

icates an upward tendency. Plain red oak is held at \$30 at the mill for log run, dead culls out.

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

In spruce lumber the market is largely in the hands of the seller. The supply of dry stock is below the average of recent years, and the steady demand from New York has induced some manufacturers to advance their prices. For extra quality of spruce clapboards there is a steady and urgent inquiry, the average selling price being \$45 for 4-foot boards on Boston rate of freight. Clears are quoted at \$43 and second clears at \$40. Narrow boards do not find a market so readily.

The cedar shingle market is still uncertain. Extras are freely offered by practically all the small dealers at \$3.40 for Boston delivery, while some of the more important manufacturers are still holding their stocks for \$3.50. It is believed that the market will work back to a \$3.50 basis within a few weeks. Strength is shown by spruce lath, which brings about \$3.20 for 1 1/2-inch and \$3.40 for 1 3/8-inch.

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The lumber market of the North-West is seasonably active. Dealers are increasing their stocks in anticipation of a steady demand during the fall and winter months, the abundant crop yield having inspired confidence in business generally. It is now reasonably certain that the wheat production of Manitoba and the Territories will exceed sixty million bushels, against sixty-five million bushels last year. This yield will net the producer more than last year on account of increased prices. The lumber market generally is firm, although some United States manufacturers are said to be taking orders for pine for delivery at Manitoba points at about \$1 less than the prices which have been prevailing. Local manufacturers have not as yet met this competition. There is no change in British Columbia shingles. The manufacturers notified shingle sawyers that a cut of 1 1/2 cents a thousand would be made in wages, and trouble has arisen at some of the mills. Should a general strike be inaugurated it would enable the market to right itself from a serious overproduction.

UNITED STATES.

Based on reports of serious damage by frost to the corn crop, the news was last week spread abroad that lower prices for lumber had been decided upon by the pine manufacturers of the Mississippi valley. This proved to be premature, for the result of a meeting of such manufacturers was an agreement to hold prices at the basis which has ruled for some time past. In view of the reduced cut it was felt that there would be no large surplus of stock. At the same time, it was admitted that the

demand was not all that could be desired, and that there had been a curtailment in the buying of lumber for building purposes. Some slight concessions have been made on northern pine and on shingles and lath. The box business, on the other hand, is in a flourishing condition, the buying of box lumber continuing to be a feature; in fact, all low grade white pine and Norway are strong, while the better grades are exhibiting signs of weakness. It is said that inch No. 1 cuts which a short time ago were held in the eastern markets at \$42 can now be obtained for \$39. Heavy rains in Michigan brought business almost to a stand till last week, but the recent favorable turn has caused an improvement. Chicago dealers report a better inquiry for lumber in cargo lots. Norway piece stuff is held at \$16 to \$16.50, and Norway inch, common, at \$14.

The hardwood market exhibits more activity than any other branch of the lumber industry. It is almost needless to specialize, as all kinds and grades are in demand. The Wisconsin Hardwood Lumbermen's Association, at a meeting held on September 15th, after mature consideration, reaffirmed the March list, although many of the members were in favor of an increase in the price in the case of a majority of the items on the list.

Prices of shingles and laths do not improve, notwithstanding that the demand is considerable. The Wisconsin Valley Lumbermen's Association have reduced the price of No. 1 pine lath 25 cents, and that of No. 2 50 cents. In Chicago No. 1 pine lath is held at \$3.25 and No. 2 mixed at \$3.

GREAT BRITAIN.

We cannot report conditions in the British market to be materially different from those of a week ago. The effect of the extremely cautious buying by importers is becoming visible, there being a gradual improvement in the price of what is termed "spot goods," that is, lumber in stock. At the recent auction sales all first class lumber has been taken at firm prices, and if there should be no quantity of consignment goods sent forward there is not likely to be any difficulty in maintaining prices. Pine deals of first and second quality are now held at an exceptionally high figure, but there is no large accumulation and little prospect of any important addition to the stock this season, for the consumption is almost certain to keep pace with the import. Spruce deals are held at stiff prices. At the last London sale fourth quality 3 x 9, 12 feet in length, brought £9, and fifth quality £8, which figures cannot be regarded otherwise than satisfactory. The flooring market is exceptionally strong, prices having gradually advanced during the past two months. Narrow boards are also firmer, a run upon these sizes having been experienced.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The steamer Loughrigg Holme is loading a cargo of deals at Baie Verte, N. B., for Manchester.

