

in the hope of a decline in prices, which has not yet materialized.

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Lumber manufacturers in the Eastern Provinces are not anticipating much improvement in market conditions this year. The usual lethargy attendant upon the summer season is in effect, and shipments to the Eastern States have fallen off. Prices of lumber for that market are a little easier. Very few shipments to Great Britain will be made during the balance of the season. The manufacturers in both New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have agreed to hold over their lumber rather than sell it at the prevailing low prices. It is recognized that a curtailment of logging operations would be very beneficial in restoring healthy conditions, and this policy is likely to be adopted by all the larger manufacturers. The St. John River output is likely to be reduced 50,000,000 feet, and a corresponding curtailment is anticipated in other districts.

UNITED STATES.

The white pine trade has been unsettled by sensational reports of damage to the wheat crop by unfavorable weather and by rust, the prediction being made that the combined winter and spring wheat yield would not exceed 500,000,000 bushels. Aside from the injury to wheat, however, the indications are that there will be an abundant harvest, as a very heavy crop of corn is promised, and what is equally as important, high prices are being obtained for nearly all farm products. There is not likely to be much activity in the market until after the presidential election, with the exception, of course, of that which is due to stocking up for fall and winter requirements. Pine lumber prices are about steady, with manufacturers feeling confident that the entire stock will be required. It is claimed that the stocks that will be left in the docks to carry over this year will be so small compared with former years, that the manufacturers will prefer to carry them over until next spring rather than sell at lower prices. Spruce lumber is slightly weaker, some random stock having been sold in the Boston market as low as \$16 by the car. Hemlock is strongly held, and hardwoods are showing better tone. Plain

sawed oak, ash, elm and birch are good sellers, while basswood is slow. The shingle market is in fairly good shape, prices now being low enough to warrant laying in a winter supply.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The reports that come to hand from Great Britain contain very little on which to base anticipation of an early improvement in the lumber market. The general trade of the country is in an unsatisfactory condition, as shown by the falling off in both imports and exports. Money is also tight, brought about no doubt by the large expenditure for the South African war. Lumber imports from most of the countries have this year been light, but the deficiency has been more than made good by the supplies from Russia, where shippers have been forced to realize on their stocks. The absence of demand for deals for export to South Africa has increased the depression in the lumber trade, broad sizes which in an ordinary year would have been shipped to that country having been forced upon unwilling British buyers. The demand for pine deals very light and the poorer qualities are most difficult to place. Quebec pine deals, however, are not likely to recede much further, as they are largely in the hands of persons who are financially able to hold them. The spruce market is, if anything, lower than last week. A car, 50 from Shediac, N.B., is reported to have been sold a fortnight ago at £5 15s per standard c.i.f., which is the lowest point reached this year. At the late auction sales spruce prices showed no improvement, 3 x 11 inch second and third quality bringing £8 12s 6d and £7 5s respectively for Quebec shipments. Buyers are holding off in the expectation that there will be large consignments in the fall. Should this not prove to be the case, a recovery in prices may be expected.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The corporation drive of logs on the St. John river has reached the booms at Fredericton, N.B.

Such general improvement has taken place in the lumber trade on the Coast that the Pacific Coast Lumber Manufacturers' Association, at its meeting held

July 20, advanced the price \$1 on all fir products. This action was the unanimous vote of all the members present. The advance is the first change that has taken place in the association list since Feb. 5, when a new list was adopted.

The Dalhousie Lumber Company, of Dalhousie, N. B., and Hilyard Bros., of St. John, N. B., have agreed to curtail their logging operations the coming winter by fifty per cent.

A sale of standing pine on Indian lands in the Pigeon river, Four du Lac, Bois Fortes, Mississippi river, Leech lake and Winnibigoshish reservations will take place November 15th next at the land offices at Duluth, Minn. There will be offered 116,000 acres, estimated by the Government to contain 211,000,000 feet of white and norway pine. No bids for white pine will be received at less than \$5 a thousand feet, and \$4 for norway.

Messrs. S. P. Musson, Son & Company, under date of August 13th, furnish the following report of the Barbadoes lumber market: "There has not been any arrivals during the fortnight and the position of the lumber market remains virtually unchanged, as the consumption at this season is very limited. Small cargoes of both white pine and spruce would probably be worth in the neighborhood of \$26 to \$19 respectively, while for large lots prices would be lower. The market for shingles remains as last advised, there being no further arrivals to report, and stocks of Long Cedar having been somewhat reduced, fair prices will be obtained for next

arrivals. Dimension are very scarce and immediate shipments would do well. Cedar Laying are in full stock and are not worth over \$2 to \$2.10."

The Department of Interior, Ottawa, will receive tenders up to Wednesday, September 21st, for a license to cut timber on Berth No. 1,170, situated in the district of Saskatchewan, on either side of Turtle Lake, containing 49 square miles, also up to Wednesday, September 28th, for a license to cut timber on Berth No. 1,171, containing an area of 50 square miles, including all the islands in Cormorant, Yawring Stone, White Water, and White Fish Lake, the remainder to be selected in district of Saskatchewan, N.W.T. The Department is also prepared to receive tenders for a license to cut timber on Berth No. 398, in the Province of British Columbia, about two miles west of Fraser River, containing an area of two and one-half square miles.

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