

NEW BAND SAW MILL.

THE economical production of lumber is a point to which lumbermen have been giving considerable attention lately. The introduction of Band Saw Mills into mills in the U. S. has been attended with considerable difficulty. Lumbermen admitted the economy of the Band Mill, but doubted its efficiency and utility. Consequently the tests that band mills have had to undergo, have been in many instances severe. The Egan Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A., sold a Band Mill to a lumberman of that city and he set it just across the logway from a circular, so that the cut and general behavior, figuratively speaking, of the two mills could be closely watched and compared. Of course the circular mill cut the most lumber, but it was evident that the great saving of the band mill, together with the finer quality of lumber it produced, overcame by far, the difference in the amount cut, and at the end of thirty days, the circular mill was taken out and a band mill put in its place. We illustrate on this page, the Egan Company's latest Band Mill, embodying many new and advantageous improvements over any other band mill now built. The following detailed description of this mill is taken from the Company's Catalogue, which will be mailed to lumbermen and wood-workers on application, and mentioning the CANADA LUMBERMAN:

The column is cored out, and is the stiffest that mechanical skill can construct of iron.

The base is also cored, and is braced for great strength and strain.

The axles or shafts, both above and below, are of steel and large in diameter; both shafts can be lined up, and the lower shaft boxes are not on the base, but in separate, independent adjustable boxes.

The outside bearings on both upper and lower shafts are adjustable.

The upper shaft has boxes and bearings almost five feet in length, and in the solidity and construction of this shaft and bearings we excel all other manufacturers.

The wheels are 8 feet in diameter and 10½ inch face. They have staggered spokes, and are very stiff, with extra heavy rims and hubs, and will stand a speed of 1,000 revolutions per minute without springing, and will carry a 10-inch saw blade.

The guides are very perfect, and have a "throw" of about ½ inch so as to clear the log in gidding back. The patent rollers at back of saw are much improved in their arrangement, and prevent the saw from becoming crystallized and cracking. The last plank can be cut to 1 inch without raising the guide above the knees.

Head blocks of any special manufacture will be furnished to suit purchasers, or they can buy what suits them, and we can make the carriage to order. If desired we can adapt the mill to suit any carriage parties may have.

The feed can be either friction feed, rope feed, or steam feed. Many of our latest mills have been furnished with rope feed, and it has given general satisfaction, working very easy and without a jar. The steam feed has also given good satisfaction on our new mill, and where the carriage and logs are heavy and fast sawing is wanted, it is a great improvement.

The mill is built in the most perfect manner. The best materials are used throughout, and we test and run the mill in our works before shipping, and will warrant it in every way.

For further information, prices of this or cuts and prices of any other Improved Wood-Working Machinery, address the manufacturers, The Egan Company, 176 to 196 W. Front St., Cincinnati, O., U. S. A.

—The saw-mill at South River, formerly owned by Mr. Erb, has been purchased by a firm of Americans who intend extending and refitting it. The price paid is said to be in the neighborhood of \$3,000.

REDUCTION IN THE OTTAWA LUMBER CUT.

It is a common subject of remark that the present winter's snow-fall has been almost unparalleled. Reports from various parts of the country speak of the great depth of snow in the woods, the consequent bad roads and general unsatisfactory state of affairs in the country.

The following information, kindly given by representatives of the big Ottawa Valley lumber firms to a *Journal* reporter, show how the snow is affecting them.

MR. J. R. BOOTH

said that the difficulty experienced this winter by the lumbering firms in the Ottawa districts in cutting and getting out logs and timber will have the effect of lessening the cut by at least one-fourth. This reduction in the amount of timber cut will of course lessen the amount of lumber sawn during the summer and unless all the firms have a large reserve of logs from last spring many of the mills will have to shut down before the summer is over. In cases where lumbermen sell their whole season's cut before they begin to saw it this state of affairs may prevent those who do so from keeping their contracts, but most of the large firms sell only a part of the season's cut beforehand.

To all appearances, he added, the floods this season would equal the memorable ones of seven years ago, if the spring came with a rush. Floods as far as the lumbermen were concerned, would make a splendid drive, but might also do immense damage in preventing the mills from running, owing to raising the backwater in the Ottawa.

MR. E. B. EDDY

said that the depth of snow in the bush and on the open was almost unparalleled in the history of lumbering in Canada, and would have the effect of reducing considerably the season's cut. Besides the depth of snow, the thickness of the crust on it did great damage to trains. Should spring come with a rush

ed out. His own firm, he said, would, however, have a sufficient supply of reserve logs to keep them running all summer. He thought from appearances that bad floods were probable, and that some damage might be done by the mills being prevented from running until the water lowered.

