

CONCERNING MAPLE LUMBER

The largest body of maple to be found in the United States is in the northern part of the lower peninsula of Michigan. This district contains the largest amount of standing timber of good quality, and consequently is the chief source of supply for dealers in and consumers of maple. Canadian lumbermen will therefore be interested in some figures regarding maple presented at a recent meeting of the Michigan Hardwood Lumber Association, which represents about 70 per cent. of the mills manufacturing Michigan maple for the market.

The president expressed the belief that log run maple ought to be worth \$10 at the mill. The secretary reported the following sales of lumber since the previous meeting: 3,650,000 feet of maple at \$7.12 and \$17; 50,000 feet of long run maple at \$13; 100,000 feet of maple, 1/2 and 2 inch, at \$14.50 delivered at Milwaukee; 100,000 feet of hemlock at \$8.50 for short and \$9 for the 18 and 20-foot, f.o.b. mills; 100,000 feet long run black ash at \$18 at the mill; 3,500,000 feet of hemlock at \$8.50 and \$9.50 f.o.b. mill; 1,500,000 feet of hemlock at \$8 and \$9 f.o.b. mill; inch mill culls at \$5.50, and 2 inch mill culls at \$5. A sale was reported of shipping cull and common maple at \$6 and \$11, respectively, the buyer not wishing firsts and seconds. One of the members stated that he could have sold all of his cut of 1901 of common and firsts and seconds at \$12 and \$17 respectively. Another member stated that he had refused an offer to sell his entire cut of shipping culls, common and firsts and seconds at \$7, \$13 and \$17.

Inquiry was made as to how much of this season's cut had been sold. Several members announced that they had sold over half of their cut. A canvass of conditions revealed the fact that something

like 50 per cent. of the 1901 cut of maple had been already sold.

As to the quantity of maple that would be reduced this year, it was concluded that there would be a reduction of about 40 per cent. as compared with last year. The output of the association last year was 70,000,000 feet, and the total of the district about 100,000,000 feet. With a reduction of 40 per cent. the total northern Michigan cut this year would be 60,000,000 feet. Of last year's cut 20,000,000 feet is still on hand, which with 30,000,000 feet of the coming season's cut still unsold, leaves 50,000,000 feet of Michigan maple yet available for purchase. It developed that at Traverse City maple manufacturers were paying about \$7 per thousand for logs delivered at their mills by farmers, but a member from Boyne City stated that he was paying \$8. The feeling of the meeting seemed to be that there would be an advance in the price of maple this spring.

TIMBER BERTH SOLD.

Only one berth was sold as a result of the offer by the Ontario Department of Crown Lands of several limits in Victoria and Haliburton counties, on the Ottawa River, which had been forfeited or abandoned. This was the abandoned berth on the Ottawa River. The highest bidder was the Hawkesbury Lumber Co., of Ottawa, which got it for \$30,195, or \$1,220 per mile. In the cases of the forfeited berths in Digby, Lutterworth and Sherbourne townships, no tender was high enough to be accepted.

The Barbadoes market, according to S. P. Musson, Son & Company, is fairly well supplied with second quality white pine, but there is no shipping quality in dealers' hands. First quality spruce has

been sold at \$21.50, and second quality at \$17.50. There have been no late arrivals of shingles, for which the demand is light.

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