industries, and until the present generation awake to a full realization of this supreme factor in a country's welfare, the problem of Canada's debt and settlement must remain a problem.

Millions of dollars' worth of unmanufactured wood is being exported from Canada yearly, yet no voice of resentment is heard, and no attempt made to check that which is the result either of ignorance or want of interest in the welfare of our Dominion.

If all the pulpwood shipped from Canada into the United States was retained and manufactured on Canadian soil, it would

mean swelling of our own funds and employment at home for thousands of Canadians who are obliged to emigrate to the United States, seeking the wherewithal to earn a livelihood

What a shame to deface our stately forests for the meagre sum of eight or ten dollars a cord (that is the average price of pulpwood) and export the same to fill the coffers of another country.

All around forest acres are being laid waste with a ruthlessness that could be almost classed as criminal. Never a thought is given to what is going to become of our own Dominion in the future when she is robbed of her chief source of wealth—her forests. Where, then, is the timber going to come from that will answer the call of the present home industries, the props and ties for mines and steel works, railway ties, etc. ?

If Canada would awake and meet her own ever-growing demand for paper, building material, and thousand and one uses for manufactured wood, it would mean an enormous increase in wealth, self-confidence and settlement for the whole Dominion. Further, it would save the cost of duty, exportation, etc., from foreign countries which during the past years has made such a great demand on Canada's purse. Yet despite all these arguments, we continue to rob ourselves for the benefit of other countries to which we are already indebted.

Some will assume that there is more standing timber in Canada than will ever be utilized. A very false assumption that. If the wholesale devastation of Canadian timber continues for another fifteen years, as it has during the past eight, we will be without any forests of any value and the Dominion will not be one whit richer, all this timber being exported.

We are supposed to have a protective government, yet where is the protection? Canadian industries fall behind; her people are obliged to emigrate, following emigration comes a slump in progress; and before we realize it the Dominion imports cheap foreign laborers. It bodes ill for our country's future. Yet the Government allows all this.

If Canada extended her industries, employed her native sons in manufacturing her timber on the home soil, she would soon be able to pay off her debts and still have timber enough left to extend.

It is time for the Government and people to rally their reason, and by checking this reckless destruction, contribute towards the conservation of our timber supply, and so enrich the Dominion.

A. M. McKAY, Nalagawatch, C.B.

In other Words, Canada is Giving her Best that the Plants of Other Countries may be Kept Going.

The Canadian forests are rapidly diminishing. Fire continues to exact its toll. The advancing wave of civilization carries away that which it never brings back. Lumber operators add their bit of destruction, and with them are the terrific onslaughts of the pulpwood cutter.

Concerted efforts are being made to control the fires. Civilization is trying to soften its ravages. Legislation is stopping abuses of the lumber operators, but the continued export of raw pulpwood must be stopped.

Our forests are being depleted; pulpwood loaded onto cars, shipped out of the country, manufactured, and sold back into Canada as paper. In other words, Canada is giving her best that the plants of other countries may be kept going, foreign workmen employed at the expense of her own labor.

The writer once knew a man who raised hogs. His stock was good, his land was good, and he hauled certain feed twenty-eight miles by team to feed his hogs. He soon stopped raising hogs. What is going on in Canada to-day? Raw pulpwood is being shipped out of the country. Not only that, but the freight charges on this wood in many cases are two and three times the price that the Canadian owner receives for his wood.

What about forest protection? Can any better form of forest protection be than to have the pulp mill located near the supply of raw pulpwood? These plants cost money. The protection of the capital invested and the revenue from it depend upon the supply of pulpwood—upon the safety of the forest from fire. This means that any tract of standing timber within easy reach of its mill has the fire protection of the Government forces, of protective associations' forces, and the added protection of the combined forces of money, brains, labor, and influence of a strong business organization that realizes its tremendous value. Not only that, but such an organization is ever ready, yes, and ever eager to promote by all means in its power the welfare of the forest. To realize this the reader has only to take as an example any Canadian pulp and paper mill so located. Look at their limits, see their efforts at protection and see the splendid, wholehearted way in which they encourage forestry and all that it means to the future of this Dominion.

A passing mention should be made of the part speculation plays in this export. It is a well known fact that much of this wood passes through the hands of several speculators or agents and each adds on his bit of profit. This tends to a price inflation which is not good for any article of commerce.

If the world wants pulpwood and Canada can supply pulpwood, let the world have pulpwood, but let the mills which manufacture it be in Canada.

Stop the export of all pulpwood. Stop it entirely, that—

- (1) The speculator's profits be dispensed with:
- (2) The money spent on freight charges be saved:
- (3) The cost of manufacture be spent in Canada:
- (4) Our forests may have further protection.

F. J. CARTEN, 786 Dorchester Street West, Montreal, Que.

Why should not Canada Capitalize fully her Strong Position in this Respect?

Canada needs more people and needs them badly. Upon no other public question does there seem to be such universal agreement. Self-gratifying as our status of nationhood may be, the burden which that dignity entails is apparently proving irksome for so limited a population.

That Canada possesses a glorious heritage there is hardly occasion to emphasize. Proud, indeed, is the record of her achievement, but still the shield has another side, and try as we may to camouflage, the words most deeply inscribed thereon are Dis-satisfaction and Unrest.

The people are leaving Canada. The Dominion census figures show that for the past decade our loss in this way equalled not only the national increase but three-quarters of a million persons besides. Virtually all of them go to the United States and this exodus is, not a development of merely recent origin. Government records will demonstrate conclusively that this drain upon the vital system of our country had gone on with little interruption for half a century, until to-day the progeny of that continually augmented host numbers in the neighboring republic something over five and a half millions of expatriated Canadians or their immediate descendants.

At present the master mechanics of Great Britain are emigrating at the average rate of two thousand every month—ideal settlers for Canada, but going mainly to the United States.

Why this preference for an alien country? Certainly not disloyalty.

Wander-lust born of "Divine Discontent" may be the spur to some, but it is something more serious, though hardly less divine, that causes alike the British-born and the flower of our young Canadian citizens to turn their backs upon the patrimony that

many hold dear as life itself. They go to a land where greater industrial development affords them larger opportunity to earn their "Daily-bread."

Applying the obvious lesson, should we not take careful inventory of our national resources and then proceed to develop them intensively to the national advantage first, last and always, of ourselves? Selfish indeed that policy, but such is the primal law.

In reserves of nickel, timber areas and potential hydro-electric power, Canada to-day possesses resources which render our position paramount with regard to them, not only for this Continent, but for the whole world. What preponderance of bargaining power that should mean in the hands of those who shape our fiscal policy or frame our customs regulations!

The needed *quid pro quo* of hydro-electric supply has recently forestalled, automatically and effectively, a proposed embargo on anthracite coal to Canada.

For nickel the call may not be so insistent as in war-time, but for lumber products, especially pulp and paper, the demand seems almost insatiable. Why should not Canada capitalize fully her strong position in this respect? Then our artisans need not seek beneath an alien flag the employment denied at home; our agriculturists, with the better markets attendant upon industrial expansion, would remain more content upon the land; immigration then would need no restriction to special class or calling, but the new comer be left free in his newly adopted homeland to choose whatever place or occupation that most appealed.

Thus, in orderly, well balanced growth would our national domicile be reared on solidly national foundations—strong in its fabric to shelter adequately all our native-born; appealing in its fairness to all of earth who would come and abide beneath our bounteous roof-tree—The Maple Leaf, Forever!

MRS. ANGUS E. MACDONALD, Farmington, P.E.I. St. Peter's R.R.

If the American Manufacturers' Supply was Cut Off, what more Natural Move would they Take than Come to Canada?

Canada could long have enjoyed the unique position of being one of the leading countries of the world in the manufacture and export of wooden goods. And now, with the whole world not yet recovered from the effects of the great war, Canada could with her vast forests, and unexcelled facilities, both for manufacture and shipping, capture the monopoly of that trade if the Federal Government would allow only the export of the finished article. Many millions of dollars would be made yearly in Canada which other countries are making from the raw or partially manufactured timber exported from Canada.

Every winter, every city and town in Canada has its quota of unemployed. Why should that be, in a country the area of Canada with all its vast natural resources? Simply because most of our products are exported abroad for manufacture, and not the least among them is the timber from our forests.

The great need of Canada to-day is more immigrants, and the Government is preparing to make special efforts to get them. But what benefit would that be, when there is not employment for the ones already here? Of course some of them would go on the land eventually, but, as a general rule, immigrants that are brought out in such a way have to find employment the moment they land, or else become wards of the municipalities. Why should the Government bring great numbers of immigrants into Canada to shift for themselves after they get here and allow such a great opportunity for employment to go to waste by allowing the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada?

If we could stay in our homes and have the mountains brought to our doors, very few of us would go to the mountains. Well, just as long as the foreign manufacturers can have the raw material brought to their factories, will they stay home and manufacture. But if their supply was cut off, they would either have to go to the material or else go out of business. That is the kind of immigrants that Canada needs. If the American manufacturers' supply was cut off, what more natural move would they take than come to Canada?

Hardly an article in use to-day, the world over, but has wood about it in some shape or form. In some cases it may be very small, but taken in the aggregate, would make a staggering total. Take as an illustration waggon and sleigh tongues. One tongue contains approximately ten board feet and costs two dollars. If there are one million of them in use in Canada (a conservative estimate), ten million feet of lumber have been used for their manufacture at a cost of two million dollars at present-day values. Every building, every piece of machinery, and nearly every article, from the lowly scrubbing brush to an aeroplane, has its wooden fittings, so surely there is a vast field for Canada to help supply with wooden products, stamped with the "Made in Canada" trade mark.

Any unfinished article under the sun, placed on the market, brings the lowest price, yet year after year Canada is exporting raw or partially manufactured wooden goods which, if they were only made into finished goods, would furnish yearly employment for many thousands beside bringing many millions of dollars into Canada.

Not many years ago the Government of Canada awakened to the fact that our fisheries were being rapidly depleted, and so our fish-hatcheries were established. And to-day we are reaping the reward in increased catches and a growing supply which is yearly growing greater—a great source of national wealth, which by a

little forethought and small expenditure has been preserved for the people of Canada.

But here is our timber, a greater source of wealth and benefit to the country in the past than our fisheries ever were, and under proper Government control, a still greater source in the future, being cut down by thousands of acres every year and no action being taken to either control the output or replenish the supply. Year after year the slaughter goes on, the land stripped of its best timber, the smaller left bent and smashed amid the brush, a veritable fire trap, which sooner or later gets ignited, and then what is left? A country burned down to the clay, almost useless, with great rocks bared and weeds growing through the ashes.

If all the timber cut in Canada in one year was fully manufactured before being shipped to other countries, how long would it keep our factories busy? I do not know, but it would be safe to say three years or probably longer. Think what a great saving that alone would be on our forests, and if a careful system of reforestation were inaugurated by the Government and carried on year by year, there is no reason why Canada's forests and Canada's wood-working industries should not last for all time to come.

Violate nature and nature will extract its pay. This is an inexorable law, and we in Canada already are beginning to pay. Look at our rivers and streams and springs. A flood in the spring and fall, and in the summer the rivers greatly reduced and streams and springs a mere trickle or dried up entirely.

Thousands of dollars are paid yearly for weather insurance in old Ontario alone, a thing unheard of thirty years ago, and the reason is that as soon as a timbered country is stripped of its timber the way is opened for cyclones, floods and drought. Surely it is near time for the people of Canada to call a halt to the butchery of our forests, and the first step in that direction would be—Prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada.

ARTHUR HUSTON, Presque Isle, Ont. (via Owen Sound).

When we Realize that it Takes about Fifty Years to Grow a Tree.

The question of exporting the unfinished timber from Canada can be considered under three different divisions—

1. Has Canada the capital to finish the product?
2. Has she the labor, skilled and unskilled?
3. Has she the market for the finished product?

1. The fact of Canada possessing the raw material, and her unrivalled water-powers and magnificent system of railway transportation, all make Canada an attractive field for foreign capital.

The U.S.A. has used its timber resources in building up a country no larger than Canada and supporting over 100 million people. Canada with only 10 million people and more land than the U.S.A. certainly needs those timber resources to build homes for the extra 90 million people that she will some day possess, especially when we consider the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta with their treeless prairies.

Wherever industry travels capital is sure to follow

2. Has Canada the labor, skilled and unskilled?

One has only to visit our towns and cities and see the vast number of unemployed that is causing the Government so much anxiety to deal with.

The manufacturing plants that we are running on short time, and the heads of the departments in our city government, working men alternate weeks, to keep twice the amount of men alive, all show that there is plenty of labor available to develop our timber resources and manufacture the finished product here.

Work need not look for men, as men are looking for work.

3. Has Canada the market for the finished products of her timber resources?

The system of cutting and exporting the unfinished timber from Canada and the system of growing grain on our farms and exporting it are parallel cases. Both systems are soil robbers. They have stagnated the growth of Canada, and are twin vultures from the same egg.

When we realize that it takes about fifty years to grow a tree to make lumber of any commercial value and the natural growth of timber is only 50 feet per acre per annum, we will begin to appreciate the value of our wealth in the timber resources of Canada when we figure out how long we will have to wait for the next crop.

Exclusive grain growing is a soil-robbing system of agriculture and will reach its limit when the fibre in the soil is exhausted. The only way to return the fibre to the soil or retain it, is in the system of mixed farming. We cannot build up a permanent system of agriculture on cowless, sowless, and henless farms, and we cannot operate such farms without a market for their products, and to obtain that market we must build up cities and towns, thus creating large centres of population.

Then it is obvious that Canada should utilize her timber resources in building up those cities with their manufacturing plants, thus creating a market for the products of mixed farming which is of such vital importance to the agricultural prosperity of Canada.

The system of mixed farming in the three great provinces of Western Canada would increase the rural population to such an extent that it would create a home market for the finished wood products. Think of the lumber, shingles, etc., it would require

if the population of the grain-growing provinces were doubled, not to mention the other requirements for which wood is used.

Grain-growing farms are from 1 (640 acres) to 3 sections in extent with a fence around the sides, mixed farms are 1 (160 acres) to 2 quarters with cross fences. Note the difference in the number of fence posts required in the two systems, then realize that the three grain-growing provinces of Western Canada do not grow any timber for those posts. Where will we get the timber for posts if we allow our unfinished timber to be exported?

Grain-growing farmers only stay on their farms in summer. They spend the winter in more congenial places, therefore do not build up good houses or barns.

Mixed farming requires the farmer to stay on the farm the whole year, therefore he builds a good house, barns etc., thus creating a market for the finished wood products of Canada.

In the final analysis, Canada, with the rich prairie land of the Western Provinces, which stands unrivalled for producing wheat and meat (the two great essentials for cheap living) at the lowest possible cost, and the vast timber and mineral resources of the other provinces is only waiting the magic touch of Brain, Capital and Labor to make her one of the foremost nations of the world in population, wealth and education.

WALTER CARTER, Calgary, Alta.

Our Timber is being Rapidly Depleted and Our Own Country is not Getting the Full Benefit of it.

Writing in regard to the contest on Canadian forest conservation, I would like to make a few remarks, not with any hope of winning a prize, but just to show that I am strongly of the opinion that we need some such prohibition.

Our timber is being rapidly depleted and our own country is not getting the full benefit of it, but as far as arguments go there is only one argument, or one around which all the others must centre, and that one argument is population; create something to keep our boys and girls in our homeland, and I believe by building manufacturing centres throughout our country and giving our young people a chance to find some sort of employment that would satisfy their ambitions would to a great extent effect this most desirable result, the increase of our population.

Then, again, by an increase of our population we would have the benefit of a better home market for our farm products, which in turn would serve to keep more of our boys on the old farm. It is easy to see that it is the manufacturing centres that hold the population, and it is the manufacturing country that prospers most.

Hoping to see the winning argument in the Montreal Weekly Witness, I am, only a farmer in N.S.

JOHN E. WILSON, Gays River, Halifax County, N.S.

Canada in General Needs a Larger Industrial "Pay-roll."

"Conservation of natural resources" is a phrase with which Canadians are more or less familiar in a general way, but the real import of which seems to have impressed itself on all too few.

In the post-war for industrial supremacy, the usual aftermath of military conflict, the capitalists of different countries are reconnoitring thoroughly, to add to their conquests wherever possible such unexploited natural wealth as may be disposed of, or developed to their further personal aggrandisement. In the list of such natural resources nothing surpasses in importance the immense forest reserves of Canada. Many covetous eyes are now cast upon them, and even to-day their potential wealth is being drawn upon in a manner not always so advantageous or beneficial as might be to this country,—possessing in some products the virtual monopoly of so valuable a commodity, and needing seriously the benefits that should accrue therefrom.

Almost anyone making an impartial study of present-day economic unrest must become convinced that much of it is the outcome of over-production in many lines. Unemployment inevitably followed the subsequent slowing down of manufacturing, and this in turn re-acted upon the agricultural community, as the purchasing power of industrial centres—their natural market—was curtailed. "In the final analysis," says a well-known economist, "it must be realized that the spending power, the purchasing power, of a nation, of a community, is merely the sum-total of the pay-roll of that nation or community."

Canada in general needs a larger industrial "pay-roll."

War-effort, with war-destruction, has left the participants impoverished. Real wealth to replace that waste, to be permanent in its benefit, must come directly from the only source of all true wealth, the lap of kindly Mother Earth. Herein lies for Canada abundant cause for hope.

In the development of our timber areas there seems possible the immediate expansion of one industry in which no-danger of over-production need be feared. Demand is keen for the finished product, and with so unique a monopoly in visible supply there comes within the purview of our "Powers that be" a fiscal weapon, in the form of an embargo, that might be utilized, and justifiably so, to immense advantage in negotiating international treaties. To-day the raw material of this country, such as pulpwood, is being drawn away from Canada, to supply the manufacturing plants of the United States, and—worse still—our population is being depleted, as our people follow in the wake of such unfinished exports, going where their manufacture affords the opportunity of employment which cannot be secured at home. Would it not be the part of worth-while statesmanship to take the action necessary to remedy such a situation?

Government control of our timber areas seems justifiable on another ground, closely co-related—namely, conservation and

scientific regulation of water-power, the hydro-electric development of which might constitute a national asset hardly secondary in importance to that of our forest areas.

The value of such water-power depends to some extent on regularity of flow; this in turn is governed by conditions of afforestation, so that in the denuding of a watershed by lumbering operations the system of re-planting, indispensable in any comprehensive scheme of real conservation, should best be carried out under Government supervision that had an eye also to potential power development.

