

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN.

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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interest of the lumber trade and of allied industries throughout the Dominion being the only representative in Canada of this foremost branch of the commerce of this country. It aims at giving full and timely information on all subjects touching these interests, discussing these topics editorially and inviting free discussion of them by others.

Special pains are taken to secure the latest and most trustworthy market quotations from various points throughout the world so as to afford to the trade in Canada information upon which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present accurate report not only of prices and the condition of the market but, also of other matters specially interesting to our readers. But correspondence is not only welcome but is invited from all who have any information to communicate or subjects to discuss relating to the trade or in any way effecting it. Even when we may not be able to agree with the writers we will give them a fair opportunity for free discussion as the best means of eliciting the truth. Any items of interest are particularly requested for even if not of great importance individually they contribute to a fund of information from which general results are obtained.

Advertisers will receive careful attention and liberal treatment. We need not point out that for many the CANADA LUMBERMAN with its special class of readers is not only an exceptionally good medium for securing publicity but is indispensable for those who would bring themselves before the notice of that class. Special attention is directed to "WANTED" and "FOR SALE" advertisements which will be inserted in a conspicuous position at the uniform price of 15 cents per line for each insertion. Announcements of this character will be subject to a discount of 25 per cent. if ordered for three successive issues or longer.

Subscribers will find the small amount they pay for the CANADA LUMBERMAN quite insignificant as compared with its value to them. There is not an individual in the trade or specially interested in it, who should not be on our list thus obtaining the present benefit and aiding and encouraging us to render it even more complete.

IN view of the high prices for square timber at Quebec last summer there will probably be a large increase in the quantity made the coming winter as compared with last year. It does not follow, however, that the high prices obtained this summer will be maintained next year. An increase of 50 per cent. in the output would necessarily have a great tendency to weaken prices unless there should be an unusually large demand, and those who base their calculations for next season upon the high figures obtained this year are likely to find out that they have committed a grave mistake. That a large amount of money will be made out of the winter's cut when disposed of next year there is no doubt, providing the market is not glutted. The indications are, judging from the preparations being made, that the winter's cut will be a large one.

THE great congress of American nations, which has been under discussion for years, has at last assembled at Washington, with Canada counted out. This gathering of American delegates is for the purpose of discussing trade matters principally, but the real purpose, no doubt, so far as the United States is concerned, is to gain a monopoly of the trade of Mexico, Central and South America, by the establishing of a customs union. The trade of these countries is now largely handled by Great Britain, France and Germany, and if the Americans can induce the southern nations to adopt a high protective tariff against the world, while admitting United States manufacturers free, their point will be gained. The interests of the different nations are so diversified that it is not likely that the scheme will succeed, and if an agreement in regard to customs should be made its tenure will be of short duration.

THE Forth Bridge, now nearing completion, will afford conclusive evidence of the perfection to which engineering skill has been brought. This structure has been so built that the hottest sun will not unduly strain the steel, while the strongest hurricane that blows will leave the bridge intact. An idea of the magnitude of the structure may be gathered from the fact that the three cantilevers of which the bridge proper consists spring from three sets of four huge towers of tubular steel, reaching a height of 360 feet above high water mark and branching out on either side for a distance of 680 feet. To form a conception of its size it may be stated that two Eiffel towers laid horizontally and joined in the centre, would just span one of the openings of the Forth Bridge. The opening of this stupendous structure will be an event of world-wide interest, and the work will be a standing monument to the genius and skill which planned and finally carried it on to a successful completion.

THE extension of the Northern Pacific railway into Manitoba is a matter of great interest to the local lumbermen of that province, as the imports of lumber from Minnesota have recently been on the increase. A large portion of the lumber brought in has been used in connection with the work on the new extension, and the 275 miles of railway now owned in Manitoba by the Northern Pacific company, has been supplied with timber from Minnesota. All the buildings of the company, though built by private contract, have been constructed from Minnesota lumber, and the quantity of lumber necessary for the new road mentioned, together with the buildings under contract in Winnipeg by the railway company, will use up many million feet. The new railway construction in Manitoba this season has not benefited the local manufacturers to any great extent, so far at least as the Northern Pacific and Manitoba road is concerned. As dealers at points reached by the new road are already bringing in lumber from Minnesota, it is plain to be seen that while the road may be of great benefit to the country, the competition will ultimately effect prices.

