

TIMBER ROYALTIES

Profit Sharing Between the Government and the Licensee

The Timber Royalty Act of British Columbia is chiefly significant in that it makes provision for the basing of all timber royalties, subsequent to January 1, 1920, on the sale value of the timber cut, over and above an arbitrarily fixed price of \$18 per thousand feet board measure. The percentage taken by the Government of this value-increase will be at first 25 per cent., gradually rising to 40 per cent. in the succeeding 25 years.

This is no new principle, for as early as 1889 the Dominion Government required from holders of timber limits in western Canada a royalty of 5 per cent. of the total sale value of the lumber cut, which value was to be based on the average price obtaining during the three months preceding the sale. But at that time the price of lumber was not sufficiently high to bring in any very large revenue on this percentage basis, so in 1898 the stumpage dues were changed to the fixed rate of 50 cents per thousand feet, board measure, which is the rate at present. Although the retention of the percentage royalty would have secured larger returns from this source with the steadily rising lumber prices, yet the principle of selling the timber at a widely advertised public auction ensures the obtaining, through the additional bonus offered, practically the same price for the timber without the former inconvenience of constantly adjusting the stumpage dues.

As the competitive sale of timber by means of the bonus system is common throughout Canada, there is little likelihood that the Government does not secure a fair share of the present value of the timber sold, and by reserving the right to alter the stumpage dues as the price of lumber increases, a share in its future value is also ensured.

Hides Broken Life



J. BRUCE ISMAY

Ashamed to face the world after the criticism levelled at him for his escape from the Titanic when that great vessel sank with her load of humanity, J. Bruce Ismay, part owner of the vessel is now said to live in a secluded house near Galway Bay, Ireland, receiving no one and refusing to mingle with his fellow creatures.

Slot Machine Provides Chair

An inventor in San Diego has developed a novel seat for use in parks and pleasure resorts. Normally it is so tipped that it cannot be used, but upon placing a coin in the slot the seat may be tipped back into the usual position, making a comfortable and restful bench. When the occupant rises from the seat it automatically swings forward and locks in a non-usable position, from which it can only be moved by the insertion of another coin.

Italians Like Garters

The wearing of garters by men in Italy is becoming general. Dealers estimate that 60 per cent. of the male population wear them. The colors most in demand are a uniform soft grey; next, soft grey-blues, soft pale greens, brown or mauve, of the lighter shades. Bright or fancy colors do not sell as readily as undefined colors. Garters are sometimes offered with suspenders, neckties, and handkerchiefs, all matched in colors, packed in one box for purchase for presents.

Hot water when applied to the skin opens the pores. Cold water closes them. Hot water should not be used more than once a day to cleanse the skin of the face, as it robs the skin of too much of its natural oil.

Bicarbonate of soda dissolved in cold water is excellent for bites or eruptions on the skin due to heat. It is both cooling and healing in its effect.

SILK FROM SPRUCEWOOD

Beautiful Cloth Spun From Filaments of Great Logs

Silk dresses are now made from wood. There is the cleverly "mercerized" cotton, but machinery and chemicals have gone a step even beyond that in rivaling the art of the silk-spinning worm. The process of making silk yarn from a spruce log is a remarkably speedy one, and the results astonish you when you see the wood thrown carelessly into a great vat to appear a few hours later in shining thread. The wood is first cut into thin sheets, after which it is put into a tank for chemical treatment. It is chewed and mashed by the machinery and "digested" by the strong chemicals until it closely resembles molasses in color and consistency. The solution is then forced through well-heated tubes, each with an outlet containing just as many perforations as there are to be filaments in the thread. Simultaneously it is sprayed with a chemical which "fixes" the thread, shrinking and hardening it. But to the wearer of silk, a garment made from wood pulp looks every bit as good as the product of the silkworm.

Cloth of this kind wears like leather, and is cheaper than the cheapest cloth. The value of the material thus spun is that it dyes extremely well, the colors coming up admirably, and it is, as a matter of fact, a good imitation of silk.