The subject is a large one—so large, it seems, as to justify our statesmen to blaze a trail away from the beaten paths of "Precedent." And as they explored the far-reaching possibilities of those closely-allied industries, lumber production and hydro-electric development, each paying a substantial royalty into the Federal exchequer, as did potash in Germany, vodka in Russia, opium in China, in days gone by, perhaps might they find eventually the solution of those financial difficulties with which, as wardens of the credit of Canada, they must at times be sore perplexed. Then let the slogan be: Canadian lumber, Canadian mills, Canadian power, for all!

A. J. MACADAM, Selkirk Station, P.E.I.

By Prohibiting the Export of Unmanufactured Wood Canada would Solve her Unemployment Problem.

In the headlong struggle of nations for existence, they make use of every legitimate means for the advancement of their country.

So Canada should do likewise and should awaken to the undreamed-of possibilities she has in her grasp—namely, developing her lumber industry by retaining her timber supply in the country for the protection of Canadian industries, and developing those and newer lumber-utilizing industries to their highest output and to realize what a national asset she has in her immense timber areas.

By prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood Canada would solve her unemployment problem, and by manufacturing everything in the construction of which wood is used, she would give a boost to almost every branch of industry in Canada. Take, for example, the machinery companies. They would have to engage thousands more employees and pay millions more in wages to supply the machinery necessary to convert the lumber into the finished product.

Common laborers and skilled workmen in every line of industry requiring wood (directly and indirectly) would receive good wages and spend those wages in Canada and help keep the wheels of progress moving ever forward. Even our non-paying railroads would profit immensely by the extra freight they would be called on to handle.

But when the unmanufactured lumber is shipped a way, a very small percentage of the people of Canada receive any benefit from it.

It is as wrong in principle as the farmer who sets out to build up the fertility of his farm, who instead of carrying live stock and feeding the crops at home, to enrich his farm, sells it off the fields and leaves his farm that much poorer. By the Government passing laws making it compulsory for companies and individuals to replant as much or more acreage than they cut, Canada would have an everlasting supply, and as other countries became depleted, she would have developed an industry which, although valuable now, would be getting more so every year.

If we are fortunate enough to have men at the head of affairs with a clean cut determination to lead Canada to adopt policies in her lumber business which are careful and conscientious and manufacturing principles which are sound and substantial, coupled with the foregoing reforestation scheme, the net result would be a country free from debt and unemployment

The lumber manufacturing industry would realize the advantages of Canadian seaports and shipping points and avail themselves of the benefits thereof—the lack of congestion and delay, the effective relations with commercial centres all over the world for handling foreign business, and the proximity of industrial sections providing skilled labor in abundance. Progress is made possible only by keeping the industrial machine going, and Canada's lumber manufacturing industry developed along proper lines would do more to keep her industrial machine going in high gear than any other industry she might develop.

She could gain supremacy in the realm of wood manufacture and achieve a position of dominance which would do much to further the development of other industries, and bring her lumber products into world-wide demand.

The lumber manufacturing business, covering every phase of the operation from the selection of the timber in the forests to the placing of the finished product, would give employment to thousands and put millions more of money in circulation, and might well be termed Canada's gift of financial independence to her people, and it is up to them to adopt policies by which they can make use of this gift to its utmost advantage.

WALDO MACDONALD, Bothwell, P.E.I.

The Foes of the Forest.

Canada is the most promising country in the world. There is no doubt about it. Her natural resources are varied and immense. Our great forests constitute one of our most valuable assets, and to conserve these for all time from their many enemies is our immediate and imperative duty, seeing that they affect so

closely our national and commercial life. As that splendid apostle of forestry, the late Dr. E. B. Fernow, so well said: "Our civilization is built on wood." It is very difficult to get some people to realize the importance of this matter, because, alas, their heads seem to be wooden also! They are obsessed with the false idea that our forests are inexhaustible.

Two of the greatest foes of the forests are fires and fools. We must prevent the first, as far as possible, and educate the second—as far as possible. It would be kinder to say that the word fool is used as denoting the lack of knowledge. Any country that permits its chief asset to be squandered, is severing its own jugular, and this is certainly what we are doing when we allow unmanufactured wood to leave this country.

To use another figure, we are spending our capital instead of living on the interest. We have to teach and preach the doctrine of selective cutting, sending the logs to our own saws, the care of young growth, and re-planting. These are four absolute essentials to our salvation.

Our great commercial neighbor to the South can teach us a lesson if we care to learn. In that country about one person in every eight is dependent upon the commerce in wood for their living; but in the last few years several thousand mills have been shut down because of log-shortage. The great newspapers are swallowing acres of pulp-timber with every edition, and one big manufacturer, now using two hundred million feet annually, has secured an immense tract of forest-land to insure, for a number of years at least, a sufficient supply. The remaining stumpage in many parts of the States is being seized with feverish haste by those who read the signs of the times. Let us learn from these things.

This is an era of construction and reconstruction. The larger part of the world is wanting wood for this purpose. Australia's product is too tough, and New Zealand's too light. China is looking to the Pacific Northwest for her supplies, as the rapid development of Japan, who has hitherto been responsible for about half of China's requirements, will probably preclude any increased deliveries. South Africa favors Canadian wood, and the United Kingdom, with other parts of Europe, is only waiting for more settled conditions before calling up her great Dominion for building supplies.

No country on earth is so well placed to serve the world's needs in this relation as our own. Both Atlantic and Pacific are at our doors. Because of the need, and our ability to meet that need, we should allow no unmanufactured wood to leave our shores. We simply cannot afford to sell raw goods. Douglas fir, weight for weight stronger than steel, the pride of the West; cedar, spruce, hemlock, balsam, pine and our beautiful hardwoods of the East, must be saved from the disgrace and commercial shame of being sent out into the world undressed!

To answer, then, the question, Why we should prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood:—

1. Because—We conserve the timber, and by so doing we firmly establish Canadian lumber mills and factories, giving permanency and protection to the main artery of our commercial life.

2. Because—By this means we are able to provide employment for a very much larger number of people, inducing immigration and building up the domestic life of the nation. The mills made permanent by scientific forestry, means families; whereas the logging camps alone do not conduce to married life.

3. Because—The mill waste can supply box and toy factories, pulp mills, chemical works for wood-alcohol and other chemicals; and serve useful and profitable purposes besides fuel.

4. Because—We should be producing experts in woodcraft, giving solidarity to the trade, confidence and ambition to the workers, and tending to make Canadian wood products the first in the world's markets.

5. Because—Nature having so richly endowed this fair land, it is our duty as patriots to develop our heritage to its highest possible efficiency and service, for the welfare not only of the present, but succeeding generations of Canadian people.

ROBERT HUGHES, Kaslo, B.C.

Are we, for Temporary Gain, to Deprive Canada of this Much-needed Source of Employment by Allowing our Timber in its Unmanufactured State to be Exported to Foreign Lands?

To a nation such as Canada the development of our natural resources, more especially our forest lands, demands considerate and mature judgment by those to whom this work has been entrusted. Having in mind always that our assets are not inexhaustible, they must visionalize the future.

Have we not an object lesson in our sister nation to the South, who, through lack of vision on the part of her leaders, has allowed her forests to be wantonly depleted until to-day she must look to us to supply a considerable portion of her requirements?

We have only to look around us to see how many of our needs are supplied directly or indirectly from the forests of Canada. At home, in the office, at sea, on the farm, we find the products of our timbered lands too numerous to mention; yet each and every one testifying to employment provided, and revenue supplied to thousands of our people. Are we, for temporary gain, to deprive Canada of this much-needed source of employment by allowing our timber in its unmanufactured state to be exported to foreign lands?

By careful organization and systematic control of this wonderful source of wealth, Canada can meet her own requirements and at the same time ensure that future generations will not be deprived of

the blessing nature has so generously bestowed on us. Outside of our own material benefits, do not the forests provide a shelter to our furred and feathered folk, who, in turn, represent a means of livelihood to many of our countrymen besides contributing to our comfort when winter's icy blasts come shrieking from the North?

Look on the grandeur of our forest-clad hills! Picture them shorn of their wealth of color standing bald and bleak against the setting sun! You shudder at the thought, yet every year the forest fires perform their deadly work, sweeping great stretches of our virgin soil and leaving in their wake a charred and smouldering plain as a monument to our national neglect.

The detection and prevention of forest fires has been simplified in recent years by the adoption of the aeroplane for fire-ranging purposes, but we must be willing to equip and maintain a force capable of discharging this duty, and until we do, we must be prepared for conflagrations such as that which swept Northern Ontario in the autumn of 1922, carrying into oblivion millions of feet of lumber whose value is incalculable, besides the misery and suffering to that section of the country

Equally destructive is our present methods of leasing great sections of our timbered lands to pulp and lumber combines, without pausing to consider, what to-day we call good business and development of our country, may to-morrow be a boomerang reacting on our heads. I do not belittle the importance of these gigantic enterprises, nor do I consider them responsible for the waste that follows in their train. I feel certain that their co-operation is assured if only we, who are the custodians of this heritage, would awake to our responsibilities, and demand that with every lease definite cutting instructions are defined, and arrangements made for the reforestation to follow in the path of the axe. I do not minimize the task, but is it not worthy of our best efforts? Let each and every one of us realize our own individual interest in this great work, and those to whom we have entrusted the public helm will be forced to assume a responsibility too long neglected, and provide an organization capable of dealing with and protecting so important a branch of our natural resources.

L. D. M. BAXTER, 22 Lincoln Ave., Montreal, P.Q.

Prohibit the Exportation of Unmanufactured Wood from Canada.

Mr. Frank J. D. Barnjum has asked for the most convincing arguments in favor of prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada, and as there are many forceful arguments for and no tenable arguments against the measure, he will not be disappointed.

But Mr. Barnjum is more concerned that the people of Canada become convinced that this exportation should cease, and, knowing

the fundamental reflective sanity of the Canadian people, we lay the following before them, that they may be convinced, not so much by these arguments as by reflection.

We are shipping to the United States, yearly, approximately 1,000,000 cords of pulp logs, which should be manufactured in Canada.

It has been said, should we prohibit this exportation, that the States might retaliate by cutting off our coal or other supply.

This is absurd, for should the coal supply be discontinued the tremendous amount of American capital invested in Canadian industry would be vitally affected.

Moreover the Americans are a shrewd people who happen to be in the coal business, and You, Mr. Coal Dealer, can answer the question, "Would you cut off a customer from whom you derived splendid profits because he refused to supply you with wax but agreed to supply you with manufactured candles to illuminate the balance of your accounts?"

But our reflections must go deeper.

Let the people of Canada reflect from the personal viewpoint, for, whether you are capitalist or laborer, producer or consumer, wholesaler or retailer, you are vitally affected (in your pocket).

Converting the exported 1,000,000 cords into dollars at \$12. a cord, we arrive at the sum of \$12,000,000; but convert this into tons of paper, manufactured in Canadian mills and sold by Canadian enterprise, at \$60 a ton, and the equation ($1\frac{1}{2}$ cords equals one ton) produces the sum \$40,000,000.

Let us reflect that the difference, \$28,000,000, a Canadian loss, is American gain which pays American labor, coaxes Canadians across the border, buys American produce and stimulates American industry.

Yet we are deploring unemployment and lack of capital.

Let us reflect, and reflect deeply, what this \$28,000,000 spent yearly in Canada would mean to every one of us.

It would mean employment for 21,000 men, with an average family of two. It would mean (in equivalent) a city of 65,000 people. It would mean their housing, so You, Mr. Contractor, are losing money. It would mean 65,000 people to be fed, so You, Mr. Grocer and Butcher, are losing money, and You, Mr. Hardwareman, or whatsoever trade or calling you follow, are allowing your pockets to be picked. It would mean sales, Mr. Wholesaler or Manufacturer, lost at present, and to your salesmen, commission.

It would mean immigration, freight, lower taxes, Mr. Canadian National Railways.

On reflection, will you throw these millions away?

If we believe, with Lord Dufferin, that "Never has any people been endowed with a nobler birthright or fairer future," we will reflect and prohibit the exportation of that which constitutes a portion of our Canadian heritage.

A. E. LAWRENCE, 127 Drummond St., Montreal, P.Q.

If the Buyers of Pulpwood had their Supply Cut off, they would Immediately Call for Pulp in its Place.

In my opinion the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada should be absolutely prohibited for the following reasons :

First, because the annual cut has now become so large that our timber reserves are being used up much faster than natural growth can replace them.

Second, by exporting the raw material Canada is losing the advantage of having more employment for her own population, as well as the profits which would accrue, if manufactured lumber and paper only were exported. Incidentally Canada is at present losing the taxation she ought to have on such profits.

Third, Canada may be said to be almost altogether dependent on her wood supply to maintain and increase the present large and prosperous papermaking industry. No other substitute has been found in sufficient quantity to relieve the demand on our forests. Owing to climate, there is no rapid growth of other paper-making materials, such as are obtained in the tropics, and are there reproduced very quickly. Aside from waste paper (most of which comes from the States) and a small quantity of rags, no fibre is used in the manufacture of paper except woodpulp of various descriptions.

Serious thought should therefore be given at once to the speedy destruction which is rapidly overtaking one of this country's largest visible assets.

It being an undeniable fact that our timber reserves are being rapidly diminished, while nothing is being done towards replacement, there can be no doubt that in addition to forbidding the export of unmanufactured wood, that it might be quite advisable to do the same with woodpulp, because if the buyers of woodpulp had their supply cut off, they would immediately call for pulp in its place. Admittedly it is better to export pulp than raw wood, but it would be still better to export the finished article in the form of paper, so securing employment and profit in all the different stages. Already our mills are being built further and further north, following the timber still left standing, and leaving a sadly deforested country behind them.

Let us remember that Nature draws a line beyond which timber does not exist. It would appear to be an uncontrovertble fact that unless regulations are made with regard to replanting cut-out areas, it will become more and more difficult to keep our mills running, and eventually, if nothing is done, the whole of the industries connected with wood will gradually die out from lack of material.

If the export of unmanufactured lumber, and possibly pulp, was forbidden in the near future, it would be very desirable at the same time to make it compulsory on anyone cutting timber to replant a

stated number of trees to every acre cut out, the number being fixed so that each tree would have room to develop to the best advantage.

These are the lines which Norway, Sweden, Germany and France have adopted on the management of their national forests, and although modifications might be necessary in Canada the general system should be much the same.

The matter is of such importance that it is clearly the duty of the Federal Government to act.

It is desirable that the whole matter should be treated as one of the greatest national importance, and it is to be hoped that this course will be taken very promptly.

ALEXANDER ANNANDALE, King Street, Georgetown, Ont.

Give Employment to Hundreds of Farmers and their Sons During the Winter, when the Farm Needed but Little Attention.

1. Take the case of the Christmas tree. While on a trip to the country last fall, I saw several large piles of small fir or spruce trees, and on inquiry was informed that they were to be shipped to the American market. For the small price obtained for these trees, it is almost criminal to allow them to be shipped to another country and thrown on the dump in a few weeks, when in fifteen years' time they would have brought thousands of dollars to the owner, and also in that fifteen years, the loss by that one shipment would be the cause of many Canadians paying a good deal more for lumber to build homes, and would undoubtedly be the reason of many a poor man going without a home that he is justly entitled to. If this applies to one shipment, what must it mean to Canada at large for years?

2. In the case of pulpwood. Every season I have seen thousands of team-loads go over an International bridge from a small Canadian town (which has a water-power to run the largest pulp and paper mill) to be shipped to large and thriving American towns and cities for manufacturing purposes, when if it had been manufactured in Canada it would have been the direct means of keeping hundreds of our young men at home at good paying situations, enlarged our towns into cities, and given the farmer a larger market for his produce, raised on the land he had cleared.

3.—Take the case of our hardwood ridges, which within recent years have caught the eyes of veneer manufacturers. In the past four or five years, enormous numbers of our old birches have been cut and shipped to other markets, when a comparatively small outlay by some of our moneyed men could build mills for manufacturing purposes right among the hills where these old monarchs

grow, and give employment to hundreds of farmers and their sons during the winter, when the farm needed but little attention.

There are numbers of chances right in our own county to build chair, spool and other wood factories, when our hardwood would help build up this country of ours, but instead it is shipped to our neighbors and calls for our native-born men to help in their manufacture, thereby taking away our population and building up another country, and in many cases we buy these manufactured articles back and pay a large import duty on the same. Other countries must have these articles, no matter where they are manufactured, and the logical conclusion is that our Government should look into the matter keenly and intelligently, and pass wise laws that would prohibit the export of all our different kinds of unmanufactured wood, and thereby compel manufacturers of other countries to start plants in Canada, where the wood is grown, and by so doing, build up prosperous and lasting industries and increasing our population by coming themselves with their families, and also keeping our own men at home.

A. C. GREGORY, St. Stephen, N.B.

Prohibiting Unmanufactured Wood Exporting would Tend to Consume more Wheat at Home and Remove Agitation among Farmers.

Countries are nothing but a collection of individuals, and what is good for an individual should be good for the country, providing it is done in such a way as to benefit the greatest number.

Manufacturing our wood here to as near a finished usable state as transportation and requirements of countries exported to would allow would employ more labor in Canada, more labor employed would remove agitation and distress and in time populate the country more fully so that our taxes would be shouldered by more people, and thus improve in time individual taxes.

Our present system of living is now very competitive commercially, country against country and individual against individual, so that when a country finds itself endowed with natural resources they are certainly lax from a business point of view in letting a competitor make themselves better off at the expense of a country endowed with these resources. One of Canada's big exportable sources of revenue is wheat, but unfortunately we are open to a world market, some countries haing it on us in cheaper transportation due to location. Prohibiting unmanufactured wood exporting would tend to consume more wheat at home and remove agitation among farmers.

Anyone that has travelled in Eastern Canada must be impressed at the lack of business foresight of the Government at allowing

box car after box car and steamer after steamer of wood in the raw state going to other countries to have labor expended on it.

The old saying that to see an error magnify it might be better impressed on average man by an example, although somewhat fiction, for sake of example, let us imagine a case, back when the world was young. We will say Adam had two sons. Adam owned the world and the resources therein. He had, we will say, a couple of islands, one of which he gave to, say, John and the other one to Frank. In the start both islands were well wooded equal to the requirements of the inhabitants, but in course of time Frank populated his domain quicker and exhausted his wood supply, but naturally had the manufacturing plants left. Looking around, he spied John with his untouched wood lots and proceeded to go over and buy the wood unmanufactured which John was easy enough to let him have. This tended to keep Frank's plants employed and to employ part of his population. Now, Mr. Reader, would we not call John a chump, and are we Canadians not chumps for allowing the very same thing to take place?

