

CANADA LUMBERMAN

WEEKLY EDITION

The Lumberman Monthly Edition, 20 pages } \$1.00 PER YEAR { The Lumberman Weekly Edition, every Wednesday

THIS PAPER REACHES REGULARLY THE PRINCIPAL LUMBER MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS THROUGHOUT CANADA, AND WHOLESALE BUYERS IN THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN MARKETS.

TORONTO, ONT., MARCH 30, 1898

No. 11.

Vol. IV.

CANADA LUMBERMAN

PUBLISHED BY

C. H. MORTIMER

Federation Life Building - TORONTO.

Branch Office:

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE BUILDING,
MONTREAL.

Weekly Lumberman, published every Wednesday. Contains reliable and up-to-date market conditions and prices in the principal manufacturing districts and in the principal domestic and foreign wholesale markets. A weekly medium of information and communication between Canadian timber and lumber manufacturers and exporters and the purchasers of timber products at home and abroad.

Lumberman, Monthly. A 30-page journal, discussing fully and impartially subjects pertinent to the timber and wood-working industries. Contains interviews with prominent members of the trade, and sketches and portraits of leading lumbermen. Especially valuable to saw mill and planing mill men and manufacturers of lumber products.

Subscription price for the two editions for one year, \$1.00.

WANTED AND FOR SALE

Advertiser's will be inserted in this department at the rate of 15 cents per line each insertion. When four or more consecutive insertions are ordered a discount of 25 per cent. will be allowed. This notice shows the width of the line and is set in Nonpareil type; 12 lines make one inch. Advertisements must be received not later than 4 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday to insure insertion in the current week's issue.

WE HAVE FOR SALE.—A few cars 1 1/2" Key Pine, 1 1/2 inch Ash, 1 inch Basswood, 3/4", 1" and 1 1/2" Maple. Box 10, BROWN'S CORNERS, ONT.

WANTED.

A CAR LOAD OF 2, 3 AND 4 INCH DRY OAK. Send price to THE RAT PORTAGE LUMBER CO., Limited, Rat Portage, Ont.

WANTED FOR CASH.

DRY SOFT ELM, BLACK ASH, RED OAK, Birch, Basswood and Hard Maple. Will inspect at shipping point. K. C. BRADFORD, 71 Buhl Block, Detroit, Mich.

WANTED.

TO CONTRACT FOR LARGE MILL CUT OF Soft elm, all grades. Address C. P. VOSBURGH, 257 Broadway, New York.

TO MILL MEN.

HAVE YOU ANY STOCK WHICH YOU WISH to sell? If so, make the fact known to probable buyers by placing an advertisement in this department. Address, CANADA LUMBERMAN, Toronto.

FOR SALE.

ABOUT 35,000 FEET FIRST-CLASS WHITE oak, 1 inch to 12 in.; 50,000 ft. 1 inch basswood, mill run (lead culls out); and 10,000 ft. 1 to 2 in. ash, via C. P. R. or boat. RIGAUD MILLING CO., Rigaud, Que.

CURRENT TRADE CONDITIONS.

ONTARIO.

The local trade of the month of March has shown an improvement over the corresponding month last year which should be gratifying to the trade. The fine weather has no doubt caused an earlier demand for lumber than usual, but apart from this there are some favorable conditions. Not for many years has the outlook for building operations been so good, the commercial improvement having apparently induced capitalists to venture upon new undertakings. The lumbermen of the province are now directing their efforts to securing the imposition of an import duty on lumber, which, if successful, will relieve the trade of western Ontario from much unfair and ruinous competition. Recent sales of pine to Eastern States points have been of little account. Several of the Ottawa valley manufacturers have sold their usual quantity of deals to Quebec houses. Hardwoods have not changed, and dry stocks of black ash and elm command good figures.

Reports from the woods state that the snow is fast disappearing, and some of the logs may be left in the woods. The cut by Canadian firms for manufacture at home has not been large.

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

In the shipping of Ottawa pine from Montreal there is likely to be the usual spring activity, as we learn of a number of charters that have been made for May and June loading. Shipments of spruce will be light, as the British market is still suffering from last season's overstock. The local demand for lumber promises to be of average volume. Outside of Montreal building is fairly active, but in that city there is little doing. Quotations for Maritime province spruce cannot be given, as no sales have been made. The United States trade exhibits more life, over 2,000,000 laths being shipped to New York and Boston last week. Cedar shingles are weak. The lumbermen have had a successful logging season, but the cut on the St. John and other waters has been smaller than for many years. There are good prospects of all the logs reaching the mills.

