

GREAT BRITAIN.

Reports lately received of the British lumber market have a more optimistic hue than for some time past. There is undoubtedly a better feeling and more disposition to purchase, but the heavy stocks that are carried at many of the ports keep the trade in a depressed condition and prevent any marked recovery in prices. These stocks have accumulated during the past year, when the consumption of lumber was unusually light. For the thirty-six weeks ending September 10th, this year's consumption of deals, etc., at London is some ten thousands standards less than for the corresponding period of 1903. There is still slight danger of further weakness as a result of consignment cargoes, but if no large quantity of stock is forced upon the market in this way, the near future should witness some improvement both in demand and prices. The feeling is gaining ground even among importers that prices have seen their worst. The Timber News states that spruce deals are decidedly firmer and that there is a distinct advance in values. The volume offering is less than usual at this season of the year and there are no indications so far of an excessive supply. Birch planks continue to be asked for, and as the supply is smaller than usual, prices will probably be fully maintained. Birch logs are not in much demand. Hemlock is readily saleable, but shippers have restricted their output and will not now take orders at the figures which have prevailed.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The Forster Lumber Company is reported to have purchased the output of the McKee Company's mill at Hosmer, B.C.

The W. & A. McArthur Company, of Little Current, Ont., will take out about 20,000,000 feet of logs during the coming winter.

At St. John, N.B., last week, about 1,000,000 feet of spruce logs belonging to the R. A. Estey Estate were sold to Henry Miller, of St. John, at \$9.50 a thousand.

C. H. LaBillois, Commissioner of Public Works, Fredericton, N. B., is asking for tenders up to November 7th for the supply

of lumber required for flooring the Marysville steel highway bridge.

The Scott Lumber Company, of Fredericton, N. B., have been notified that the schooner Annie Harper, loaded by them with lumber for the Boston market, has been wrecked in the Bay of Fundy. It is understood that the cargo was well insured.

The logs belonging to the St. John Lumber Company which broke away at Van Buren during the late freshet, are being rafted at the Mitchell boom at Fredericton, N.B., and will be towed to St. John. They are mostly small logs, averaging only about 1,200 feet to the joint.

The head of the corporation drive on the St. John river was at Bristol, N.B., on September 22nd. There is about 4,000,000 feet in the drive. Although operations at the booms are progressing satisfactorily, it is not believed that the work will be finished this fall, and about 10,000,000 feet of logs may have to be stored for the winter.

Messrs. S. P. Musson, Son & Company, in their report of September 10th, state: "There have been no arrivals in either white pine or spruce during the fortnight, but, as mentioned in our last, we placed a cargo of former for this month's shipment at \$26 for shippers and \$20 for second quality. In spruce two cargoes have been placed—one for September shipment at \$22.50 and \$18.50 for shippers and second quality, and one for October shipment at \$21.50 and \$16.50. There is not much enquiry for white pine just now, but spruce is inquired for, most of the dealers' yards being here, and we think a prompt arrival would do well. The only receipt of shingles to note is 65,000 Long Cedar by the steamer "Ozamo," which were sold at \$5.66; both these and Dimension are wanted. The "Success" is looked for with principally Long, which should bring full prices. For Cedar Laying, of usual description, there is not much enquiry, but we understand some Clears and Second Clears have been placed for future delivery at \$3.85 and \$4 for the former, and \$3.45 and \$3.50 for the latter. We could not venture a higher valuation than \$2.10 for the usual Laying, as dealers always have some."

WISCONSIN HARDWOOD PRICES.

The ninth annual meeting of the Wisconsin Hardwood Lumbermen's Association was held at Oshkosh, Wis., on September 20th. In discussing the price list, Mr. E. P. Arpin, chairman of the Price List Committee, stated that there did not seem to be any trouble in selling log run elm, 2 inch, at \$24. No. 3 Common was in good demand and No. 2 was holding up well. A new list was adopted fixing the following prices f.o.b. Wausau freight rate, effective September 20th, 1904.

