

and extras are bringing \$40 to \$42 on Boston rate of freight. Cedar shingles are almost equally strong. Locally the demand is quiet, but the C. P. R. shops in Montreal and the harbor improvements about to be commenced at Quebec will call for a large quantity of material. It is yet too early to estimate the log production of the coming winter. A New Brunswick lumberman, however, gives it as his opinion that the cut of logs on the St. John river and its tributaries will be considerably less than last season, owing to the fact that the price of stumpage has been advanced by the New Brunswick Railway Company and that it is difficult to obtain men for work in the woods.

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Activity characterizes the lumber trade of Manitoba and British Columbia. Manufacturers are unable to supply the demand, a large portion of which comes from the agricultural districts of Manitoba and the Territories. The scarcity of labor continues to be a great drawback. Some of the mills have been compelled to shut down temporarily. Loggers are paid as high as \$4 per day, and Japs and Chinese are getting \$1.35 per cord for shingle bolts, an increase of about 75 per cent. over last year.

UNITED STATES.

Satisfaction is not expressed in all quarters in respect to the volume of the fall trade in lumber. Doubtless the coal strike and the fear of further complications in labor circles has caused buyers to proceed with caution. A settlement of the strike would doubtless be followed by active buying of lumber. New York reports a large volume of business at satisfactory prices, and white pine has further strengthened in the eastern markets. Our Buffalo list this week shows an advance in all sizes of uppers, selects and fine common, as well as in 10 and 12-inch barn boards and 13-inch box lumber. In the Albany list shipping and 10-inch common are marked up one dollar. The shortage in white pine dimension has assisted to a further advance in the price of hemlock. Chicago yards have put into effect an advance of about 50 cents, some dealers claiming that they are getting \$12. Spruce is probably the strongest lumber in the east. In Boston frames are selling at \$19 to \$21, and random at \$17 to \$17.50. There is little change in hardwoods. A Buffalo dealer who recently visited Michigan was asked \$21 for log run basswood. This is probably the highest price which basswood has reached for some time, and it is predicted that other classes of hardwood lumber will witness a rise in price in the near future. Birch is selling freely and is being used in no small quantity as a substitute for oak and chestnut. Maple also has improved in tone. Shingles are strong. Within the past two weeks white cedar shingles have been advanced five cents a thousand in the Chicago market. Sales of several million have been made in that market at from \$2.85 to \$2.90 by water and \$3 by rail, and of 8-inch by water at \$2.80. Clear pine lath bring \$3.50 in Chicago, and No. 1 mixed \$3.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Importers who usually pursue a conservative policy are advising the purchase of lumber at present prices. They argue that lower values are not probable, and that the market is in a favorable position to advance before next spring. It is announced that third quality Quebec pine

deals have already been contracted for at an advance of £1 per standard on present prices. The stock of good quality pine deals is below the average. There has been a marked appreciation in Canadian red pine, prices during the last two months having advanced 20 shillings a standard. Importers are offering £12 c. i. f. for 11x3 unassorted red pine deals, but shippers refuse to contract on this basis, apparently believing that they will be able to do better. Several orders have recently been booked for red pine for shipment to South Africa. The spruce market maintains its buoyancy. Writing of that lumber a correspondent says: "The one bright spot in an otherwise dull season has been the improvement in Canadian spruce, and this despite the threatened opposition from the Austria-Hungary, Roumanian, and Bosnian whitewood exports at the beginning of the year. During the season there has been a distinct rise of 10s. per standard in all qualities of deals. Third quality 3 x 9 opened at £8 5s. c. i. f., quickly advancing to £8 10s. and the movement since then has been gradually upward to the present contract price of £8 17s. 6d. c. i. f. It is possible to purchase these goods at £9 15s. per standard in the docks, but this quotation will not hold long." A fair demand exists for waney and square pine. Owing to the dullness in the furniture and cabinet-making trades, birch and ash are quiet. Elm is held in large supply at Glasgow and Liverpool, but the stock is chiefly of inferior grades.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

William J. Scott, of Springhill, N.B., has a contract to supply 600,000 laths to Boston dealers.

The steamer Coringa is about to load a cargo of deals at Montreal for Glasgow, on account of Dobell, Beckett & Company.

It is estimated that about 2,500,000 feet of lumber will be required for the proposed buildings of the Deering Harvester Company, at Hamilton, Ont.

The Warton Lumber Company, of Barrow, Ont., are prepared to let a contract for logging 1,000,000 feet of hardwood logs, including beech, maple, elm and basswood.

Johnston & Beveridge, of Parry Sound, Ont., have entered into a seven years' contract to log in the Algoma district. During the coming winter they will get out 7,000,000 feet of saw logs.

