

UNITED STATES.

The prospects for a very large yield of wheat and corn are having an effect upon the lumber market. When harvesting is over, there will no doubt be a heavy demand for lumber of all kinds and particularly for the class called for in the agricultural districts. Although white pine prices are high, influences are at work to bring about a further advance of about one dollar per thousand, as it is believed by many persons that such an advance could be put into effect without having any restrictive influence upon the demand. It is contended that the output of white pine this season will be inadequate to meet the demand, and that this is shown by the fact that up to the present time the mills have been unable to accumulate the usual quantity of stock. Our Buffalo list this week shows an advance in the price of 12 inch No. 1 barn boards. Chicago dealers last week put into effect an advance on several items of fifty cents and one dollar. Dealers state that they are finding a normal demand and are able to do business without as much effort as is customary. Albany advices state that good lumber is exceptionally firm, 3 and 4-inch uppers bringing from \$78 to \$80. There is more inquiry for hardwoods than at any previous time this season. An expansion in the demand for white ash has taken place, implement factories being reported as large buyers. Basswood continues scarce and birch is none too plentiful. Hemlock has advanced in the Chicago and Boston markets. In the former city it is selling on the basis of \$14 for 2x4, 2x6, 2x8 and 2x10, 12 to 16-foot, which is the highest price ever obtained for hemlock in that market. At Buffalo and Tonawanda the base price is still \$14. There is no change in the shingle situation, but a heavy movement is looked for during the fall months, with possibly a rise in values.

GREAT BRITAIN.

While there has been some improvement in the tone of the British timber trade, the outlook for the future is still surrounded by uncertainty. The pessimist is predicting that prices have now reached the point where they are likely to react unless there should be an increased demand. On the other hand, the import this year is considerably behind that for the same period of last year. This has permitted stocks to become reduced in many instances. Building operations, which suffered from wet weather, are now more active and are assisting consumption. Importers seem to be surprised that shippers hold stocks so firmly and refuse to accept orders except at their own prices. It must be said that the foundation of the lumber business is on a better footing than it has been for some time. There have been no important failures and little tendency towards risky speculation. At recent auction sales prices were well maintained, fourth quality Quebec spruce bringing £8 10s. The London market is slightly overstocked with the common grades of red pine, but as the import this season will be light, the situation is likely to improve.

At Liverpool the stock of good spruce is comparatively low. Prices have shown an upward tendency, based upon £7 7s 6d to £7 10s per standard, according to specification, with about 60 per cent. of 7 and 8 inch. Other New Brunswick spruce, with a good proportion of 3x9 and 3x11, is being sold at extreme prices.

STOCKS AND PRICES

M. Hyatt, of Revelstoke, is getting out 3,000,000 feet of logs, which will be used for bridges on the Canadian Northern Railway.

The steamer Kong Haaken is completing a cargo of deals at Montreal for the United Kingdom. The steamer Avona is expected to arrive in Montreal this week to load a cargo of deals for the U. K.

E. T. Carrington, Secretary of the Spanish River Boom Company, states that there are 185,000,000 feet of logs to be hauled by the Spanish River Boom Company this season, of which over 80,000,000 feet has been rafted.

White pine shingles are being offered in Chicago by rail at \$3.20 for extras, \$2.60 for standards and \$1.50 for No. 1. Lath are in good request and bring \$3.70 to \$3.75 for No. 1 mixed by rail and about \$3.50 by water. No. 2 lath are quoted at \$3 by rail.

A report from Boston, Mass., says that the predominant feature of the hardwood market is the difficulty of securing the class of quartered oak needed, and this, of course, limits actual business. For the very highest grade quartered oak as high as \$70 is asked.

J. & T. Charlton, of Collingwood, Ont., last week loaded the barge Carpenter and her consort the Tyson with lumber, consigned to Bradley, Miller & Company, of Bay City, Mich. The combined cargoes contained over 1,000,000 feet, entirely of this year's cut.

The lumber receipts at the Saginaw river during the week ending July 19th were as follows: Schooner J. B. Donaldson, from Midland, Ont., 440,547 feet, consigned to Mershon, Schuette, Parker & Company; schooner A. W. Wright, from Midland, 674,366 feet, same consignees; steamer Benton, from Spanish River, Ont., 307,117 feet to E. B. Foss & Company; schooner David Ferguson, from Spanish River, 47,785 feet lumber and 779,450 pieces lath, to Foss & Company; schooner C. J. Filmore, from Spanish River, 548,948 feet lumber and 68,000 pieces lath, to Foss & Company.

A Liverpool report says: The Quebec and Montreal season is now in full swing, but imports are chiefly by the liners. The chief exporters of pine goods are filling their contracts to other ports and are not sending here at present any larger quantity than they can help, except under their considerations for their positive engagements. For instance, Robert Cox & Co. have by the "Parisian" only 170 standards of deals and boards, and by the "Lake Ontario" only 15 standards of pine sidings; whilst Watson & Todd's importations per "New England" and "Roman" are only 200 standards of third pine deals, red pine deals, pine sidings, strips, etc.