MESSRS. GILMOUR & CO.,

who have extensive lumber operations on the Gatineau River, state that the depth of snow in the Gatineau districts is unparalleled in the remembrance of the oldest inhabitants, and never was the work of cutting and getting out logs more retarded. Nearly all choppers had been set to work hauling and breaking roads for the teams in order to get hauled all the logs which had been cut during the season. This would lessen the cut at least 25 per cent., and will have some effect upon the cut of timber at the mills.

MR. HIRSH ROBINSON,

general manager for Messrs. Hamilton Bros., said: "Lumber operations have been going on by our firm this season on the Gatineau and Des Moines rivers, and it is my opinion that the output will be considerably reduced. Our men who have been cutting are now shovelling snow and breaking the roads for the teams, hauling logs that are cut and piling up. The probable reduction in the cut will be from 15 to 20 per cent.; it will, however, depend much upon how the season may wind up.

MR. JOHN HENDERSON,

of the firm of Messrs. McLaren & Co., who have limits on the Gatineau and Des Moines rivers says that there would be a considerable diminution in the output of lumber. There was a likelihood that there would be a decrease of about 25 per cent. in their own cut. The markets at present are very steady, but judging from the general diminution in the cut this year, it is not unlikely that there will be a rise in the prices. The demand for lumber at the present time is very much less than it was at the same period last year.

G. B. GRIER & CO'S MANAGER,

said the cut of logs and lumber would be 25 per cent. less than usual, and unless firms had a good supply of reserve logs they would be unable to run their mills all summer. He thought that the firms would be able to keep their contracts with buyers, but said that there would be no reserve logs for next fall. He feared bad floods this spring.

MR. GEO. HURDMAN

of R. Hurdman & Co., said there would not be nearly the quantity of logs got out this season as there was last. "We have stopped most of our choppers and have them engaged in getting out the logs already cut. This shortness in the cut will not effect our cut of lumber at the mills as we have a large reserve of logs on hand. I expect we will have had floods if spring opens early. This will of course make a good drive and enable lumbermen to get their logs very early."

MANITOBA AND THE NORTH WEST.

—The annual report of the Winnipeg Board of Trade places the business done in lumber last year at \$1,342,000.

—J. A. Christie, lumber dealer, Brandon, talks of giving up the retail trade at that place.

—Mr. T. E. Martin, of Regina, N. W. T., has commenced importing lumber from the mills at Vancouver B. C. If satisfactory rates of freights and terms of purchase can be secured, he expects to do a large trade.

—Frank Dick, lumber dealer, Calgary, N. W. T., has sold out his stock and business at that place to Fred Robinson, proprietor of the Beaver saw mills, B. C. F. Dick will continue as manager of the yard at Calgary.

—Manitoba advices state that the immediate demand for lumber is almost nil at the present time, and very little business expected before the first of April. It is probable that the cut will be in excess of last year. Dealers feel that prices are too low, and think they should have an advance of from \$1 to \$3 per M. They furthermore think that the improved condition of the trade, consequent upon the reduction of old stocks, would warrant them in advancing prices. The only trouble in the way is the lack of union among mill men, and the apparent suspicion with which they regard each other. It is hoped that some arrangement may be come to whereby a regular schedule of prices may be arranged, on a common sense, business basis.

the floods would be terrible and might do much damage in stopping some of the mills from working till late in the season owing to the height of the backwater. The amount of sawn lumber that will be turned out during the summer was sure to be much smaller than for years previous.

MESSRS. PERLEY & PATTEE'S MANAGER

said the lumber cut would be reduced one-fourth. At present all hands were engaged in cutting roads and hauling the logs to the creeks chopping being to a great extent stopped. Last fall was splendid for log making, and large quantities were made and piled in the bush, so that notwithstanding the reduced cut there was plenty to do. Lessening the cut at least a quarter, and where firms have not a good reserve of logs, it will effect the amount sawn.

Big floods, he thought, were inevitable, and injury would be done to the mill business, especially to those mills whose wheels are low, by the water in the Ottawa rising and preventing some of them from running for a month or so.

MR. BRONSON

of Bronson & Weston, said that the state of affairs in the shanties was very unsatisfactory. The great depth of snow which had only been equalled by the spring of seven years ago, would have the effect of very much lessening the number of logs turn-

