TRADE REVIEW.

Office of CANADA LUMBERMAN,
Oct. 25, 1894.

THE GENERAL SURVEY.

A PRUDENT and conservative survey of the lumber situation at the present time, whilst it does not reveal any large measure of activity, as compared with corresponding seasons of the past year or two, it yet shows many evidences of improvement. It must be remembered that for the best part of a year the lumber trades of Canada and the United States have suffered severe depression. Only one thing could be written of the business during that time, and that was covered by the one word "stagnation. Hope was revived when tariff matters with our neighbors across the border finally became fixed, but it must not be forgotten that business does not move from one condition to another in quick jumps, and that a settlement of the tariff, when it did come, came too late in the year to permit of any large or important undertakings in building directions. It could prove the means of settling plans that had been pigeon-holed for months and to this extent was an evidence of confidence.

In all the reports that come to the LUMBERMAN as to the conditions of trade, one uniform opinion is vouchsafed, that present trade continues dull, but the remark is made in an altogether different tone to that which has characterized a somewhat similar reply in the months that have passed. The trade see the rift in the cloud and know that light is behind. The belief is that the spring will open out with a decided improvement in the movement of lumber.

So much for conditions generally. Immediate trade has improved during the month. Shipments of lumber from the Ottawa district are much more active than for some time and in fact are in some respects quite large. If we glance at the situation in the Georgian Bay and North Shore districts, even though the present movement of lumber may not be very remarkable, there are abundant signs of activity in lumber circles. Let our readers study other columns of this month's LUMBERMAN and they will learn of new mills building, and mills that had remained idle being put in operation with, in some cases, assured business ahead in the shape of contracts, as in the case of J. S. Playfair & Co., extending over several years.

It is difficult to say just what will be the size of the cut the coming winter, but this is apparent just now that shanties on no inconsiderable scale are being established and if the activity that will quite surely mark the commencement of operations in the woods this winter, be continued throughout the season, a good sized cut will be the result. However, on this point, it is not safe to write with too great positiveness at present.

In Quebec and New Brunswick the season is drawing to a close with the evidence before us that trade has not been completely sapped of all energy, and with assurances that there, as in this province, the outlook for the future is encouraging. It is hard to write of any present activity on a large scale in British Columbia. To quote a correspondent: "If business does not appear to have improved much, since the passing of the new U. S. tariff there is more enquiry. It is also felt that foreign business will increase shortly."

The shingle business of all parts of Canada, and in the United States is a demoralized branch of the lumber business. Writing of conditions across the border a lumber contemporary has said: "If anyone be enquiring as to what is the matter with shingles, it is sufficient answer to say that there too many of them made." The same thing can be written of shingles here. More shingles are being made here than are wanted, and the result is that when you talk shingles to a lumberman you can't find anyone who has an encouraging word to say. This is one trouble that can only be remedied by time and the exercise of abundance of good sense during that period.

UNITED STATES.

Viewing trade conditions in the United States as they have shown themselves from week to week throughout the month, the conclusion is reached that business is showing several accurate indications of revival. This is seen in the movement of lumber at Albany. The market is being lighted up with faces of well-known buyers, and shipments are being sent forward to New England points and into New York. The fact that the advance in spruce, which, when it occurred, was quite phenomenal, continues firm, is another evidence of bettered conditions. Allowance must be made for some of this activity because of the near approach of winter, as everyone likes to make things as snug as possible before the cold season absolutely sets in. It is being remarked that Michigan is feeling competition from the Duluth districts, where prices are lower, whereas Michigan lumbermen maintain firmly the policy of holding to good prices. All throughout the northwestern white pine field the information comes of anxiety to unload stocks at cut prices. Speculation is being indulged in as to the effect of the damaged log supply on the coming season's cut. The district most seriously affected by fire is northwestern Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota. It is not thought, however, reviewing the whole situation carefully, that the supply of damaged logs that will be cut will affect values to any noticeable extent.

FOREIGN.

A measure of sameness so marks the British lumber trade that it is a hard matter to say anything that has not already been said of conditions in the United Kingdom. If it is not a strike among one class of workmen in the mother land it is a strike among another class, that is constantly helping to retard commercial progress. The Scotch colliers strike still drags its slow length along and has a depressing influence on trade. Whatever the cause is, there is no getting behind the fact that business does not revive very much. As Denny, Mott & Dickson remark in their trade circular, a strike like that of the Scotch coliers "offers a serious obstacle to revival in the iron, railway, shipbuilding and allied industries." The market for oak and choice waney pine has shown a slightly improved demand, and it is suggested that if shippers could moderate their pretensions for these woods the consumption would be quickly stimulated and assume larger proportion than of late. A fair amount of stocks continue to go forward to South American markets, and the reports from there seem to tell of an improvement in trade. Business in Australia is yet a long way off from having returned to its old conditions.

TORONTO, ONT.

TORONTO, October 25, 1894.

CAR OR CARGO LOTS.