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The expansion of trade in Manitoba was temporarily checked last week by a huge snow storm, which blocked the railways and caused a cessation of outside work. The demand for lumber is likely to be quiet until the weather becomes more spring-like. In British Columbia manufacturers are shipping lumber to the northern gold fields, several million feet having been sent to Dyea, Skagway, etc. The construction of the Stikkeen-Teslin Lake Railway, shortly to be commenced, will provide an outlet for a considerable quantity. Local trade is also good. There have been numerous inquiries from foreign countries, but the position of freight rates is so unfavorable that shippers can see no prospect of making a reasonable profit. The Australian market seems to be improving.

UNITED STATES.

Reports from the white pine districts of the Northern States contain the information that the open winter has resulted in curtailing the log input. A conservative estimate places the quantity of logs likely to reach the mills at twenty-five per cent. less than was reckoned on in the early winter. This condition has caused manufacturers to be even firmer in their demands, and consequently wholesale dealers are not buying to any extent. Added to the high prices asked at lake points is the probability of freight rates being less favorable than last season. Indications point to an opening vessel rate from Duluth to Buffalo and Tonawanda of \$1.75 a thousand, against \$1.62

last season. It can readily be seen that buyers in the east are in a somewhat unenviable position, and until wholesale prices advance business will be limited. It is probable that the circumstances above referred to will be the means of turning the attention of buyers to Ontario as a source of supply, notwithstanding that a two dollar duty must be paid. The eastern markets are exhibiting the usual spring activity. In the New York district there is a good movement of lumber, and building operations are opening up well. Boston trade is a little backward, particularly in spruce, but as the season's supply will not be heavy, a firmer market is anticipated.

Hardwood dealers report a great scarcity of white oak. Elm and black ash are also in high supply and good demand, and basswood has taken on new life within the past couple of weeks. Birch has been more asked for, but as there is an ample stock, the mills have not been called upon. The general improvement in business is likely to result in the greater use of finer hardwoods for interior finish.

FOREIGN.

Buying by British merchants is proceeding very slowly. Shippers do not feel disposed to offer concessions, and merchants who hold ample stocks are not anxious to purchase at present quotations. Concerning Canadian business the Timber Trades Journal says: "There have been large sales made to London of first, second and third wintering pine, of all the leading stocks, quite as much as usual, but fourth pine undoubtedly is under a cloud, the quantity in stock being far too large. Spruce is coming into better demand, and prices are decidedly firmer. There has not been the same freedom in buying, and the probability is that the spring shipments will be very light in consequence, as we understand not half the usual sales have been made to this country of Canadian white wood. On the spot here there is likely to be a rally, as the realizations in the public auctions are at an end, there being practically nothing now left in first hands. Red pine does not appear to be very well received in this market, judging by the prices realized under the hammer; the lengths are unsuitable, and if the stuff is to make any headway these should be changed to ordinary building dimensions, and shippers would do well to send more first quality and less of unsorted."

SHIPPING MATTERS.

Vessel charters from Montreal to Liverpool are being made at 40s to 42s 6d.

Owing to the demand for tonnage for grain, vessel owners are holding freights at 45s from St. John, N. B., to British ports. The market is practically at a standstill. Coastwise freights are firm, a vessel having been chartered for New York above \$2.50.

Mr. A. E. Harris, general traffic manager of the Intercolonial railway, at a conference with lumbermen at Truro, N. S., assured them that all grievances in connection with lumber freight rates would be remedied at once. A new tariff will be put into effect.

LUMBERMAN'S VEST-POCKET INSPECTION BOOK

Containing Rules for the Inspection and Measuring of Pine and Hardwood Lumber in the leading markets of Canada and the United States. Embracing also many useful tables and calculations of everyday service to lumbermen.

Prepared by the Editor of the
"Canada Lumberman."

Toronto, Canada
C. H. MORTIMER, Publisher
1895

The above is a fac simile of the title page of the latest and most complete Lumber and Inspection Book published.

We shall be pleased to send you a copy on receipt of four 3 cent Canadian postage stamps

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN,
Toronto, Canada