

CANADA LUMBERMAN

WEEKLY EDITION

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CANADA LUMBERMAN

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NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE BUILDING,
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Weekly Lumberman, published every Wednesday, contains reliable and up-to-date market conditions and agencies in the principal manufacturing districts and leading domestic and foreign wholesale markets. A weekly medium of information and communication between Canadian timber and lumber manufacturers and exporters and the purchasers of timber products at home and abroad.

Lumberman, Monthly. A 20-page journal, discussing fully and impartially subjects pertinent to the lumber and wood-working industries. Contains interviews with prominent members of the trade, and character sketches and portraits of leading lumbermen. Especially valuable to saw mill and planing mill men and manufacturers of lumber products.

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WANTED,

TEN (10) cars of 2 in. 1sts and 2nds Hard Maple, 14 and 16 ft. long, 6 in. and up wide. Above stock to be at least 4 months on sticks. Parties having any of this on sticks should address at once, BUFFALO HARDWOOD LUMBER CO., 940 Elk St., Buffalo, N. Y.

BRITISH COLUMBIA RED CEDAR.

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE WITH UNITED STATES BOARD OF GENERAL APPRAISERS.—A COMPLETE CASE FOR REMOVAL OF THE DUTY.

Reference has been made several times by the CANADA LUMBERMAN to the injustice done British Columbia lumber interest by the exacting, under the new Wilson tariff, of a duty of 25 per cent. on red cedar going into the United States. No valid reason has been advanced why this lumber should be so taxed, except that red cedar had been classified as a cabinet wood, along with certain species of cedar of Spanish growth, and which are subject to 25 per cent duty. To squarely meet this contention, and arrive at a speedy solution of the difficulty, Mr. J. G. Scott, manager of the Pacific Coast Lumber Co., New Westminster, B. C., met with the Board of General Appraisers, in New York, a few days ago, and entered fully into the question. As a result of much research, and after consultation with eminent authorities on the subject, he has established, it would appear, most clearly that the red cedar of the Pacific Coast, is in no sense identical with the cabinet cedars among which it has been classed. The red cedar timber of the Pacific Coast is produced from the tree known as "Thuja gigantea," and is a wood whose uses and qualities are very similar to those of white pine (*Pinus strobus*). It is not used as a cabinet wood, nor fit to be used as such, it being even a softer wood than white pine. A decision in the matter rests with the New York Board of Appraisers, whose particular work it is to examine into cases of the kind. At this writing their judgment has not been given out. But having had an opportunity to examine with some care evidence submitted by Mr. Scott, and which was supported before the Board by leading members of the lumber trade in New York, an eminent botanist, who appeared as a witness, and a curator of the Jesup collection of woods, it is hardly anticipating too much to say that the intelligence of the New York Board of Appraisers will lead them to but one conclusion—that Mr. Scott's contention is uncontrovertable, and that the embargo of 25 per cent upon red cedar shingles must need be removed.

Frank S. Seammel, of St. John, N. B., has assumed control of the Seammel and Young shingle mill, at Tacoma, Washington Territory.

CURRENT TRADE CONDITIONS.

ONTARIO.

BUSINESS, like individuals, is effected by mercurial changes. With less severe weather, and traffic on the railroads freer, trade of the week has shown some improvement, though only slight. The general feeling is that lumber is moving more slowly than usual, for the opening of the new year, and yet when one measures this feeling by the entries of the ledger, it is found that altogether there is no special reason for complaint. "It would appear," said a representative of one of the largest Ontario lumber concerns, "that little business was doing. We appear to be warming the chairs in the office and waiting for business, and yet as I examine the sales made from week to week, and the stock sheets showing what supplies are held at the mills, I find that we are getting rid of a good deal of lumber and doing, perhaps, as well as is to be expected for the first two months of the year." There has probably been too much expected for the early days of the new year, born of the terrible dullness of the greater part of 1894. As a matter of fact there is never much business done in January and February, and there is no substantial reason to fear that when March opens out, there will not be an encouraging distribution of lumber at all points. The unthoughtful visitor to the northern districts would be impressed with the large quantities of lumber held in many of the mill yards. Enquiry, however, elicits the information that in most cases, the larger part of this lumber is sold, and only awaits shipment. Prices show no disposition to relax. Better grades occupy a more favorable position than a year ago, and with common prices are firm. Not only southern pine, but lumber from Duluth, is likely to be brought into Ontario to some extent the coming season. We learn of one large firm, with branches in different parts of the province, who have contracted for some supplies. The stock can be brought from Duluth to Toronto by vessel at \$2.50, and probably rather better than this. The programme is to unload the lumber here, it being usually bought as mill run, and sort and distribute from Toronto as requirements call for it.

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

It is not a disappointment to say that the lumber business is quiet in Quebec, because nothing else is expected at this time of the year. Quebec lumber merchants are, in most cases, away in Great Britain contracting for the season's business, the activities of which will be manifest a little later. It cannot, however, be said, so far as trade is indicated by the winter's

work, that the outlook is over bright for the spring. The cut in the woods will not prove particularly large, and owing to the heavy stocks and low prices in the Old Country, the trade are not over sanguine of a large business. The quantity of square timber from the Ottawa will also, writes a Quebec correspondent, be greatly curtailed. In New Brunswick, pretty much the same conditions exist, with the exception that there is a good deal of activity in the woods, the season having been favorable to a good cut and this has been taken advantage of by lumbermen. Whilst shipments to the United States for some weeks past have been very light, it is believed that a good deal of new trade will be done with that country when spring fairly opens out.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A ray of light is brought to exporters by recent advices from Australia, which states that business there is improving. Trade with the interior is showing little more signs of life, and from conversation the writer had within the week with a large operator on the Pacific Coast there is reason to suppose that lumbermen of British Columbia will, during the coming season, find a considerable outlet for their product in various parts of Ontario, and not a little red cedar from the coast is finding its way to the Maritime Provinces. The important lumber staple of shingles is not improving very much.

UNITED STATES.

Lumbermen had built in a measure on the possibility of a considerable amount of outside work being done this winter. And until a month ago, the weather was favorable to business in that direction. Then, as every one knows, a radical change in atmospheric conditions began to show itself, and as a result everything in that line has come to a standstill, and is likely to remain in that shape for some time. This means, taking the country over, a large shrinkage in the demand for lumber supplies, and how this lost trade will be made up later on is a difficult question to solve. Lost trade, as a rule, is trade lost. The business that is not done this week is seldom made up next week. Prices for all manufactured articles have, owing to the dullness of business and the keenness of competition, been on the down grade for a long time, and with lumber firm in price, manufacturers are seeing the necessity of securing better prices for their products or else, as some of them argue, they had better stop manufacturing. These are problems that are confronting the lumber trade at the outset of the season. Duluth lumbermen are planning for placing a good quantity of lumber in the eastern markets, so soon as navigation

WANTED AND FOR SALE

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