1 1-4 in. cut up and better	33 00	36 00
1x10 and 12 dressing and better	20 00	22 00
1x10 and 12 mill run	16 00	17 00
1x10 and 12 common	13 00	14 00
1x10 and 12 spruce culls	10 00	11 00
1x10 and 12 mill culls	10 00	11 00
1 inch clear and picks	28 00	32 00
1 inch dressing and better	20 00	22 00
1 inch siding mill run	14 00	15 00
1 inch siding common	12 00	13 00
1 inch siding ship culls	11 00	12 00
1 inch siding mill culls	9 00	10 00
Cull scantling	8 00	9 00
1 1-2 and thicker cutting up plank	24 00	26 00
1 inch strips 4 in. to 8 in. mill run	14 00	15 00
1 inch strips, common	12 00	13 00
1 1-4 inch flooring		16 00
1 1-2 inch flooring		16 00
XXX shingles, 16 inch		1 90
XX shingles 16 inch		1 40
Lath, No. 1		2 15
Lath, No. 2	1 80	1 85

YARD QUOTATIONS.

Mill cull boards and scantling	$10 00	
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths	13 00	
" stocks	16 00	
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft	14 00	
" " " 18 ft	15 00	
" " " 20 ft	16 00	
" " " 22 ft	17 00	
" " " 24 ft	19 00	
" " " 26 ft	20 00	
" " " 28 ft	22 00	
" " " 30 ft	24 00	
" " " 32 ft	27 00	
" " " 34 ft	29 50	
	23 50	
" " " 36 ft	31 00	
" " " 38 ft	33 00	
" " 40 to 44 ft	37 00	
Cutting up planks, 1 and thicker, dry	25 00	28 00
" board	18 00	24 00
Dressing blocks	16 00	20 00
Picks Am. inspection.		30 00

F. M.		
1 1-2 in. flooring, dres'd	26 00	30 00
" " rough	18 00	22 00
" " dres'd	25 00	28 00
1 1-4 in. flooring, undressed, B.M.	16 00	18 00
1 1-4 in. flooring, dres'd	18 00	20 00
" " undres'd	12 00	15 00
Beaded sheeting, dressed	20 00	35 00
Clapboarding, dres'd		12 00
XXX sawn shingles per M.	2 00	2 10
Sawn lath		2 60
Red Oak	30 00	40 00
White "	37 00	45 00
Basswood, No. 1 and 2	28 00	30 00
Cherry, No. 1 and 2	70 00	90 00
White ash, 1 and 2	24 00	35 00
Black ask, 1 and 2	20 00	30 00

HARDWOODS—PER M. FEET CAR LOTS.

Ash, white,	1	to	2 in.	$16 00	$18 00
" "	2½	to	4	18 00	20 00
" black,	1	"	1½	15 00	17 00
Birch, sq.,	1	"	4	17 00	20 00
" "	4x4	"	8x8	20 00	22 00
" red	x	"	½	20 00	22 00
" "	2	"	4	22 00	25 00
" yellow	1	"	4	14 00	15 00
Basswood	1	"	1¼	15 00	16 00
"	1½	"	2	16 00	17 00
Butternut	1	"	1½	20 00	21 00
"	2	"	3	22 00	23 00
Chestnut	1	"	2	22 00	25 00
Cherry	1	"	1½	40 00	45 00
"	2	"	4	50 00	52 00
Elm, soft	1	"	1½	$10 00	$11 00
" "	2	"	3	10 00	11 00
" rock	1	"	1¼	14 00	16 00
" "	1½	"	3	15 00	18 00
Hickory	1½	"	2	28 00	30 00
Maple	1	"	1½	15 00	16 00
"	2	"	4	16 00	17 00
Oak, red, p'n	1	"	1½	20 00	22 00
" "	2	"	4	22 00	25 00
" white "	1	"	1½	25 00	30 00
" " "	2	"	4	25 00	30 00
" quart'd	1	"	2	45 00	48 00
Walnut	1	"	3	85 00	100 00
Whitewood	1	"	2	29 00	34 00

OTTAWA, ONT.

OTTAWA, Oct. 25, 1894.

Pine, good sidings, per M feet, b.m.	$32 00	40 00
Pine, good strips, " " "	27 00	35 00
Pine, good shorts, " " "	20 00	27 00
Pine, 2nd quality sidings, per M feet, b.m.	20 00	25 00
Pine, 2nd quality strips, " " "	18 00	22 00
Pine, 2nd quality shorts, " " "	15 00	18 00
Pine, shipping cull stock, " " "	14 00	16 00
Pine, box cull stock, " " "	11 00	13 00
Pine, s.c. strips and sidings " " "	11 00	14 00
Pine, mill cull	8 00	10 00
Lath, per M	1 60	1 90

QUEBEC, QUE.

QUEBEC, October 25, 1894.

