

THE FIBER MARKET

Lent & Rukenbrod's weekly report of the fiber market says: "The market continues strong, with a good demand for spot and nearby manilla. The recent advance in the price of rope has enabled manufacturers to buy the raw material at profitable figures, and the stimulus given to trade by this advance has been felt in the market during the past week. Although the price of spot hemp was advanced $\frac{1}{4}$ of a cent on Monday, manufacturers have continued to buy. Distant steamer shipments do not seem to meet with any demand from buyers here, the principal inquiry being for spot parcels, or hemp afloat and very near London.

"The sisal market has shown a slight decline during the past week. The market closes steady. On the spot we hear of no transactions of importance."

HARDWARE TRADE NOTES.

Tar was 15 to 20¢ lower at New York last week, per barrel.

Half a dozen of the large United States paint makers have agreed to advance prices 15¢ per gallon at once.

The Peerless Wire Co. have started business at Hamilton, Ont., as manufacturers of tinned mattress and broom wire.

The new furnaces of the Dominion Iron and Steel Co., Limited, Sydney, N. S., are expected to be put in blast on December 31.

The Sherwin-Williams Co., paint and varnish manufacturers, state that the large increase in price of linseed oil has compelled them to advance prices on many of their products.

New York Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, Nov. 24. The market for turpentine, both primary and local, opened easy, continued quiet all week, declined two cents and closed dull. An error was made in estimating the stocks at Savannah, which are now known to be much lower than at this time last year.

There is a firmer feeling in pig iron, says the Montreal Trade Bulletin, in sympathy with the advance in the United States. No. 1 Summerlee pig iron being held at \$24 to \$25. No. 1 Hamilton and Nova Scotia at \$19 to \$20, and Midland pig iron \$20 for future delivery. A good demand has also been experienced for bar iron.

The manufacturers of cordage have advanced the price of plain and hawser-laid cordage. Plain-laid is now quoted at 10 cents a pound, an advance of 1 cent. Hawser-laid has been advanced to 10½ cents. The unsettled condition of affairs in the Philippine Islands is said to be the reason for advancing the price.—New York Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, Nov. 24.

New York Commercial: For several weeks past there has been a steady advance in the price of manilla hemp, the spot price of which is now 8½¢ per pound, while a few weeks ago it was down to 5¢. The highest price this year was 14½¢, in February. The recent advance, which was begun in Manila and was followed closely by the markets in London and New York.

Chicago Iron and Steel says: The metals are stronger. Tin has advanced abroad and is about ½¢ higher. Spelter also is higher. Demand is excellent and stocks are pretty well exhausted. Prices have advanced about ten points. Inquiries have appeared for copper for deliveries extending through the first quarter of next year and it is asserted some considerable buying has been done on the basis of present prices for shipment during the period. The market is strong in tone. Lead is without change in prices, but greater interest is shown in the market and transactions have been somewhat better.

THE IMPLEMENT TRADE.

THE TWINE MARKET.

There is no change in the twine situation as reported last week. The unsettled condition of the fiber market, especially the advancing tendency, is a puzzle to manufacturers and naturally there is a hesitancy about buying fiber or selling twine. It was reported last week that a meeting of twine manufacturers had been held in New York, but this was not true. The meeting which gave rise to the report was of rope manufacturers, one of their periodical gatherings to discuss trade matters. Some of these manufacturers are also twine makers and it is not improbable that the twine situation was discussed by

them informally.—Chicago Farm Implement News.

IMPLEMENT TRADE NOTES.

There was a big influx of implement men into Winnipeg this week from country points, Massey-Harris Co. agents having been in force, settling up season business affairs.

Mr. Laishley, manager at Winnipeg for the Canada Cycle & Motor Co., has gone east to confer with the general management, regarding business matters for the next season's trade.

The Brandon, Man., Sun says: The heavy fall of snow has made business lively around the implement warehouses. Last fall the dealers were unable to sell sleighs or cutters. This morning a Ninth street firm sold six "bobs" and two cutters. The merchants are jubilant over the arrival of the snow as the farmers can move around more easily than with wagons.

The amalgamation of the National Cycle & Automobile Co. with the Canada Cycle & Motor Co. has been accomplished. The business of the latter company will practically pass into the hands of the Canada Cycle, leaving only the one big cycle company in the field for next season's trade. It is understood the Canada Cycle & Motor Company will operate the National Company's new factory at Hamilton, probably for the manufacture of automobiles.

THE LUMBER TRADE.

WHITE PINE OUTLOOK.

There is a feeling of hopefulness in all the white pine producing sections, shored in a considerable degree by all handlers of the wood. The manufacturers as a class would feel better satisfied with the situation only if their stocks were larger. This matter of stocks is an important one. While exact statistics are not yet available, it is a well understood fact that the supplies in the hands of manufacturers and dealers are lighter than usual and, for the most part, badly broken. There are a few large and well assorted stocks held by those who have de-limited to make any concessions during the period of quiet trade which they have been passing through; but those who have held their lumber thus far are more than ever determined to continue to hold it. In the full belief that before the next season's crop shall be available they will receive a price which will amply repay them for carrying it.—American Lumberman, Chicago

MINNESOTA WHITE PINE VALUES.

