

are asking higher prices. At Boston frames of 9 inch and under are held at \$15, 10 and 12 inch at \$16, and random about \$13 to \$15.

There has been no weakening of the hardwood market. In the northern districts the late favorable logging weather has permitted of a heavy input of logs, but this is offset by unsatisfactory conditions in the south, so that the production of hardwoods for the season is not likely to be unusually large. Some mill operators in the north are refusing to consider a lower price than \$23 for log run oak at the mill, \$14 to \$16 for basswood, \$14 for maple and \$16 for soft elm. There is an unprecedented demand for basswood siding, and the supply seems inadequate.

FOREIGN.

There is little change to record in the position of the British market. Stocks are becoming reduced, and the tendency of the trade is towards greater activity. It is true, nevertheless, that importers have not disposed of as much stock as usual, buyers seemingly holding off in the hope of securing better terms. That these will be offered is extremely doubtful, as Baltic goods, the chief competitor of Canadian timber, are selling several shillings higher than last year. Spruce deals are in good demand at the leading ports, and recent shipments per regular liners from St. John and Halifax have been disposed of at good prices for all sizes except 7x3, for which there is little demand. Pine prices are also held firmly, although the demand is not so active. Birch is steady, and at recent auction sales realized good prices.

NEW BRUNSWICK CEDAR SHINGLES.

An active demand for New Brunswick cedar shingles has not started as yet, owing to the continuance of cold and inclement weather. In spite of this there is a sufficient movement of shingles to keep stocks very low at producing points, and actual consumption is sufficient to prevent any increase of stocks in retail hands. The maintenance of full prices by the manufacturers shows the full strength of the market, and it can safely be stated that a period of warm weather and consequent increased demand will cause prices to advance rapidly. A few of the manufacturers who are financially able realize the tendency towards higher prices, and are holding their stock, figuring to get a considerable advance on present quotations inside of another month or six weeks. We believe this to be good judgment, for it will likely be two months before any considerable quantity of shingles will be available. Present quotations, on basis of Boston freight rate, are as follows: Extras, \$2.50 to \$2.90; clears, \$2.45 to \$2.50; clear whites and 2nd class, \$1.85 to \$1.90.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

R. P. Sorley, of Economy, N.S., has lately purchased a tract of timber land in that vicinity from A. Y. Corbett.

The city of Winnipeg, Man., is advertising for tenders for the supply of from 500,000 to 1,500,000 feet of lumber.

Shingles are in strong demand at Buffalo, and the stock on hand is rapidly being depleted. There is a scarcity of 16 in. clear butt.

Wm. Creswell, foreman for M. M. Boyd & Co., of Bobcaygeon, is making arrangements for driving all the logs on the Burnt river this season. M. M. Boyd & Co. will bring down about 3,000,000 feet.

Good logs are selling at Saginaw, Mich., at from \$10 to \$14. Manufacturers whose supply from Canada has

been cut off are making every effort to secure a sufficient quantity of logs to keep their mills running this season.

Mr. Eames, superintendent of lumber camps for D. E. Sprague, of Winnipeg, states that the log cut of the past winter has been the best since he has been operating on Mud creek. The cut now banked amounts to 15,000 logs.

James Hunter, of Glasgow, Scotland, has secured the contract for the season's supply of Quebec spruce deals to the Singer Manufacturing Co. The contract for New Brunswick spruce deals for same firm has been secured by Robinson, Dunn & Co.

The W. & A. McArthur Co., of Cheboygan, Mich., have completed logging operations on the Georgian Bay, their cut being 9,500,000 feet. Of this, 5,500,000 feet, cut on Indian reserves, will be rafted to Cheboygan, while the remainder will be manufactured in Ontario.

On the Penobscot and Kennebec rivers, in Maine, the cut of logs during the past winter was about 250,000,000 feet, of which perhaps 50,000,000 feet will be for the supply of pulp mills. The cut on the Penobscot was about the same as last year, but on the Kennebec it was considerably larger.