WHITE PINE—IN THE RAFT.

	cts.	cts.
For inferior and ordinary according to average, quality etc., measured off	14	@ 18
For fair average quality, according to average, etc., measured off.	16	20
For good and good fair average, " " " " "	23	27
For superior " " " " "	28	30
In shipping order " " " " "	29	35
Waney board, 18 to 19 inch " " " " "	30	36
Waney board, 19 to 21 inch " " " " "	37	40
RED PINE—IN THE RAFT.		
Measured off, according to average and quality	14	22
In shipping order, 35 to 45 feet " "	22	30
OAK—MICHIGAN AND OHIO.		
By the dram, according to average and quality	45	51
ELM.		
By the dram, according to average and quality, 45 to 50 feet	30	
" " " " 30 to 35 feet	25	
ASH.		
14 inches and up, according to average and quality	30	
BIRCH.		
16 inch average, according to average and quality	20	23
TAMARAC.		
Square, according to size and quality	17	19
Flatted, " " "	15	18
STAVES.		
Merchantable Pipe, according to qual. and sp'cfct'n—nominal	$330	$350
W. O. Puncheon, Merchantable, according to quality	90	100

DEALS.

Bright, according to mill specification, $115 to $123 for 1st, $78 to $82 for 2nd, and $37 to $42 for 3rd quality.

Bright spruce, according to mill specification, $40 to $43 for 1st, $27 to $28 for 2nd, $23 to $25 for 3rd, and $19 to $21 for 4th quality.

SAGINAW, MICH.

SAGINAW, MICH., Oct. 25.—More lumber is accumulating here than can be offset by what is going out. There is a feeling that there will be no remarkable change in conditions until the spring. As has been noted from Saginaw Valley before, the stocks of lumber on hand are large, and it would look as though there would be a heavy stock carried over the winter. Business is undoubtedly better than it was three months ago, but it might improve a great deal more and still not be over lively.

FINISHING LUMBER—ROUGH.

Uppers, 1, 1¼ and 1½	45 00
2 in	46 00
Selects, 1 in	40 00
1¼ and 1½	40 00
2 in	40 00
Fine common, 1 in	35 00
1¼ and 1½ in	36 00
2 in	37 00
C, 7, 8 and 9 in	30 00

SIDING.

Clear, ½ in	24 00
⅞ in	48 00
Select, ½ in	21 00
⅞ in	40 00
C, ½ in	19 00
⅞ in	34 00
No. 1, ½ in	13 00
⅞ in	23 00

TIMBER, JOIST AND SCANTLING.

2x4 to 10x10, 12, 14 and 16 ft.	$11 00
18 ft	13 00
20 ft	14 00
22 and 24 ft	15 00

For each additional 2 ft. add $1; 12 in. plank and timber $1 extra; extra for sizes above 12 in.

BOX.

1x10 and 12 in. (No 3 out)		14 00
1x6 and 8 in (No. 3 out)		13 50
1x13 and wider	15 00	17 00
Narrow	13 00	@14 00
1¼ in	15 00	18 00
1½ in	15 00	18 00
2 in	15 00	18 00

SHINGLES, 18-IN.

Fancy brands, XXXX	3 45
Clear Butts	2 25
Standard brands, river made, XXXX	3 00
Clear Butts	2 00

WHITE PINE LATH.

No. 1	1 50
No. 2	1 25
Hemlock	1 00

NEW YORK CITY.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Oct. 25.—The expected boom in lumber has not struck this market with any great force yet. Caution marks all transactions, and the stocks that will be carried throughout the winter will be by no means large. White pine is moving but slowly. Yellow pine is not sharing any large demand. Hemlock is steady.

WHITE PINE—WESTERN GRADES.

Uppers, 1 in	$44 00	@45 00
1¼, 1½ and 2 in	46 00	47 00
3 and 4 in	55 00	58 00
Selects, 1 in	40 00	41 00
1 in., all wide	41 00	43 00
1¼, 1½ and 2 in	43 00	44 00
3 and 4 in	52 00	53 00
Fine common, 1 in	36 00	37 00
1¼, 1½ and 2 in	38 00	40 00
3 and 4 in	46 00	48 00
Cutting up, 1 in. No. 1	28 00	30 00
No. 2	21 00	23 00
Thick, No, 1	29 00	32 00
No. 2	24 00	26 00
Common, No. 1, 10 and 12 in	22 00	23 00
No. 2	20 00	21 00
No. 3	17 00	18 00
Coffin boards	20 00	22 00
Box, in	$17 00	@17 50
Thicker	17 50	18 50
Ceil'g, base, fig. No. 1	40 00	42 00
No. 2	35 00	37 00
No. 3	24 00	26 00
Shelving, No. 1	30 00	32 00
No. 2	25 00	27 00
Molding, No. 1	36 00	37 00
No. 2	34 00	36 00
Bevel sid'g, clear	22 50	23 00
No. 1	22 00	22 50
No. 2	20 00	20 50
No. 3	16 00	17 00
Norway, c'l, and No. 1	23 00	25 00
No. 2	20 00	22 00
Common	18 00	19 00