

Manitoba. It is estimated, on good authority, that there will be a yield of about 15 bushels to the acre. That there are no large stocks of lumber on hand may be gathered from the expressed opinion of Winnipeg lumber dealers that had it not been for the building strike in Chicago they would have been unable to secure supplies of lumber from the south, and there would accordingly have been a shortage in certain lines in Winnipeg. A large number of new grain elevators are to be erected this fall, for which purpose large quantities will be required. The Rat Portage Lumber Company are reported to have received an order from the Ogilvie Milling Company for 2,000,000 feet of lumber for this purpose.

The manufacturers of British Columbia who are in a position to do an export trade are looking forward to a large demand from China as soon as the present difficulties in that country shall have become settled. They believe that the market will then be more accessible than in the past to western commerce. The present disturbance has so far had no perceptible effect on lumber exports from British Columbia. Large shipments have recently gone forward to Tien Tsin. Quite recently the steamer Estivold carried 2,500,000 feet of lumber from the Sound to China, while the Pacific Coast Lumber Company is said to be also shipping largely to that country. The important announcement is made that Capt. L. F. McKenzie, of Vancouver, has selected a water power site not far from that city on which to erect a pulp mill. This will provide an outlet for a large quantity of spruce timber.

UNITED STATES.

At a meeting of the Lake Superior Lumbermen's Association, held at Ashland, Wis., on June 22nd, at which representatives were present from nearly 50 manufacturing concerns with a total capacity under ordinary conditions of 900,000,000 feet annually, the lumber and log situation in the white pine field was thoroughly discussed. This discussion showed that nearly 240,000,000 feet of logs were reported to be hung up in streams in the Lake Superior district, and that nearly every drive has been abandoned, that about 30 mills have closed down for want of logs and that the mills in the Mississippi valley are also running short; that the increased cost of manufacture is about \$3 per thousand feet above that of last year; that there is a shortage in stock in shipping condition, an active demand for lumber, and good crop conditions. In view of these circumstances, it was resolved that the Association should maintain the prices made during the past two or three months for the balance of the season. The opinion prevails that stocks in the hands of dealers will shortly be reduced to a point which will compel sorting up on a considerable scale. Dealers are said to be withholding orders as long as possible fearing that there may be a decline in values. The low condition of stocks throughout the country combined with a resumption in building operations in Chicago and other large cities and the probability of a considerable curtailment in the output of the mills seems to afford no foundation for such expectations. It seems probable that immediately following the midsummer vacation will come a revival of demand which will maintain, if it should not cause an advance, in present prices for white pine. Prices for hemlock have declined from \$1 to \$2 per thousand as the result of lessened building operations. Spruce has also declined to about the same extent. The disbanding of the Eastern Lumbermen's Association, following the withdrawal of Messrs Stetson, Curler & Company, of St. John and one or two other prominent members, has had a tendency to further weaken values. Basswood is reported to be in good demand, and prices satisfactory.

A combination of shingle manufacturers of New Brunswick and Northern Maine is talked of, with the object of maintaining prices and regulating output.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The chief factor in the regulation of prices in the British market at the present time is the vessel supply. While the market demand appears to be weaker than usual, prices are firmly maintained by reason of the high carrying charges. The deliveries thus far have fallen far short of the average, and there are no indications at present that the vessel supply will be more abundant later on in the season. On the contrary, the advance in insurance charges on cargoes from the St. Lawrence will later on form an additional factor in maintaining values. Importers, who were fortunate enough to secure cargoes earlier in the season at reduced charges, are being urged to hold their supplies for a higher profit instead of disposing of them at auction, as some have done recently.

The market for spruce continues very strong, values having advanced 10 shillings since the first of the year. Quebec thirds 3x9, 12 feet are now bringing £8 15s.; 3x7 and 8 inch are quoted at £8 5s. A number of transactions have recently taken place at good prices in Manchester. The general opinion seems to be that prices will remain unchanged throughout the season. It is almost certain that there will be no decline, while there may possibly be an advance. The high price of Baltic deals is creating an extra demand for spruce. Some uneasiness has been occasioned to the trade in London by the dockers' strike, which it is feared may spread to the timber docks.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

A boat is due at St. John, N. B., now which is to take 3,000,000 from Stetson's mill to England.

A large sale is reported at St. John as being made at \$11, the logs of which were bought at same figure.

A recent contract was one of Millar & Woodman, amounting to 3,000,000, sold to Wm. MacKay, of St. John, at \$11.

Eighty-seven raftsmen, employed by the Fredericton Boom Company, have struck for increased wages. Their request is being considered.

The tail of the saw log drive is now in the dead water and about 10,000 pieces are being passed through the harbor boom at Trenton, Ont., daily.

There is quite a stock of American logs on hand at St. John, N.B., but they cannot be sawn for the American market. A number of mills are therefore cutting for the English market.

It is expected that when the statements are in full Messrs. Hale & Murchie's cut on Tobique will amount to about 10,000,000, by including that of McCollum's end, which is in neighborhood of 2,000,000.

St. John market prices for shingles are about as follows: Extras \$2.90, clears \$2.40, 2nd clears \$2, extra No. 1 \$1.40, No. 1 \$1. Planed, butted and jointed clapboards. Extras \$30, clears \$25, 2nd clears \$25, extra No. 1 \$17, No. 1 \$10.