In practice the United States compares to Frank and Canada to John. On further analysis we find Canada buys more goods of U.S. than U.S. does of Canada. We have been going in debt, floating loans to keep our end up and paying interest thereon, and in past used money obtained from European countries to offset this trade balance with the U.S. Prohibition of export on raw wood would be a large measure of relief.

Since Europe has got in such a financial condition and forced to live more on its own resources, it is more necessary than ever. Canada has suffered lately by the Fordney tariff, and it is high time we took stock of ourselves and bent every effort to make the best use of our natural resources that will reflect back on the general prosperity of the country.

In reality the wood of the world is disappearing, and places endowed with it will realize a better price as time goes on. While U.S. was particularly singled out, the same principle applies to any country taking our raw wood.

H. A. CROSBY, 43 McCauley W., Hamilton, Ont.

Lo! what Happened to those Countries where Unfaithful Administrators Robbed their Own Children of the Manifold Blessings of the Forest?

In the great woods and forests, covering a large part of our immense country, Mother Nature gave us Canadians a rich inheritance indeed. And it was her intention that we should use these wonderful things—should enjoy them to the fullest degree, commensurate with the duties such a great possession entails.

For we Canadians who to-day live and have our being have received Nature's bountiful gifts through and from our ancestors.

We are, as custodians of this natural wealth, charged with administering these riches to our common benefit and must bequeath them to our sons and daughters. That is our imperative moral duty as owners and possessors.

Lo! what happened to those countries where unfaithful administrators robbed their own children of the manifold blessings of the forest? These suffer to-day not only a scarcity of wood, but have also to contend with an impoverished soil and a more or less arid climate. Nature is generous to us mortals—but also exacting in her demands and inexorable in her vengeance.

While these great natural resources must, on the one hand, not be squandered by robbers in our midst or beyond our frontiers, yet we have, on the other hand, the right of proper use. And these uses are manifold indeed. We use wood as fuel, use it for building houses, bridges, vehicles of all descriptions, use it for furniture, instruments and implements, use it in our mines, employ it to carry our telegraph and telephone wires and the tracks of our railways and, last but not least, in the manufacture of paper.

But proper use also means that we may, and indeed should, use these great resources with a certain amount of healthy egotism. These riches are ours, and nobody but ourselves should have anything to say as to how we should administer them. All wood growing in Canada should be so used as to build up Canadian industries—to give work to Canadian capital or capital working inside of our borders, and to give to Canadian laborers an ever-growing opportunity to work and earn.

If we permit our wood to leave the country in the rough or semi-manufactured state, we allow the greater part of the gain and profit to go to the alien. If, on the other hand, we do the manufacturing ourselves, we keep practically 100% of all the profits in our own country. Not only the owner of the timber, the lumberjack and the transportation companies will profit, but with them the manufacturer, the factory worker, the wholesaler and the retailer.

We should not only not export wood in the unmanufactured state, but should also import less and less goods made from wood. Let us make these articles from our own rich stocks of raw materials. If the goods should not be cheaper, they will be just as good or better, and we will have made them ourselves—reaping the full benefit both as to immediate profits and as to the joy and pride felt by those who work and achieve. And we will also help in conserving our wood supply.

And if other countries and peoples need our wood in the rough or semi-finished state, they will still need it if we refuse to let them have it as they want it. So let us do the manufacturing ourselves. This applies especially to pulpwood, of which immense quantities are exported every year.

If we let these principles be our guiding lines in the handling of our rich timber supplies, we will build up Canadian industries, give employment to more of our men, give better opportunities to capital, create prosperity and happiness. All this will tend to increase our population, the smallness of which is one of the main causes of our present economic ills.

JOHN HENSEN, 12 Angus Crescent, Regina, Sask.

The Prohibition of the Exportation of Raw Timber.

Canada is making a grave mistake by allowing this timber to be exported in the raw or semi-raw state, for by so doing she is helping to increase the wealth of other nations at her own loss.

If other countries can import raw timber and manufacture it, selling it for a great profit, surely Canada, having the material to begin with, can make even greater profit from the sale of the manufactured products. For instance, Germany with her great mineral wealth made for herself an established trade with world renown out of these natural assets, and in fact almost all countries that have prospered commercially or otherwise have done so, not by exporting their raw materials, but by manufacturing them into articles of far greater value.

As long as there is a world, there will be a demand for lumber, especially in its many manufactured forms. Why, then, when Canada has this raw lumber, does she not manufacture it herself instead of allowing large quantities to be bought by other nations to be manufactured and sold by them for quadruple the price or more? If Canada prohibited the exportation of raw timber and produced the manufactured articles herself, she would soon be getting the price for them which is going to other countries at the present time.

Now, if the pulpwood was kept in the Dominion and made into paper, the demand for which is enormous, who would get the profits from the sales?—Canada; and it is Canada whose interest we have at heart, and who should receive the profits from the products of her own soil. Besides, if Canada did not export her pulpwood, but manufactured paper in her own mills, our books and papers would not cost us so much, and this would be a great improvement, especially, if the price of school books could be reduced. Not only the manufacture of paper, but of furniture and the like could be carried on in Canada just as well as outside it, and to a far greater advantage.

Canada's timber, moreover, is in fact going at an alarming rate, owing to the extensive amount cut each year, and to the destroyers, fire and insects. These last two destroy far more timber than is cut each year.

Canada has, especially in her timberlands, the makings of what the world wants, then why does she not supply these demands

herself, and directly, instead of via the American ports? Simply because there is a perfect freedom as regards the exportation of raw timber; so out it goes, almost as soon as it is cut, there being nothing to prevent it, and some other country, profiting by our mistake, gets the most out of it by manufacturing it into saleable products bringing large prices.

No person would consider it wise to give away all his money when he can use it himself to better his living conditions, and that is just what Canada is doing. She is actually using her raw lumber to fill the pockets of other countries, to her own loss, and she will without doubt continue to do so until there is a law passed prohibiting wholly the exportation of raw timber from Canada.

ADELAIDE F. MACLAUCHLAN, Box 166, Perth, Victoria Co., N.B.

Is it to be a Case of Right Forever on the Scaffold, Wrong Forever on the Throne?

The heritage of the Canadian sons of to-morrow is what is developed by the fathers of to-day. and the prosperity of every country is in developing to its utmost its natural resources.

Fortunately Canada is blessed with many, including one of great importance to us, namely, our forest reserves a—great wealth that can be recreated till the future lies dim within our vision. When we figure this vast natural wealth in terms of gold, does it not appeal to all right-thinking Canadians what our forests mean to us? I want to tell those people of short vision, what follows in the wake of Protection of our raw wood. I want them to see, as I have seen, the growing towns in the wilderness, great, big, hustling centres of life, good homes for the workers, paved streets and a feeling of contentment over all. Why this wonderful condition in the heart of a forest? Because our raw wood is being manufactured into newsprint, pulp, fibre-board and various other products, giving work to thousands and populating that part of our country which was once a silent forest.

We are proud of this great awakening that has taken place, but is only confined to certain parts of our country and is only one step on the road to national prosperity.

Now allow me to raise the veil on that part of our country where unwise legislation has made our forests a veritable shambles by the invader's hand, who takes all our raw wood and gives nothing in return, who wantonly robs posterity of its natural birthright, and which has driven thousands of our best manhood into the land of strangers to seek a living, which his own country denied him. These monuments to the selfishness of professional politicians are to be seen in the shape of robbing mills, whose sole duty is to take off the bark of our raw wood and which is sent abroad to be made into all the products of wood and which is everything in paper, thereby

keeping the largest paper mills on earth running to full capacity, leaving millions in foreign lands which is ours by right. Is it to be a case of Right forever on the Scaffold? Wrong Forever on the Throne. It is common knowledge that the foremost nations of the earth owe their present position to the intense development of their natural resources. Take paper as one instance. One of the coming nations owes it to her natural resources being protected and developed.

What is Canada doing in order to be one of the great industrial nations of to-morrow? The answer is to be found in the present condition of our country. I am only a commoner of my country, and I know, we can become the nation we would like to be, by developing every pound of our national wealth. By doing so we shall keep our best manhood in Canada and become a nation of workers. With men of courage, vision and honor to lead and who can see the future of Canada through the eyes of her millions of souls, then shall our great forests play a leading part in building up our country through its great wealth, which was given to us by the Almighty in his first great law of Nature.

W.S. GILMORE, Rouville Co., Richelieu, P.Q.

No One could Justly Complain of such Legislation. Our Forests were not Artificially Created. They are the Gift of Nature to the Whole Country.

Fifty years ago Canada utilized her forest products at home, and became largely prosperous and progressive.

On almost every available site around her coasts and on the banks of her navigable rivers and lakes, a shipyard was planted, and afforded abundant employment in its neighborhood. The woods rang with industry, and yielded materials for ship-building or profitable freights for Canadian-built and owned vessels. The forest resources of the country were directly converted into wealth for its people.

At Confederation, the original Provinces of the Dominion ranked fourth among the registered ship-owning countries of the world.

Conditions have greatly changed since then. Our forests, not materially damaged by what was formerly taken from them, are now seriously threatened by the new demand of a new market, that of the United States, for pulpwood or pulp, formerly unknown. This demand is peculiarly menacing because it selects for its wants immature trees, thus double-discounting the future of our forests.

The forests of the United States have been so depleted that they are no longer able to supply the annual home draft upon them. In consequence, the American invasion of our forests is steadily

extending, and their exhaustion is in sight. Hence the urgency of prompt Canadian action for their conservation.

Most fortunately, the action required points the way to increased and increasing prosperity and progress for the Dominion. Canada must return to the domestic manufacture, and prohibit the export of her forest resources. She cannot afford to see her woods—the growing trees—cut down and sold for a trifle to outsiders.

Because of greatly enhanced prices, our forests, potentially, are even more valuable than they were when wooden ship-building ceased. By utilizing them in our own interests we can convert them into vast, immediate wealth. We can enrich the Dominion, perhaps to a greater degree, by manufacturing paper and articles of wood than we did by building ships.

It is an economic maxim that the nearer to their place of production raw materials can be finished, and the further the finishing process can be carried, the greater the profit. In conformity with this maxim cotton-manufacturing in the United States is being rapidly transferred from its old centre in New England to the vicinity of the cotton-fields in the South.

Wood, relatively, might be made a more valuable national asset to Canada than is cotton to the United States, if we could decide and insist on having its manufacture completed at home.

As pulp, or in its natural form, wood is bulky and costly to handle, freight charges for its transportation are oppressive. Canada is now receiving little from it except the mere wages of her axe-men, and has become literally a "hewer of wood" to her Southern neighbor.

In the form of paper or other finished products, the cost of transporting the yield of our forests could be minimized, and we might reap all the advantages of its manufacture. Those advantages could not but be enormous. By seizing them we should be enabled to protect and conserve our woods instead of allowing them to be devastated, almost without compensation.

To this end, Federal legislation is unmistakably requisite, since there are so many conflicting provincial and private interests involved. Such legislation would necessarily take the form of prohibiting the export of pulpwood and pulp, or of imposing export duties which would have the same effect. This is a question for Parliament. No one could justly complain of such legislation. Our forests were not artificially created. They are the gift of Nature to the whole country.

W. E. MACLELLAN, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Let our Slogan be "Made in Canada," and Cease to Build Up the Nation to the South of us and we will Double our Population in Ten Years.

If our Dominion Government could be induced to prohibit the exporting of unmanufactured wood from Canada, what a boon to our country it would be. The country that practises thrift and develops its own resources is the country that is going to prosper. Many years ago the Government at Ottawa prohibited the exporting of unsawn timber from the country, and as a result we have a number of large sawmills erected all over the Dominion giving employment to hundreds of men. This was a step in the right direction, but only a step, as it did not go far enough; but it goes to show what might happen if all our timber was not only sawn here in the Dominion, but manufactured as well; factories would be built in all convenient places and towns would spring up all over the land. Where hundreds are now employed, thousands might be employed, and instead of a few centres of industry like Winnipeg and Toronto, our whole Dominion would be dotted with towns and cities, all busy hives of industry, peopled with happy and satisfied laborers, earning their good, fair, daily wage. Unemployment and all the evils following would be things of the past.

All manner of articles of wood or parts of wood, from a threshing machine to a tooth-pick, could be manufactured right at home and the finished article shipped instead of the unmanufactured wood, and our National Railways, instead of showing a deficit of 56 million as they do now, would then show a surplus.

Our whole Dominion would react to the forward movement, more and larger towns and cities would mean a greater demand for farm produce. This would increase the profits to the farmer; instead of such a large surplus of grain and beef cattle as we now have, we would hardly be able to supply the demand.

It is well known that a large surplus and poor prices always travel hand in hand. Our 75c. wheat would then be selling for \$1.75 and our beef cattle at a fair profit.

This would be some inducement for men to go on the farm. We hear a good deal lately about back to the land, but where is the inducement for men to go back to the farm at the starvation prices prevailing at present?

With a greater demand for farm produce and better prices and a ready market right at our door, farming would be greatly stimulated and the British and American immigrants would be flocking to our shores, and our rural population as well as urban would increase by leaps and bounds.

Our Dominion is well supplied with water-power just awaiting development. Electric power for running our factories could be generated, electric railways could be built to connect up the inland

towns, and the backwoods as it now exists would disappear. We have the timber, we have the power for manufacturing and we have the country, then why not develop our natural resources and manufacture our own raw material? Let our slogan be "Made in Canada," and cease to build up the nation to the south of us and we will double our population in ten years.

GILBERT ACHESON, R.R. No. 1, Thessalon, Ont.

We should Exercise our Franchise to Ensure the Conservation of our Natural Resources, and as the First Step urge the Annulment of the Right to Export Unmanufactured Wood.

No more vital problem confronts the Canadian people than the conservation of the forests. Do we realize that this wonderful heritage is held by us in trust and should be fostered and safeguarded not only for our descendants but for the millions who in the years to come will inhabit this incomparable unit of the British Empire?

Unfortunately the vast majority have no conception of their responsibility, and it behooves us all to heed the warnings of the few far-sighted, public-spirited citizens who in no uncertain manner are sounding the tocsin and endeavoring to avert the impending disaster.

Our neighbors to the South have already dissipated their timber resources, which not many years ago were thought to be inexhaustible. They are now our most important customer for newsprint and many of their mills are dependent upon our pulpwood.

Thanks to the legislation of the Provinces chiefly concerned, the exportation of unmanufactured wood from Crown lands has been prohibited. The result has been that the manufacture of paper in Canada has increased by leaps and bounds with attendant prosperity, and the industry is still in its infancy.

The lesson to be gained from the ravaged forests of the United States is obvious, and we must act at once if we are to escape a similar predicament. If we procrastinate, the damage will be irreparable. The forests should not be exterminated; they must be harvested. Let us keep this word before us, as it portrays the desired objective. Lands unsuited for agriculture should be replanted and cutting carried on intelligently, preserving the small trees; every precaution taken to eliminate loss through insect pests and that dreaded element, fire, fought and guarded against as a demon leaving terror and destruction in its wake.

The lumbermen and pulp and paper manufacturers may be relied upon to co-operate with the authorities as a matter of self-preservation, but what about the farmers? Unfortunately there

is no restraint upon the export of unmanufactured wood cut from freehold lands. The demand for wood has been a boon to legitimate settlers, but it would not be impaired by the cancellation of the privilege to export. On the contrary, the farmers should benefit by better markets for produce, as mills would migrate to the sources of supply.

The cutting rights to freehold lands or pulpwood therefrom are readily saleable to jobbers, and settlers have been encouraged to patent lands which will not provide a living when cleared. With what result? This timber is being extirpated without restraint and the forests rapidly denuded. If the export of unmanufactured wood were prohibited and the Canadian mills restricted to cutting and purchasing logs of approved dimensions only, we should be assured that our forests would be harvested.

If we do not awake to our predicament, our watersheds will be ruined and floods follow, bringing disaster to the lumbermen and farmers alike with the loss of innocent and valuable lives. And then what would become of our water-powers? Important as they are at present, we are just beginning to realize their wonderful potentialities. They are unquestionably an asset, which, if preserved, will be instrumental in making this country one of the most prosperous nations of the world.

Every section of Canada is concerned either directly or indirectly in this paramount problem. We should exercise our franchise to ensure the conservation of our natural resources, and as the first step urge the annulment of the right to export unmanufactured wood.

W. B. RAPLEY, Sherbrooke, Que.

Little Marvel that after over Three Centuries of Settlement with her Illimitable Resources she has not a Population of Nine Millions yet.

In our country during late years there has been considerable agitation in regard to the forests. Experts keep making dismal predictions as to their extinction unless the Canadian people compel their Governments to take action for their conservation and preservation. Leaving the experts to preach their doctrine of forest preservation, there are two outstanding features of a forest policy that focuses the attention of the most obtuse minds. One is that if the people would have their forests with them always, they must not waste them. The other is that if they would enrich their own country and add to its population, the export of our forests in the rough must cease and all of the forest products of our country must be manufactured at home, so as to build up industrial towns and

villages where thousands of people will have comfortable homes and be profitably employed and that will furnish markets for the farmers' produce.

It has been said that hindsight is poorsight, but sometimes a lesson from the tomb of the past may not be disregarded. There are people living in our country yet who remember the old square timber-days, when the best trees in our forest were hewed and shipped out of the country. What did Canada gain by the export of all this timber? Employment for a few thousand woodsmen, timber-makers, river-drivers and longshoremen, drawing the magnificent wages of from ten to twenty dollars a month, most of them never making a home but changing from place to place. No wonder Canada's progress was as the snail's progress! Little marvel that after over three centuries of settlement with her illimitable resources she has not a population of nine millions yet. It surely must begin to dawn on Canadian people that the old system was the wrong system, and that the resources of their own country should be used in their own interests instead of for the benefit of the people of other lands. The great call of the country to-day is for population. Public men on the platform and in the press are pressing for immigration; although, according to reports, the people are leaving Canada from every part from Nova Scotia to British Columbia. If the people here will not remain, it would be delusive to expect immigrants that are almost purchased to come here, to stay and become permanent citizens. The time has come when Canada must recast her policy, she must instill a better national spirit into her people, she must make her country the land of opportunity for the people of other lands. To achieve this desirable condition it must be her aim to stop the export of her raw resources as far as possible and put them on the markets of the world in a finished state. The agricultural resource and the forests are two of our greatest resources and it would look as if a wise Providence intended they should assist each other. In this north country of ours the land can only be cultivated five or six months in the year. Without the aid of the forests, the farmers could not live. Around the lumber mills and factories, towns and villages grow up, where they find a ready market for their produce. One can see that the more mills and factories there are in operation the greater the population will be and the richer the country will become. Considering these facts, would it not be a supreme act of folly on the part of the people of Canada to allow the export of their unmanufactured wood?

