

WHITE CEDAR PRICES.

The Northwestern Cedarmen's Association, which met in Chicago on January 10, adopted the following prices on white cedar products. The prices are f. o. b. Hermansville, Mich.

PINE AND PULVER, MIXED CARR.			
Diameter, Inches.		Length.	Price.
3	R	7	7 1/2 cts.
4	"	7	11 "
5	"	7	15 1/2 "
6	"	7	15 "
7	"	7	17 "
8	"	7	25 "
5	3/4	7	8 "
6	"	7	9 "
7	"	7	10 "
7-9	X	7	7 1/2 "
4	R	8	15 "
5	"	8	17 "
6	"	8	19 "
7	"	8	22 "
8	"	8	25 "
4	"	10	21 "
5	"	10	28 "
6	"	10	30 "
7	"	10	35 "
8	"	10	38 "
4	"	12	25 "
5	R	12	33 "
6	"	12	36 "
7	"	12	41 "
4	"	14	30 "
5	"	14	38 "
6	"	14	41 "
7	"	14	48 "
4	"	16	40 "
5	"	16	45 "
6	"	16	50 "
7	"	16	58 "
4	"	18	55 "
5	"	18	62 "
6	"	18	72 "
7	"	18	85 "
4	"	20	65 "
5	"	20	80 "
6	"	20	90 "
7	"	20	\$1.05 "
4	"	25	80 "
5	"	25	1.00 "
5	"	30	1.50 "

PILING.

	Price per foot.
8 to 9 inch top, 12 to 20 feet	10 cents
9 to 11 " " 12 to 20 "	11 "
8 to 9 " " 22 to 30 "	11 "
9 to 11 " " 22 to 30 "	12 "
8 to 9 " " 32 to 40 "	13 "

Extra "A" white cedar shingles . . . \$2.50
Standard "A" white cedar shingles. . . 2.10

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

VANCOUVER, January 6th, 1904.—The owners of timber lands Crown-granted prior to 1887 are about the only men engaged in the logging industry who are altogether satisfied with existing conditions. This is due to the fact that the Government, in its recent amendment to the Land Act, neglected to bring the timber on their holdings within the application of its graduated tax and rebate scale. As a consequence the owners of such lands are still free to export their logs, cedar or fir, to the United States upon the payment of the royalty of 50 cents per thousand feet, as provided for by section 54 of the Act. It is generally believed that the Government

intended, when it drafted its bill of the amendment to the Land Act, to embrace within its application timber lands Crown-granted prior to 1887, but by some mistake such was not done. The export of timber cut from such lands can now only be prevented by an amendment to the present Act.

For the first time since the amendment to the Land Act became law, a boom of logs cut on the E. & N. Railway lands on Vancouver Island paid royalty to-day prior to transportation to Puget Sound. The royalty was paid according to Schedule No. 1 of the amendment and ranged from \$1 per thousand feet to \$1.50 per thousand feet, according to the diameter of the logs in the boom. Payment was made by a logger named Cook, who is operating on a section of the E. & N. grant. The boom measured approximately 600,000 feet. The seller and exporter of the boom explained that he was merely trying the exportation as an experiment to demonstrate to his own satisfaction whether or not any profit, under the terms of the amended act, could be made through selling logs on the Sound.

The British Columbia Logging & Lumber Company, operating at the northern end of Vancouver Island, has determined to cease operations. The manager, Mr. E. W. Wilson, says that the action the company proposes to take is forced upon them by the new schedule of taxation of timber. They have invested about \$75,000 in timber on Vancouver Island, which cost an average of \$1 a thousand feet board measure standing. Logging the timber cost them from \$3.50 to \$4.50 more, and towing the logs 75 cents. The

total cost thus came to about \$4.75 per thousand. "We might, of course," said Mr. Wilson, "build a mill here, but what guarantee have we that we shall not be taxed out of existence if we do. It would not have been so bad if they had given us time to turn round, but they did not even do that. The law went into operation immediately, and I have just paid taxes on logs we had already cut before the measure was fairly before the House. Logs in Vancouver and in the Sound are at present worth from \$4 to \$6 per M. Now, as we understand the bill just passed, we will be taxed from \$1 to \$5 per M., according to grade and size of timber. Any person can readily see that it is an utter impossibility to carry on a logging business at those rates. We have now two logging camps in operation employing from 70 to 80 men, and we pay these men from \$3 to \$4.75 per day, and many of them are ranchers from whom we bought timber, thus giving them in addition steady employment at better wages than they ever had before. We employ only white labor. We intended opening two more camps in the spring, and

then erecting a saw mill, but with this unjust tax bill before us we have only one alternative left, that is, to cease operations, close our camps and leave our standing timber until such time as a new law is enacted."

The Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Company, on the other hand, state that there is a scarcity of logs in British Columbia. Mr. J. J. Palmer, manager of the mills at Chemainus, in a recent interview said "I am in the market for 10,000,000 feet of merchantable fir, and I will pay \$0.50 per thousand feet, cash, for fir logs delivered at the Chemainus mills. This company announce that they have been unable to procure a sufficient supply of logs in British Columbia, and as a result are importing logs from Puget Sound. A boom of 700,000 feet is now on its way to Chemainus from Port Ludlow, and another tug will follow with a boom of about 600,000 feet.

The firm of H. H. Poole & Company has been incorporated at Buffalo, to deal in lumber. The capital stock is \$50,000.

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