A. McArthur & Son, of South Lancaster, Ont., closed a contract last week whereby they obtained possession of 800 acres of timber land situated northwest of Martintown. The price paid was \$32,000.

The Lake Superior Timber Company, of Port Arthur, Ont., have entered into a contract with the Michigan Sulphite Fibre Company, of Port Huron, Mich., to supply 8,000 cords of pulp wood per annum, commencing next year.

The total quantity of lumber rafted up to October 1st by the Fredericton Boom Company was 123,320,750 superficial feet and 68,640 tons of timber. There were 52,071 joints rafted, made up as follows: 573,600 feet of hemlock, 9,774,930 feet of cedar, 3,362,490 feet of pine, 110,610,730 feet of spruce.

The New Brunswick government will offer for sale on October 22nd the following timber licenses: Three miles on Lower Otter Brook, Cain's river, J. S. Fairley, applicant; two miles on Mispec

river, St. John county, A. E. Smyc, applicant; two miles north-east of Gounamitz river, William Richards & Company, applicants.

The following timber berths were sold by the New Brunswick Government at Fredericton last week: South of Enoch Baker Brook, on the St. Francis, three miles, to R. A. Estey, at \$8 a mile; Parishes of St. Francis and Clair, 7 1/2 miles, to R. A. Estey, at \$96 a mile; east side of River St. Francis, 7 1/2 miles, to R. A. Estey, at \$101 a mile; Cain's River, below North Branch, two miles, to Wm. Richards, at \$126 a mile; head of Little River, two miles, to William Richards, at \$100 a mile.

THE OTTAWA VALLEY.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

An unusual circumstance was recorded in local lumber circles last week. One of the largest mill operators, presumably holding heavy stocks looking for buyers, was forced to go outside his own yards to secure stocks to fill orders which he was in duty bound forced to satisfy, and which in the rush of business he had not provided for. This will give an illustration of the scarcity of high grade lumber in Ottawa and the Ottawa Valley. Prices remain unchanged for the very good reason that there are practically no stocks on which to change prices. This applies to good pine sidings, strips and shorts in all dimensions. There are practically none of the above in the hands of the manufacturers, and the dealers are holding what little they have for their car trade. By means of this high grade lumber, which is about as much sought after as anthracite, and about as easily obtainable, they can dispose of other grades—more plentiful and less sought after—in the way of mixed cars.

The smaller mills throughout the surrounding country have been repeatedly canvassed for the high grade stock spoken of, but they have not been able to satisfy any reasonable percentage of the demand.

The season's steady run on lath and shingles has found the yards depleted of their stocks, this fall, and as a consequence prices of some lines have experienced a slight advance. Despite the fact that cedar shingles now rule in equal favor as the pine—in some quarters even better—the dealers find it difficult to get stock to fill orders. The local demand has been but a fair one, but the outside requests have been growing in volume. The

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Ottawa district lath and shingles went into the Ohio and Pennsylvania districts in large quantities during the past summer, and this fact, coupled with the continued strong demand from New York points, has had a tendency to keep the piling grounds in a rather depleted condition. From these observations a future advance would seem to be a safe deduction.

No. 1 white pine lath is quoted on a conservative basis at \$2.75 to \$3, while other lines remain about the same. The demand for mill run red pine lath seems to have fallen off, it being quoted 25 cents lower at \$2 to \$2.25. Cedar shingles, XXXX, 16 inch, find ready purchasers at \$2.25 to \$2.50, and clear butt same length are firm at \$1.65 to \$1.90, with XX quoted at \$1.20 to \$1.25. In pine stock, clear butts, 18 inch, sell at \$2.15 to \$2.40, and XXXX same length at \$3 to \$3.25, with XX at \$1.25 to \$1.50.

The stock of medium grade and cull lumber is quite large, and as the demand is readily supplied prices have become a degree easier. Pine s.c. shorts are quoted at from \$11 to \$14, pine box boards at from \$10 to \$14.50, and pine mill culls at from \$9 to \$14 per M. These figures, of course, represent mill and wholesalers' prices.

The old trouble, shortage of cars, has broken out in the Ottawa district again, and it threatens to assume a serious form. One Valley mill is said to stand in need of hundreds of cars to move stock already sold. Be this as it may, there is no doubt but what stocks could be moved very much easier if more cars were on hand. The movement of western wheat has, at the dictates of the wheat king, deprived the lumber trade of a large percentage of the rolling stock it was wont to rely on. As the harvest is an unusually heavy one, there does not seem to be any prospect of a betterment of conditions as far as the lumber business is concerned. In this connection it may be remarked that the movement of lumber by water this season

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