S. AUGUSTA HAYES, New Mills, Restigouche Co., N.B.

I Cry Aloud to the Government to Stop this Stupid Criminality and to have Canadian Timber Fashioned by Canadians.

Whether it applies to a man, a woman or a nation, the great ideal is self-reliance, the ability to finish one's own job, in short, independence. Do we, in Canada, strive for this glorious aim in completing the circle of growing, hewing, manufacturing and selling our own timber? In truth, we do not, and these lines are written in a humble effort to show why we should not export unfinished wood.

Apart from the moral aspect, let us look at the matter from a strictly business standpoint. When the tall trees of our country fall at the hands of the axeman and are shipped in the rough beyond our borders, only labor of a poorly paid sort is entailed, but, once our timber reaches the mill and the manufacturer in other countries, a more highly paid class of labor is employed to cut, fashion and polish the wood into its final manufactured state (such as furniture, etc.). This represents valuable wages which, in my opinion, should go to Canadians instead of to foreigners, but the loss for our carelessness or stupidity does not end there, as, when the Canadian wishes to buy the manufactured article, he is obliged to pay for the cost of shipping the raw wood out over the border, the labor and profits entailed in the manufacture, hauling charges back to Canada, incoming duty and taxes and another profit or commission to the Canadian agent.

The net loss to the Dominion under this system is immense; if the foreign charges, wages and profits were kept in Canada, think of the reduced number of our unemployed and the increased circulation of money which would travel all over the country, stimulating other lines of Canadian industry and giving wages to an increased number of our own workmen, who, in spending it to live and enjoy, would send the invigorated Canadian dollar flying in another direction, eager to be used again and again in the ever-widening circle, creating more happiness in the homes it visited and making Canada resemble a self-sustaining man instead of a helpless baby taking what others care to give and at a high price too.

When a man loses a dollar his loss is not confined to merely one hundred cents; he has lost control not only of his dollar but also of its potentialities, which might be interest for the moderate investor or profits on the part of the individual who would have used the dollar on a bigger scale. Gone also is the interest on the interest and the profit on the profit, and so on interminably.

In like manner, when Canada foolishly gives away her birth-right by allowing foreigners to handle and fashion her God-given timber, the humble dollar lost by the individual becomes a staggering number of millions forfeited by the country, and I cry aloud to the Government to stop this stupid criminality and to have Canadian timber fashioned by Canadians, providing sadly needed

employment to our own workmen, profits to our own capitalists, and, to crown all, increased income and business taxes to the Dominion Government.

Then, again, when we ship timber abroad, much of it never returns, therefore, if we confine our exports to the manufactured article, a check will be put on extravagant felling of trees, thus preventing the danger of serious depletion of the reserve of standing timber, as has happened in the United States. The loss of revenue for unmanufactured wood will be very slight compared to the extra labor expended and extra profit kept in Canada by doing our own manufacturing.

DAVID CURRIE, 2320 Esplanade Ave., Montreal.

Hydro-Electric would be in Greater Demand—no other Form of Power is at once so Cheap, Clean and Flexible.

The rise of a nation begins when it starts to manufacture its raw products: add commerce, and the foundations are laid for wealth and empire.

Canada has made extraordinary progress in the past fifty years, but still falls short of manufacturing all she might within the Dominion. She curtails her commerce and compels her native-born to seek an opening for their energies in the United States. In forestry, the export of unwrought products is more quickly seen in its results than in mine or farm.

The forests are quickly stripped off by a comparatively small number of men. The net profit per acre is small, when divided into the number of years taken to grow a stand of saw logs or pulpwood. Fortunes are made, but the Dominion is impoverished; for only a trifle of the vast areas laid waste is settled and no attempt is made to replant with new trees.

By prohibiting the export of unmanufactured lumber, importing nations would be compelled to send their capital to buy the raw material, and also enough to manufacture it in Canada.

This would cause an increase of factories and pulp mills. A higher order of labor would be attracted, and besides the lumber camp, with its unsettled life, we should have more homes, and settled family life. The aristocracy of labor will not willingly descend into the unskilled ranks.

Thousands of tradesmen have come to Canada, and a large percentage has left, because they found no opening at their own trades.

Population, wealth, and power are the result of manufactures. Compare the history of Britain, or the United States, with that of Russia during the 19th century.

Britain has grown, by developing her mineral wealth, and utilizing it to manufacture raw materials, collected from every quarter of the globe.

From every quarter of the globe, the profits have enabled her to finance her mine industries, and leave a large surplus for foreign investment: to-day she carries the war debts of Europe. The United States has followed on similar lines, and is drawing on Canadian resources for her raw material. Canadian pulpwood pours steadily into the United States mills.

Russia has natural resources equal to Canada in some respects, but has exported them mostly in a raw state, and made little progress. Her present condition is a fit commentary on her methods. Great crops are produced in Canada, yet the Canadian farmer is far from being prosperous. How can he? His home market is too small, and the freight rate on his products to foreign markets is heavy.

The growth of a central industry stimulates allied trades; personal requirements increase, and offer a home market to the farmer. Hydro-electric would be in greater demand—no other form of power is at once so cheap, clean, and flexible.

Replanting of cut-over areas would be more likely to receive attention: a far-seeing public opinion might compel two trees to be planted, in place of each one cut, where the land required this method of reforestation. Axe, fire, and insects are at work, to remove the remainder of the forests in the Dominion. The forestry departments, and private effort, do their utmost to preserve what is left, in spite of great difficulties and much indifference, but a time threatens when the unanswerable argument against exporting lumber of any kind may be heard. The forests of Canada are exhausted, she has none to sell.

THOMAS THOMSON, R.R. No. 1, Belleisle Creek, King's Co., N.B.

It Hardly Seems Fair that Canada should Always be Used as a Happy Hunting-Ground for Foreign People.

"In days of yore" and when the Indians owned the country, Canada was supposed to possess inexhaustible forestry resources. For that reason and because the early colonists wanted the cleared land, untold dollars' worth of good wood went up in smoke. With the advance of science and colonization, we now have an improved method of depleting these resources—which is, the allowing of foreigners to buy up and export our unmanufactured wood.

Only those who own a "wood-lot" know how destructive it is to allow others to come in and choose their trees or wood. The slightest flaw is sufficient reason to reject a piece of wood, while

whole tree-tops lie scattered around where they have fallen and are left there to rot. The heartless purchasers, after "beating" the owner on price, now carelessly or even maliciously "run over" the wood. How can Canada expect foreigners, though they do business on a larger scale, to be any more considerate? Of course, we realize that the purchasers want all that they can get for their money.

But why these foreign buyers of our logs and pulpwood? The United States realizes the value of the industry when she admits logs free of duty but places a tariff on other forms of lumber. And while we have no objection to the use of foreign money in the development of Canadian industries, it is a serious matter when Canadian resources are used for developing foreign industries.

If this state of affairs continues much longer, Canada will cease to "want men" and will begin to cry for fuel instead. Could not the Government be persuaded to protect this most important industry? It would be quite reasonable to say that it would be repaid for all its aids in a few years. If Canada is to keep the position that she is now winning in the commercial world, it seems imperative that something must be done soon for this, one of Canada's leading industries.

We are informed that only about one-third of the actual lumber that is cut is used in the finished product. Yet there are many and various operations, from the cutting to the finishing, employing a numerous and varied army of workers. Just recently a process has been discovered for obtaining a valuable product from the waste of certain woods. If the new discovery proves as practical as it is claimed to be, it should develop into an important industry in a few years, and would be all the more valuable because it would make use of the now wasted two-thirds of our wood. Who amongst us is far-sighted enough to foretell what Canada would be if her wood industry were developed at home, aided and supervised by the Government?

Again, although the loss in finances and population is great under the present system of exporting unmanufactured wood, yet there is another and equally important loss to Canada. That is the losing of her moral prestige amongst the nations of the world. It hardly seems fair that Canada should always be used as a happy hunting-ground for foreign people. It is up to Canada to see that the respect that she now commands does not drift into contempt. There seems to be no surer way of making Canada a prosperous as well as respected country than by developing her natural resources—not the least of which is the wealth in her forests.

GEORGE F. WATTS, Philipsburg, Quebec.

We have not got Enough Forest in Ontario, and you can't get Enough for One Acre to Pay for Planting Another.

One reason for prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood is we have not got it to spare, as it is not growing as fast as it would be destroyed if we allowed it to be shipped in the log or in any other way but in the finished paper or finished article.

Another reason is because the price of raw material does not amount to much either to the government or to the settler. All the settler gets is just the price of cutting, drawing and loading on cars. Then he has the stumps left. If the timber is burnt down, the land will be better ready to clear. If allowed to buy by the log or cord they are apt to run all over our province and just buy for one year or two in the one place or in one hundred different places each year, and then some other company will buy more another year in a hundred more places. So you see they would just have bought enough to make a good brush pile to burn up what is left.

Now if the settlers and the mills go together and divide the Yankee profit, between them, and the mills buy the lying timber that is down for one or two years, and the settler, lose five or ten per cent. each year after, and the mills keeping their own timber for future use and to fill up what the settlers could not furnish, there would be no need for selling to the Yanks.

And as to selling a township or large section of timber to be shipped by the log or cordwood, they would be most likely to bring over their own gang of men and supply teams, sleighs and everything that they needed, and we would not have anything but the stumps left and the land left worth less than nothing.

The Yankees got a lot of the gold of the world during the war when we were fighting for Canada and to save America, and now they are trying to put as high a fence around it as they can by tariffs. So I think we better let them leave their gold in a pile to rust or be stolen and we keep our timber growing, and we can make more interest out of it than they can make out of their gold pile and less danger of burning the balance.

Another reason is we have not got enough forest in Ontario, and you can't get enough for one acre to pay for planting another. Where you count the interest on your money, till it grows, that is what it costs to plant and what the land is worth, and besides one acre of large timber will grow as much timber in one year as young plants would grow in three, besides when it is growing and standing it is always ready in emergency if it be needed. Look how the timber of England and Scotland was needed during the war. Now what could they do if they had to buy it; they might not be able to get it at all.

They are planting it again as fast as they can, and even paint the bottoms of them so as to hurry them on to grow, to have them in case of emergency.

And, again, it spoils the beauty of our country to people passing through, and we lose a lot in furs and dampness, for it makes the country too dry if left without forest. Our streams go dry in summer and the rivers are too high in the spring, causing expense of bridges being damaged and stock needing water in summer.

ALEX. J. BLAIR, Grand Valley, R.R. No. 2, Ont.

**A Thousand Feet of Lumber Standing in our Forest has,
when Converted into Newsprint, been Increased in
Value from One Hundred to One Thousand per Cent.**

To fully appreciate the arguments in favor of this measure it is necessary for us to acquaint ourselves with the meaning of the following term:—

National wealth—What is it? How can we increase it?

It is not my intention to discuss these questions fully, only to give a general idea enabling the reader to obtain a clearer vision of the benefit to be derived from its passage. National wealth consists of our resources such as agriculture and lumber lands, mining and fishing areas, etc., together with all the equipment and currency necessary for the collecting, transporting and marketing a country's products; it includes the people, the most valuable of all, if they are not divided, but unitedly work for a greater country.

We can increase this wealth wonderfully by working our domains conservatively, but persistently and energetically. Thus a thousand feet of lumber standing in our forest has, when converted into newsprint, been increased in value from one hundred to one thousand per cent.

Of the many industries that would thrive under this act I have only room for the manufacture of newsprint.

In this product the United States alone require 2 million tons annually; besides there is the box, book, wrapping, writing, magazine and tissue—easily another 2 million tons. It is estimated that in less than ten years all the pulpwood east of the Mississippi will be used, and then the newsprint people will have to move their plants to the forest of the Rockies or depend on Germany, Sweden and Canada for their supplies. Canada now supplies them with over a million tons annually. Can we supply the balance? No, we have not the plants. Why? Conditions are not suitable. Our tariff is too temporary. Prohibit the exporting of wood unmanufactured, then watch how this industry will begin to grow. How the newsprint manufacturers of the South will begin to move or to acquire an interest in the industry here. Why, can you not see that one of its first benefits will be to solve our unemployment problem?

(2) It will begin to solve our immigration troubles by not only bringing in people by the thousand, but it will arrest our native-born (the best on earth) by absorbing them in our industrial expansion.

(3) The greatly increased traffic it will give our National Railways will be the means of converting deficits into surpluses, and therefore make possible the reductions of rail fares so injurious to our industrial development.

(4) By greatly increasing our urban population, our home market will be so enhanced that the free trade cry for admittance to the American markets will in time vanish.

(5) It will swell our exports over imports, stabilizing our currency, thus enabling us to return to the gold standard.

(6) These benefits will lead the people to see that similar results could be obtained from prohibiting export of other raw material. Thus building up other large industries, such as the dressing and manufacturing of our raw furs, extracting oil from our oil shales, etc.

(7) This increase of wealth and trade will so fill our Treasury, enabling us to reduce our debt, thus lightening our interest burden; and yet giving an increase of money for better roads, greater education (especially agriculture), wharves, docks, etc., all of which are so greatly needed.

(8) Bringing as it will prosperity and contentment to our people, it will absorb a lot of the evils known as the aftermath of the war.

(9) It will unite our different races in working for a common goal—a greater, brighter and happier Canada.

HOWARD R. KEITH, Sussex R.R. No. 3, King's Co., N.B.

Canada's Forests Cannot Long Hold out Against the Enormous Drain which is put upon them.

The rapidity with which the forests of Canada have diminished within recent years is a matter which Canadians should look upon with no small amount of concern. Some of the serious causes of this rapid diminution are fires, windfalls, decay, wasteful logging methods and the bud-worm pest; but the most serious menace of all is the pulp industry. The reason for this is that when timberland is cut over for pulpwood everything is taken from the largest trees down to saplings, thus leaving the land almost worthless for many years.

Of Canada's annual output of timber, eighty-five per cent. is exported to the United States. Unless Canada prohibits this tremendous exportation she is rushing headlong to certain ruin. In

our forests we have been left a handsome legacy, and there is nothing to be gained by this unwarranted destruction.

In 1920 unmanufactured wood to the value of \$122,706,285 was exported from Canada, and in the same year wood products to the value of \$37,434,773 were imported into the country. Had this vast amount of wood been kept in the country to be manufactured and shipped to the places where it was most needed, it would not only be needless for Canadians to import such a great amount of wood products from a foreign country, but the employment it would have afforded would have been an important factor in staying the overwhelming flow of Canadians to the United States.

The large American firms buy up Canadian pulpwood in such large quantities, regardless of cost, that Canadians cannot procure the products of Canadian forests even at current rates. For example, in January, 1920, all the daily newspapers in Winnipeg were suspended for five consecutive days, and twenty-five per cent. of all the newspapers in Canada faced suspension after June 1.

Canada's forests cannot long hold out against the enormous drain which is put upon them. Unless a great attempt at conservation is made she will ere long be in the same terrible plight in which China now finds herself.

No less an authority than the United States Department of Agriculture gives us the ruthless destruction of the forests of China as a reason why famine and plague hold that country in their sinister grip. China has broken a strict law of nature; she must pay, as we must pay if we continue the ruthless destruction of our forests.

When a country has an abundant supply of forests, the tree-clad slopes absorb a considerable amount of each rainfall, but when there are no forests the water pours down the bare face of the mountains, flooding the low country, and sluggish with the garden soil of millions. As an example of this, the river Howang Ho overflowed in 1886, flooding twenty thousand square miles of densely populated area and drowning two millions of people.

Are we Canadians capable of taking warning by the terrible disasters which have befallen other countries? Or shall we let this land of ours go to irreparable ruin—the land for which not only our forefathers, but our fathers, brothers and sons fought and died?

GORDON MACKINNON, School for the Blind, Halifax, N.S.

Take the Case of British Columbia, for Instance, Logs are being Towed as Far as Six Hundred Miles to their Mills.

To the average man on the street, this vast Dominion is all timbered. If you were to mention the fact to him that there was a possibility of a timber famine in the country in twenty years, he would ridicule you. The fact remains, there is a decided danger of a timber famine, which will make itself felt before many years have gone.

A few years ago, the centre of any logging industry was but a few miles from a city, but at the present time it is anything from one hundred and fifty miles to two hundred miles, and take the case of British Columbia, for instance, logs are being towed as far as six hundred miles to their mills. An average tow of two hundred miles is quite common.

Of the total commercial forest in Canada, only a certain percentage can be seriously considered as containing accessible loggable timber, the balance being on rocky steep ground where the cost of logging and the breakage would be so great that it would not tempt a logger to operate for many years to come. Of the accessible timber the logging methods are very wasteful. There is no country in the world that would tolerate the wasteful logging methods practised on the Pacific Coast. It is not logging, it is forest devastation. Then there is the forest fires which work havoc each year.

The foregoing will show that our supply of timber is not unlimited, as is generally supposed, and that very strenuous efforts should be made to prevent rough timber being exported by the million feet annually with no thought to the future.

The prosperity of Canada is based on timber. Look at what industry you like, whether it is agriculture (which, it has been stated, uses 46% of the annual consumption), the mines, the fisheries, whether the machinery of production or distribution, whether you build ships or grow peaches, you establish your dependence upon the Canadian forest. Of the industries, our wire rope plants, iron works, food supply houses, and more particularly the railroads, would all feel the loss of our timber.

At whatever industry you point your finger, you can rest assured that timber has taken a great part in it.

If a tariff were put into force on all shipments of unmanufactured wood, it would be a great financial asset to Canada, and would mean that large factories would certainly be erected in Canada for the manufacture of the thousand and one articles produced from wood.

Foreign countries, particularly the U.S.A., are relying more and more each year on Canadian timber to supply their demands, and this would mean that instead of the raw materials being exported manufactured articles would take their place, and also that thousands and thousands of dollars would be paid out annually in wages to Canadian workmen.

C. A. HEWETT, 80 Hart Ave., Winnipeg, Man.

The First Reason I Give is, to Help Save our Remaining Bit of Forest.

I am a Canadian lumber-jack, have followed lumbering for nearly 40 years in the northern parts of Ontario, both in sawmills and woods, and from my own knowledge, gathered from what I have seen with my own good eyes, I have come to the conclusion that forest fires are chiefly caused by the brush of cut-over logging operations. In the first place, the Government of this province, at least, are too easy-going in their dealings with regard to the way the lumber companies leave the brush of bush operations strewn all around, for a fire fiend to set a match, as soon as it gets dry, and in this way fires destroy much more of the standing timber than the woodsman's axe.

