

CANADA LUMBERMAN

WEEKLY EDITION

The Lumberman Monthly Edition, 20 pages } \$1.00 PER YEAR { The Lumberman Weekly Edition, every Wednesday

VOL. I.

TORONTO, ONT., APRIL 17, 1895

No. 15.

CANADA LUMBERMAN

PUBLISHED BY

C. H. MORTIMER

Confederation Life Building - TORONTO.

Branch Office:

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE BUILDING,
MONTREAL.

Weekly Lumberman, published every Wednesday. Contains reliable and up-to-date market conditions and tendencies 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. Its special articles on technical and mechanical subjects are especially valuable to saw mill and planing mill men and manufacturers of lumber products.

Subscription price for the two editions for one year, \$1.00.

WANTED AND FOR SALE

Advertisements will be inserted in this department at the rate of 15 cents per line each insertion. When four or more consecutive insertions are ordered a discount of 25 per cent will be allowed. This notice shows the width of the line and is set in Nonpareil type, and no display is allowed beyond the head line. Advertisements must be received not later than 4 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday to insure insertion in the current week's issue.

BUSINESS DIFFICULTIES AND CHANGES.

The planing mill of I. Lennox & Co., Toronto, was destroyed by fire on Saturday 13 inst.

Geo Cassidy & Co., Ltd., Vancouver, B. C., have sold out their branch lumber yard at Nanaimo, to Mr. A. Haslam, of that place.

A license to cut over on 36 square miles of timber limits in the township of Lumsden, on the Vermillion River, will be put up at auction at Ottawa on the 18th inst.

Str. Joseph L. Coiby at New York, April 8th from Genoa, reports between Cape Hatters and Body Island, passed about 100,000 feet of lumber, apparently but a short time in the water.

Cushing's steam saw mill at Union Point, N. B., one of the largest of the St. John mills, was burned a few days ago. They employ 150 hands and cut annually some 20,000,000 feet of lumber for the States.

An Ottawa dispatch says that a big deal is on between a Philadelphia syndicate and the owners of several large tracts of timber lands on the upper Ottawa, by which the former will acquire possession of some of the heaviest timber limits in the district.

Susan M. McMaster, of Toronto, has presented a petition to the Circuit Court at Bay City, Mich. asking an injunction to restrain W. S. Cousins from removing machinery from the shingle mill there. The property has been advertised for sale under mortgage for enclosure by Mrs. McMaster for April 15th. She claims that Cousins has taken some of the machinery from the mills and has threatened to move other machinery. The injunction was issued.

Flat Bros. Canadian lumbermen, will ship a quantity of timber by boat from Ontonagon, Mich., to Quebec, there to be loaded on ocean vessels for England.

CURRENT TRADE CONDITIONS.

ONTARIO.

THE middle of April shows that lumber trade is improving. There is nothing about this to enthrone over, for the volume of business is yet restricted. But general signs of things moving are manifest in many ways. The season for the starting of the mills has been late, but practically most of these are now cutting, and will likely keep up work throughout, at least, an average season. It will be an agreeable disappointment if we should learn of night and day staffs to any large extent. Trade, is not likely to develop in that direction. How far work on the drives will prove easy remains yet to be seen, though at present there are no great difficulties that appear to be in the way of getting down the logs in good time, and in sufficient quantities. Everyone has come pretty much to the conclusion that there is going to be no boom this year, but a steady, substantial and healthy business is expected. In Toronto a larger local trade than is usual will likely be done, as building will be more active than for several years past. Information from other cities and larger towns indicate that the season will by no means be a dull one. Shipments to the United States are growing, though the conservatism of buyers is very remarkable. Still later, everyone says, the demand will increase as stocks will have to be procured. The point is that just now business is not doing in the size that is usual for this period of the year.

