

STOCKS AND PRICES

Chappel Bros., of Tidnish, N.S., have taken out 8,000,000 feet of logs in Hants County the past season.

C. T. White has about 13,000,000 feet of logs ready to cut at his mills at Point Wolfe, Albert county, N. B.

The town of Toronto Junction, Ont., has let to A. H. Clemes the contract to supply 70,000 feet of lumber.

A. & P. White, of Pembroke, Ont., have sold all their season's production of red pine deals and sidings for export to Great Britain.

The Winnipeg city council has accepted the tender of D. E. Sprague for the supply of from 500,000 to 1,500,000 feet of lumber.

The first shore logs have arrived at the Springhill booms, above Fredericton, N. B. Spruce logs are said to be worth from \$8 to \$8.50 per thousand feet.

Fraser & Co. and Walter & Humberstone have purchased the timber limits of Moore & McDowall, fifty miles up the Saskatchewan river from Edmonton, N. W. T.

S. Gillies & Son, of Ailsa Craig, Ont., took out one and three-quarter million feet of logs last winter. Of this one million feet was soft elm, and the balance rock elm, maple and basswood. They have just finished shipping fifty cars of lumber.

This season the cut of Mohr & Ryan, of Killaloe Station, Ont., will be about 2,000,000 feet, a portion of which has been sold at a considerable advance on last season's prices. The above firm also took out last winter 6,000 telegraph and telephone poles.

It is learned from A. F. Bury Austin, of Montreal, that his stock of lumber which was consumed by the Hull fire last week was fully covered by insurance. He wishes to advise the trade that the fire will not interfere with this season's cut, as arrangements have been made with other mills to manufacture the logs, so that all contracts placed for the new cut will be filled promptly.

THE OTTAWA FIRE AND THE LUMBER MARKET.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

Ottawa's lumber industry, in which was invested millions of dollars, and in which were employed thousands of men, suffered a severe blow by the fire which swept Hull and the western part of Ottawa on Thursday, April 26th. It is estimated that the loss will total \$3,000,000 on the lumber destroyed. A leading lumberman states that in the twelve hours in which the flames played havoc in the immense reaches of lumber piles, at least 125,000,000 feet, representing all grades of lumber, were laid low in ashes. Over 2,000 men are temporarily thrown out of employment.

At present it is possible to give but an approximate idea of the individual losses. The heaviest loser is Mr. J. R. Booth, whose lumbering operations have made his name a familiar one on two continents. Mr. Booth's large mill was saved after a prolonged fight, but the greater part of his extensive yards are now nothing but an area of ashes. In his five yards Mr. Booth had at least 80,000,000 feet of lumber, he states, and of this fully 55,000,000 feet were destroyed. This was all valuable lumber, worth at least \$18 per M, making the loss almost \$1,000,000. All the outbuildings, stables, workshops, etc., at Booth's mill were destroyed, entailing a loss of at least \$40,000. Over \$60,000 was invested in the fitting up of the five yards. Mr. Booth's handsome private residence was also destroyed, entailing a loss of \$60,000. A row of twenty houses belonging to him were also burned. Mr. Booth's total loss will probably be \$1,200,000, on which no official insurance estimate can be secured. It is said, however, by responsible parties, to be \$550,000.

The loss on the buildings, machinery, finished products and lumber of the E. B. Eddy Company will total nearly \$1,500,000. This company lost over 4,000,000 feet of lumber. The loss on finished woodenware, paper, etc., amounted to over \$300,000, the stock of matches alone, consisting of 20,000 cases, being valued at \$60,000. The insurance on the Eddy property is placed at \$400,000. Over 1,200 men are thrown out of employment. The Eddy Company will probably rebuild on a smaller scale, and it will be at least four years

before the works assume the proportions attained before the fire.

In the extensive yards of the Export Lumber Company there were piled 45,000,000 feet of lumber, valued at \$900,000, all of which was destroyed. This lumber was fully insured.

The Hull Lumber Company was also a heavy loser. Its well equipped mill and yards of lumber, containing at least 10,000,000 feet, rolled skyward in smoke, entailing a loss of \$260,000. About 300 men are thrown out of employment as a result of the visit paid by the fire fiend to this industry. With characteristic energy the members of the company promptly decided to commence cutting operations at once, in Bronson & Weston's old mill and in Mason's mill at Hintonburg. As the Hull Lumber Company owns extensive limits, its mill will likely be rebuilt, probably on the old site. The insurance on this firm's property is estimated at about \$100,000. As yet, however, the amount of the insurance has not been ascertained, as the insurance papers have not been arranged.