Lumber companies should have enough common sense in the managing staff to see to it that all brush and limbs of fallen trees be piled in the clearest spots in the woods, and be burnt right away after the trees are felled, and skidded, but not before the snow falls in commencement of winter should this brush burning begin. Then as soon as snow comes men should be put in to burn brush and limbs, and keep up with the trail cutters and skidders. A few men could do a lot of this sort of work—the foreman to see and make sure the work was done right. It is most certain that by this line of procedure lumbermen have everything to gain. Then the young trees have a chance to live and grow.

Another cause of forest fires and the destruction of very much valuable timber is prospectors and mining operations, wilful carelessness, which should be severely punished. Settlers, too, are careless and thoughtless. Railway employees, especially foreigners, are criminally responsible for many bad fires along railway lines.

Worst of all, perhaps, is the incendiary fanatic, or real fire fiend. This is a class hard to deal with, and if caught red-handed should be shot, or hanged, or imprisoned for life.

With all this fire fiend system in operation, our forests will soon vanish. The only remedy is for everybody to be strictly careful. For the Government to station out trusty rangers, and protect all forest growth young and old. Also for the Government to adopt a greater reforestation system—to buy in all sandy, hilly, and waste lands, and plant and protect it in every way. Our Government should pass laws to compel all owners of timber to manufacture all forest products of Canada in Canada, and prohibit the export of all unmanufactured woods. The first reason I give is, to help save our remaining bit of forest. The second reason is to keep the work of manufacture in Canada, where it really belongs, and make more work for the people who own this country. The timber is part of our inheritance, part of our wealth. The manufacturing of it into the finished product is the work at which so many make their living. Industries will increase the common interests of the people if those industries are built on a sure foundation. That sure foundation is

the assurance that no raw material shall leave the country, and that our governments will do all possible to preserve the growing timber, the assurance that there will be a supply of timber to work on. To prohibit the export of pulpwood and logs will help considerably towards that assurance.

Hoping this simple argument will meet with your approval, I think you are doing a good work for our country, your country and mine.

JOHN TRETHEWEY, Meaford, Ont.

In the Future, instead of having any Wood to Export, the same will have to be Imported.

The timber area of Canada is a most valuable asset. Many demands are made on our wood-lands for the purpose of supplying unfinished and finished wood articles for use in this country and many foreign countries.

There is a large demand for wood to supply heat and power for the many Canadian homes and manufacturing plants.

In exporting this product, we have not the best interest of the country at heart, because the returns are not as large as for the manufactured article, causing a large monetary loss to the country. Means of earning a livelihood and profits are taken away from the skilled wood-working mechanic and the manufacturer, thereby forcing them and their dependents to emigrate to the importing country. Thus creating wealth for and populating other nations, giving work and profits to foreign carrying agents, taking freight and cargoes from our transportation companies. Soon our large wood-manufacturing industries will become a thing of the past.

The common paper which we use now is chiefly made out of woodpulp. Enormous areas of forests are cut down every year to make our newspapers and the trees are not replaced as quickly as they are destroyed to make pulp. But the future, as education spreads throughout the world, will need much more paper than we now use. How, then, is it to be made?

Decreasing our timber limits has an injurious effect on rainfall, thus making the returns from agriculture very uncertain, causing our farmers to become discontented and unprosperous, and forcing our young people to go to the cities to earn a livelihood, also restricting emigration to this country.

Hail and disastrous wind storms are more liable to occur, destroying growing crops, also tearing down buildings, causing much loss of property and endangering human and animal life.

Fur-bearing animals are robbed of a shelter and are forced to migrate and rear their young elsewhere, and may be entirely destroyed, thus doing away with a great revenue-producing source,

and soon, instead of having furs to export, same will have to be imported. Wild bird life is depleted, as our feathered friends have not the trees to protect them from their natural enemies or shield them from winter storms, and as they destroy a large number of injurious insects which prey upon growing crops and also destroy valuable timber, we are losing hired help that works for nothing and doing away with game birds which provide good sport and pleasure in shooting them in the open season. The country is also being prepared for a fuel famine, making the inhabitants depend on high-priced coal or other substitutes to furnish necessary heat in their homes. A part of Ontario was faced with this problem during this winter.

In countries of the Eastern Provinces where all timber has been removed and extensive coal deposits do not exist, farmers should be encouraged to reforest a number of acres, and rough land which is not growing valuable timber, also cut-over rough ground, should be reforested, so as to safeguard against a future wood famine. If no reforestation scheme is provided, in the future, instead of having any wood to export, the same will have to be imported.

WM. J. SUTHERLAND, Rollinson, Alta.

Less than a Century ago, in Waterloo County, Ont., an Acre of Land Covered with Timber was Sold for 25c. The same Acre of Timber, without the Land, now Sells for \$200.00.

The export of unmanufactured wood means small returns for a rapid depletion of our valuable forests. Also the destruction of natural splendor and beauty as well as natural climatic conditions.

Less than a century ago, in Waterloo County, Ont., an acre of land covered with timber was sold for 25c. The same acre of timber without the land now sells for \$200.00. This goes to show how profitable it has proven to conserve our timber.

The maple sugar industry is worthy of consideration, with granulated sugar selling at \$11.00 per hundred lbs. The yearly returns of a good sugar bush add considerably to the income of the farm. Aside from that, it is a delicacy which is much appreciated.

The Canada Year Book of 1905 gives statistics showing the value of exports of forests in the 38 years 1868 to 1905, at an average of $18\frac{1}{4}$ millions yearly. Had this amount of material been manufactured in Canada it would have proven to be a great boon to our own people.

Many years ago several European countries found it profitable to reforest certain tracts of land both for commercial purposes and partly to restore natural conditions. Parts of Canada have now reached that stage and are suffering from the lack of those natural

conditions, which would make our country not only a better land to live in because of its natural splendor and beauty, but every tree acts as a wind-break and also as a reservoir of moisture. On the surface it may appear that the amount of moisture which a tree retains is almost negligible, but the effect of 10% of forest in a district is very marked in regulating the extremities of the weather. When a dry spell occurs it usually continues until it is broken by a destructive electrical storm, accompanied by wind and hail, causing inestimable loss to the section thus visited, while in a district with a well-balanced percentage of forest, it not only retains a better degree of humidity for the proper development of field crops, but the destructive force of the storm is broken by the forest in carrying the lightning to the ground. Proof of this is found from insurance companies, whose records show that the damage to property by lightning is increasing at an alarming rate. The force of the wind is broken, leaving the grain standing erect, the hail falling almost straight down and comparatively little damage is done.

Few people realize how serious the situation from a fuel standpoint really is. The statement of a single fact will assist to a realization. In thirty counties in Ontario, the fuel wood supply is not sufficient to meet the needs of the farm population alone, therefore it does not call for a particularly active mind to realize what would happen if our coal supply from nearby States were suddenly cut off.

We are carelessly allowing fires to destroy annually an inestimable amount of timber, which should be carefully guarded for future industries. It is estimated that fires during last year alone destroyed timber sufficient to cover an area one mile wide from Winnipeg to Halifax.

Canada was particularly fortunate in having a well-timbered country. That same timber is capital; a heritage handed down to us, on which we have existed as parasites, and are still existing without making scarcely any effort to repair the wanton destruction of a great heritage.

We must adopt a sane and proper policy of conservation of our forests by the stirring up and stimulating of public opinion for the protection of forests for Canadian industries and for the benefit of our own people.

ALEX. S. FORBES, R.R. 2. West Montrose, Ont.

If such Exportation be Permitted, it will not be Long before Canada will be Faced with the same Scarcity of Wood Material.

The arguments of my essay are founded on the industrial and commercial advantages arising from "Prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood from Canada."

Canada's population problem is a serious one: she is confronted with the necessity of retaining the people she already has, and of inducing others to come in. If sufficient employment were available the situation would at once be materially brightened.

One of the main sources of employment in Canada lies in her industries. In Canada our forests constitute a great industrial wealth, the manufacture of the product of which furnishes employment to a large number, but, if properly developed, would give employment to a still larger number. Immense quantities of our unmanufactured forest product are exported to foreign countries each year, which therefore is of little industrial value to Canada.

This product is manufactured by foreign industries, and the benefits arising therefrom, are enjoyed by foreign people. This unfortunate state of affairs is brought home more forcibly by statistics from the Province of New Brunswick for the year 1921 which shows that, from the 334,000 cords of wood cut, 121,000 cords were manufactured by New Brunswick mills, whereas the remaining 213,000 cords were exported in the unmanufactured state.

If the exportation of this unmanufactured wood were prohibited the annual cut would be greatly reduced. This course would aid in preserving the wood tracts of Canada for Canadian industries, thereby aiding in giving a permanent duration to this Canadian industry.

Furthermore, in regard to the scarcity of crude product in other countries, there would be a tendency towards an increase in the demand for the manufactured Canadian product. This reaction would result in the establishment of more wood-manufacturing industries in Canada. With more industries come more wealth and population.

Another fact which claims more than passing significance is the comparatively small quantity of wood material possessed by countries which once occupied a leading place in the production of the same, and the amazing rapidity with which it is being consumed.

Within these countries are established large industrial plants for the manufacture of the forest product. With the growing scarcity of wood material in these countries, the wood tracts of Canada are being tapped, and the product exported to help feed these industries. If such exportation be permitted, it will not be long before Canada will be faced with the same scarcity of wood material.

In view of the conditions prevailing in other countries, if proper discretion be used the wood tracts of Canada will, in time, be much more valuable than at present. Besides, Canada will become the leading wood-producing country. Why cannot Canada become the leading paper-producing country in the world? Why cannot Canada become the leading lumber-producing country in the world? There is no logical reason why she cannot, if she pursues a prohibiting policy in regard to the exportation of unmanufactured wood material.

GORDON A. POTTER, Plympton, Digby Co., N.S.

Canada is a Big Country and Needs more Population. This may be Achieved by Keeping our Raw Timber at Home to be Manufactured.

Prohibit the export of unmanufactured wood. There are many reasons why we should keep our unmanufactured wood or raw timber in Canada, perhaps the most obvious being that there is a limit to our supply, and if we export large quantities it will soon come to an end, while if we conserve it and take steps to replenish it we will have all we need in years to come and when it will be of much greater value than it is at the present time.

A very important reason is that our timber has a great influence on our climate. Treeless plains the world over are noted for their lack of rain and for hot winds that destroy crops and vegetation. Some of our timber grows on our poorer soils, and it will be well to save it as a means to get as much rainfall as possible for adjacent districts that are more fertile and are used for agricultural purposes.

Canada is a big country and needs more population. This may be achieved by keeping our raw timber at home to be manufactured. The industries thus built up will encourage a desirable class of immigrants. A great deal of Canada's industries are seasonal, and the manufacture of wood products can be carried on in winter thereby giving employment to a large number who would otherwise be idle (as their present occupation is confined to the summer months), in this way building up an industrious, prosperous and contented nation.

Our own people would benefit also by being able to buy our finished wood products at approximately cost price without transportation charges two ways and perhaps customs tariff added. The by-products also would be saved for home use or for sale.

The rate of exchange on our money in other countries is influenced a great deal by the balance of trade between Canada and other countries, and as the manufactured goods are a great deal more valuable than the raw material we can do a great deal to keep the balance of trade in our favor and our money at par by keeping our unmanufactured woods at home and exporting the finished wood products made at home.

ALLAN MCEWEN, Riverhurst, Saskatchewan.

As we Sow so shall we Reap.

As Canadians we are proud of the vast natural resources of our far-flung Dominion.

In dealing with the resources of our forests we are dealing with a known quantity. Reliable statistics supplied by our Department of Forests at Ottawa conveys the startling information that if our yearly cut, fire loss, and depredation of insects keep pace with the past, we are faced in a given number of years with utter depletion of this valuable national asset. This is food for serious thought for every patriotic citizen.

The wood exported annually over and above the requirements of our own domestic manufacture is the most serious factor affecting our forest reserve to-day. In view of the growing world shortage and the ever-increasing demand this depletion is an assured fact. In the full possession of this glaring information our duty is clear to ourselves, our country and the future generations. We must at once stop the export of unmanufactured wood.

As a self-governing state we are the masters of our own destiny. May a kindly Providence so bless with wisdom our statesmen that with unanimous accord they will realize the menace confronting us and so amend our laws as to forever eradicate this evil.

The export of wood in the rough tends to carelessness and waste; usually only temporarily profits a restricted number of men and the operator directly concerned a part of the year. The result is we have large numbers of men out of employment and their families in distress. The consequence is a good many yearly seek their living in foreign lands where manufacture and employment abound, while our Government is vainly trying to increase the population by immigration.

Prohibiting the export of unmanufactured wood would do much to alleviate these evils. This heritage we are blessed with if retained unimpaired in our fair Dominion is a source of prosperity and wealth to ourselves and to posterity. Let us make ourselves worthy of the trust.

That exported stick of timber or cord of wood when multiplied by the million has great potential value in it that in a foreign country stimulates trade, feeds and clothes thousands and pays interest and dividends on the investments of large corporations.

Truly might we say, we are frittering away our birthright for a mess of pottage.

We point to the Indians of a few years ago as an example of sheer wantonness in the practical extermination of the buffalo. Are we to allow, and seemingly to encourage, history to repeat itself when dealing with the conservation of our forests.

Our foreign customers, when once they know our doors are closed to this export of wood, will as gladly clamor for our finished product. This will give the impetus to trade we so badly need,

stimulate confidence in our manufacturers, and encourage the investment of further large capital as a permanent investment.

Totally depleted forests will seriously affect the equitable supply and distribution of our rainfall, in the absence of trees the land being unable to retain the moisture. Our fur-bearing animals and game of all descriptions seek the sanctuary of our forests as their natural home; exterminate one and we destroy the other.

Truly the price we pay for the gratification of an inflated export trade is in bartering away the life-blood of our country's future prosperity.

Exemplifying by thought and action the motto:

"Canada's forest wealth for Canadians," the standing tree to the finished product, is our salvation for the future.

BAMFORD T. MILLER, Granville Ferry, Annapolis Co., N.S.

Canada Spends Large Sums Protecting her Forests by Aeroplane Scouting, Replanting Investigations, etc., and then Meekly Sits Back and Sees the Raw Material Appropriated to a Large Extent by the United States.

In any consideration of the policy of Canada in dealing with her natural resources, one wonders what can be gained by swelled or padded estimates. These only cause a smug feeling which is not justified. Information emanating from the Interior Department gives the approximate area of Canada's saw timber and pulpwood as 900,000 square miles. This is almost one-fourth the total area of Canada. Considering Labrador, most of Yukon, the barren and Tundra as negligible, and also the vast stretches of mountain where the timber is not get-at-able and is needed for moisture conservation, they must count fully half of the rest of Canada as bearing commercial wood. This is too generous an estimate, as outside of river and creek bottoms most of the growth is too sparse to have any value except for moisture conservation. A view of the northern central country between the water courses would be a revelation to some of our optimistic estimators. Furthermore, it is the availability of forest areas that fixes its status as a factor in industry. As an illustration of its close connection with our welfare, consider the amount of building that is being held up through the high value of lumber. Yet we allow the raw material to be shipped out of the country probably to furnish employment for some of our "assisted" immigrants. Enlarged estimates minimize the seriousness of this suicidal policy. Our own consumption for newsprint and pulp calls for a cut of somewhat more than six thousand acres daily, or about 10 square miles. 1,000 square miles last 100 days, but it takes 100 years to grow from the seedling to maturity (that is coniferous trees), so our consumption might be considered as a depletion of Canada's capital from the standpoint of Canadian industry,

exporting woodpulp, almost as reprehensible as exporting pulpwood. There is too much labor value to be squeezed out yet. Canada spends large sums protecting her forests by aeroplane scouting, replanting investigations, etc., and then meekly sits back and sees the raw material appropriated to a large extent by the U.S., our most aggressive and merciless competitor, a country that does not hesitate to stifle our most vital industries, as witness the "Fordney Tariff" and its evil effect on Canadian agriculture and stock-raising. This is not intended as a tirade against the U.S. Any country must be conceded the right to protect its industrial life, but it certainly absolves Canada from any charge of selfishness if Ottawa ever does wake up and treats U.S. paper interests as their Government treated our agriculture. The fallacy of recognizing any foreign rights in our patrimony was well evidenced some years ago, when the Canadian Government was considering placing an embargo on pulpwood from Crown lands. According to newspaper reports at the time, paper interests across the line made representations to their Government, who in turn made representations to our Government. They must have stuck, for there appeared nothing more about it. It appears large investments were made (in the U.S.) based on raw material from Canada (pulpwood), giving them a sort of vested interest in the "law as it was." This illustrates the magnitude of one foreign industry founded on the raw forest products of Canada which proper laws would induce to locate here. However, Ottawa seems quite satisfied with our status as an "adjunct." It is not as if the paper industry had reached its full stature, but it has not, and new uses are continually being found for it and its by-products. The future can hold no more disastrous possibility for Canada than a real shortage of timber.

NORMAN H. GILLESPIE, Rossland, B.C.

ESSAYS IN FRENCH

PREMIER PRIX DU CONCOURS

Pour la Conservation de Nos Forêts.

Embellisseuses des paysages, protectrices du poisson et du gibier, régularisatrices du régime des rivières et de leur potentialité, pourvoyeuses d'une matière première indispensable à diverses industries, les forêts sont au Canada une des plus précieuses richesses naturelles. Il appartient à l'Etat non seulement d'en régler l'utilisation, d'en assurer la préservation et la régénération, mais encore d'en faire profiter d'abord les Canadiens. C'est dire qu'il doit rendre obligatoire la fabrication au pays de tous les produits forestiers, empêcher l'exportation de tous les bois non ouvrés.

Une telle mesure législative profiterait particulièrement à l'industrie des pâtes cellulosiques, qui, pour demeurer un important facteur de prospérité, doit pouvoir compter sur tous les bois à défibrer disponibles. Nous ne pouvons plus désormais continuer de fournir aux usines américaines de quoi faire la concurrence à nos propres fabriques. Nos forêts les plus accessibles ont été, d'après plusieurs techniciens, considérablement réduites et appauvries par l'incendie, les épidémies, les coupes et la colonisation, au point d'être bientôt impuissantes à produire toute la matière ligneuse que leur réclame annuellement cette industrie.

Gardons au pays avec les quelque 3,000,000 de cordes utilisées dans nos cent usines de pâtes et de papier les 1,250,000 de cordes qui, chaque année, vont aux Etats-Unis. Nous y trouverons de multiples avantages. Et d'abord, la production des massifs boisés privés que réclamait l'étranger sera désormais assurée à notre industrie, qui paiera pour sa transformation à des ouvriers canadiens les \$50,000,000 que reçoivent les ouvriers américains.