The auction sale of Minnesota state timber lands held at St. Paul gave some interesting results in regard to timber values. Without attempting to figure up the exact amount bid or the total estimated amount of timber it may be said that the average price realized was not far from \$5 a thousand for the piece.

There were 129 lots offered for sale by the thousand. The bids ranged from nothing to \$9 a thousand feet. Only eight lots were not sold. Thirty lots were sold at \$5 a thousand or better. Some of the notable sales were of 685,000 feet at \$7.20, 3,400,000 feet at \$6.50, 1,765,000 at \$7, 1,565,000 at \$7, 5,545,000 at \$9, 3,740,000 at \$7.30, 900,000 at \$7.75, 3,000,000 at \$6.50, 2,285,000 at \$5.70.

The highest bidder was the C. A. Smith Company, of Minneapolis, who paid the \$9 a thousand and it was also for the largest amount of timber. Such a price is a remarkable one for Minnesota. The particular tract which brought this highest price was section 16, near the head of the Mississippi river.—American Lumberman.

LUMBER TRADE NOTES.

The Innisfall Lumber Co., Innisfall, Alberta, has been dissolved.

The British Columbia export lumber trade is hampered by high freight rates, owing to action of San Francisco shipping firms.

The British Columbia lumber trade is still very brisk, the sawmills having all the work they can do and some of them working day and night to fill orders.

D. E. Sprague has established camps in the woods on the line of the South-eastern (Canadian Northern) to get out logs for his sawmill at Winnipeg. He also proposes cutting a lot of cord-

wood in the woods this winter for the Winnipeg market.

Lumbering operations in Ottawa at the saw mills are about over for the season. The cut this year is in advance of last season. This year's cut in Ottawa and vicinity will be about 400,000,000 feet. J. H. Booth stands at the head of the list with 80,000,000 feet.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

TROUBLE IN QUEBEC SHOE INDUSTRY.

The Labor Gazette gives the following report of the lock-out in the Quebec boot and shoe trade: On Thursday, October 25, the following notice was posted on each of twenty-one factories in the city of Quebec. "This factory will be closed on Saturday morning until further orders," and in accordance with it, on the Saturday following the factories were closed. On October 30, another shoe factory closed, leaving only four factories in operation at the end of the month. No reason was given directly by the employers to the employees, but it is understood that the lock-out on the part of the boot and shoe manufacturers of the city of Quebec was decided upon by the Association of Employers recently formed in that city, as a consequence of trouble which arose in the factory of Alfred Poirier & Company, members of the Association. This firm had occasion to dismiss one of its employees on the week previous to the general lock-out. The dismissal of this employee was followed by a strike of the other employees in the factory, numbering 80 in all, and the strike was in continuance at the time at which the above notices were posted. A small strike among the operatives of another factory had occurred earlier in the month, but lasted only for eight days. The closing down of the factories has thrown out of employment about 3,500 persons. In approximate numbers, 2,300 of these are males over 18 years of age; 1,155 females over 18, 155 boys and 110 girls. There are also 20 boys between the ages of 12 and 14 years, inclusive. This lock-out affects not only the boot and shoe operatives themselves, but engine drivers, machinists, packers and others. At the close of the month no settlement of any kind had been effected.

BOOTS AND SHOES & LEATHER.

The Montreal market for sole leather is quiet but firm, with an upward tendency in prices, and will probably keep so until after the holidays.

Fall orders are now pretty well all executed, although one house informs us that it has quite a few orders to execute. A few sorting orders are being received, but manufacturers are giving their attention now to spring samples. It is expected that the price lists for spring goods will be materially advanced.—Montreal Trade Bulletin.

A later report from Quebec says: Ald. T. Duchaine opened his shoe factory this morning and announced he preferred to abide by the decision of Archbishop Beaulieu, whatever it might be. All of his employees resumed work. They are also willing to abide by the decision of the arbitrator. It is believed Duchaine is acting in concert with the other shoe manufacturers.

A Montreal report says that a lock-out is threatened in the shoe industry, owing to the trouble with the lasters. For some time there has been considerable friction over the fixing of the price lists of the new lasting machines. The lasters here are well organized and affiliated with all the Canadian Shoe Workers' unions. The lasters in Three Rivers have been on strike for some time. In St. Hyacinthe too the lasters are out, which means \$40 more a week.

Cheese Markets.

London, Ont., Nov. 24.—At to-day's market five factories offered 1,510 boxes September and October cheese, colored. Sales, 210 at 10½¢.

Cornwall, Ont., Nov. 25.—At the Cornwall cheese board on Saturday 526 white and 271 colored cheese were boarded. All sold at 9½¢. Lovell & Christmas got 513, Ayer & Co, 204 and Hodgson Bros, 50. This was the last meeting for this year.

It is reported from Selkirk that a new fishing company is being formed to operate on Lake Winnipeg. The

company will be a purely Canadian one, and not controlled by United States capital, as is the case of other fishing industries.

Letters Patent have been issued incorporating William A. Sipprell, accountant; Lovell Seldon Baker, clerk; Percy Ireland, accountant; George Walter Lewis, accountant, all of the city of Winnipeg, in the province of Manitoba, and Joseph Findlay, of Toronto, and such others as may become shareholders in the company, under the name of "The Western Canada Business College."

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