decided that in future the commission to be allowed wholesale commission dealers shall be five per cent. of the net amount of sales, instead of on the gross amount as in the past. It has also been decided to advance the price of shingles to the following figures: Extras, \$3.25; Clears, \$2.85; Second Clears, \$2.35, Clear Whites, \$2.25 ; Extra No. 1, \$2.85. These prices are to take effect on April 1st, and are based on Boston rate of freights.

UNITED STATES.

The lumber market of the United States has developed a slight weakness during the past week. From nearly all the markets comes the report that prices of piece stuff are being shaded a little, while at Duluth No. 3 boards are somewhat easier. It is also stated that in the Chicago market long wide joists are not bringing as high prices as one month ago. The lack of yard demand is responsible for this easing off in prices. Retail dealers, fearing that the high prices may retard building operations, are stocking up very cautiously. While yard trade is quiet, the demand from manufacturing sources is quite heavy, and promises to be a strong factor in the situation throughout the season. Orders for box lumber continue to be refused on account of a shortage in the supply. At Saginaw there is a scarcity of Norway pine, which is held at from \$14 to \$14.50, and log run pine is quoted at from \$18 upwards. Buffalo dealers report numerous enquiries for stock from the east, but these enquiries are rarely followed by orders. This seems to indicate that the eastern buyers are still expecting a drop in prices. Owing to the high price of pine there has been a considerable sale of spruce at Buffalo at from \$20 to \$22. Hardwood lumber is selling moderately. In New York ash ranges from \$42 to \$45. There is likely to be a large production of maple in Michigan this season, and some predict considerably lower prices for this class of lumber. Lath prices are holding up well for this season of the year. At Saginaw the quotation is \$4 to \$4.50 on cars. White pine shingles are moving rather slowly, but dealers anticipate a short supply, as, owing the high price of box and mill culls, it is said that some manufacturers will not operate their shingle mills this season.

FOREIGN.

A slight feeling of uneasiness exists in Great Britain in regard to the timber market. It is now admitted that the enhanced cost of building materials will restrict building operations to some extent, with a consequent falling off in the demand for lumber. The present high prices ruling for new goods are the main support of the spot market. In Canadian pine there seems to have been some improvement of late. Buyers have become ronvinced of the shortage of the winter-,ng stock on this side, and also of the fact that several important mill cuts which have for some years past been marketed in Great Britain will this season so to the United States. The outlook for third and fourth quality pine is said to be better than for the higher qualities, as the prices for the latter have been affected by competition from American whitewood. Firmness characterizes the spruce market. Contracts have been made for 3x9 spruce in second and third qualities for delivery at London about midsummer at 28 15s

and £8 7s 6d, while shippers are said to have sold nearly all their 3x11 stock. The spruce deals per winter liners from St. John and Halifax have been sold at £7 15s to £7 17s 6d. In square timber the greatest activity pretains to elm and birch. First class clm timber is selling at from 25 10d to 35 per cubic foot, and small average in second class wood at 25 3d. Birch timber is quoted at from 1s 7d to 25 1d per cubic foot.

NEW BRUNSWICK CEDAR SHINGLES.

The past week has witnessed a marked n-crease in the number of inquiries for cedar shingles made by the retail dealers, and has also seen a decided stiffening among the manu-facturers. All shingles are in scant supply, and with a reasonable demand prices must be and with a reasonable demand prices must be forced higher. Probably the following quota-tions will represent about the average figure being asked to-day: Extras, \$3.15; clears, \$2.75; 2nd clears and whites, \$2.15 to \$2.25, all delivered Boston freight rates. Manufac-turers are now allowing the commission trade five per cent. on the net instead of the gross value of shipments. value of shipments.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The city of Quebec is taking tenders for the annual supply of deals, lumber, etc.

The city of Kingston has accepted the tender of the Rathbun Co. for the supply of lumber, at \$16.85 per thousand.

Pitts & Co., of Bay City, have purchas-ed 8,000,000 feet of Canadian logs from Booth & Co. They were cut on Indian Booth & Co. They were cut on Indian reserve lands and will be rafted to Bay City or Saginaw.

J.W. Munro & Son are reported to have sold to W. &. J. Sharples, of Quebec, all their waney and square timber made this the townships of Widdifield, season in Nairn and McKinnon.

It is reported that Dickie & McGrath, of Tusket, N. S., have cut 12,000,000 feet of lumber during the past winter. They have fourteen vessels chartered for the summer, two of which will carry lumber to South America. They are said to have an order from Bordeaux parties for 5,000,oco feet.

At Saginaw cedar telegraph and telephone poles have advanced 20 j er cent. in the last ten days : 25-foet poles, 5 inches at top, are quoted at 85 cents on car, and six inches at top at \$1.10; 30foot poles, six inches at the top, are worth \$1.25. Oak ties are quoted at 45 cents and cedar at 38 cents. Four X cedar shingles are quoted at \$3 and clear butts at \$2.

It is learned that in the Fastern Crown Timber Agency of Algoma the sawlog output will be about 90,000,000 feet. In addi-tion, there will be taken out about 170,000 cubic feet of square timber and from six to eight thousand cords of spruce pulp wood. Of the above amounts 38,000,000 feet of logs and the square timber will be rafted from the north shore of the Georgian Bay, between Beaverstone on the east and Lacloche village on the west, and 52,000,000 feet, together with the and 52,000,000 leet, togettier with the pulp wood, will be assorted and rafted from the Spanish boom at the mouth of the Spanish River. There will be assorted at this latter point probably between one hundred and one hundred and twentyfive million feet.