John E. Moore, of St. John, N.B., has purchased from Irving R. Todd, of Milltown, the Todd property at Bonny river, Charlotte county, New Brunswick. The property consists of 84 square miles of timber lands, 4,000 acres of granted lands, a sawmill, store, boarding house, etc., and the price paid is given as \$25,000. It is said that Mr. Moore will commence operations on the property at once.

At a recent sale held by Wm. Graham, Dublin, Ireland, the following prices were realized: Quebec spruce deals—12 ft., 3x11 in., £11 5s; 12 ft., 9x3 in., £11 12s 6d. St. John spruce deals—16-17 ft., 7x3 in., £11 5s; 15-14 ft., 9x3 and 11x3 in., £11 12s 6d. Quebec red pine deals—13-15 ft., 11x3 in., £15; 16 ft., 9x3 in., £16. Quebec white pine deals—First quality, 10-13 ft., 13x3 in., £35; second quality, 12-16 ft., 15x3 in., £31 5s; 12-16 ft., 18x3 in., £31 15s; 12-15 ft., 21x3 in., £31 15s.

A. F. & D. Mackay, of Liverpool, Eng., held an auction sale on March 22nd, when 1,371 birch logs, from St. John, N. B., were disposed of. The prices obtained were as follows: 28 in. and up, 24d per foot; 19-19½ in., 21d; 18½ in., 20d; 18 in., 19½d; 17½ in., 18½d; 17 in., 18½d; 16½ in., 18½d; 16 in., 18d; 15½ in., 17½d; 15 in., 17d; 14½ in., 16½d; 14 in., 15½d. A parcel of birch timber, containing 66 logs, averaging about 15½ in. from Halifax, N.S., was sold at 15½d per foot, and another parcel averaging 15½ in. at 15½d.

It is reported that the Hawkesbury Lumber Co., of Hawkesbury, Ont., have sold the bulk of their 1899 production to W. & J. Sharples, of Quebec, and that Watson & Todd have secured the cut of Messrs. Hudman, of Ottawa, which last year went to Dobell, Beckett & Co. J. Burstall & Co. are said to have purchased a portion of J. R. Booth's deals, and H. T. Walcot a portion of Gilmour's. The cuts of the Hull Lumber Co. and Gilmour & Hughson were contracted for some time ago. It is understood that prices obtained are slightly higher than those of last year.

MAPLE STRIPS WANTED.

Mr. F. B. Budgett, the New York representative of the importing firm of Budgett Bros., London, Eng., writes that they desire to purchase from two to twenty carloads regularly of maple strips, kiln or air dried, of good color, cut to 3x1 in., 3x1½ in., and 3x1½ in., not dressed, lengths 2 to 10 ft., to be securely tied in bundles. Prices to be given f. o. b. mills, guaranteed weight to be named, and freight rate to Montreal and Boston for export. Communications should be addressed to Mr. F. B. Budgett, 100 Maiden Lane, New York.

G. G. Bryant's sash and door factory at Sherbrooke, Que., was destroyed by fire on March 28th. The loss on building and machinery is about \$10,000.

BUFFALO AND TONAWANDA.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

There is good evidence that the demand for lumber is not falling off, nor is the supply increasing. It is much of a race, especially on one part of the hardwood dealers, for the stock that consumers must have in order to keep business going. Even the pine sections are reporting that stock is not plenty, and it is no secret that a great part of the saw-mill interest of the west will not place any price on the cut until it is ready. They will book an order, they will tell you, and then if a price can be agreed on when the logs are sawed it is a sale—otherwise not. Of course, this means that there is not going to be any more low prices anywhere in lumber, unless they come from some dealer who is hard up or is not posted. Selling at a low price ought to be accepted as an evidence that the seller is somehow not "in it," and small attention should be paid to him.

A dealer in oak said to me yesterday that he was not able to get more than half as much stock as his orders called for. He is largely dependent on the south for oak, and like all others, as a rule, with southern connections and not much else, he finds that the oak sections south are still suffering from six months' yellow fever and ten months of high water in a year. Very little lumbering has been done there of late. It is always slow enough, but it was absolutely at a standstill most of last year, and has not recovered its normal condition yet.