Pouvant compter sur cet approvisionnement d'accès facile, grâce à un réseau ferroviaire développé, les concessionnaires laisseront à leurs forêts, en y réduisant les coupes, la chance de se reconstituer. Une partie de cet approvisionnement profitera aux propriétaires de scieries. D'être exportables, cela donne à tous les bois de certaines régions, même les plus propres au sciage, une plus grande valeur comme bois à défibrer. L'exportation cessant, chaque arbre sera employé, selon ses aptitudes et ses dimensions, pour la pulpe ou le sciage.

La plus-value dont bénéficient les bois exportables est une invite à la pseudo-colonisation, à cette colonisation qui recherche les terres non pour leurs possibilités agricoles, mais pour leurs possibilités ligneuses, et dont le développement est au détriment des concessions forestières. Celles-ci verraient donc leur aire diminuer

moins rapidement, puisque la fausse colonisation ne trouverait plus, avec la défense d'exporter, de quoi se maintenir.

Quant aux riches réserves ligneuses qui se trouvent au pays, mais dont les usines existantes ne peuvent, à cause de leur éloignement, tirer facile parti, les usiniers américains seraient forcés d'y recourir, d'établir des fabriques dans leur voisinage. Cela aurait pour effet d'assurer la création de nouveaux centres industriels où pourrait se fixer, au lieu d'aller à l'étranger, le surplus de notre population rurale, et où l'agriculture trouverait à écouler profitablement ses produits. L'industrie forestière dans ces régions éloignées, préparerait, comme elle l'a fait ailleurs, la prise de possession des terres les meilleures par les colons agriculteurs.

Les fabricants de pulpe et de papier canadiens pouvant désormais contrôler la plus forte partie des pâtes qui trouvent à s'écouler en Amérique, seraient en position d'en fixer le prix. La production de cet article augmentant, augmenterait aussi la valeur des produits forestiers que nous exportons annuellement, et grossirait le chiffre de notre commerce extérieur. Comme conséquence, nos échanges commerciaux s'amélioreraient, et la prospérité générale s'accroîtrait.

Une telle mesure, pleine d'aussi brillantes promesses pour le pays, devrait recevoir l'appui de tous les vrais patriotes.

Avila Bédard, I.F. 627, rue St-Jean, Québec, P.Q.

DEUXIÈME PRIX

Doit-on empêcher l'exportation des bois à Papier?

Comme la prohibition de l'exportation des bois à papier aux Etats-Unis est une question très discutée (1), nous sommes heureux de pouvoir apporter ici quelques arguments en faveur de ce mouvement.

Par suite des ravages des incendies, des insectes, des champignons, et des ouragans, et aussi à cause du manque de prévoyance dans certaines exploitations, il se trouve qu'une forte proportion des forêts accessibles, appartenant ou contrôlées par nos grandes sociétés forestières, sont appauvries au point que plusieurs d'entre elles ne peuvent présentement fournir tout le bois nécessaire pour approvisionner les usines. (2) C'est pour cela que plusieurs fabricants de papier ont réduit sensiblement le chiffre de leurs coupes (3), compensant le déficit par des achats de bois privés. La compétition américaine est donc à leur détriment et menace l'économie de nos forêts.

Cette concurrence est d'autant plus injuste pour nos usiniers, que beaucoup des bois exportés proviennent de lots détachés des concessions affermées par eux (4). La spéculation faite sur les lots de colonisation a beaucoup nui à celle-ci; lorsqu'on ne pourra plus exporter du bois, on sera moins tenté de prendre des lots sous de

faux prétextes. Ceci empêchera également nombre de propriétaires privés de raser hâtivement leurs parcelles de bois (5). Les faux colons sont souvent cause d'incendies désastreux; leur disparition réduira d'autant ces accidents si funestes pour les nouveaux établissements. (6)

Comme la consommation de papier à journal au Canada ne dépasse pas 200,000 tonnes, soit 20% de la production, il nous faut donc exporter 850,000 tonnes annuellement (7). Vu que les Américains fabriquent au moins 1,000,000 de tonnes de papier avec les bois achetés ici (8), il s'ensuit que, si nous gardions notre bois, le problème de disposer du surplus de la production de nos usines serait fort simplifié. Bien plus, nous pourrions fixer nous-mêmes le prix de vente de ces produits. Cette industrie, devenant plus prospère, pourrait payer un prix raisonnable à ses fournisseurs de bois et exploiter ses forêts, préalablement inventoriées, suivant des systèmes rationnels, sous la direction de forestiers compétents (9).

On ne doit pas craindre les représailles que les Etats-Unis pourraient exercer sur nos produits forestiers si nous empêchions enfin la sortie des bois à papier, car ils manquent de bois, et tout droit d'entrée imposé par eux sur nos pâtes et papier sera finalement payé par le consommateur américain (10).

L'usinage des bois non exportés permettrait d'agrandir considérablement les usines actuelles et d'en construire de nouvelles, ce qui assurerait plus de travail aux Canadiens, et les empêcherait de suivre, comme avant, le même chemin que les bois. Bien plus, la création de nouveaux centres, comme l'amélioration de ceux existants, auraient pour effet d'induire nombre de nos compatriotes exilés à revenir au pays; la culture agricole recevant plus d'impulsion retiendrait plus de gens sur leurs terres, vu qu'ils y trouveraient la juste rémunération de leurs efforts. (11) L'aménagement de nos chutes d'eau serait accentué par ces nouvelles usines, ex. Manicouagan.

Par suite de l'augmentation du capital placé dans cette industrie, de l'accroissement de la valeur de ses productions et exportations, la position financière du Canada serait sensiblement améliorée et cela contribuerait notablement à maintenir notre change à des taux favorables. (12)

Enfin, les excellents résultats que la prohibition de l'exportation des bois coupés sur les terres de la Couronne a donnés depuis 1910, (13) renforcent les divers arguments en faveur de cette mesure qui s'impose, tant pour la sauvegarde de nos forêts, que pour l'amélioration de notre position financière et du bien-être de nos compatriotes.

REFERENCES

(1) Voir débat soulevé aux Communes, le 5 mars 1923, par M. Michaud, député de Restigouche et Madawaska.

(2) Voir compte-rendu de la "Patrie," janvier 1923, sur travaux lus à la conférence forestière du 23 janvier 1923.

155

que l'exportation des bois de pulpe et de construction non préparés tue notre plus riche industrie, paralyse le développement de nos autres activités.

Cette législation amènerait, dans l'exploitation forestière, un répit momentané profitable à l'accroissement naturel des forêts, une réorganisation industrielle, puis une recrudescence dans la production du papier, des pâtes cellulósiques; comme complément de l'industrie extractive, nous aurions des usines à rendement double, puisque, aujourd'hui, les Etats-Unis seuls reçoivent la moitié de notre bois brut; le coût de la production diminuant, la demande du "produit achevé" augmentera en raison inverse. D'où, développement des industries subsidiaires, l'imprimerie, notamment; grâce à la concurrence que nos ateliers feront aux imprimeries étrangères, non seulement tous les auteurs canadiens, mais aussi nombre d'étrangers feront éditer leurs ouvrages ici.

Conséquence: conservation, placement au Canada de nos capitaux; apport de capitaux étrangers; dividendes payés ici; mise en valeur directe, complète de nos richesses vives; positions plus nombreuses, meilleurs salaires, aisance pour nos ouvriers, que nous garderons chez nous; d'où, grèves plutôt rares, endiguement de l'émigration, solution partielle de l'immigration.

Le chiffre de nos exportations sera plus élevé, parce que le produit exporté aura été transformé, préparé ici; l'excédent de nos exportations rétablira la balance du commerce en notre faveur, relèvera notre crédit par l'affluence de l'or étranger.

Achetant notre papier, notre bois de construction, les pays étrangers n'oseront établir l'embargo sur nos produits, nous refuser les produits, les matières premières qu'il nous faut; d'où, échanges plus faciles, ouverture de nouveaux débouchés, développement de notre commerce international, trafic pour nos chemins de fer, notre MARINE MARCHANDE, surtout.

Bref, prohiber l'exportation du bois brut, c'est développer l'industrie, encourager le commerce, l'agriculture!

ORDRE INTELLECTUEL: Faisant valoir nous-mêmes nos richesses vitales, nous connaissons mieux notre patrimoine, nous réaliserons les revenus sacrifiés volontairement, les immenses avantages possibles; l'exploitation forestière sera plus soignée, plus intelligente: prévention des feux de forêts, reboisement, sylviculture, coupes réglées; d'où, protection de l'agriculture, de nos pouvoirs hydrauliques. Cette interdiction activera les études, les recherches scientifiques, en vue de procédés de fabrication supérieurs, plus économiques.

Les jeunes gens étudieront dans des écoles industrielles spéciales; nous aurons des spécialistes, des techniciens, des ouvriers plus compétents; les situations bien rétribuées seront plus nombreuses; donc, encouragement pour l'intelligence, l'habileté, l'activité. Diffusion de l'instruction par revues et livres moins dispendieux, plus répandus.

Nos gouvernants estimeront davantage nos richesses naturelles, assureront notre supériorité économique dans d'autres domaines; ainsi, ils interdiront l'exportation de l'amiante, favoriseront l'établissement de manufactures pour ce produit.

ORDRE MORAL: Les ouvriers seront plus heureux, auront plus de respect, d'amour, d'estime pour leurs chefs, leurs patrons, la patrie; ils travailleront avec un esprit de prévoyance pour la maladie, la vieillesse.

Les patrons s'attacheront davantage à leurs employés, organiseront des oeuvres d'assistances: soins médicaux, médicaments, fonds de secours et de retraite; construction de logements ouvriers, de salles d'amusements, etc.

Pour ces raisons, il faut prohiber l'exportation du bois brut. L'industrie du papier et ses dérivés en bénéficieront, d'abord; les autres industries, le commerce, l'agriculture, ensuite. Cette mesure nous aiguillera sur la voie du progrès, de la supériorité économique; le Canada sera plus productif, plus beau; les Canadiens, plus riches économiquement, intellectuellement, moralement.

EUGÈNE RIVARD, E. E. D. 4, rue Christie, Québec, P.Q.

QUATRIÈME PRIX

Contre l'Exploitation de Bois à l'Etat Brut du Canada.

Nous voyons dans l'adoption d'une loi interdisant l'exportation hors du Canada de bois non manufacturé:

1. *Le levier de l'organisation de notre industrie forestière sur une base stable et rationnelle.*

Par son étendue, sa richesse et sa distribution, notre domaine forestier constitue la plus belle part du patrioimoine qui nous est échu comme nation. Cependant, cette industrie n'occupe pas dans la vie économique de notre peuple—la part qui devrait être normale. Nous n'avons pas retiré le quart des bénéfices que nous aurions dû de l'exploitation de nos forêts, parce que nous nous sommes contentés d'en être les bûcherons.

Nous connaissons ce qu'a valu aux provinces de Québec et d'Ontario l'interdiction de l'exportation des bois tirés du domaine public; par ses résultats nous concluons à la poursuite de cette interdiction dans tout le Canada, tant pour les bois provenant du domaine public, que pour ceux du domaine privé.

2. *Une aide à une meilleure utilisation de nos bois.*

L'exportation de bois à l'état brut, de tout temps, nous a été préjudiciable; ce que nos voisins nous demandent, ce sont nos meilleures qualités de bois, et pour les servir, nous maltraitons nos forêts en faisant le choix des essences et des qualités.

Rappelons que c'est grâce à l'érection, sur notre territoire, de pulperies, que nous pouvons sans trop de pertes exploiter nos bois incendiés et utiliser une grande partie de nos arbres avariés par les insectes et les champignons. C'est en manufacturant nous-mêmes que nous utiliserons le plus complètement nos bois et que nous trouverons plus vite les meilleurs usages de nos essences indigènes ainsi que les meilleures méthodes de les traiter.

3. *Un encouragement à de meilleures méthodes d'aménagement de nos forêts.*

Attirons ici les capitalistes, mais faisons leur prospérité solidaire de celle de notre peuple.

Les firmes qui semblent montrer le plus grand intérêt dans la conservation de nos forêts, sont précisément celles qui ont le plus dépensé au pays—les compagnies manufacturières de pulpe et papier; presque toutes ont des forestiers techniciens à leur emploi et cherchent à améliorer leurs méthodes d'exploitation.

4. *Une protection pour nos industriels et pour l'économie générale du pays.*

Quelques-uns de nos industriels vont se trouver bientôt à court de matière première. Nous nous devons de les protéger, dans la mesure du possible, en défendant l'exportation de bois à l'état brut. Nous nous devons aussi d'arrêter le déboisement de certaines régions limitrophes des Etats-Unis, tant pour l'avantage futur des particuliers eux-mêmes, que pour celui de la communauté en général.

5. *Un moyen de retenir chez nous cette partie de notre population qui nous déserte.*

Nous perdons chaque année une partie importante de notre population native et de notre immigration. Organisons notre industrie et nous aurons de l'emploi pour une grande partie de cette population qui nous déserte.

6. *Un moyen de décentraliser notre population.*

Nous souffrons au Canada de la centralisation de la population dans quelques grands centres, et tout ce qui sera fait pour aider et même forcer l'industrie forestière à fonder des établissements sérieux, sera autant de fait pour une meilleure répartition. Car, l'industrie forestière, de sa nature, est décentralisatrice; elle doit s'éloigner des grandes villes pour aller aux sources de la matière première.

7. *Une aide puissante à l'agriculture.*

L'agriculture souffre de l'absence d'industries locales. Nulle autre que l'industrie forestière ne peut lui apporter plus efficacement l'aide, parce que les progrès de l'une et de l'autre sont dépendants de l'aide qu'elles peuvent se donner mutuellement.

HENRI ROY, Forestier de "The Belgo Paper Co., Ltd."
Van Bruyssel, P.Q.

Concours pour Aider à la Protection des Forêts.

L'égoïsme, qui est un vice chez les individus, est une qualité quand il s'agit de la collectivité, ou plutôt de la patrie. Les ressources naturelles d'un pays doivent profiter d'abord à ce pays, avant d'aller enrichir les étrangers. Le bois étant l'une des ressources naturelles les plus considérables du Canada, son exploitation devrait nous rapporter tous les profits dont il est capable. Pour que l'industrie de la pulpe et du papier progresse chez nous, il faut conserver ici toutes nos ressources forestières que requiert cette industrie, d'abord en assurant l'exploitation raisonnée de nos forêts, puis en les préservant contre le feu et les maladies cryptogamiques, et surtout en empêchant les étrangers de s'en servir pour faire fleurir leurs industries.

Depuis trop longtemps, les usiniers américains sont admis à transporter chez eux notre bois pour le transformer en un papier qui vient ensuite faire concurrence au papier canadien, au Canada comme à l'étranger. Le temps est venu de leur fermer la porte et de prohiber l'exportation du bois canadien non ouvré. La prohibition partielle établie en 1910 dans la province de Québec pour les bois coupés sur les terres de la Couronne, a eu des résultats merveilleux. De 1910 à 1921, le pourcentage de la fabrication indigène, par rapport à la production forestière totale, a monté de 31 à 64%, tandis que celui de l'exportation à l'état brut a baissé de 69 à 36%. Le nombre des usines a augmenté considérablement. Que serait-ce avec la prohibition absolue affectant tous les bois, même ceux provenant des propriétés privées?

Quoi qu'on dise, les concessions forestières actuelles de la Couronne s'épuisent. On leur assurerait un repos bien mérité en permettant aux usines d'utiliser, pour la fabrication de la pulpe et du papier, les 1,950,000 cordes de bois brut qui, à l'état brut, prennent annuellement le chemin des Etats-Unis, chiffre représentant plus de la moitié de la consommation annuelle de nos usines. A la rigueur, on pourrait encore en faire bénéficier les sciages et autres industries connexes. Cela mettrait \$50,000,000 de plus dans les goussets canadiens.

Les Américains ont besoin de notre bois pour parer à la pénurie de leurs forêts. Qu'ils viennent fabriquer au Canada! Ils y trouveront toute la matière première désirable, des pouvoirs hydrauliques abondants, une main d'œuvre habile et sûre et tous les avantages possibles. Il est d'ailleurs reconnu que les usines ont intérêt à se rapprocher de la matière première. Forçons-leur la main!

Contribuons à assurer l'indépendance économique du Canada. Transportons chez nous le marché de la pulpe et du papier. En augmentant le chiffre de nos exportations, mettons notre pays dans une position plus avantageuse, au point de vue du commerce avec les pays étrangers. Assurons la création de nouveaux centres industriels dans des régions inexploitées de notre pays et l'ouverture

de nouvelles voies de communication. Nous aiderons ainsi à la colonisation et à l'agriculture. L'exportation de notre bois à l'état brut est l'une des causes de la grande plaie de la fausse colonisation. La législation proposée mettrait peut-être fin à la course aux lots de colonisation, aux défrichements inconsidérés qui causent tant de feux de forêts, et permettrait à la vraie colonisation de se développer davantage, en dirigeant les colons vers les terres plus propres à la culture, et non pas seulement vers les terres à bois.

Que le Canada tout entier profite donc de la leçon que lui ont donnée certaines provinces en prohibant l'exportation des bois coupés sur les terres dont elles ont le contrôle.

ALONZO CINQ-MARS. Galerie de "La Presse." Palais Législatif.

Exportation du Bois Non-manufacturé.

Le Canada avec ses vastes et belles forêts, et l'exploitation intense dont elles sont l'objet, devrait s'appliquer à conserver ce même bois au pays pour y être manufacturé. Malheureusement, c'est le contraire qui se produit, et chaque année une quantité considérable de bois à l'état brut passe la frontière et va aux Etats-Unis, employant la main-d'oeuvre américaine et faisant profiter les capitalistes étrangers de cette source de richesse que, en enfants gâtés de la nature, nous laissons couler sans y puiser, sans même tenter d'y faire notre profit.

Il est grand temps que le gouvernement canadien passe une loi spéciale prohibant l'exportation à l'étranger de notre bois à l'état brut. Cette loi aurait pour bon effet d'obliger les capitalistes étrangers à transporter ici leurs industries—ceci pour le plus grand bien de notre classe ouvrière, qui serait la première à en profiter.

Ces mêmes usines exploitées à l'électricité aideraient à utiliser et à développer chez nous la houille blanche, c'est-à-dire les grandes richesses que sont nos pouvoirs d'eau. Grâce à cette loi, dans toutes les parties du pays nous verrions surgir de nouveaux centres industriels qui représenteraient une augmentation de revenus pour le gouvernement, serviraient de débouchés pour les produits de nos cultivateurs et garderaient au pays bon nombre de ses habitants qui le quittent avec l'espérance de trouver plus facilement de l'emploi aux Etats-Unis.

