the unfavorable reports regarding damage by rust and frost which have been made public during the past week have caused dealers to assume a more conservative attitude. Competition from United States lumber is not quite as severe as in the mid-summer season due to an improved demand in that market. Nevertheless, the American shippers have cut fully $2 per thousand below the home manufacturers and are still selling lumber below the actual cost of production. The present outlook is for an average volume of business during the fall months, but without much improvement in prices.

UNITED STATES.

Any change in the United States lumber demand has been in the direction of an improvement. In the wheat producing districts the volume of business has fallen off on account of the probable shortage in the yield of that cereal, but in all other sections of the country there has been an increase in the call for lumber. This has not resulted in higher prices, although one or two lines have advanced slightly. In the Lake Superior district No. 1 common boards in white pine are in very light supply and box lumber is none too plentiful. In the Chicago market No. 1 boards are scarce and strong in price, box grades are limited in supply, and No. 2 and 3 boards, though more plentiful than some other grades, are selling well. Buffalo and Tonawanda dealers report that sales of white pine are increasing and a sharp revival in demand is anticipated upon the settlement of the labor difficulties in New York, which is expected at an early date.

Better reports come to hand concerning hardwoods, which have been quiet for the past few months. There are signs of an active fall demand, as the large building operations under way in the cities will mean a large consumption of hardwoods for interior work. Plain sawed oak is much in favor, followed by ash, elm and birch. Basswood is not showing much life, but as stocks are not large prices have been well maintained. White pine lath sell readily. In Chicago the market price for No. 1 is $3.10 to $3.25.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The improvement in the British lumber market mentioned in our last report has been maintained, but the fear of consignments is still causing some anxiety. Up to the present time very little Canadian lumber has been received on consignment, and as there is a stiffer tendency in respect to Atlantic freights it is not likely that the market will suffer much from this cause. The light import of Canadian pine has been very beneficial, and has prevented prices from breaking. The volume of lumber offering is falling off and with a fair demand buyers are showing more disposition to secure cargoes. Prices of pine and elm timber are stronger. A considerable quantity of elm of good quality has recently changed hands at advanced prices. There has also been more inquiry for birch planks and shippers are asking higher prices than previously accepted. At Liverpool the prevailing price is from 10d. to 11d. per cubic foot.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

Rhodes, Curry & Company, of Amherst, N.S., last week imported from the United States 100,000 feet of oak lumber per schooner Greta, and 70,000 feet of oak timber per schooner Oriol.

The Brodhagen Lumber Company offered for sale at Burk's Falls, Ont., last week, 44½ square mile of timber limits in Chapman township. The highest bid received was $1,600 and the limits were withdrawn.

The Scott Lumber Company have closed down their saw mill at Magaguadavic, N. B., for the season, having decided to hold over until next year about 5,000,000 feet of logs which they have at Magaguadavic Lake. Their Victoria mill at Fredericton, N. B., will be operated until about the middle of November.

The water in the St. John river rose very unexpectedly last week, breaking away the booms between Little Falls and Woodstock. The Scott Lumber Company, of Fredericton, had about 1,000,000 feet of logs carried away, and R.A. Estey lost 180 joints of cedar. At Van Buren, Maine, the St. John Lumber Company is reported to have lost 1,000,000 feet of logs. Most of the logs will no doubt be recovered, but at considerable financial loss.

Following is a comparative statement of timber, etc., measured and culled at Quebec up to September 7th, as reported by the Supervisor of Cullers:

	1902 Cu. Ft.	1903 Cu. Ft.	1904 Cu. Ft.
Waney White Pine	1,[illegible],600	1,410,040	1,73[illegible]
White Pine	[illegible],600	[illegible],020	1[illegible]0
Red Pine	60,0[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]80
Oak	527,760	778,[illegible]0	235,5[illegible]
Elm	461,800	407,800	234,1[illegible]
Ash	79,240	54,120	14,640
Basswood		160	
Butternut			40
Tamarac		40	
Birch and Maple	164,880	196,640	114,680

THE GLASGOW MARKET.

Messrs. Edmiston & Mitchells, in their last report, refer to Canadian lumber as follows:

DEALS, ETC.—Business has slightly improved during the month, though buyers are still unwilling to go in for big lines, contenting themselves with filling up their immediate requirements. Imports continue on a very moderate scale, and prices are practically unaltered. Current values are as under: Broad First Pine Deals—£32 to £34; 11-inch, £29 to £31; ends and non-dimensions, £22 to £24. Second Pine Deals—11-inch and up, £17 to £19; ends and non-dimensions, £13 to £14 10s. Third Pine Deals—11-inch and up, £11 to £14; ends and non-dimensions, £9 10s. to £10 10s. Red Pine Deals—9 and 11 inch, £10 to £11; narrows, £7 to £8 10s. First Pine Sidings and Strips—9 to 10 inch, £23 to £24; 11 to 12 inch, £25 to £26; 13 to 14 inch, £27 to £28. Spruce Deals—9-inch and up, £8 to £8 10s.; 7 and 8 inch, £6 15s. to £7 10s. Lower Port Spruce—9-inch and up, £7 10s. to £8; 7 and 8 inch, £6 5s. to £7.

WHITE PINE.—The import for this month amounts to 200 loads of waney pine. There has been a fair business done during the month, and the transactions must have amounted to 700 or 800 loads.

OAK.—There have been no imports during the month and no inquiries.

ELM.—There has been some enquiry for elm, and several transactions have taken place of good elm at advanced prices. Second class and soft wood continue to be pressed on the market, but are meeting with a very limited demand.

QUEBEC BIRCH.—The imports for the month consists of about 120 loads, a considerable proportion of which was sold on "ex quay" terms at from 14d. to 2s. per cubic foot, according to specification and quality.

N. B. BIRCH.—There have been no arrivals of logs, but a considerable quantity of plank came to hand, the bulk of which has gone into store.

ASH.—There has been no import of Quebec ash, and there is practically no enquiry. In United States ash the import is unusually light, consisting of about 50 loads, most of which has found its way into store.

SPRUCE DEALS.

The Timber Trades Journal, of London, Eng., in its issue of September 3, says:

"The position of spruce deals from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia remains just as it was last week. We cannot trace amongst the merchants in this port any confirmation that the allegation that local buyers had advanced fully 5s. in their offers for cargoes without business resulting. And in point of fact, we decline to believe it until we are furnished with the facts upon which such assertions are based. The spruce market is, as we have said before, probably at its bottom, but there has not been any jump of 5s. or 7s. 6d. per standard so far as we can trace, and if any such offers were floating about we think we should have heard of such advances being made. The fact is there is a lot of fencing going about just now, and half truths are being told as if they were whole truths. We shall wait until we know of real transactions at £6 7s. 6d. to £[illegible] 10s. c.i.f. being made in the Liverpool or Manchester market. There is a steamer on the way here with a cargo from St. John, N.B., and when this is marketed we shall have a solid basis to work upon. A cargo has been sold by a Liverpool firm to the Bristol Channel at £6 2s. 6d. c.i.f. This does not look like any advance of 5s. to 7s. 6d. per standard."

BROOM HANDLES.

If an enterprising man with supplies of cheap Spruce, Basswood or Poplar care to put in several machines to work broom handles we can take his output. Write in first instance to Empire, care of CANADA LUMBERMAN.