CANADIAN SPRUCE AND PINE.

The following remarks, bearing upon the market for spruce and pine deals, are reprinted from the Timber Trades Journal, of London, Eng.:

SIRCCE. - The sprace market is particularly firm ; we learn that shippers have sold all their 3×11 for the season at $\int_{-2}^{2} per standard advance,$ and we believe under surrounding conditionsand the great demand for 11 in., that shipperscould have got even more. All other sizeshave likewise been going well, and fromthe latest reports the sales have been effectedright up to the end of the season ; in fact,from what we understand, nobody could con-tract for spruce to day unless it was for thewhole of the season's shipment, which, to ourmind, is a strong insurance of a solid marketSIRUCE -The spruce market is particularly

The government for the whole of the year. for the whole of the year. The government demand is one reason for this, and even should the South African war terminate earlier than expected, it will make no difference to the demand, which will continue on the same ex-tensive scale, as stores, ammunition, etc., must be shipped to the Cape and Natal for months to come

months to come. PINE.—Pine is gradually moving up ; it has taken time to convince the buyers here of the shortage of the wintering stock on the other cides and now as it is an assured fact that the whole of Gilmour's new cut has been sold to the United States, it makes the market stronger than ever. As to first pine regulars, we think the prices that the shippers are we think the prices that the shippers are asking are really dangerous, considering that American whitewood is now a strong com-petitor with Canadian pine, and can be bought at very much less prices. Second quality pine regulars are undoubtedly very scarce, but at the prices we hear that they have been sold to arrive there will be a great difficulty experienced in getting a profit for the same reason, viz., the competition with American whitewood. Coming to third and fourth quality pine of the orthodox dimensions, the question is a different one altogether; the the question is a different one altogether ; the the question is a different one altogether ; the prices obtained for wintering stock, which are from $\pounds 2$ to $\pounds 2$ los per standard more than last year, the market can afford to pay, as although American whitewood may be in competition with first and second pine, it cannot compete with the lower qualities, which even at the advance stated are much the cheaper, these component qualities, here have here the form advance stated are much the cheaper, these commoner qualities being largely in use for cabinet purposes, where anything of a sound nature will do, knots not being taken into account. We consider, therefore, that the prices of third and fourth quality pine regulars will keep up, at any rate throughout the pre-sent year.

THE BOSTON MARKET.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

The spruce lumber market is fairly steady. Something is doing in the way of house frame orders, but not much yet. The mills are generally pretty firm. One of the principal manufacturers of spruce lumber on the Kenne-bec writes his agents here that he has all the business he can attend to and at full prices, and will not book any business ahead except at full prices. Still the general belief here is that there will be lumber enough as soon as the mills get started. Spruce is steady at agreement prices :

Western pine is in steady request for the season, with prices firm :

Clapboards continue very quiet. Reports om manufacturers state that clapboards have not advanced along with other lumber, and



declare that they shall hold for stronger prices :

Shingles are in fair request, but it is

gested that the market may be shaded a little :

Hemlock lumber continues scarce, with the market high and firm. Still trade is dull :

Laths are quoted as follows : One and five-eighth inch, \$3 to \$3.10; 1½ inch. \$2.80 to \$2.90.

BOSTON, March 26th, 1900.

LUMBER FREIGHT RATES.

CANADA ATLANTIC RAILWAY.

LUMEER FREIGHT RATES. CANADA ATLANTIC RALWAY. Lumbe: freight rates on the Cauada Atlanta. Rail-way, are as follows: Ottawa to Oswego, \$1.90 per M ft.; Ottawa to Syracuse, 9/2 cents per 100 lbs. Ottawa, Rockland and Hawkesbury to Montreal, 5 cents per 100 lbs.; Quebec, 10 cents per 100 lbs.; Quebec, 12 cents per 100 lbs.; Cents per 100 lbs.; Quebec, 12 cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to New York, 17 cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Buffalo, 12 cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Port Huron and Detroit, 14 c. per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Port Huron and Detroit, 14 c. per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Port Huron and Detroit, 14 c. per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Port Huron and Detroit, 14 c. per 100 lbs.; Ottawa, Rockland and Hawkesbury to Boston and common points, local 15 c., exports 13 c. per 100 lbs.; Partiand and common points, local 21 cents, export 13 cents, export 15 cts, per 100 lbs.; Parry Sound to Boston and costs, per 100 lbs.; Amprior to Portland, 7, cts.; Ot-tawa to Burlington, 6c. per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Bushay, 10 cts, per 100 lbs.; Amprior to Allany, 12 cts.; Per 100 18.; Parry Sound to Allany, 17 cts. per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to 18.; Parry Sound to Allany, 17 cts.; Ottawa to 18.; Ottawa to Halifax, N.S., and common points, 10 cs.; Ottawa to Allany, 17 cts.; Ottawa to 18.; Ottawa to Halifax, N.S., and common points, 10 cs.; Ottawa to Halifax, N.S., and common points, 10 cs.; Ottawa to Halifax, N.S., and common points, 11 cents per 100 lbs. Minimum carload weight for shipment of lunber, lath, shingles, etc., is 30,000 lbs.-artes quoted above are in cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to 18.; Ottawa to Halifax, N.S., and common points, 11 cents per 100 lbs. Minimum carload weight for shipment of lunber, lath, shingles, etc., is 30,000 lbs.-19 cents per 100 lbs. Minimum carload so in M.ft., 10 unber not exceeding 3,000 lbs. per M ft. Ottawa rates 10 spipments from Rockland and Hawkes-bury.

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