THE SITUATION ON THE UPPER LAKES.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., July 23.—In local lumber circles there is already a sentiment in favor of making further advances in the list prices on white pine in the near future. It is improbable that these advances will occur before the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Lumbermen's Association, which is to be held August 20, but so firm are some of the local firms in their views that they want the advance to go into effect at that time and are beginning the agitation in favor of higher prices for the purpose of bringing it about at that time.

There are elements in the white pine situation which make it look much stronger than it has before this season. Owing to the favorable crop conditions in the spring wheat belt and in the states to the southwest, demand has kept up remarkably well during July thus far and has showed some gains over June. It was anticipated that the volume of business this month would be about normal on the June basis. An increased demand was therefore unexpected and is a source of surprise and is giving the market a firmer tone. And judging by the business that has been transacted the past three weeks and the outlook for the future August will also show a heavy consumption of white pine. At that time the crop movement in the winter wheat states will be on in full force and southern lumber manufacturers will have more difficulty in securing cars than they have at present. Harvest will be commencing in this section, but the crop movement will not have begun and northern manufacturers will therefore be in a position to supply the demand. They will have plenty of cars until well into September and their business will show a large increase. This will help the situation and will make prices stronger than ever.

Another feature which is contributing to a strong market is the continued shortage of assortments. White pine manufacturers are producing at the maximum of their ability, but apparently they are unable to accumulate stocks for next fall and winter after the sawing season will close, and this is causing a strong feeling. Manufacturers would prefer carrying over sufficient stocks so that they can take care of their customers in good shape next season to selling it out at the present time.

Whether those who are in favor of advancing prices will be able to accomplish this at the August meeting remains to be seen. It is known that they will use all of their influence in this direction. On the other hand, many of the large manufacturers, conservative in their views, are inclined rather to favor a list which is too low than one which is too strong, in the belief that prices on a steady and satisfactory basis are better than where they are irregular and where the list is not observed by all of the factors. It is certain, however, that the price list will be revised to some extent at that time and in all probability there will be advances on some items.—American Lumberman.

Messrs. Charles Quereggesser and John Bennies, of Broadhagen, Ont., have purchased from Burton Bros., of Barrie, a valuable timber limit in the township of Chapman, Parry Sound district. The limit comprises 4½ square miles and is well covered with pine, birch, hemlock and other commercial woods.

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B. C. LUMBER SHIPMENTS.

The lumber exports from the province of British Columbia during the first six months of this year were as follows:

From	For	Cargo—14.
Chemalmus	South Africa	1,100,611
Chemalmus	Melbourne	1,137,861
Hastings	China and Japan	124,516
Hastings	Yokohama	25,101
Hastings	Shanghai	643 09
Hastings	Wilmington, Del	875,843
Hastings	Ostend, Belgium	956,449
Chemalmus	Sydney	1,166,032
Hastings	Sydney	1,231,010
Hastings	Fremantle	595,669
Hastings	Tokyo	879,030
Hastings	Sydney	1,082,562
Hastings	Taku	1,380,414
Chemalmus	Adelaide	1,378,381
Hastings	U. K.	1,080,773
Hastings	Japan	57,612
Hastings	Taku	121,611
Hastings	Delagoa Bay	1,000,233
Chemalmus	South Africa	1,665,061
Chemalmus	Adelaide	1,508,402
Chemalmus	Sydney	731,119
Chemalmus	Sydney	849,127
Hastings	Cardiff	940,091
Hastings	Sydney	6,211
Hastings	Kobe	4,011
Hastings	Yokohama	7,796
Hastings	Sydney	32,076
Hastings	U. K.	1,413,650
Hastings	Melbourne	1,179,206
Chemalmus	U. K.	1,162,839
Hastings	Fremantle	1,113,464
Chemalmus	Sydney	1,072,434
Hastings	Hamburg	38,033
Hastings	Sydney	116,625
Chemalmus	Delagoa Bay	1,100,000
Hornby Isl, B. C.	Santa Rosalia

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

Owing to a continuance of fine weather during the last few weeks a large number of logs have been placed in the water, consequently the scarcity which prevailed during May and June has been relieved to a large extent. The mills are running full time and the trade is somewhat brisk, but it is thought that all orders coming in will be filled within a reasonable time. Prices on all grades of lumber and shingles are firm, and there is every reason to think that they will remain so for the next three months.

Owing to the high prices of logs, the millmen have decided to discount, in future, all payments for same 2 per cent.

A large number of orders for heavy donkey engines for logging have been placed with the foundries and the day of the hand-logger and man of small capital is nearing its end. The smaller class of donkey engines are being largely discarded for a heavier type, which are found to be more economical.

The rush to secure timber limits has practically subsided, although there are a few cruisers still in the field. Very few sales have taken place, although a number of United States millmen have been here looking over the ground.

The fight between the millmen and loggers re the prohibition of the export of logs to the United States still continues, but nothing is likely to be done with the law until the next sitting of the Legislature.

VANCOUVER, July 21, 1902.

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