A New Brunswick correspondent writes: Provincial logs were selling in April and May at \$10 and \$10.50. Now there are very few provincial logs for sale. All are being held by millmen who require them. There seems on the whole to be very little manufactured lumber in stock.

Messrs. Parker, Eakins & Co., Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, write: "The spruce lumber situation here is that stocks are very light and prices much higher than in ordinary years, say \$2 to \$3 higher. Our mills (mills shipping their cut from this port) saw South American scheduler almost exclusively. Demand is good."

A correspondent writes from Western Ontario, disputes the statement made in our review of trade conditions on June 20th, "That some of the hardwoods, particularly elm and maple, are showing signs of weakness due to a heavy production in Western Ontario." He states

from personal knowledge that the production is not an average of the last five years.

Messrs. Hilyard Bros., who ran their mill on the Tobique last year, say they cannot possibly do so this season. Last season's cut was at a loss owing to the exorbitant C.P.R. freight charges which are far above those charged on the I. C. R. or other roads. They predict the impossibility of success in lumber manufacture on the Tobique under prevailing freight conditions.

St. John, N. B., advices state there seems to have been very few sales recently, and very little shipped. There are but two vessels in the harbor, only one of which, the Oscar II, is loading at present for Manchester. Two vessels went out last week, the Consols, bound for Manchester, and the B. Jorvin, for Liverpool. Seven or eight vessels are nearly due and it is expected that from now to the end of July there will be much shipping done. The English market is considered by all to be good, though freights are high, being about 15 shillings per standard more than last year. The prices in deal market are anywhere from £15 to £15 5s, according to specification of cargoes.

QUEBEC GOVERNMENT TIMBER SALE.

The adjourned timber sale of government timber lands held at Quebec last week, was attended by between 60 and 70 prominent lumber and pulp manufacturers. The upset prices were regarded as being too high, and tended to restrict investments, so that only \$135,000 was realized from the sale. The Commissioners of Crown Lands expressed the opinion, however, that next year the limits would prove the more valuable.

The detailed statement of the sales is as follows:

ST. MAURICE DISTRICT.

Mr. Wm. Power: River Windigo, No. 1 East, 50 square miles at \$117 per mile, \$5,850; No. 3 east—50 square miles at \$117, \$5,850. Mr. Jas. Robinson: N. E. half of Bostonnais, 2 N—25 miles at \$75.25, \$1,881.25; river Trench, No. 3 west, 50 miles at \$130, \$6,500; No. 3 east, 50 miles at \$136, \$6,800; river Croche, No. 5 west—46 miles at \$112, \$5,152.

BONAVENTURE WEST.

Geo. McKean: River Nouvelle, No. 5—11 miles at \$50.25, \$552.75. Carrier, Laine & Co.: Grand Cascapedia, Nos. 5 and 6—64 miles at \$40.25, \$2,576. J. D. Sowerby: Tp. Man, Nos. 1 and 2—7 2-3 miles at \$50.25, \$385.65; Nos. 3, 4, and 5—3 3/4, 4 1/2, and 6 miles respectively at \$51.25, \$734.58; Little River, Middle west—1 1/2 miles at \$50.25, \$569.50.

LAKE ST. JOHN CENTRE.

Basil Neron: Tp. Caron, No. 1—5 miles at \$30.25, \$151.25. The Jonquiere Lumber Co.: Tp. Dequen, No. 152—8 miles at \$60.25, \$182.00.

LAKE ST. JOHN NORTH WEST.

River Perebouka, Nos. 125 and 127—90 miles at \$20.25, \$4,522.50.

LAKE ST. JOHN WEST.

B. A. Scott: 1st range No. 1; 4th range No. 1.—7 3/2 miles at \$50.25, \$3,695.37;

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2nd range, No. 2; 3rd range No. 2—41 miles at \$35.25, \$1,445.25.

RIMOUSKI WEST.

Thomas Lebel:—Tp. Neigette, No. 1.—14 miles at \$50, \$700.

ST. CHARLES DISTRICT.

Price, Brothers & Co.: Little River, Pikauba—52 miles at \$106, \$5,512; Grande River Pikauba No. 1—50 miles at \$90.25, \$4,512.50; rivers Little Pikauba and Cyriac 60 miles; river Cyriac, 22 1/2 miles; rivers Cyriac and Pikauba, 32 miles, all at \$90.25, \$10,288.50. Wm. M. McIntyre: River Metabetchouan—16 limits from No. 144 south to 161 inclusive, 46 1/2 miles at \$80.25, \$37,336.31.

SAUGENAY DISTRICT.

C. Veilleux: River Portneuf—No. 1 east—50 miles at \$75.25, \$3,752.50; No. 2 east—50 miles at \$125, \$6,250; No. 4 east and No. 3 west—100 miles at \$50.25, \$5,025; No. 1 west—50 miles at \$83, \$4,150. Emile Dube: River Portneuf, No. 3 east—50 miles at \$75.25, \$3,752.50. The Labrador Company: River Magpie No. 2—20 miles at \$50.25, \$1,005. Mr. Pulling: Liver Jupitagan—2 1/2 miles at \$40.25, \$966. Total \$135,173.41.

The Department has still a large number of limits on hand which will be offered for sale later.

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