

CONVENTION OF BOX-MAKERS.

The fourth semi-annual meeting of the National Association of Box and Box Shook Manufacturers of the United States opened in Rochester on August 21st. The attendance was large and the proceedings interesting. The report of the committee on Shooks for Import created a lively discussion. It stated that some progress had been made, and the basis of paying duty increased from \$7 to \$11 per thousand. The appraisers met with some difficulty in securing a basis, owing to the fact that some Canadian manufacturers were manufacturing stock very cheap and making a basis from a waste standpoint as to lumber manufactured, rather than box material at the basis at which stocks should be sold. Mr. James Innes said that no doubt the party in question was working deals, and had more or less waste in cutting them off, which made their material for manufacturing shoos on a cheaper basis than some other parts of Canada or the United States. Mr. Miller said that although labor was cheaper in Canada, 90 per cent. of the manufacturers in that country were in sympathy with the box-makers of the United States. It was decided that the Export and Import Committees should be continued for another six months and a report presented at next meeting. To the question, "Are you in favor of the \$2 tariff?" a member replied in the affirmative, adding: "Only one-eighth of the lumber has been coming in since this tariff was placed on it. The prices since have been going down in Canada, while the eastern lumber has been going up."

Discussing the subject of "Reciprocity," Mr. Chaffee, of New England, said he would like to know how Canadians who make prices at much less than \$17 could do it; provided their lumber cost \$11, waste and work bill \$6.40, how could they sell stuff for \$14?

Mr. W. D. Sturm read a brief paper on "Piling Lumber for the Box Trade," and was followed by Mr. B. S. Atwood with a paper on "What has the Association done for the Box Trade." Mr. Cristadore introduced the subject of "Low Prices of the Past Six Months." Some of the reasons for the low prices, he said, were that No. 3 pine boards at \$15 and \$16 had been substituted by hemlock, and slabs, too, have had their sway in substituting for a better grade of stock. To-day we have a No. 5 board, which was substituted for No. 4 and No. 3 stock. Of course, the rapid advance for two or three years made the box user think a little, and he was not so particular about the one piece ends and whole sides as in days when he could buy almost a clear box for the same price he would pay for a poor one. Then, we find that cotton-wood has taken considerable of the white and yellow pine trade. One of the greatest barriers to reasonable prices, he thought, was the scalper.

The subject of "Waste in the Box Trade" was brought up by Mr. R. L. Jones, of Saginaw. Mr. Jones urged that more attention be given to the question of waste. "How," he asked, "shall we figure waste? One man says ten, another fifteen, another twenty per cent. One man is using scoots, another culls, another sound lumber, and the percentage of

one will not apply to another. Take 1,000 feet of lumber, cut it up into boxes; if you get 800 feet of boxes your waste is 200 feet. Now, make the purchaser of the 800 feet of boxes pay for 1,000 feet of lumber and you are safe. Then if you happen to get a few feet of boxes out of the 200 feet of waste, don't sell it to the next man below the market value, because there is no reason why he should buy boxes any cheaper than the first man, and the chances are that the extra cost of manufacture will make it an unprofitable sale to you.

On the same subject Mr. Cristadore said: "A few years ago when lumber was fairly good, about 15 per cent. was considered a fair per cent. of waste for pine lumber. In the old days, wormy, shakey lumber went into the refuse burner, and now it goes into boxes or anything it can be sold for. In the old days the boxmaker used to use some No. 1 boards and some No. 2 boards, but now they are not considered. Occasionally No. 3 is used, but this is too expensive. When you get to making boxes of No. 4 there is an increase or decrease in waste according to quality of boxes made. I have known boxes made of No. 4 boards where the waste was as high as 30 per cent. Of course different mills make different grades, but the waste problem of No. 4 will come out from the surfacer to the printing machine. You have 20,000, say, in a car, you find the amount of waste 5,000 feet to the car, and you should figure the cost of manufacture as well as of labor on the same. Except on printing you should extend the cost of manufacture the same as on the lumber. You can not dispose of the cost in handling waste. If the cost is much less on lath yarn and printing why should you give the customer the benefit of this cost of labor? It is a legitimate part of your cost in figuring shoos, and the proper way to divide the matter is to divide 800 into 20,000, and you have the cost. If you have been in the wrong in the past, why not add this item of cost on your labor? You can start anew and you will fill the leak, and it is the leaks that do away with the profits of manufacturing."

