

CANADA LUMBERMAN

WEEKLY EDITION

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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.

CURRENT TRADE CONDITIONS.

ONTARIO.

It can hardly be said that the actual transactions of the week closed show any improvement over the quietness of the preceding weeks of March. No spring movement of stocks has taken place, though lumbermen are not concerned over these conditions. It is about what they had expected. It is quite consistent at the same time to say that the outlook is better this week than it was a few weeks ago. Enquiries are of a more business like character. Dropping into the office of a large mill man a few days since we were shown a telegram from the eastern states, making enquiry for about 2,000,000 of pine. Rumors come to us of other transactions that are under way, and that will likely take formal shape within the next few weeks. Travellers are commencing to enter upon their spring trips, believing that they will find business to do. The tendency of prices is by no means downwards. Even those who take a pessimistic view of the situation, and think that the season's trade will be slow, freely admit that as yet prices remain perfectly firm, whilst some of the large concerns hold that some grades will further advance.

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Representatives of Canadian trade who are in Great Britain looking after new business are experiencing some difficulty in closing contracts. This is not because stocks are not wanted, though in certain lines these are heavy. Prices are held by Canadian lumbermen higher than the British timber merchants care to pay and the opinion has taken hold in the United Kingdom that there will be a drop in prices the coming season. That this will be the case, however, so far as leading woods, that come from this country are concerned, is doubtful. There are conditions, nevertheless, in connection with the lumber trade of Great Britain that call for careful study. The deal trade is not in the most satisfactory shape, and an article elsewhere in these columns is of importance to all interested in this branch of lumber. What applies to Quebec lumber merchants, holds true of lumbermen in New Brunswick, who look to the United Kingdom largely as a market for their products. New Brunswick trade with the United States has not yet developed into anything remarkable, and it is thought will not prove as heavy as was contended for some when the new tariff first came into effect.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Lumber trade on the coast has shown some activity of late, both in export lines,

and also the domestic trade. Satisfactory shipments of lumber are going forward into the interior and it looks as though a decent home trade would be done the coming season. Export trade is improving. It may be said that there has been lots of room for improvement. That is true, but it is worth something to know that the situation has taken this shape, and the indications are that no inconsiderable quantity of lumber will go forward to foreign fields within the next six months. The shingle trade is much in the same position as it has been for a long time past, and how far any substantial improvement will take place this spring, is yet a point on which it is not an easy matter to write with certainty.

UNITED STATES.

The opinion is gaining ground that business generally in the United States the approaching spring season will not assume very large proportions. There is hardly any likelihood that it will take on that strength, that was hopefully anticipated a few months ago. And what is true of business in most other lines explains the situation in lumber. Great expectations possessed the lumber trade at the turn of the year. It is natural, stepping out of the old year into the new year, to look for better things. It counts a good deal with human nature that this spirit takes hold of even the bluest of business men. Rather much, however, would seem to have been expected, and one is safe in saying now that whilst a fair trade is likely to be done no boom is going to take hold of the lumber trade right away. The spirit of procrastination is marked with buyers. Lumber may be wanted, but this does not assure many sales. It is, nevertheless, encouraging to know that stocks held are, with few exceptions, small. And it would not require a very heavy spurt in trade to compel buyers to come to time. In several cases that might be named, where wholesalers, and we speak now of points in the eastern states with which we are acquainted, have their yards well stocked up, the fact that this is so is an encouraging sign. They are stocked up because they will not break prices; and they will not break prices because they have confidence that lumber is all right, and that present values are not a whit too high. So it is that the lumber journalist cannot else than report a continued period of quietude, but with signs that very shortly this will be broken.

FOREIGN.

Lumber in the United Kingdom drags along exceedingly slowly. The severe frost has effected deliveries, but even aside from that, stocks are large enough to pre-

clude the hope of orders of any great size. As the Timber Trades Journal says, whilst considerable diversity of experience exists in respect to the future of prices, signs are not wanting that shippers are beginning to appreciate the dull state of the English market. At present shippers and buyers are not in harmony regarding f.o.b. values, but this is not likely to last another month, and as the time for shipping draws near, some decided position will have to be assumed on one side or the other. The auction sales that are taking place are drawing together a fair number of buyers, but prices are not nearly up to the mark. As an indication of how the severe weather in Great Britain has affected the lumber trade, it was estimated that at one time fully 15,000 men were idle on the Clyde, owing to the intense frost that prevailed, and in house building the stoppage has been of longer duration, and things have been much kept back in this way. This circumstance must of necessity give activity to trade so soon as the weather enables men to resume work and contracts to be pushed ahead. Advices from other export fields, including Australia, South America, South Africa and West Indies, are in part encouraging of an improved export business in lumber.

HARDWOODS.

Probably more immediate activity exists in hardwoods than in any other branch of lumber. Shipments are going forward to New York, Boston and Philadelphia fairly liberally. 1sts and 2nds in basswood are in good demand. Difficulty is experienced in securing birch in the quantities and sizes to meet the call; and prices for this wood have stiffened within a few weeks. With traffic clear orders, that have been hanging a little during the month, will be pushed forward with energy. Among the bicycle factories is a special demand for rock elm. Red birch is having a good call from United States wholesalers. Prices all round for hardwoods are more than holding their own.

SHINGLES.

The shingle trade does not improve. A wholesaler has remarked that the call for xxx white pine shingles is almost nil, and thinks that red cedar shingles have largely taken their place. The main demand for white pine shingles is for xx.

Geo. St. Pierre & Co. are commencing business at Fraserville and St. Honore, Que., as lumber and shingle millers.

Harvey Morris' planing mill, Wallaceburg, Ont., has been purchased by the Richard Grant Co., of New York, for \$5,500. Mr. Morris will manage the mill.

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.

FOR SALE - 20 M FEET CHERRY LUMBER, 1 to 5 inches thick, 15 and 25.

J. KAUFMAN, Berlin.

SHINGLES OR LUMBER WANTED IN EXCHANGE for 50 H.P. engine, nearly new.

PARK & BORROWMAN, Amherstburg.

TIMBER LIMITS FOR SALE

Township of Lumsden

Select tenders addressed to the undersigned will be received up to 12 o'clock, noon, of

THE 18TH DAY OF APRIL, 1895.

For the purchase of the license to cut the timber on said Township of Lumsden, containing thirty-six square miles.

This berth has never been cut over; the pine is large and of good quality, and short haul; the Vermillion River runs through it and is a splendid stream to drive. Cleveford Station, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, is only seven miles distant.

Terms - Cash, or the equivalent if time is required for the payment of a portion of the purchase money. The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

For further particulars apply to

THOMAS McCRAKEN,

No. 2 Victoria Street,

Toronto, Canada.

It is thought that W. E. Barrett & Co., wholesale lumber and shingle dealers, of Grand Rapids, Mich., and having yards at S. Joseph, Muskegon and Manistee, will consolidate their interests in one central point.

The furniture factory at Bridgetown, N. S., has been purchased by Messrs. Mark and Albert S. Curry and Byron Kent, of Amherst. They will engage principally in the manufacture of door, sash and building materials.