Dans la province de Québec une loi passée par le gouvernement provincial en 1910, rend obligatoire la conversion du bois en pulpe avant son exportation à l'étranger, exception faite toutefois des essences forestières coupées sur les lots patentés, qui, elles, peuvent être exportées. Ainsi donc, avant cette loi en 1910, 69% de la production était exportée aux Etats-Unis, mais grâce à elle, dans l'espace de neuf ans l'exportation aux Etats-Unis du bois à pulpe est

descendue à 36%. Ne sont-ce pas là des statistiques qui démontrent l'efficacité d'une loi semblable et prouvent au gouvernement tout le bien qu'une loi du même genre pourrait faire au pays, après avoir subi le changement de quelques clauses relatives aux besoins de certaines des provinces!

En ayant notre bois manufacturé au pays même, nous nous ferons connaître d'avantage pour nos richesses forestières, car la la plupart du temps notre bois, une fois manufacturé aux Etats-Unis, perd son origine et est écoulé sur les différents marchés du monde sous le nom de bois américain, produit des Etats-Unis.

Soyons fiers de notre pays et de ses produits forestiers, que cette fierté se manifeste d'une manière pratique, que le bois canadien soit manufacturé au Canada et non à l'étranger. Nous avons ici au pays une jeunesse active, des ingénieurs et des techniciens compétents, sachons les utiliser, aidons par ce moyen nos classes ouvrières, qui sont encore les plus saines du monde; nous aurons mérité de la patrie, et le nom du Canada brillera d'un éclat encore plus grand.

MARC LANGELIER, 68, Avenue Laurier, Québec.

La Conservation des Forêts Canadiennes.

N'est-il pas temps, en effet, de prémunir les Canadiens contre leurs prodigalités?

Leur façon d'agir actuelle fait penser aux riches inconséquents qui, sans se soucier des revenus possibles de leur fortune, croquent le capital à belles dents.

Alors que, partout, on a jeté un cri d'alarme;

Alors que des lois ont été édictées dans tous les autres pays pour sauvegarder les forêts;

Alors que les savants du monde entier ont prouvé l'absolue nécessité de préserver les arbres et qu'ils ont démontré les nombreuses perturbations créées par le déboisement intempestif:

Que fait-on au Canada?

ON SACCAGE!

Les ETATS-UNIS jouent auprès du CANADA le rôle de l'usurier. En effet, tandis que nos voisins économisent leurs forêts, les repeuplent même, nous assistons au gaspillage des forêts canadiennes par ces mêmes voisins sans vergogne.

Dans tout pays, il existe deux fortunes: la fortune foncière ou naturelle, et la fortune commerciale, c'est-à-dire, celle qu'on acquiert en industrialisant la première. Or, qu'arrive-t-il présentement au Canada? Petits et grands achètent des lots de bois, plus ou moins

étendus. Ils coupent et taillent, essayant de retirer le plus de profits possible, sans respecter les jeunes pousses, qui sont la fortune nationale et l'avenir du pays.

Nos bois s'en vont ensuite à des prix dérisoires de l'autre côté de la frontière, alimentant les fabriques de pâte à papier des Etats-Unis, qui ensuite revendent cette pâte, au prix fort, à leur clientèle, après avoir fait vivre un nombre considérable de citoyens des Etats-Unis, et cela, au détriment des populations canadiennes et du Canada.

Pour remédier à ces effets et causes, examinons quelles seraient les conséquences d'une loi prohibant l'exportation à l'étranger des bois non manufacturés du Canada.

Cet étranger n'abandonnerait pas pour cela une industrie rémunératrice, mais il construirait chez nous ses propres usines, autrement dit: il apporterait au Canada des capitaux considérables.

Il emploierait et la main d'œuvre canadienne, et l'industrie canadienne.

Cet étranger aurait un intérêt personnel à ménager les bois des alentours, pour garantir ses propres besoins et ne pas être réduit, par la suite, à acheter ailleurs la matière première. Il apporterait donc dans ses coupes les mesures préservatrices nécessaires et suffisantes pour empêcher des dégradations, souvent irréparables actuellement, à cause de l'ignorance ou de l'incurie de ceux qui les effectuent: dégradations qui, non seulement appauvrissent le pays, mais qui peuvent avoir des effets désastreux sur les conditions climatiques, et sur la richesse du sol.

Au développement industriel canadien, correspondrait une émigration intéressante et intéressée.

L'industrie de la pâte à papier deviendrait une industrie nationale canadienne, quasiment un monopole.

Les ports canadiens s'enrichiraient d'un trafic maritime très important, dont la majeure partie, actuellement, profite à nos voisins.

Le Canada deviendrait un pays ayant son industrie caractéristique, au lieu de n'apparaître, en somme, à ce sujet, qu'un pays de transit.

Une partie des bénéfices réalisés par les fabricants resterait dans les poches canadiennes, contribuant à enrichir tout l'ensemble canadien, favorisant le développement de nouvelles industries, qui donneraient un nouvel essor au beau pays qu'est le Canada.

En résumé, il semble, à priori, que la loi en question aurait un effet décisif sur l'importance canadienne à l'étranger, sur sa fortune nationale, et sur sa situation mondiale.

N'est-ce pas suffisant pour justifier la prohibition d'exporter es bois de pulpe?

M. QUEDRUE. MONTREAL, QUE.

La Folie de Baptiste

Baptiste avait hérité d'une très belle terre, vierge encore et toute boisée. Après en avoir défriché près du tiers, il coula plusieurs années d'un bonheur calme et d'une paix sereine, content de cultiver ses blés, de vendre le lait de ses vaches et d'ouvrager les métaux qui abondaient sur un coin de son domaine. A force d'industrie il avait réussi, ayant largement pourvu à ses besoins, à vendre régulièrement un surplus de produits de toutes sortes, voire de l'énergie motrice que son ingéniosité avait su utiliser d'une petite chute. Rien ne manquait à sa félicité.

Sam, son riche voisin, vint un soir frapper à sa porte. "Baptiste, lui dit-il, j'ai abattu tout le bois de mon lot, et tu es le seul qui en ait encore; me vendrais-tu quelques centaines de poutres et de planches?"

Le prix offert parut fort attrayant à Baptiste, qui enviait le confort matériel de Sam. Il se mit à l'ouvrage et fut surpris de voir combien facilement il pouvait gagner de l'argent. "Tu sais, dit encore Sam, j'ai toujours besoin de planches pour mes nouvelles dépendances, ainsi que de billots résineux pour presser le papier dont mes fils se servent dans leurs études. Aussi, je t'achèterai tout ce que tu voudras bien me vendre."

Avec son premier gain, Baptiste s'était procuré des articles commodes et plaisants, et l'offre de Sam lui fit entrevoir une prospérité inaccoutumée: de jolies toilettes pour sa femme et ses filles, une haute éducation pour ses fils, de belles décorations pour son foyer. L'esprit du pécule entra dans son cœur et le vertige de l'ambition souffla sur sa tête.

Jour et nuit, aidé de ses fils, Baptiste faucha sa forêt, taillant, ratissant, modelant les arbres selon les exigences de Sam. Et, pendant des années, l'argent lui vint, augmentant dans sa caisse pendant que de belles constructions s'élevaient sur la terre de Sam. Vinrent aussi les offres alléchantes des voisins éloignés, John, Fritz, Marianne, Gustav, Enrico et Johann, avec lesquelles ses recettes s'accrurent.

Il ne restait bientôt à Baptiste que quelques arpents de terrain boisé. Ses enfants se marièrent à cette époque et vinrent lui demander quelques planches pour abriter leurs nouvelles familles. "Voyez ce que je perdrai," répondit-il, en leur énumérant les offres qui venaient continuellement.....

Et Baptiste vendit, vendit sans relâche tout ce qui passait sous son rabot.

Une nuit, il eut un terrible cauchemar. A son réveil il appela ses fils: "Me voilà grand-père, dit-il; il est temps de penser à ma famille. Ma fortune est faite et je veux voir à votre confort. Construisons une maison pour chacun de vous, des granges pour vos récoltes, des étables pour vos animaux, pressons la pulpe qui servira à l'éducation de nos descendants." Plus triste que surpris,

les fils baissèrent mélancoliquement la tête, et quelques-uns pleurèrent. Inquiet, Baptiste regarda par la fenêtre et vit sa pauvre terre nue et désolée. Dans sa folie il avait même coupé les arbres qui donnaient de l'ombre à sa maison. Et lorsque son fils aîné soupira: "Nous n'avons plus une seule bûche pour chauffer nos petits." Baptiste comprit l'étendue de son erreur, le désastre de sa cupidité aveugle, de sa funeste imprévoyance. Et, réalisant qu'avec tout son or il ne pourrait acheter un vil copeau chez Sam, John, Fritz, Marianne, Gustav, Enrico ou Johann, il mourut de douleur, laissant ses fils sans toit et sans abri.

L'histoire de Baptiste ne serait-elle pas celle que se réserve le Canada?

ADRIEN ARCAND, 609, Union Ave., Montréal.

Un Embargo s'Impose.

Nos forêts forment une des plus belles parties de notre acti national. Elles valent autant que nos mines ou notre agriculture, mais à une condition: c'est qu'on les exploite, et encore, pourvu que cette exploitation soit à notre profit.

Or, pour les exploiter à profit, il suffit de couper la matière première, le bois, qui nous attend depuis des siècles, et de le convertir en produit ouvré.

Les immenses étendues de terrain couvert de sapins et d'épinettes ont pris une grande valeur depuis que la demande de la presse rotative semble sans fin et que chaque jour les besoins de chaque grand quotidien dévorent des acres entiers couverts de bois à pulpe.

Les Etats-Unis ayant épuisé leurs réserves, il leur faut nécessairement se ravitailler au Canada. Quand nos voisins ont commencé à se ravitailler chez nous, nous ne nous rendions pas encore compte de ce que valait notre héritage national. Plus tard nous avons commencé à voir clair. Il s'en est suivi un embargo sur l'exportation du bois à pulpe à l'état brut venant des terres publiques. Comme conséquence, nos exportations de papier et de pulpe dépassent maintenant cent millions par année, alors qu'ils n'atteignaient pas cinq millions en 1910.

Mais nous exportons encore près d'un million de cordes de bois chaque année. C'est du bois coupé sur les terres des particuliers.

L'embargo qui existe sur le bois des terres de la Couronne devrait s'étendre à tout le bois. C'est le seul moyen d'exploiter nos forêts à notre profit. Une corde de bois à pulpe vaut actuellement \$8, mais si elle est transformée en pulpe mécanique, elle vaut \$32; en pâte chimique, \$60, et en papier, à peu près autant.

Nos voisins ont besoin de papier, et pour faire ce papier, ils achètent notre bois. Au lieu de leur vendre du bois, vendons-leur sinon toujours du papier, du moins, de la pulpe, et gardons chez nous les profits qui en résultent.

Le profit n'est pas dans la coupe du bois, mais dans sa transformation, alors qu'il quadruple ou décuple sa valeur, la différence se partageant en salaires et frais généraux.

Un simple acte du parlement pourrait prohiber l'exportation du bois brut. Nos voisins ne pourraient se plaindre, car nous serions toujours prêts à leur fournir le papier ou la pulpe dont ils ont besoin.

Ils n'auraient qu'à se féliciter de la chose, puisqu'il y aurait pour eux comme pour nous la disparition d'intermédiaires trop coûteux, dont l'utilité a cessé.

Le gouvernement a le droit de passer une telle législation, et les précédents ne manquent pas. Tous les pays n'ont-ils pas prohibé l'exportation de l'or! L'Angleterre ne songe-t-elle pas à l'heure actuelle à prohiber l'exportation du caoutchouc brut! Et chez nous, notre gouvernement n'a-t-il pas déjà réquisitionné toutes nos fabriques de papier! S'il a pu un jour régir toute l'industrie du papier, qui l'empêcherait de régir le marché domestique d'une des matières premières du papier!

La liberté du commerce est un vain mot en l'occurrence. Il s'agit de protéger à notre avantage et d'exploiter à notre profit des ressources naturelles qui ne dureront pas éternellement et dont il est élémentaire que nous tirions le meilleur bénéfice tant qu'elles durent.

Omer Chaput, 3481, rue Ste-Adèle Montréal, P.Q.

Arrêtons les Exportations de Bois Brut.

Quoi qu'on en dise, les forêts du Canada sont sérieusement menacées. Indépendamment de la perte d'arbres résultant de causes naturelles, telles que les coups de vent et les insectes, deux agents principaux concourent à leur destruction rapide, savoir: une exploitation disproportionnée, et des feux périodiques, dont le contrôle ou la prévention sont généralement trop laissés au hasard. Chacune de ces causes détruit depuis plusieurs années plus de bois qu'il n'en accroît à la réserve générale par les pousses nouvelles; c'est dire, par conséquent, que, par négligence ou par cupidité, nous entamons d'année en année notre capital forestier; quiconque ne se contente pas de ses revenus et mange son fonds va à la ruine. C'est notre cas.

La science nous aidera à enrayer le fléau des insectes. Le danger nous convaincra qu'il est possible et urgent de mettre fin aux feux de forêts. Contre la cupidité de l'exploiteur qui coupe, taille et fait le désert partout où il y a des arbres qui paraissent bons à débiter, contre cette cupidité, il n'y a qu'un frein effectif à opposer et il faut l'appliquer avant que le mal soit irréparable, savoir: l'interdiction absolue de toute exportation de bois brut. Une prohibition totale, rigoureusement appliquée, est la seule qui sera réellement contrôlable et efficace. Elle ne sera pas la panacée au mal du déboisement déréglé, c'est la mesure fondamentale, le préambule d'une réglementation judicieuse à imposer à la coupe des bois. Elle est possible. Nous sommes arrivés au point où elle est devenue nécessaire.

Une interdiction d'exportation du bois brut ne dépouillerait personne de son droit de propriété. Elle modifierait le volume immédiat des exploitations, mais on a vu adopter des législations restrictives plus sévères lorsque la nécessité ou la très grande utilité pour l'intérêt général le requéraient. Par contre, le pays ne ferait qu'y gagner: outre la préservation des forêts, appréciables en elles-mêmes et pour leurs propriétés régulatrices de l'irrigation naturelle du sol, il s'ensuivrait un développement immédiat et rapide de notre industrie qui nous mettrait dès l'abord en mesure de retirer le plein rendement du bois que nous produisons. Ce sera tout de suite le frein appliqué aux coupes exagérées, une entrave apportée à une exploitation plus forte que la croissance des plantes, un premier pas vers l'utilisation complète de l'arbre; ce dernier point à lui seul vaudrait l'imposition de cette mesure. Nous gaspillons la moitié du bois que nous coupons, et la portion que nous n'utilisons pas est l'une des occasions les plus fréquentes des feux de forêts.

Nous nous épuisons pour un profit illusoire et ridicule, à l'heure qu'il est; mais les gens directement intéressés à ce qu'on continue ce procédé s'efforcent à l'envi de nous représenter cela comme une preuve de notre expansion industrielle. Si on leur permet de continuer, un temps viendra bientôt où nous ouvrirons les yeux. Ce sera trop tard. Les mêmes avertissements, les mêmes prévisions ont été faits aux Etats-Unis: on s'en est ri. Aujourd'hui, l'immense territoire est pratiquement dépouillé, et malgré un climat plus favorable à la croissance rapide des essences forestières, le mal est fait, irrémédiable. Il en sera de même chez nous.

Souvenons-nous en tout cela que l'intérêt général d'un pays prime tous les intérêts particuliers. On a trop tendance à l'oublier.

EDMOND du BREIL P.O. Box 391, Québec.

Gardons nos Bois.

Vous trouverez ci-dessous quelques arguments en ce qui regarde la conservation de nos forêts canadiennes.

Premièrement. Que tout le bois que nous garderions dans notre pays serait pour tous les Canadiens de ce pays une source de travail, étant donné que nos industries auraient du travail à donner à ceux qui chôment.

Deuxièmement. Que l'exportation de notre bois empêche de manufacturer, sur une plus grande échelle, les meubles, qui sont aujourd'hui à des prix exorbitants, et que si notre bois restait en Canada, cet article ci-haut mentionné si nécessaire serait beaucoup moins cher, ce qui donnerait du travail dans ce genre d'industrie.

Troisièmement. La construction, aujourd'hui quoique assez bonne, pourrait être plus avantageuse pour la classe ouvrière, étant donné que l'ouvrier n'ose pas s'aventurer dans la construction d'un chez soi, et la raison est que le peu de bois qui reste ici en Canada est vendu à des prix si élevés, que seul le riche peut se le procurer.

En un mot, que le bois du Canada reste pour les Canadiens.

HECTOR LÉVEILLÉ, 97, Chatham, Montréal.

L'Or qui Fuit.

Les forêts du Canada couvrent une étendue de 900,000 milles carrés, la production s'est élevée en 1922 à la somme de 311 millions de piastres.

On ne fait généralement subir aux produits forestiers que les premières opérations industrielles, cependant, cela a donné naissance à une centaine d'usines qui ont un capital de 347 millions.

Quel serait le résultat d'une loi prohibant toute exportation du bois brut?

Le Canada obtiendrait ainsi le surcroît de population tant désiré, en exploitant d'une manière judicieuse et scientifique son domaine forestier, enfin, le pays comblerait le déficit que son dévouement à la vieille Europe lui a apporté.

Nos mines pourront être le trésor des générations futures de notre territoire. Notre trésor actuel, c'est la forêt,—elle forme l'avenir du peuple et notre plus logique moyen de développement.

Le Dominion n'a bénéficié, jusqu'à présent, que de l'or qu'elle offrait dès les premières opérations, le reste s'en est allé enrichir les peuples voisins.

L'économie nationale exige plus aujourd'hui: c'est en retirant tout le rendement possible de chaque matière première qu'ils possèdent, que les peuples basent leurs richesses nationales.

Le développement de notre pays, depuis l'origine, a toujours suivi la même voie.

Le colon cherche, dans la parcelle de forêt qui lui échoit, les moyens d'établir sa propriété future.

Cette page de la vie canadienne est trop connue pour la décrire.

Cependant, cet exemple clair et précis qui domine notre histoire devrait être compris.

Le Canada, comme entité, devrait se faire colon de son propre lot.

Le colon individu tire tout profit de sa concession, le pays pourrait chercher son avenir, à son exemple, dans son propre domaine.