The people of Tibet have for a long time now worn clothes constructed of wood. In Ecuador the bark of a tree which grows on the slopes of the Andes is utilized for making blankets. Usually the blanket is six feet long and five feet wide, and is as soft and pliable as though it were made from flannel. It is about the thickness of a good flannel blanket, and can be rolled up and put in a strap without hurting or injuring it. This tree or bark blanket is merely a strip of bark cut from a section of the trunk of the demajagua tree. The Indians make a cutting around the trunk to get it, and they prepare it by soaking it in water until it is soft. It is then pounded so that the rough outside can be stripped off and the inside alone left. The inside is of fine fibres so joined together by Nature that it makes a beautiful blanket, warm enough to be used as a cover, and soft enough for a mattress.

Sheep Thrive on Electricity

A California scientist claims to have greatly increased the breeding capacity of sheep as well as the yield of wool by pasturing them under high voltage electric wires.

One Pound, One Horsepower

That he can produce one horsepower for each pound his engine weighs is the claim of the French inventor of a motor depending upon the explosive force of gunpowder for power.

Western championship tennis tournament opens at Chicago.

Western Golf Association competitions for the Olympic trophy at Grand Rapids, Mich.

MEXICO'S FAMOUS ROMANTIC SEAPORT

Tampico the Noted Harbor Has Many Prosperous Industries

Until the trouble arose between the United States and Mexico, the average person probably knew little about Tampico. Nevertheless, it is a town which provides one of the most remarkable of modern romances of industrial investment.

Tampico became famous in the money market at the beginning of the great oil boom, and the idea of its importance in connection with that industry may be gathered from the fact that in about ten years nearly two hundred and fifty million dollars have been invested in the oilfields in the State of Tamaulipas to which Tampico belongs.

Of this total over \$75,000,000 represents British interests, and the amazing growth of oil properties in the corner of the world is illustrated by the fact that from the 1,000,000 barrels of oil secured in 1907, the figure has grown to 16,000,000, which was last year's total.

Apart from oil, however, Tampico which shares with Vera Cruz the greater portion of the foreign trade of Mexico, has quite a number of other prosperous industries, which have been greatly developed of late years by British and American residents, who are more numerous in Tampico than in any other part of Mexico. The excellent harbor and commodation of the town makes it the chief port for the exportation of coffee, sugar, rubber, copper ores and asphalt, the most important products of the neighboring territory.

The soil is very rich, and it is expected that within a few years there will be an enormous increase in the flourishing trade in fruit and vegetables. Furthermore, it is a fine centre for sea fishing. Indeed, it is the happy hunting-ground of the enthusiasts who delight to catch the big game of the sea, for in no other waters can that giant fish, the tarpon, which attains a length of 6 feet or 7 feet, be found in such large numbers.

Most of the commerce of Vera Cruz is also in the hands of foreigners, although it is a place to be avoided by those who have a regard for their health. Its moist, hot climate is notoriously unhealthy, and the annual death-rate ranges from one in eleven to one in twenty of the population, mostly from lung diseases and from yellow and other fevers. The full title of the city is Villa Nueva de la Vera Cruz, or "New City of the True Cross."

Fan Attached to Hat

A fan has been patented which can be fastened by clips to the brim of a stiff hat to give additional shade to the face of a wearer.

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A safe, reliable regulating medicine. Sold in three degrees of strength—No. 1, \$1; No. 2, 50c; No. 3, 25c per box. Sold by all druggists, or sent prepaid on receipt of price. Free pamphlet. Address: THE COOK MEDICINE CO., TORONTO, ONT. (Formerly Windsor)



CALENDAR OF SPORTS

Opening of Lake Erie Trotting Circuit meeting at Titusville, Pa. meeting at Cleveland, O.

Opening of national polo championships at Narragansett Pier, R.I.

Opening of biennial tournament of German Chess Association, at Mannheim.

Tennis tournament for Eastern doubles championships opens at Boston.

Tennis tournament for Missouri Valley championship opens at Kansas City, Mo.

TUESDAY

Junior championship of Western Golf Association opens at Wheaton, Ill.

Jack Dillon, ne. George Brown, 10 rounds, at Terre Haute, Ind.

WEDNESDAY

Leo Kelly vs. "Kid" Labry 10 rounds, at Evansville, Ind.

THURSDAY

Preliminary matches in the International Davis Cup lawn tennis championship between Australia and Canada begin at Lake Forest, Ill.

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2-PERFORMANCES-2

AFTERNOON AT 2.

NIGHT AT 8.