The steamer Fashoda sailed from Montreal last week for Glasgow with deals, calling at Three Rivers to complete cargo.

W. & A. McArthur, of Little Current, Ont., are making preparations for work in the woods and expect to cut about 30,000,000 feet this season.

All manufacturers in the Georgian Bay district report a good demand for pine: all culls and box lumber, one or two large lots having recently changed hands at high prices.

Hemlock lumber is reported somewhat more plentiful than at any other time this season. Chicago dealers claim that they have received offers of concessions in price to the extent of \$1 a thousand.

Keenan Bros., of Owen Sound, Ont., are reported to have bought the saw and shingle mill of Hickling Bros., Artemesia township, with the timber on the property, amounting to about 1,750,000 feet.

The largest cargo of Canadian lumber ever received at Tonawanda, N. Y., arrived on September 15th. It consisted of 1,150,000 feet of white pine for Dodge & Bliss and Silverthorn & Company, and was carried by the schooner Burma from Parry Sound, Ont.

The logging camp recently operated by G. H. Finlay & Company, on the Squamish river in British Columbia, will be opened shortly and operated by the E. K. Wood Lumber Company. Improvements will be made to facilitate the booming of logs at the mouth of the river.

At the Crown Lands Office, Fredericton, N. B., on September 16th a timber berth of two square miles on the west side of the Magaguadavic river was sold to Robert Anderson at the upset price of \$8 per mile. Another berth of two and a half square miles at north branch Salmon Creek was sold to George S. Dykeman at \$8.50 per mile.

George McKean, of St. John, N. B., has this season loaded three steamers and one sailing vessel with deals at West Bay, N. S., and has yet a considerable quantity for export. W. M. Mackay has sent from that port five steamers, which carried 17,000,000 feet of deals, and three sailing vessels with a smaller quantity. There yet remain for removal two cargoes.

The price list of the Wisconsin Hardwood Lumbermen's Association fixes the following prices f.o.b. Wausau: Ash, 1 inch log run, No. 3 common out, \$20; birch, 1 inch log run, No. 3 common out, \$18; soft elm, 1 inch log run, No. 3 common out, \$16; rock elm, 1 to 2 inch log run, No. 3 common out, \$18;

hard maple, 1 to 2 inch log run, No. 3 common out, \$13; soft maple, 1 to 2 inch log run, \$14.

Arthur Hill, who is largely interested in the St. Anthony Lumber Company at Whitney, Ont., states that much difficulty has been found in securing the necessary labor. It has been necessary to shut down a portion of the mill in consequence of the scarcity of help. He expresses the opinion that this scarcity will shorten the output of the mills fully one-third and will equally affect the operations in the woods the coming winter. He believes that this will prove beneficial to the market, indicating no glut, and consequently all the lumber manufactured will be wanted.

A new list has been issued by the Wisconsin Valley Lumbermen's Association making the following price changes, f.o.b. Wausau: D selects, all lengths and widths, reduced \$2 a thousand; D flooring, all lengths, reduced \$2; No. 1, 8 and 10 inch boards, rough, increased 50 cents; Drop siding, No. 1, 8 and 10 inch, and plain shiplap D and M, No. 1, 8 and 10 inch, increased 50 cents; D siding, tied, reduced 50 cents; piece stuff, 2 x 4, 10 foot, reduced \$1; No. 1 white pine lath and No. 1 mixed, reduced 25 cents; and No. 2 lath, reduced 50 cents.

There has been a considerable slump, says the British Timber Trades Journal, in the price of American white oak planks, partly due to the slack condition of the wagon-building industry and partly to the large quantities sent forward on consignment to Liverpool and elsewhere. The fall in price affords shippers a temptation to somewhat exceed their contracts, the result being, in one instance at least that has come to our knowledge, that a parcel cut to the particular lengths and dimensions suitable for the construction of a certain type of wagon, and useless, except

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