

for the North-West mills is obtained the conditions for logging have been unusually favorable and good progress has been made. In British Columbia, however, several camps have been closed down on account of rainy weather, and it is predicted that this will have the result of advancing the price of logs. Much interest is centred in the proposed Government legislation regulating the cutting of timber. The lumbermen have decided to protest against the proposal to raise the fee on special timber licenses from \$100 to \$160 per annum.

UNITED STATES.

The present is no doubt a very dull time in the white pine trade. What business there is from mill yards may be said to be confined to box material and the lower grades. There has been a considerable call for lumber suitable for making corn cribs. It is expected that this inactivity will continue at least until well into January, by which time it is believed that dealers will find their stocks so diminished as to necessitate replenishment to a limited degree. There is a better feeling regarding the business outlook than prevailed a few weeks ago, and one or two factors which are very favorable to the lumber business in particular. The wholesale dealers at Buffalo and Tonawanda have held conferences with a view to learning the real conditions, and it is believed that as a result there will be no difficulty in maintaining present prices for white pine. From Duluth comes the statement that practically all the No. 4 and 5 boards to be cut next year at the head of the lakes have been sold or are under option. Coupled with the fact that the unsold stocks at the head of the lakes are not more than 50,000,000 feet, it will be seen that the statement has an important bearing upon the market. The reduced logging operations must also be reckoned with. The hardwood demand is limited to the immediate needs of consumers, but is still of a fair volume. Dry basswood is especially scarce and is likely to be wiped out before the new cut is ready. Elm stocks are also very much reduced. A slightly better demand for lath and shingles is reported. At Buffalo No. 1 white pine lath is selling at \$4 and No. 2 at \$3.25.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The consumption of lumber in the British market continues small, but there is a firm undertone to prices, which induces the hope that the new year may bring an improvement. Some reports speak very hopefully of Canadian lumber. A West Hartlepool correspondent says: "During the past ten days a number of orders for white pine deals have come to hand, and we understand several large lines have been booked for delivery later on. Stocks of third quality are fairly large, but first and second qualities are not so

plentiful. Prices are very firm, and in all probability the present brisk buying can be accounted for by the news that next year's shipments will command higher values than at present prevail." Spruce deals also are in a strong position. It is reported that a cargo of spruce from Dalhousie, N.B., containing 50 per cent. of 7 and 8 inch, has just been sold to Liverpool at £8 2s 6d per standard. This price shows the strength of the market.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The barque Albertina is loading lumber at Bridgewater, N.S., for Rosaria.

It is estimated that 3,000,000 feet of lumber will be manufactured this winter in the vicinity of Coldstream, N.S.

The Canada Wood Specialty Company, of Orillia, Ont., are advertising for 1,000,000 feet of hardwood logs.

W. C. McKay, of Prince Albert, N.W.T., has been given a large contract to supply telephone poles for the Bell Telephone Company.

The steamer Thrift is loading deals at Pugwash, N.S., for the United Kingdom. The steamer Mantinea is loading a deal cargo at West Bay, N.S., for the same destination.

Graham, Horne & Company, of Fort William, Ont., have a logging camp at work at Barring, on the Canadian Northern Railway, getting out logs for the Rat Portage Lumber Company's mill at Winnipeg.

The receipts of lumber at the Tonawandas this season were 438,765,271 feet, as compared with 389,890,410 feet for the corresponding period of 1902, an increase of 48,874,861 feet in favor of the current year.

A two mile timber berth, situated on the east branch of the St. Nicholas river, Kent county, N.B., was sold at auction by the Government last week to T. C. Burns at \$30 per mile. The applicant was Adam Stothart.

The cooperage stock market is very strong and a further advance in the price of staves is predicted. Jobbers at Buffalo are now asking \$13.50 to \$14 for first-class elm staves, 10½ to 11 cents for heading, and \$10.50 to \$11 for 6-foot coiled hoops.

Peter Clair, who lumbered on the west branch of the Black river, in New Brunswick, has disposed of his season's cut of logs, amounting to about 3,000,000 feet, to the Scott Lumber Company, of Fredericton. He is to deliver the logs at the Fredericton booms in the spring.

BROOM HANDLES.

If an enterprising man with supplies of cheap Spruce, Basswood or Poplar care to put in several machines to work broom handles we can take his output. Write in first instance to Empire, care of CANADA LUMBERMAN.

ST. LAWRENCE RIVER LUMBER SHIPMENTS.