Gilmour & Hughson's well equipped mill and extensive yards at the east end of Hull had a close call, although situated over a mile from the scene of the first fire. As it was over 2,000,000 feet of lumber were consumed. A stern fight, successful in the end, was put up by the mill employees, assisted by 300 lumbermen employed at Bingham's boom farther up the river. Most of the lumber destroyed was the property of English and American firms, and is well insured. The insurance was carried by the Ottawa firms as mentioned above. The English, Canadian and American firms who had bought the lumber were Watson & Todd, Robert Cox & Co., Sharples & Company, Dobell, Beckett & Company and the Standard Oil Company.

It is estimated that nearly two-thirds of the extensive stock of lumber piled in and about Ottawa was swept away. J. Parr's planing mill was also destroyed, entailing a loss of \$10,000. Fraser Hamilton's mill was reduced to ashes, loss \$7,000; J. Oliver & Son's furniture factory was swept away, loss \$10,000; and the Ottawa Specialty Company will have to build anew. The loss in this case was \$45,000.

The fire may work a revolution in the lumber industry of Ottawa. It is doubtful whether it will again attain the proportions it had assumed before the fire. The sister cities of Ottawa and Hull depended largely on the lumber industry to support their poorer population which is now thrown on the charity of the public. Many of the knowing ones saw in the recent decline of the Ottawa lumber business the beginning of the end. Others, however, J. R. Booth amongst the number, were equally as positive that the lumber industry would for many years to come continue to support a large proportion of the population, and encouraged by their predictions, all are hoping that the lumber industry, re-organized with better protection, will employ even more men than before. It is understood that the Hull Lumber Company, which also suffered from fire a few years ago, intended to enlarge their mill, and it is possible the present mill will be restored on more extensive plans.

Already large gangs of men, under the personal supervision of Mr. J. R. Booth, are engaged repairing platforms, tramways, etc., and the large mill will be in operation in less than a week after the fire. This mill lay in the path of the fire fiend, but it was saved, the success being in a great measure due to the admirable private protective system of sprinklers and waterworks introduced about four years ago by Mr. Booth. During the progress of the fire, the mill was saturated with water inside and out, and the floors were covered with it three inches deep. As a result, though the wind carried the flames in and through the mill and piles in the vicinity, they could not secure a foothold, though stone buildings less than 100 feet away suffered the fate of the other establishments on all sides. Mr. Booth has many sympathizers in his loss, and the entire population of Ottawa and Hull shares his feeling of pride in the escape of his splendidly equipped mills.

It is doubtful whether the shores of the Ottawa river within the limits of the suffering sister cities will ever again loom high and majestic in the long lines of lumber piles. The lumber, while always a source of pride, has by some been looked upon as a source of danger to the closely populated districts, and now that the long expected destruction has been done, the citizens express a firm determination that the lumberman must find his piling ground outside the city gates. The problems confronting the lumberman will be the difficulty of transporting the lumber from the mills, and the still greater difficulty of securing new quarters. The problem will probably be solved in part at least by direct shipment on car and boat from the mill, as is done in many large mills in the United States.

The fire loss cannot be represented by the figures denoting the value of the lumber destroyed. It must be remembered in this connection that a marked shortage in the lumber supply has been caused by the fire, and prices are bound to advance accordingly. For building purposes in Ottawa and Hull little lumber is available, and it is not likely there will be any large shipments to outside points. On the other hand, considerable lumber will have to be secured from other mills. The local market, for the present at least, is bound to be unsettled, and the disposal of the coming cut and the price thereof is a matter of conjecture.

OTTAWA, April 30th, 1900.

MEETING OF SPRUCE MANUFACTURERS.

At a meeting of eastern spruce manufacturers held at Bangor, Maine, last week, an association was formed called the Eastern Lumber Manufacturers' Association, and the following scale of prices adopted: 10 and 12 inch dimensions per M, \$20; 3 by 9 inch dimensions, \$19; 8 inch and under dimension, \$18; 10 and 12 inch random lengths, 10 feet and up, \$18; special bills, 24 and 25 feet, 10 and 12 inch, \$21; random, 3 by 9, \$18; special bills, 24 and 25 feet, 3 by 9, \$20; 2 by 3, 2 by 4, 2 by 5, 2 by 6, 2 by 7, and 3 by 4 inches, 10 feet and up, random, \$16; 2 by 9, 10 feet and up, random, \$17.50. All other random lengths, 10 feet and up long, 8 inches and under wide, \$16.50.