ASH.—1 inch long run (No. 3 Common out), \$22; 1st and 2nd, 1 in., \$33; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$35; 2 in., \$36; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$41. No. 1 Common, 1 in., \$23; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$24; 2 in., \$25; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$27. No. 2 Common, 1 in., \$12; 1 1/4 in. and thicker \$13. No. 3 Common, \$10.

BIRCH.—1 in. log run (No. 3 Common out), \$20; 1st and 2nd, 1 in. (red out), \$30; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$32; 2 in., \$34; 1 in. red, \$40; 1 1/4 to 2 in. red, \$42. No. 1 Common, 1 in. (red out), \$19; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$21; 2 in., \$23; 1 in. red, \$29; 1 1/4 to 2 in. red, \$31.

BASSWOOD.—1st and 2nd, 1, 5, 11 in., 8 to 16 ft., \$31; 12 in., \$34; 13 in. and wider, \$37; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$34; 2 in., \$36. No. 1 Common, 1, 5, 11 in., 8 to 16 ft., \$21; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$23; 2 in., 26. No. 2 Common, \$15 to \$16. Box Common, 1 in., \$13.50.

SOFT ELM.—1 in. log run (No. 3 Common out), \$20; 1 1/4 to 2 in. log run, \$21. 1st and 2nd, 1 in., \$29; 1 1/4 to 2 in., \$31; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$34. No. 1 Common, 1 in., \$19; 1 1/4 to 2 in., \$21; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$24. No. 2 Common, \$13. No. 3 Common, \$10.

ROCK ELM.—1 in. long run, \$18; 1 1/4 to 2 in. long run, \$20. 1st and 2nd, 1 in., \$30; 1 1/4 to 2 in., \$32; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$36. No. 1 Common, 1 in., \$18; 1 1/4 to 2 in., \$20; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$26. No. 2 Common, 1 in., \$12; 1 1/4 in. and thicker, \$14. No. 3 Common, \$8.

SOFT MAPLE.—1 in. to 2 in. long run, \$16.

HARD MAPLE.—1 in. to 2 in. log run, \$15; 1st and 2nd, 1 in., \$24; 1 1/4 to 2 in., \$26; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$30. No. 1 Common, 1 in., \$14; 1 1/4 to 2 in., \$16; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$20. No. 2 Common, 1 to 2 in., \$10; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$15; No. 3 Common, 1 to 2 in., \$7; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$10.

WHITE OAK.—1st and 2nd, 1 in., \$36; 1 1/4 in. and 1 1/2 in., \$40; 2 in., \$42; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$46. No. 1 Common, 1 in., \$26; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$30; 2 in., \$32;

2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$36. No. 2 Common, 1 in., \$16; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$20; 2 in., \$22. No. 3 Common, 1 in., \$9; 1 1/4 to 2 in., \$10.

RED OAK.—1st and 2nd, 1 in., \$18; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$21; 2 in., \$23; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$28. No. 1 Common, 1 in., \$25; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$31; 2 in., \$33; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$38. No. 2 Common, 1 in., \$18; 1 1/4 and 1 1/2 in., \$21; 2 in., \$23; 2 1/2 in. and thicker, \$28. No. 3 Common, 1 in., \$9; 1 1/4 in. and thicker, \$10.

Official weights as follows, in pounds: Ash, 3,500; birch, 4,000; soft maple, 3,500; hard maple, 4,000; basswood, 2,500; soft elm, 3,000; rock elm, 4,000; oak, 4,000.

IMPORTANT DEAL IN LUMBER PROPERTY.

A large transaction in lumber property was closed last week, when C. M. Bostwick, of St. John, N.B., transferred to the Pejepscot Paper Company, of Brunswick, Maine, all his extensive holdings at Great Salmon River, Kings County, and Martin's Head, St. John County, N.B. The property comprises 100,000 acres of timber limits, chiefly spruce, the Great Salmon river mill, a store, two schooners and several buildings. The price paid is said to have been in the vicinity of \$300,000. The property was purchased fourteen years ago by Mr. Bostwick from the Davidson Estate, since which time it has been greatly improved.

It is understood to be the purpose of the new owners to cut logs during the coming winter and to operate under the name of the Bay Shore Lumber Company.

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