The dealer is of the opinion that oak will need to advance in price much further than it yet has, and that when it gets to \$60 for the best there will be a falling off in demand that will permit some accumulation of stock. There is no other way to meet the demand. It is at present prices just as much called for as ever. Somehow the dealers have not had the courage to put the price up as the demand warranted, and the result is that they have let all their surplus get away from them, when by holding it for more the price would have gone up till the demand no longer so far exceeded the supply.

There is not much trade in southern pine, on account of the scarcity of stock. This market has never bought this wood freely, and there is less prospect of an increase of the trade than ever. The difficulty in getting it is no less than formerly, and it is wanted for export from southern ports direct more than it was, so that there is no need of seeking northern markets for working off the surplus. In reality, none exists. The only big contract for southern pine that has come under my notice for a long time is for the State armory, though that is a heavy one. It went to Litchfield sometime ago.

The shortage of such hardwoods as elm, ash and basswood is quite as pronounced as ever. Coopers complain that they are entirely handicapped, as they are not able to pay the prices for elm and basswood that lumbermen will offer, and are confined to such stock as the lumber trade is not able to use. The very sharpest buyers of these woods are fairly discouraged over the outlook. They should have held some of the stock they were slashing when the prices were so low. It is a fact that the price of all such stock has not advanced nearly as rapidly as it should have done. Dealers were not willing, some of them were not able, to shut up their yards and wait till the price had been forced up to a level that would compare with their needs in regard to more stock. Some of them had tried it in former years, and found that they had taken the wrong cue, which meant a double loss. So an inspection of the price asked here does not indicate the real condition of things.

It is different in the saw mill districts, both west and south. No lumber goes out from there that is not bought at a sharp advance from last year, so that this market must make a further advance soon or sell at a loss. The east knows this, and will pay more if it has to. It is no longer willing to go without, as it seemed to be a short time ago. Our dealers are in the market for stock, and will buy more

in Canada than they did if they can get it. But for the fact that all hardwoods are as scarce there as they are here, there would have been a brisk trade in everything but pine across the border right along.

The Buffalo Lumber Exchange, at its annual election in March, chose the following officers: President, George P. Sawyer; vice-president, M. E. Preisch; secretary and treasurer, Knowlton Mixer; executive board, J. B. Wall, Knowlton Mixer, George P. Sawyer, M. E. Preisch, C. W. Betts, E. D. Colie, M. S. Burns, James Fenton, F. W. Vetter, A. J. Elias, A. P. Strong. The Emporium Lumber Company was elected a member of the exchange.

Lumber freights by lake are stiff at \$2 from Duluth, with prospect of enough for the fleet to do as soon as the lakes are open, which must be very late now. There is more ice in Lake

WANTED

Black Ash, all thicknesses.  
1-inch Red Oak.  
Inch Butternut, Mill Run.  
Inch Basswood.

State quantity and price.  
JAS. G. CANE & CO.,  
35 Adelaide St. E., Toronto, Ont.

Sieveling, Podmore & Co.  
WOOD AGENTS

7 CROSBY SQUARE, LONDON, ENG.  
Cable Address: "Sieveling," London  
Branch at LIVERPOOL.

HESSLER & CO.  
Wood Agents

West Hartlepool and Hull, ENGLAND  
Branch Offices in Hull and Newport, Mon.  
Cable Address: "Hessler," West Hartlepool.

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89 STATE ST.,

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LOG RUN  
Elm, Ash, Bass and other Hardwoods  
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ORILLIA, ONT.

Wholesale Pine and Hardwood  
Lumber Dealers

Cabinet Woods, Including Mahogany,  
A Specialty.  
CORRESPONDENCE INVITED QUOTATIONS GIVEN

BUYERS AND EXPORTERS OF  
WHITE PINE AND HARDWOOD

SWAN-DONOGH LUMBER CO.  
LUMBER DEALERS.  
North Tonawanda, N.Y.  
Cable Address, "SWAN-DONOGH-TONAWANDA,"  
Lumberman's Code.

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