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Moving from the lethargy that has surrounded the winter's lumber trade, so far as their has been any, the trade in Quebec are commencing to see things make a start, and it is believed by shrewd and careful lumbermen, that taking the season throughout it will be found that a very fair trade will have been done. Whilst uncertainty, and in some quarters, dullness still prevails, in the United Kingdom, yet at other points business is looking up, and the shipments to Great Britain will be on a fair scale. Last year prices for timber were low. This year they will show some improvement, at least. In the Maritime Provinces a good trade is anticipated with the United States, now that lumber is free. The condition of the spruce market is viewed with favor. And yet, though prices are stiff and it would seem advancing in the United States, it cannot be said that in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia a noticeable change in this respect has taken place. But it is expected that in sympathy with the United States trade, prices will advance some. The export trade to Great Britain from New

Brunswick is taking on some degree of activity.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The foreign cargo trade on the Pacific coast partakes of an encouraging nature. Compared with other years the size of sales, perhaps, do not show any very material difference, but the enquiries this year are growing, and would appear to be developing into good size. We see further evidence of this in shipping directions, where the call for charters is improving. It is believed that shipments to South Africa will assume a good size, and with some appearance of the insurrection in South America subsiding, trade at that point, which is always represented in fair figures will take on something like natural proportions. There can be no doubt that British Columbia mill men are increasing their trade in California. The mills must trace a good deal of the work they are to-day doing to the outlet that has been furnished by this new field. Of course, this fact is causing grumbling in Washington territory, but the Californians are evidently satisfied with the stock they are getting and the prices being charged, or this trade could not grow as it has done within a few months. Domestic trade this spring and summer will be better, it would appear than a year ago, and so with shipments from the coast into the Northwest territories.

UNITED STATES.

The same measure of activity is not to be found in northern pine districts of the United States this season as is the case where yellow pine finds its home. The reports from the south are that the mills are all running, and in some cases night as well as day gangs are at work, it not being the easiest matter to keep well up with orders that are coming along. This may mean one of two things, either that yellow pine is encroaching aggressively on the field of white pine, and to some extent supplanting it, or, and there is reason to believe that this is the case, that yellow pine is making a market for itself in uses for which it seems to be specially designed. Though trade in the south is still much disorganized, and prices have had to bear the brunt of many changes, at the same time the solid lumbermen of that district are getting closer together and holding firmer to prices. There is not as much confidence regarding the future of prices for white pine, as is desirable at this season of the year. No change is taking place. Trade has been slow enough in opening to give rise to fears of what the future may bring forth. At the same time the impression grows that prices for better stock throughout the sea-

son will remain unchanged, unless in the direction of a slight advance. Operations in railway construction will be on a larger scale than for some years, and considerable quantities of lumber will be consumed in this manner. In the leading markets of the Eastern States there are signs of spring trade having been reached. At Albany business is active. Things at Buffalo are still somewhat quiet. Again in New York trade is brightening a little.

FOREIGN.

The upward and better movement of lumber in the United Kingdom, is so slight that it is difficult to say much of improved conditions. Business is from all accounts improving, but except at particular points, it is hard to say that this improvement is of any great size. The past week or two in lumber in Liverpool has not developed a large share of strength. Healthy progress in the Glasgow trade, previously noted, continues. Weather conditions of the past few weeks have acted beneficially on trade generally and more confidence exists there in the timber trade. Building operations in this district are securing the benefit of this. New contracts for tonnage have been placed lately and as a consequence an increased demand for timber comes from ship builders. Of the Glasgow market, Timber says, the deliveries of deals from the storage yards proceed satisfactorily and will compare favorably with the corresponding months of previous years. Pine deals of all kinds are in fair demand, but spruce does not show any improvement except that extreme lengths are in active request. No very cheery news of a large demand for lumber comes from Australian points, nor yet from South America.

HARDWOODS.

What Canadian hardwoods are going into the United States are commanding a fair price. It can hardly be said that Canadian dealers are getting the full benefit of the removal of the \$2 duty, but it has in a measure worked in their favor. Enquiries from the United States are somewhat active and the trade generally, are able to take care of all orders that come to them. The hardwood market in Great Britain does not seem in a very healthy condition. The current issue of Timber Trades Journal, of London, Eng., tells of a shipment of ash that went under the hammer at prices that showed a sad depreciation for this formerly high class timber, the same may be said of the market for rock elm, of which buyers appear to be dull to the fact that the present f. o. b. cost is something like 15 5d per foot. Hardwood saw millers are likely to have a busy season.