Subventionnées par les gouvernements, protégées par cette loi, les fabriques d'objets en pulpe, d'ébénisterie, de menuiserie et toute la longue liste d'objets faits avec notre matière première forestière, se développeraient, attirant autour d'elle un surcroît de population.

Ceci favoriserait la décentralisation des grands centres industriels, en faisant naître un peu partout des foyers d'activité, plus rapprochés de nos paroisses nouvelles.

Le colon, qui bien souvent ne trouve, dans les débuts de sa carrière, que le strict nécessaire à sa subsistance, aurait un gain de plus à sa portée.

Toute la région du St-Maurice donne une idée du résultat que ferait naître cette loi.

Le commerce y trouverait des champs nouveaux offerts à son activité. Nos chemins de fer ne pourraient que bénéficier d'un développement plus grand.

La fabrication de la matière première mettrait entre les mains de nos concitoyens, l'or qui présentement enrichit l'étranger.

Nous aurions trouvé chez nous la solution d'un problème troublant, l'agrandissement de notre territoire occupé, et une augmentation de population grandissant selon les besoins du pays.

L'exportation des matières premières est toujours une perte. Un trésor non exploité est une valeur non présente, mais qui demeure, tandis qu'une richesse à demi-exploitée s'épuise en ne donnant qu'une fraction de sa valeur.

Ainsi le comprennent les nations qui n'exportent que peu ou point de matières brutes.

Mettez en force une loi prohibant l'exportation du bois à l'état brut, et vous aurez fermé une issue à la bourse du pays par où coule son or.

J. EDMOND CAYA, La Baie, Yamaska, Qué.

Arguments Contre l'Exportation du Bois Non-Manufacturé.

Une augmentation considérable de notre richesse nationale qui, en retour, procurerait du pain pour nos ouvriers, aiderait nos industries, et nous ferait concevoir davantage l'importance des incontestables possibilités industrielles de notre grand et beau pays. Voilà en quelques mots les avantages que nous retirerions en manufacturant nous-mêmes nos produits forestiers, plutôt que de les exporter à l'état brut, tels que bois à pâte, billes, etc.

Vous voulez des exemples!

Nous coupons chaque année environ quatre billions de pieds de bois, évalués approximativement à \$122,000,000. Après une dépense méthodique de temps, de travail et de pensées, ce même matériel vaut \$250,000,000. En dépensant cette énergie au Canada nous augmenterions chaque année notre richesse nationale d'un huitième de billion de dollars.

En 1921, nous exportons aux Etats-Unis 1,247,404 cordes de bois à pâte d'une valeur de \$15,778,171. Vous vous dites sans doute "mais cela nous a apporté une jolie somme." Oui, admettons-le; mais de combien a-t-elle aidé à l'entretien et à la perpétuation de nos forêts, au développement de nos industries ou à procurer de l'ouvrage pour nos ouvriers? Les industries étrangères ont été alimentées par nos produits bruts, pour faire concurrence aux nôtres. Si nous avions transformé ce bois à pâte chez nous en produits manufacturés, et exporté, ensuite nous aurions reçu entre 90 et 100 millions de dollars. Il en est pour les billes comme pour le bois à pâte.

Nous importons plus d'instruments aratoires que nous en exportons, cependant le Canada possède presque toutes les matières premières nécessaires à cette industrie.

Il y a quelque temps, des cours spéciaux sur le commerce d'exportation étaient donnés dans les principaux centres industriels du Canada. Tous nos économistes se sont accordés à dire que nous exportons beaucoup trop de matière brute et pas assez de produits manufacturés.

Notre industrie forestière occupe le deuxième rang parmi nos industries premières. Un quart de nos exportations totales provient de nos forêts. Nos gouvernements Fédéral et Provinciaux dépensent annuellement des sommes énormes pour le maintien de nos forêts, en propagande destinée à éclairer le public sur la grande nécessité qui s'impose à nous de conserver cette industrie première. Nos efforts de ce côté ne pourront porter les fruits anticipés, à moins que nous ne trouvions un moyen par lequel notre bois puisse être vendu en produits manufacturés.

Le Canada a besoin d'argent et d'immigrants. Il nous faut à la fois intéresser les étrangers aussi bien que les nôtres concernant les richesses naturelles et perspectives industrielles de notre pays et les induire à y verser leur capital. Pour recevoir des immigrants, il faut être en état de leur procurer du travail.

Nous avons des industries textiles au Canada qui importent la matière brute et le charbon, et réussissent à payer un dividende. Nos forêts sont riches en variétés de bois commercial; nos voies fluviales et chutes d'eau sont des avantages naturels qui favorisent très sensiblement le développement de notre industrie forestière. Pourquoi ne pourrions-nous pas manufacturer notre bois à profit? Les autres pays en ont besoin. La Russie et la Scandinavie sont nos seuls concurrents.

Il va sans dire qu'il nous faudra trouver des débouchés, ce qui, en somme, est assez facile. A l'exposition industrielle d'Angleterre, 1922, une firme canadienne recevait des commandes considérables pour du papier-tenture fait au Canada. En exposant davantage nos produits dans les pays qui ont besoin de notre marchandise, on arrivera facilement à créer de nouveaux débouchés.

Profitons donc des fautes très coûteuses du passé et exploitons nos forêts à profit en n'exportant que des produits manufacturés.

W. H. Perron, Collège MacDonald, Ste-Anne de Bellevue, Québec.

Conservons nos Forêts.

La prévoyance est le plus sûr moyen de s'assurer pour les mauvais jours et les années de vieillesse une aisance confortable, et si cela est vrai pour les individus, à plus forte raison cela devrait-il s'appliquer à un pays, patrimoine d'une collectivité.

Le Canada a dans ses ressources forestières une immense richesse dont les produits devraient être pour l'avenir une source assurée de revenus. Il faut cependant ne point se laisser aveugler par le chiffre énorme qui représente ces ressources, et dès à présent il faut mettre de l'ordre dans l'exploitation de nos forêts et enrayer la destruction qui s'y produit.

Non seulement il est nécessaire d'étudier et de mettre en pratique les moyens de conserver nos domaines forestiers, par exemple, en ne permettant que des coupes proportionnées à la croissance des plantations, en protégeant nos arbres contre les ravages des maladies et des insectes, ainsi que des incendies, mais encore faut-il mettre une barrière légale contre la hache dévastatrice du capitaliste canadien ou étranger qui détruit nos forêts sans merci, attiré seulement par l'appât d'un gain considérable obtenu par la vente facile de nos bois à l'état brut, ou presque brut, à des pays moins favorisés que le nôtre et où une véritable famine du bois existe. La nécessité de conserver nos forêts ne doit point s'établir seulement sur la valeur intrinsèque de leur rendement au point de vue de la vente des bois, les forêts, nous dirions même chaque arbre a un rôle beaucoup plus important.

Quiconque a voyagé, et parcouru des pays tels que l'Espagne, le sud de la France, la Grèce, la Turquie, même certaines

parties de l'Inde, etc., etc., ne peut se souvenir qu'avec un serrement de cœur que ces lieux furent dans le passé des greniers d'abondance; mais la destruction de leurs forêts, sans prévision faite pour l'avenir, vit leurs sources se tarir, leurs climats changer et ces terres jadis si fertiles devenir presque arides, excepté là où artificiellement l'industrie de l'homme a pu amener une suffisante quantité d'humidité.

L'agriculture est au Canada une de nos cornes d'abondance, ce serait la mettre en danger que de ne pas veiller judicieusement à la conservation de nos arbres, nous irons encore plus loin en disant que, dès aujourd'hui, nos provinces de l'Ouest, dans leur partie Sud, souffrent du manque de pluie, et nous ne doutons pas qu'une distribution raisonnée de plantations forestières sur ces territoires, amèneraient dans l'avenir une amélioration climatérique constante.

L'arrêt de l'exportation des produits bruts de nos forêts s'impose, il est absolument nécessaire pour assurer une exploitation sage de nos bois; les industries étrangères dans lesquelles le bois entre comme matière première, ne pouvant plus l'importer de chez nous, devront venir s'établir à l'intérieur de nos frontières, ceci pour le plus grand bien de notre pays en général, tant au point de vue du bénéfice pécuniaire immédiat qui compensera largement la perte subie par la diminution dans la coupe annuelle, qu'au point de vue de la création d'industries nouvelles qui utiliseront les sous-produits.

Le contrôle des exportations et des coupes annuelles assurera à notre pays une prospérité future, basée sur une production constante et méthodique, donnant un maximum de rendement.

A. F. VAISON, Ste. Rose du Lac, Man.

Arguments en Faveur de la Prohibition de l'Exportation du Canada du Bois Non-Manufacturé.

De l'étendue du Canada, 85% n'est pas adapté à l'agriculture, mais n'a de valeur que par ses richesses minérales et forestières. C'est donc à ses forêts et à ses mines que le Canada devra sa grandeur future et les moyens de supporter une population commensurable à son étendue.

Les richesses minières dépendent seules de la nature qui les a mises en place, et une fois enlevées, elles ne peuvent être remises.

Au contraire, les forêts qui couvrent une grande proportion de cette étendue, sous les conditions naturelles, se remplacent d'elles-mêmes, ou, exploitées avec intelligence, elles pourraient être maintenues de façon à donner continuellement et perpétuellement une récolte suffisante pour faire du Canada le premier pays forestier du monde. Que faisons-nous pour amener cette situation?

De notre coupe annuelle de bois de pulpe, nous exportons plus du quart, ou 1,000,000 cordes d'une valeur de \$10,000,000. Manufacturé en papier, ce bois donnerait 600,000 tonnes de papier,

valant \$45,000,000. Nous exportons annuellement d'autre bois brut d'une valeur de \$90,000,000. Une fois manufacturé, ce bois vaudrait au moins \$180,000,000. Donc, l'excès obtenu par les fabricants étrangers sur la somme que reçoivent les Canadiens qui coupent le bois, monte à \$125,000,000 par année. Si l'exportation du bois était interdite, les industries étrangères qui travaillent le bois canadien s'établiraient ici, et ces \$125,000,000 seraient dépensés au Canada, comme salaires aux ouvriers, comme coût d'autres matériaux et comme intérêt sur le capital. Tel serait l'effet immédiat, mais l'effet dans l'avenir est encore de plus d'importance.

Le Canada est sur le point de dépasser les Etats-Unis et de devenir le plus grand producteur des produits forestiers. Pour combien de temps le restera-t-il? et quand arrivera le moment où la production, ayant atteint le maximum, commencera à décroître, et les forêts dépouillées ne suffiront plus à l'industrie, au point que pour nos propres besoins, nous devons nous tourner à la Sibérie, ou autre part? Les Etats-Unis sont arrivés à cette situation, mais leur sol, dépourvu de sa forêt originale, rend maintenant des valeurs agricoles non moindres que jadis les valeurs de ses bois. Au Canada, au contraire, une fois la richesse de ses forêts partie, cette large zone qui s'étend de Labrador jusqu'au lac Winnipeg ne présentera que la désolation morne de ses roches Pré-Cambriennes, inutiles à l'agriculture, ou à autre chose que la production des immenses forêts que la nature y a placées.

Jusqu'à présent, les efforts faits pour remplacer le bois coupé au Canada ont été sans conséquences et les moyens de conservation inefficaces. Il est certain qu'une des causes les plus importantes du dépouillement rapide de nos forêts, c'est le fait que ces forêts sont exploitées sur une grande étendue pour le bénéfice d'industries étrangères, qui n'ont d'intérêt au Canada que pour y acheter au meilleur marché du bois brut. Pour réaliser les résultats de cette exportation, on n'a qu'à examiner les longs trains qui passent journalièrement, portant vers Détroit et ailleurs des millions de cordes de bois, des troncs d'arbres, gros de $1\frac{1}{2}$, de deux ou de trois pouces, coupés quand leur croissance est à peine commencée, et on n'a qu'à contempler les mornes solitudes laissées après la coupe du bois pour nos voisins du sud; non seulement les vrais arbres, mais jeunes pousses, buissons, tout a été détruit, et dans un an ou deux on verra croître non pas nos pins et nos épinettes canadiens, mais de petits peupliers et autres arbres sans valeur.

Naturellement, son profit fait, le manufacturier étranger n'a pas d'intérêt dans l'avenir de ces pays lointains de l'Abitibi ou du Saguenay. Un remède—et un seul remède—existe: La prohibition totale de l'exportation du bois non-manufacturé.

A. H. Moss.

Nos Bois sont un Patrimoine.

Qui parle de vendre nos forêts à l'étranger? Certainement pas un Canadien! Pourquoi pas nos sources et nos cours d'eau? puisque l'un dépend de l'autre.

Déboisez complètement un pays, et en peu de temps vous en aurez fait un désert où la vie et la culture seront impossibles, et par suite, pas d'industrie. Tous les pays qui ont tenté la triste expérience sont là pour le prouver.

Si quelqu'un a des doutes à ce sujet un voyage dans les parties déboisée de nos prairies de l'Ouest suffira pour le convaincre. Le colon a investi son capital pour le matériel à bâtir et bois pour se chauffer, ne pouvant se les procurer sur place; au bout de peu de temps, il voit sa terre en culture poudrer au premier vent et le grain dessécher sur pied, faute d'humidité. Résultat: fermes abandonnées et gens découragés.

Nos forêts sont un patrimoine que nos ancêtres nous ont laissé pour en user avec parcimonie. En user, mais pas en abuser, parce que nous devons les transmettre à nos descendants; et l'idée de les exporter en dehors, pour donner de l'ouvrage et du profit à d'autres, ne peut venir à l'esprit d'un patriote, alors qu'on voit nos ouvriers courir les rues à la recherche de l'ouvrage.

Nos forêts sont une nécessité à la vie du pays, et les vendre aux étrangers, c'est leur vendre l'avenir de nos enfants.

Le Canada est notre Mère-Patrie, et celui qui parle de dépouiller sa mère au profit de l'étranger, est certainement un lâche criminel, qui doit être banni du pays.

Pays déboisé est comme front dénudé: un des premiers signes certains de décrépitude—telle est du moins l'opinion d'un fermier canadien.

C. NEDELEC, Celtic, Sask.

Ils Détruisent nos Bois.

C'est avec un vif intérêt que j'ai lu dans le journal "La Presse", Montréal, douze courant, l'article pour la prohibition du bois brut du Canada. Je suis tout à fait en faveur de la prohibition complète du bois brut du Canada, pour deux raisons. D'abord, nos voisins les Américains enlèvent tout le bois de nos forêts, qu'ils utilisent soit en pâte ou en papier, soit qu'ils achètent la coupe du bois du gouvernement ou qu'ils achètent des cultivateurs, pour des prix bien minimes. Partout où la hache du bûcheron a passé, il ne reste que des buissons, c'est la dévastation complète de nos forêts, car ils enlèvent le bois de toutes grosseurs, et ils ne paient seulement qu'un peu de droits par corde de bois pour passer ce bois aux Etats-Unis. Ils viennent même chercher jusqu'aux arbres de Noël pour détruire nos forêts complètement. Quand notre pays sera épuisé, ils auront recours à leurs propres forêts, et alors notre Canada aura

épuisé une de ses plus grandes richesses, qu'il aura sacrifiée pour quelques sous de droits qu'il aura reçus de l'Amérique. Deuxièmement, si le gouvernement prohibait l'exportation du bois brut, les compagnies qui exploitent nos forêts, bâtiraient des manufactures soit pour la pâte ou le papier. On verrait surgir, partout où il y a des pouvoirs d'eau dans les forêts du Canada, vous verriez surgir de gros villages et de grandes villes, ce serait la prospérité du Canada. Combien de milliers d'hommes trouveraient de l'emploi; mais aujourd'hui nous sommes obligés de s'expatrier pour donner à manger à nos enfants et à nos femmes. C'est là, Monsieur, mon opinion sur la prohibition complète de l'exportation du bois brut. Je vous félicite de la bonne idée que vous avez eue pour avoir l'opinion du public en général. Veuillez accepter mes plus sincères remerciements.

ODILON CARRIER, Chaudière, Co. Lévis, Qué.

Protégeons nos Bois.

Suivant l'annonce parue dans "l'Événement", par laquelle vous sollicitez de suggérer les meilleurs arguments contre l'exportation du bois brut à l'étranger, j'ai l'honneur de vous soumettre les suivants:

Le bois étant soumis à tous les différents procédés de manufacture au Canada et vendu à l'étranger, il en découlerait un gain énorme pour la main d'œuvre, ainsi qu'une remise de fonds étrangers beaucoup plus considérable dans les deux cas.

Il serait plus profitable de vendre des meubles et d'autres produits manufacturés dont le bois constitue la matière première, que des arbres.

Cette manière de procéder serait de nature aussi à assurer plus de protection à nos forêts.

L. LA RUE, 42, rue Ste-Ursule, Québec, Qué.

Imposons de Fortes Taxes.

Ayant pris connaissance de votre annonce sur le "The Family Herald and Weekly Star, Montreal," il me fait plaisir de vous donner mon humble opinion pour la prohibition de l'exportation de notre bois non-manufacturé. Nos Gouvernements devraient imposer de fortes taxes sur le bois de pulpe brut, ou sujet à l'exportation, et d'un autre côté, ils devraient encourager au moyen de fort subsides la construction de manufactures à papier dans tout le Dominion, c'est-à-dire où il y a du bois de pulpe, ou autre sorte, en assez grande quantité.

J. D. BOUCHARD, Port-au-Persil, Comté Charleboix, P.Q.

Excellente Idée.

La belle idée que vous avez d'encourager nos gouvernants de prohiber l'exportation du bois brut, m'encourage à prendre part à votre concours.

Pour moi, le gouvernement devrait prohiber l'exportation du bois brut, afin d'enrichir notre peuple.

Ensuite, le gouvernement Fédéral, aidé des gouvernements Provinciaux, devrait mettre à la disposition d'industriels sérieux une somme d'au moins un milliard, afin de développer nos forêts, nos mines et nos pouvoirs d'eau.

NÉRÉE GAUTHIER, Baie St-Paul, Comté Charlevoix, P.Q.

Protégeons le Colon.

Je vois sur le Journal que vous voudriez que le bois reste dans le Canada. Mon opinion est de garder le bois dans le Canada, parce que s'il reste dans le Canada, tout le Canada en aura un profit. S'il va dans l'Amérique, le Canada n'aura rien, et l'argent restera dans l'Amérique. S'il reste dans le Canada, le pauvre colon pourra se construire des maisons. Aujourd'hui, il n'a pas les moyens d'acheter du bois pour se bâtir. Tâchez de me répondre, s'il vous plaît.

P.M. SAVOY, Loggieville, N.-B.