The trans-Atlantic shipments of lumber from Montreal, Quebec and other St. Lawrence ports for the current season represent an increase of 5,098,345 feet. The following summary shows the quantity shipped by the different exporters:

Shippers.	Feet.
Dobell, Beckett & Co	102,074,800
W. & J. Sharples	79,669,795
Price Bros. & Co.	56,658,178
Watson & Todd	51,801,668
McArthur Export Co.	28,365,923
J. Burstall & Co.	24,419,350
Robert Cox & Co.	24,162,470
H. R. Goodday & Co.	16,054,343
King Bros.	15,833,139
Charlemagne Lumber Co.	10,289,247
Cox, Long & Co.	8,941,100
McLaurin Bros.	7,478,000
Harold Kennedy	6,336,000
E. H. Lenay	1,815,000
Railway, small shippers, etc.	11,782,947
<b>Total</b>	<b>445,681,960</b>
Shipments season 1902	439,983,615
<b>Net increase, season 1903</b>	<b>5,098,345</b>

THE BARBADOS MARKET.

Under date of November 21st Messrs. S.P. Musson, Son & Company say of the Barbados market: "The arrivals have been the 'Jessie Lena' with 113,000 feet shippers and 34,000 feet second quality white pine; the 'James Daly' from Bear River, N.S., with 140,000 feet spruce, 20,000 feet white pine and 15,000 feet hemlock; and the 'H. B. Moman' with 46,000 feet shippers and 100,000 feet second quality spruce, 45,000 feet shippers and 58,000 feet second quality white pine, and 38,000 feet shippers and 9,000 feet second quality hemlock. Of the first two named the Daly's cargo was sold to some dealers who were entirely bare at \$24.27 for shippers, \$21.27 for second quality spruce; \$28.53 for shippers, and \$24.29 for second quality white pine; and \$21.17 and \$18.17 for second quality hemlock. The cargo, however, turned out very inferior and a large reduction was made on the inferior lumber. The same parties also bought the white pine brought by the 'Jessie Lena' at \$27.21 and \$22.59 respectively. These arrivals have given everyone some supplies, and the market has weakened somewhat, but we have since placed 100,000 feet shippers and 25,000 feet second quality white pine, for prompt shipment, on a basis of \$21.75 and \$18.25 c.i.f. We value spruce at about \$22 to \$23 for first receipts. The 'Bravo' arrived with 460,000 Long Gaspe shingles, which have been placed at \$5.76; 54,000 Dimension, which brought \$3.25 for 3 inch and \$9.25 for 8 inch; and about 250,000 Laying Cedar, which have been sold at \$2.16. Long and Dimension Cedar shingles are saleable, but Cedar Laying are in heavy supply."

INCREASED STUMPAGE DUES.

The New Brunswick Government announced on December 4th its decision to increase the stumpage charge on timber cut within the province from the present rate of \$1.00 a thousand feet board measure to \$1.25, and to make a charge for renewal of leases of \$8.00 a square mile instead of \$4.00. The request to allow tops of trees to be removed without payment of stumpage is refused, but the request to make the stumpage uniform all over the province is granted. The lumbermen asked for a reduced rate for lumber cut on burnt districts and the Government replies that such cases will be dealt with individually on their merits. The new rate of \$1.25 will be on spruce, pine, fir, and cedar, and proportionate on other timber. It will apply to the cut of the present season and the increased stumpage charge will be enforced on all future renewal licenses. The Government declines to extend all present leases to twenty-five years in consideration of raising the stumpage dues.

MARKET FOR PIT PROPS.

Mr. P. D. Ball, of Birmingham, England, writes to the Toronto Globe as follows: "I have been going through the colliery districts in England and Wales, and I find that the collieries have been buying their pit props from Norway, France, Spain and Portugal. I would like you to give this want as much publicity as possible, and ask the various people who are prepared to go into this matter to write me direct. I think that our spruce or small pine should fill this want. Of course, they would have to be tried to find out exactly the strength. The quantity used annually in the different districts would be about 2,000,000 tons, and this ought to be well worth looking into. The sizes would range from 4 feet to 9 feet long and diameter at top from 4½" to 9".

We understand that the creditors of James Harrison, lumber merchant, Burlington, Ont., have now been settled with, by a cash payment of 50 cents on the dollar to all unsecured and payment in full to secured claims, besides paying in addition all legal costs. He has opened up business again at Burlington, where his well equipped planing mill and yards should secure a good trade.

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 A number of very valuable pine and other timber limits on the north shore of Lake Huron and elsewhere for sale. Also limits bought and sold on commission and estimates given. For particulars, apply to **P. McDERMOTT,** Box 177, South River, Ont.

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