SIZE OF BARRELS.

It appears that there is a lack of uniformity in the sizes of apple barrels in the States and those of Canada. An exchange says: The Canadian Parliament lately passed a law for the regulation of the size of barrels for packing apples, pears or quinces, which requires that these packages shall be made good and strong, of seasoned wood, having dimensions not less than 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches between the heads, inside measure, a head diameter of 17 inches, and a middle diameter of 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, representing, as nearly as possible, 96 quarts.

The apple barrel adopted by the United States Apple Shippers' Association is required to have a head diameter of 17 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches, staves 28 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches long, and a bilge of not less than 64 inches, outside measurement.

The capacity of the Canadian barrel is calculated exactly at 96.51 imperial quarts, or about 100 quarts, dry measure, or equal, approximately, to our standard barrel for pears, quinces or potatoes, which is required to "represent a

quantity equal to 100 quarts of grain measure."

The new Canadian standard barrel, incidentally, is about six quarts in capacity less than the New York standard barrel for which was adopted by the Apple Shippers' Association.

There is a penalty of 25 cents per barrel for apples, pears or quinces exposed for sale in Canada in a barrel smaller than that specified by the new law.

EXPORTS OF FOREST PRODUCTS.

The following figures showing the exports of forest products are taken from the unrevised monthly statement of the imports and exports of Canada compiled by the Department of Customs at Ottawa:

Article.	Month of June	Value.
Elm logs.....	\$ 27,947	\$
Hemlock logs.....	60,217	
Oak logs.....	2,146	
Pine logs.....	97,487	
Spruce logs.....	6,391	
Tamarac logs.....	240	
All other logs.....	23,079	
Battens.....	12,841	
Basswood lumber.....	6,813	
Pine deals.....	317,402	
Spruce deals.....	1,610,914	
Deal ends.....	75,916	
Laths.....	95,049	
Palings.....	585	
Pickets.....	11,206	
Planks and boards.....	1,471,614	
Joists.....	115	
Scantling.....	59,699	
Shingles.....	183,990	
Box shoos.....	47,084	
Other shoos.....	28,748	
Standard staves.....	
Staves and heading.....	27,494	
Lumber not elsewhere specified.....	24,240	
Match blocks.....	110	
Masts and spars.....	160	
Piling.....	27,594	
Hoop poles.....	185	
Telegraph poles.....	7,146	
Other poles.....	675	
Cedar and tamarac posts.....	3,173	
Shingle bolts.....	90	
Sleepers and railroad ties.....	29,674	
Stave bolts.....	1,453	
Ash timber, square.....	1,603	
Birch timber.....	44,053	
Elm timber.....	52,674	
Maple timber.....	525	
Oak timber.....	60,242	
Red pine timber.....	9,501	
White pine timber.....	395,430	
Other timber.....	15,816	
Pulp wood blocks.....	17,668	
Other articles of the forest.....	1,148	

LAST CANADIAN LOG.

The last pine log to go from Canada to the United States reached the Saginaw River on August 29th, on a raft containing three and a half million feet and from Little Current, Ontario, consigned to the Saginaw Lumber and Salt Company. This company took this season between twenty-two and twenty-five million feet, and a raft of three million feet went to Detroit. This finishes the rafting of logs from Canada to the Saginaw mills. The logs brought over this season were cut from the Indian Reserve lands, with the exception of the Detroit raft, which was cut from dead timber. The Ontario authorities have shut off taking over more Indian reserve logs. Since the rafting of logs from Michigan mills was inaugurated one billion six hundred and forty-one million feet have been taken over.

It is said that a planing mill and shingle mill will be erected at Blind River, Ont., this fall.