

they total up the sales each week, a very decent turnover has been made. Prices are shaded a little at times with the anxiety to secure business, but on the whole cutting is not taking place to any injurious extent, whilst prices are holding firm, and in some cases are advancing. No doubt about it, hardwoods are coming into increased use of late years, and the future of this branch of the lumber trade possesses not a few encouraging signs. The furniture trades are going it slowly for the opening of spring, but it is thought that a good season's business in this important department of hardwood consumption will be done.

SHINGLES.

We would like to be able to say something of encouragement for the shingle market, but it cannot be done. Prices are not an important factor in the situation, for the reason that orders for shingles are so light.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

CANADA.

Mr. Raney, of Aultsville, Ont., who was in Ottawa this week, will ship to Quebec 900 pieces.

The cut of lumber in King's county, N. B., will exceed that of former years by several thousand feet.

C. I. Keith, of Havelock, N. B., has sold 500,000 feet of lumber, to Mr. Hilliard, of St. John, N. B.

New York lumbermen anticipate that spruce from Canada will play an important part in the spruce market this season.

The McArthur Bros. Co., (Ltd.), Toronto, has secured the English Admiralty contract for the supply of 3,000 lds of timber.

A recent heavy purchase of Canadian timber is credited to Mr. J. T. Hurst, of Saginaw, Mich., involving a sum of about \$250,000.

W. L. Johnson & Co., British Columbia shingle men, shipped a car load of shingles last week to the east from their Howe Sound mills.

A. McQuaig, of Lucknow, Ont., will ship this spring to Toronto 70,000 square rock elm, 52 feet average. Mr. McQuaig would like to hear from any lumberman who can beat that.

The Hawaiian barque Leahi cleared customs last week at New Westminster, B. C., for San Francisco. She carried 450,000 feet of fir lumber valued at \$3,588, from the Brunette Saw Mills.

Three timber berths at Parry Sound, estimated to cut 33,000,000 white pine, which is virgin timber, have been purchased by Messrs. Loveland, Roy & White, large Michigan lumbermen.

The Brunette Saw Mills, New Westminster, B. C., are shipping to California steadily the full limit of their capacity 80,000 feet a day. The Hastings and other mills are also shipping to the same point in large quantities.

The following vessels have been towed out from Vancouver, B. C., for sea: The Artemis, with 888,173 feet of lumber, and 120,541 feet of flooring, valued at \$9,113.26, bound for Valparaiso. The Carmony sails for France with a cargo of 902,234 feet of rough lumber, valued at \$15,010.

The lumber shipments from St. John, N. B., for last week, were the largest in any week since last fall. Over 3,500,000

feet of long lumber, nearly 1,500,000 of laths, nearly 1,000,000 shingles, and 1,835 pieces of piling, together with one cargo of cord-wood, cleared for United States ports. Additional, a cargo of 750,000 feet of deals cleared for Cork, Ireland; a schooner of boards and shingles for Barbadoes, and one of box shooks for Bermuda.

UNITED STATES.

Common grades, excepting 1x12 stocks, are reported weak at Toledo, O. Bill stuff is also weak.

The Saginaw Salt and Lumber Co., Saginaw, Mich., have sold 750,000 white pine to Detroit parties to be shipped by rail.

A lot of 500,000 feet of lumber to be cut at \$18 is noted among Saginaw, Mich., records. Box at this point is ranging at \$10.50. Norway is dull at \$8.50.

Dry oak is very scarce in the Minneapolis market, and is worth \$3 a thousand more than it was three weeks ago. Sales are being made at \$28 a thousand for 1st and 2nd, \$18 for common, and \$10 to \$11 for shipping culls.

Nesbit & Hutchison, of Courtwright, Mich., have purchased 500,000 feet of elm logs on the Canadian shore near Blue Point, for which they have paid an average of \$6.25 a thousand. The logs will be manufactured into cooperage stock at Marine City, Mich.

Secretary James, of the Northeastern Lumbermen's Association, Boston, Mass., gives the following estimate of the shortage of spruce in the east for this year, as compared with last year:

Nova Scotia.....	25,000,000
St. John, N. B.....	20,000,000
Calais.....	15,000,000
Marchais.....	5,000,000
Kennebec River.....	35,000,000
Penobscot.....	40,000,000
Androscoggin.....	30,000,000
Total.....	230,000,000

Mr. Albert Pack, of Alpena, Mich., has purchased the Huron Lumber Co.'s plant, together with several million feet of logs in the river. The consideration is believed to be from \$60,000 to \$75,000. As formerly noticed, Mr. Pack, together with Mayor Gilchrist and others, recently purchased the Blind iver timber limits of the Lampton estate, of Toledo. This timber is on the Blind iver, Ont., and will cut from 50,000,000 to 75,000,000 feet of white pine.

GOVERNMENT VIEW OF LUMBER.

THE relationship of the crown lands department of Ontario to the lumber trades of the Province is of so intimate a character, that any statement of the situation emanating from the Commissioner of Crown Lands, must always be deserving of study.

The annual report of the Hon. Mr. Hardy, placed before the legislature a few days ago, gives the information that the area of crown lands sold during the year was 28,048 1/4 acres, aggregating in value \$63,922.97. The collections on account of these and sales of former years amounted to \$39,086.27.

The total collections for the year in the department of woods and forests amounted to \$980,487.40, in which is included \$69,415.42 on account of bonuses, and \$66,855.77 for ground rent, leaving \$844,216.21 as the net revenue from timber dues and interest thereon.