THE exports of Canada for July and August of this year, according to the returns just issued, show a gratifying increase, as compared with the corresponding period of last year; and by those well qualified to judge the returns will be taken as showing a healthy condition of trade, and a significant sign of the progress being made by the Dominion. The total increase of exports of Canadian produce alone is \$4,022,299. The total exports for July and August, 1889, were \$20,100,029, against \$16,077,730 for the same months in 1888, whilst there is an increase in the export of other countries of \$980,214, making a total export increase in the two months of \$5,002,513. In the item of forest produce, which consists of lumber and timber, there is in the two months of this fiscal year an increase of \$2,866,370, the totals this year being \$9,484,667, as against \$6,618,297 in 1888, and \$5,827,279, in 1887. These figures show a large increase of this season over previous years and are variously accounted for. Rates of ocean freights are as high as they were this time last year so there is no increase of shipments and accompanying temporary and illusive flush of prosperity from this cause. Heavy sales were made in the spring and owing to the tardy arrival of vessels the heavy shipments were made later on. The sales to the South American market have been heavy and large shipments have been made to England, but the English market is now glutted. Of the total increase of \$4,181,281 of Canadian produce exported it

will be seen that \$2,800,770 is for lumber alone. The shipments have been larger because the demand has been larger, and to that extent shows a satisfactory and legitimate growth.

THE necessity of devising some means to prevent the accumulation of sawdust and mill refuse in the navigable streams is apparent, as is evidenced by the enormous banks of sawdust which are now obstructing the navigation of the Ottawa river, between Ottawa and Hull. With reference to Mr. Sandford Fleming's report on sawdust in the Ottawa river, an Ottawa despatch says, "It is understood that the statement published as to the river channel being clear does not refer to the soundings from the Chaudiere down to the Rideau locks. With regard to this part of the river, it is learned that by a recent survey and soundings made by order of the Department of Railways and Canals at the foot of the locks of Rideau canal that the accumulation of sawdust and slabs is very large and increasing daily. There are now only between one and two feet of water in the mid-channel over the surface of the sawdust, where there formerly was from eight feet at the sill to thirty feet in the river channel. Had the river been usually low this fall it would have been impossible for the boats to enter the locks, and consequently navigation would have been closed. There is a probability of the channel being dredged this fall. A report on the subject has been prepared, and will be submitted to the Government, when it is expected the necessary orders to set about the work forthwith will be given."

THE lumber export trade during the past season has been very good, especially during the mid-summer months. One of the causes of the heavy shipments during these months was the unusually large demand for square timber, of which a great deal was shipped. The export trade to South America is not a steady business as it varies according to tonnage. When freights are plentiful and prices are high the shipping is largely done in winter, and when they are not favorable shippers wait until the season is more advanced. Shipping being high last winter it was postponed as long as possible, and although not much cheaper in cost they were obliged to ship heavily. At present the export trade to South America is very quiet, and this is likely to continue for several months, and nothing is shipped that can possibly be helped owing to the high price of gold, it being over 200. Mill men received very good prices this year, but everything indicates, both in the English and American markets, that prices will be much lower during the coming season. Some shipments from the Ottawa district have been made to Africa. The lumber export trade to the United States during the past season was on the whole about the same as last year. Ten-inch stock is about the only kind of lumber that has been any way slow. The prices at present for deals and twelve inch stock are abnormally high. The buyers of deals and twelve-inch stock who engage the cut of the mills are anxious that the cuts shall be as small as possible. The deal men would like the mills to cut all twelve-inch stock, and the twelve-inch stock buyers are desirous that they should cut deals. There has been no noticeable change in prices excepting in the ten-inch in which a few concessions have been made. It is given as a reason by some that prices will probably be lower the coming season on account of the large competition of cheap lumber from the Southern States, such as yellow pine and white wood. These woods are bearing white pine in its