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FORESTRY FACTS

The production of Douglas Fir lumber has increased thirty-eight per cent in the last two years, according to a recent publication of the Dominion Forestry Branch on the forest products of Canada. This percentage is double that of any other leading Canadian wood for the same period. This tree made up 67 per cent. of the total lumber production of British Columbia, which province is estimated to contain as much timber as all the rest of Canada. The importance of the Douglas fir is exemplified by a statement made by Dr. C. S. Sargent, the leading authority on American trees, who says: "No other American tree of the first magnitude is so widely distributed, or can now afford so much timber and the rapidity of its growth and its power of reproduction under favourable conditions make it the most valuable inhabitant of the great coniferous forest of the northwest."

Hickory is the strongest Canadian wood. When properly seasoned a hickory column will support a weight of twelve tons per square inch cross-section, which is considerably more than what could be borne by a pillar of cast iron or steel of the same length and weight.

The natives of Ceylon eat one and a half million coconuts a day. There are sixty million coconut trees on this island, and the surplus production of nuts is chiefly used to make copra, the dried 'meat' of the nut, which is a valuable source of vegetable oils. It is estimated that there are produced yearly 600,000 to 700,000 tons of copra, valued at sixty-five million dollars. One quarter of the world's production comes from the Philippine Islands.

Canada has tripled its production of paper in the last three years. In the 157,400 square miles recently added to northern Ontario there is very little timber of any present value. Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, reporting on his trip through this new district of Patricia, says:

"Most of the timber was small and much of it has been burned. . . . Larch or 'tamarack' is associated with white and black spruce to the northern limit of the district, but unfortunately most of the trees are dead.

Weather forecasts were used last summer by the Dominion Forestry Branch in regulating the fire protective patrol in the Railway Belt, British Columbia. As the prevailing winds were westerly the weather to be expected in the interior of the province could be foretold by telegraph many hours in advance and if there was little danger to be expected, the District Fire Inspector would permit a temporary decrease in the railway patrol.

In British India the Forest Service derives an annual revenue of over one and a quarter million dollars from the rental of grazing privileges on forest areas under Government administration. The United States Forest Service last year secured a revenue of over one million dollars by the same method. But in Canada, during the last fiscal year, the issuance of the grazing permits on Dominion Forest Reserves netted the Forestry Branch less than one hundred dollars. The Dominion Government, however, recently passed new grazing regulations which will not only permit the full utilization of the grass-lands on the reserves, but will at the same time substantially increase the future revenues of the Dominion Forestry Branch.

Celebration Of 100 Year Of Peace.

To, onto, March 20.---The Masonic craft of Canada will take a prominent part in the celebration of the one hundred years of peace between the British people and the people of the United States, to be held at Niagara Falls on July 16 of this year.

A meeting of the Board of General Purposes of the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario was held at the Temple Building yesterday. The Board, which is the executive body for the Grand Lodge, decided

to appropriate a sufficient amount of money for the entertainment of the grand masters from all the Grand Lodges in the United States, the Grand Lodges of Canada, and the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland.

Jamaica's Head Tax On Syrians And Chinese.

Kingston, Jamaica, March 20.---The Government adopted a law today imposing a head tax of \$150 on Syrians and Chinese who enter the county.

Troops Being Sent To North Of Ireland

Dublin, March 20.---England is preparing for war in Ulster. Two British warships arrived here today, equipped for actual service.

One thousand armed troops are being poured into the counties of Ulster Province from the west of Ireland to meet any hostile movement on the part of the Unionists, led by Sir Edward Carson, Capt. James Craig, Sir George Richardson and other radical leaders of anti-home rule forces.

The transfer of troops into the north of Ireland, after the British Cabinet had decided against such action, indicates that the Ulster situation has reached the stage of seriousness which is alarming the Government.

United States Had Great Cotton Crop

Washington, D. C., March 20.---One of the largest cotton crops ever grown, amounting to 14,127,356, equivalent to 500 pound bales of lint and 639,795 of linters, was produced by the farmers of the United States during 1913, the Census Bureau announced today in its preliminary report of cotton ginned, as reported by ginners and delinters to February 28. These figures compare with 13,703,421 equivalent 500 pound bales of lint and 609,594 bales of linters last year.

The Department of Agriculture's estimate, announced December 12, placed the 1913 crop at 13,677,000 equivalent 500 pound bales.

To Discuss Fixed Date For Easter.

BRUSSELS, March 25.—A proposal to have the world adopted a fixed date for Easter will be discussed and acted upon at the biennial meeting of the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce which is to meet in Paris next June. Such is the announcement made by the permanent committee of the congress, which met in Brussels today to approve the programme prepared for the Paris meeting.

The fact that the variable date for Easter causes much embarrassment and loss in certain lines of trade is responsible for the movement to have the festival celebrated on a fixed date. It is suggested by the supporters of the movement that the fixed date could be brought about by regulating Easter by the sun instead of the moon.

The programme prepared for the meeting of the Congress shows that numerous other important subjects will be brought up for consideration. Postal money orders and checks, bills of lading for steam navigation, insurance policies in international traffic, dock warrants, arbitral procedure, and the utility of the proposed international action regarding unfair competition are among the questions that will receive attention.