The existing scale of prices adopted March 14 by the manufacturers' association for rail shipments to Boston points, was adopted by this association for shipments to Boston points by water; terms on Boston shipments, the usual terms, viz., settlement in thirty days from date of delivery.

It was further agreed not to ship any lumber on the market. All lumber is to be shipped on orders only and sold before loaded.

It was reported that a committee for each river made a canvas of the situation in their respective districts to ascertain the amount of old logs and lumber now on hand and the amount of new logs that will be available for the supply of saw mills this season, with the following result:

Old logs and lumber—Kennebec river, 5,000,000 old logs; 1,000,000 old lumber. St. John river, 6,500,000 old logs; 4,000,000 old lumber. Penobscot river, 19,500,000 old logs; 4,000,000 old lumber. Total, 31,000,000 feet old logs; 9,000,000 feet old lumber.

New logs, available some time in June and later, providing the drives are clean, for manufacture into lumber for water shipment—Kennebec river, 40,000,000; Penobscot river, 55,000,000; St. John river (American logs), 86,000,000. Total, 181,000,000.

Add to this 15,000,000 of Ashland Mfg. Co.'s output of 28,000,000 feet of lumber, to be shipped by water from Bangor, balance going by rail, and the grand total available, under favorable driving conditions, for shipment by water, is 196,000,000 feet of spruce, the estimates not including pine or hemlock, or pulp logs.

This shows a shortage of spruce, as compared with the average of the past five years, approximating 25 per cent.

The steamer Ardova has been chartered to carry a cargo of deals in June from St. John, N.B., to a British port. The bark Dilbhor has been fixed to load deals at same port for Barcelona, Spain, at 63s 9d.

Wanted for Export

ALL KINDS OF

LOGS AND LUMBER

PAYMENT BY MONTREAL BANKERS

Denny, Mott & Dickson
LONDON, ENG.

C. H. GLOVER & CO., Ltd.

Importers of—

SPRUCE, BOX SHOOKS, PINE, ETC.

From now we intend buying DIRECT from the Manufacturer. Offers Invited
Wharves, Mills and Offices: HATCHAM, LONDON, S. E., ENGLAND
Cable Address: "Glovers, Hatcham, London."

ENQUIRIES FOR WOOD PRODUCTS.

The following were among the enquiries relating to Canadian trade recently received at the office of the High Commissioner for Canada in London, Eng.:

28. The names of Canadian firms making "3 ply" hardwood (i. e., one thick and two thin veneers cemented together) are asked for.

29. The same enquirer wishes to correspond with Canadian lumber merchants who can sell large quantities of spruce-wood boxes, planed and unplaned, cut to size and packed in bales.

Canadian manufacturers may open up correspondence with any of the firms making the above enquiries by addressing a letter to the publishers of the CANADA LUMBERMAN. When writing refer to the number of the enquiry.

The schooner Joseph Hay has been chartered to load lumber at Bellevue's Cove or Weymouth Bridge, N.S., for Cuba, at \$7.

For 25 years Messrs. C. F. Denny, Frances D. Mott and James Dickson have constituted the firm of Denny, Mott & Dickson, timber importers, London, Eng. On March 31st last the business of the firm was transferred to a new company to be known as Denny, Mott & Dickson, Limited. Mr. C. F. Denny becomes chairman of the company, Mr. F. D. Mott vice-chairman, and Mr. James Dickson general managing director, while Messrs. M. S. Allan, Frank D. Mott, J. P. Dickson and Charles E. Denny, complete the board of directors.

H. Fawcett Hartland

TIMBER PROPERTIES

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Correspondence Solicited

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Cable address, "Owen, Liverpool." A.B.C. Code used.

H. D. WIGGIN BOSTON, MASS.
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will inspect at mill and PAY CASH for

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Elm, Ash, Bass and other Hardwoods
CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.

WANTED

Mill Culls

(All Thicknesses)

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PLANING MILL AND BOX FACTORY
Special Facilities for Dressing Lumber in Transit

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