The Commissioner expresses the opinion that the condition of the lumber trade for

the past year has not been satisfactory for those engaged in it, although the revenue estimated by the department has been exceeded. The depression, which has existed for some years, especially in the United States, still prevails, and in the opinion of the department there does not appear any immediate prospect of its passing away. Building has fallen off in Canada as well as in the United States, and consequently large stocks of lumber and logs have remained on the makers' hands. That the revenue to the province has been so large under the prevailing depression is accounted for by the removal of the duty on sawn lumber passing into the United States, which has caused a larger proportion of the supply for the United States market to be drawn from Ontario than was formerly the case. Owing to the extensive forest fires of last season in Michigan and Wisconsin, the owners of the damaged timber have been obliged to operate more extensively than they would otherwise have done in order to save their timber from going to waste. Whether this will cause over stocking of the market and further depression it is difficult, in the judgment of the Minister, to say, as much depends on the return of general prosperity.

So far as can be estimated the output of sawn logs from licensed lands in Ontario will be about the same as last year and will not probably exceed 750,000,000 feet.

Of recent tariff legislation the Commissioner says: "Since my last report, under the tariff legislation of the United States, the duty has been taken off Canadian lumber entering the markets of that country, and thus the principle incentive to exporting logs to be sawn in the United States has been removed, and as was expected, some of our largest American limit owners have erected mills in Ontario or let contracts to have their logs sawn here. The large sawmill at Midland, which has lain idle for a number of years, has been refitted and its capacity increased, and will commence sawing on the opening of navigation. One of the large mills at Parry Harbor, which has been idle for some years, has been fitted up and will start sawing on the opening of navigation. A very fine saw mill has been erected on the North Shore by the firm of Cutler & Savage, and contracts have been let to other smaller mills to saw logs for American owners. It is safe to say that over a million feet of logs which, had the duty remained on lumber, would have been exported in the round to the United States, will this year be sawn in Ontario."

In the east, the Ottawa, Arnprior & Parry Sound Railway is now constructed from Ottawa to Long lake on the Madawaska River, a distance of 145 miles, and although just completed, already shows signs of developing and opening up the vast forests through which it passes. At Long lake an American firm has erected a large saw mill of an annual capacity of seventy million of feet, which will be in operation by the first of next June. A number of small mills are also in course of construction at various points along this line, which will utilize a large quantity of lying and dead pine suitable for shingles and coarse lumber for cheap buildings heretofore, owing to the expense of long drives has not been taken out. Besides,

this railway passes through a stretch of country abounding in all kinds of mixed woods, such as hemlock, tamarac, spruce and hardwoods, which heretofore had no value, but which, with railway facilities, will now be able to reach a market at remunerative prices, thus adding materially to the timber wealth of the province.

Owing to the limited demand for lumber in the western part of the province, no stocks of any moment were taken out there last winter. The large mills at Rat Portage, Keewatin and Norman have been sawing on a reduced scale and from logs which they have held over for two or three years.

BUSINESS DIFFICULTIES AND CHANGES.

The death is recorded of J. P. De Courval, shingle manufacturer at Essexville, Mich. He was born in Three Rivers, Que.

Zotique Carbeil, sash and door maker has formed a partnership with Isaac Leveille. The address of the new firm is Carbeil & Leveille, Montreal.

Herbert Bros., who have been operating a portable saw mill near Otterburne, Man., are removing it to Joly, where they will cut shingles and small timber.

The Royal City Planing Mills, Vancouver, B. C., suffered loss by fire a few days ago to the extent of about \$10,000. Insurance covers about \$4,000 of this amount.

Geo. Hagemeyer & Sons, wholesale lumber dealers, New York, have assigned. A preference of \$50,000 was given to Flint & Co. The liabilities are heavy.

Turner & Fisher, of Bay City, Mich., have purchased the yard and planing mills of Ayres & Co., Saginaw, Mich., and will run the same in connection with their Bay City plant.

Notice appears in this week's issue of the Ontario Gazette of the application of an incorporation as a joint stock company of Huntsville & Lake of Bays Transportation Co., Ltd., which is intended to carry on a transportation business on the Lakes of Bays and Peninsula Lake.

SHIPPING MATTERS.

The schooner Amy D. is on her way from Parrsboro, N. S., to Jamaica with a load of lumber.

Two schooners have been chartered to load piling at Tynemouth Creek, N. B., for New York.

The barque Muncastor Castle is fixed to load lumber and deals at St. John, N. B., for Liverpool, Eng.

The schooner Bessie Parker has been chartered to load lumber at Miller & Woodman's mill, St. John, N. B., for New York at \$2.50.

Bentley & Fleming, of Halifax, N. S., are daily expecting a cargo of B. C. cedar that left Vancouver per vessel five months ago. She has 300,000 feet of lumber on board.

Recent charters registered at St. John, N. B., include: Ship Caldera, Boston to Buenos Ayres, lumber, \$5; barkin, Primrose, Bear River to Buenos Ayres, lumber, \$7; Rosario, \$8; foreign ship Fleetwood to Shediac, 35, and back with deals, 43s.

The American barquentine C. C. Funk, is loading lumber at the Brunette Saw Mills, New Westminster B. C., for Southern California. She will carry away about 600,000 feet of fir lumber.

The Brunette Saw Mills Co., New Westminster, B. C., are building a new wharf 130x70 feet, made necessary by their growing export business. When completed 3 vessels will be able to load at the same time.