A possible source of discussion relative to competition may be the operations of great combinations such as the Standard and Russian oil companies, the German syndicate which controls the trade in potash and other concerns whose field include the world. The British system of marine insurance, evolved by centuries of experience, will be closely examined for models to improve the phraseology of policies.

The programme as prepared by the committee indicates that American thought and practice have largely influenced conditions under which trade and commerce are carried on. The United States and Great Britain, for example, have made the largest use of the postal money order and the bank check, and the Congress may consider plans for broadening the service rendered by both and making them better understood. The need of uniformity, or at least a better understanding is illustrated by the fact that under article 16 of The Hague convention the death of a maker of a check has no influence upon the validity of the check, whereas according to English law the check becomes void on the death of the signer.

One object of the coming meeting will be to constitute the Congress an active influence between the biennial meetings. The plans in this direction will be framed along the lines of the work accomplished by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, which is able to back up its resolutions with a permanent organization.

It is expected that the commerce and trade bodies of America will take an important part in the sessions in Paris. The International Congress and its work are well understood in the United States since the last meeting of the organization was held in Boston in 1912. It is expected that the coming meeting will be attended by a large delegation of representatives American manufacturers and business men.

The French Government, in co-operation with the business organizations of France, is preparing for the elaborate entertainment of the visitors. The delegates from abroad will be regarded as the guests of the Republic, and the two weeks following the sessions of the Congress will be given up to more or less formal visits at Lyons, Grenoble, Valance, Dijon, and other places of historic interest and industrial importance. Excursions also will be arranged to points in Italy, Switzerland, Germany and other countries.

St. Stephen had a Fire at Noon To-day

ST. STEPHEN, March 24.—The C. P. R. freight shed is partly destroyed by a fire that broke out at noon and most of the freight in it is destroyed by fire and water. The explosion of an oil stove is given as the cause of the blaze. By some misunderstanding the first alarm that was sent in by telephone to the Fire department was unheeded, and a second message was required before help came. In the meantime, the fire had spread to one of the loaded cars in the yard during further damage. The fire did not reach the end of the building in which the accountants work. The chief injury is in the roof of the main building and will possibly not exceed \$1,000. The value of the freight injured or destroyed may be greater.

International Yacht Races Off Sandy Hook

Digby, N. S., March 25.—A party of Digby and Montreal yachting enthusiasts, numbering forty, will take in the international yacht races off Sandy Hook in September, and have chartered the Albert J. Lutz, the blue ribboner of the Digby fleet of bankers, for the occasion. The deal was closed today. Capt. John Apt will go in yacht-like appearance for the excursion.

Shoal Impeding Navigation Reduced

Ogdensburg, N. Y., March 25.—A shoal impeding navigation on the St. Lawrence River at Blockhouse Island, near this city, was reduced by blasting yesterday. Nine hundred pounds of explosives, deposited in 72 holes, were fired by electricity, causing masses of ice three feet thick, and large pieces of rock, to be hurled high in the air.

Abdul Hamid Again Reported Dead.

Constantinople, March 25.—Former Sultan Abdul Hamid is reported dead for about the one hundredth time. It is known that he was certainly near his end.

Freak Weather In England

About the time that Ontario was being torn up by a hurricane, England experienced one of the most remarkable snow storms in her history. The principal development of the storm was in the Medway Valley between Maidstone and Tombridge. None of the flakes measured less than an inch across and most of them were two inches in diameter. The storm commenced about midday and lasted nearly an hour, and the fall was of such density that motorists found it impossible to proceed, being unable to see more than a short distance ahead. The storm followed almost the same track as the great hail storm which visited the Medway Valley in August, 1902, when stones as big as walnuts stripped orchards of both foliage and fruit and ruined large numbers of hop gardens, causing many thousands of pounds worth of damage.

A New Potato

(Spokane, Wash., Review.)

The busy little bee is responsible for a new variety of Inland Empire potato, according to Harvey K. Bradlee, a rancher, in the Kiesel District. The new tuber has been dubbed the "Bradlee" potato, in view of the fact that it was developed on his farm. Mr. Bradlee has been coaching this newest spud along for four years and believes that he has the distinct variety perfected.

"The potato is really a cross between the 'Burbank' and 'Million Dollar' varieties," said Mr. Bradlee recently. "Its origin was accidental. The credit must go to the bees which carried the pollen from the blossom of one and deposited it in the blossom of the other."

"The new potato is a good yielder, especially in heavy soil, and each one weighs from eight to twelve ounces. They are great keepers and will last until June of the next year, I dug last year from ten to sixteen in a hill and they make a mealy baked potato and boil well. I can plant them in May and dig them before the ground freezes."

Does Your Stomach Work Properly

There is no complaint so humiliating and tiresome as stomach complaint. The reason so many people suffer with their stomach is because they overwork it and do not give it a tonic.

Mi-o-na Tablets will tone the stomach and speedily remove the disagreeable belching (gas on the stomach) sour taste and foul breath. Dizziness, biliousness and headache all disappear when you begin to take Mi-o-na.

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