ANADA UMBERMAN

WEEKLY FDITION

The Lumberman Monthly Edition, 20 pages, sloo per year ; The Lumberman Weekly Edition, every Wednesday

THIS PAPER REACHES EGULARLY THE PRINCIPAL LUMBER MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS THROUGHOUT CANADA, AND WHOLESALE BUYERS IN THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN MARKETS.

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CANADA LUMBERMAN

CONTROLS

C. H. MORTIMER

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Weekly Lumberman, puritshed every Wednesday. Contains tellable and up-to-date market conditions and tendencies in the principal manufacturing districts and leading domestic and foreign wholesale markets a weekly medium of information and communication between Canadian tumber and lumber manufacturers and experients and the purchasers of timber products at home and approach.

and alread

Lamberman, Monthly. A zo-page journal, discussing fully, and impartially subjects pertunent to the lumber and wood-working industries. Contains interview with pranient members of the trade, and character sketches and portraits of leading lumbermen. Its special articles on rechnical and mechanical subject-are especially valuable to saw mill and planing milling and manufacturers of lumber products.

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Lumbermen visiting Toronto are invited to call at the office of the CANADA LUMBERMAN. We shall have pleasure in giving them any information

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Advertisements will be inserted in this department at the rate of it cents per one each insertion. When four or more time-cutive insertions are ordered a discount of 25 per cent, will be allowed. This notice shows the width of the fine and is set in Nonparell type. Advertisements must be received not later than 4 o clock p.m. on Treaday to figure more in the current week's issue.

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TORONTO, ONT., FEBRUARY 24, 1897

CURRENT TRADE CONDITIONS. ONTAPIO

Whether we write of pine or hardwoods, it must be said that there is very little life to the trade. The past week has been devoid of any contracts of particular significance, only such lumber as is required for immediate consumption having been purchased. The retail yards, although carrying light stocks, are not 1e plenishing to the extent which might be expected at this season of the year, when the low price of lumber at the mills is taken into consideration. There is strong probability of an advance in the prices of some grades before the spring season is far advanced, and a more advantageous time to build up stocks is not likely to occur during the present year. It is learned that some shipments have gone forward to the United States from the Georgian Bay district, but the quantity has been very small compared with the stocks held, which are given in another column as 442,000,000 feet. The C. P. R. report a good traffic in timber and lumber along their Owen Sound branch, and cars are said to be in good demand. The stock, however, consists largely of square timber, telegraph poles, ties, and such like, of which large quantities are being taken out. In the woods the lumbermen are rushing work as speedily as possible, and hope to get in the required stock of logs. Some fear is expressed that, owing to the lack of snow, the water will not be sufficiently high in the streams to permit of floating the logs in the spring, in which case some of the mills will be seriously handicapped. Should this prove to be the case, its influence will also be felt in the market, tending towards higher

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Local dealers at Quebec city report trade very fair, with decidedly better prospects for the spring. A boom in building operations on the outside limits of the city is anticipated, on account of the construction of the electric street railway. In the outlying districts of Montreal there is also considerable building in prospect, and in dications point to a degree of activity as soon as the winter season shows signs of disappearing. Quebec goods remain firm in the European markets, and shippers are obtaining better prices than last season. From the ports of the maritime provinces a fair quantity of deals is going forward to the British markets by the regular line of steamers, although there is yet a large stock waiting shipment at St. John, and a result in a rise in freight rates. There is practically nothing doing in the United States trade beyond a few light shipments of mixed lots. The weather is favorable for logging in the woods, and the work is being pushed along vigorously. The cut will be an average one, that on the Muamichi being estimated at 76,000,000 feet, and that on the Tobique at 36,000,000 feet.

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND MANITOBA.

The volume of trade secured by British Columbia mills this season promises to be much greater than last year. At present about twenty vessels are loading at the different ports for foreign countries. The British ship Speke is loading a cargo of over 2,000,000 feet at Vancouver. It is hoped also to obtain more remunerative prices by means of a combine which has been organized to take the place of the Central Lumber Company, and which will control the foreign trade. A stir has been created in Manitoba and the North west by the announcement made at the annual meeting of the Western Retail Dealers Association that the manufaccarers had decided upon a reduction in the price of lumber at country points. Hereafter the delivered price at Winnipeg will apply to country points, with the difference in the through freight added. The reduction ranges from 50 cents to \$1.65 on dimension, boards, shiplap, etc., while on finishings the prices will not be materially changed.

UNITED STATES. Lumber sales in the United States are

still confined almost wholly to present requirements. Reports from the white pine centres tell the one story of a very restricted demand. Manufacturers are holding out for higher prices, and these the wholesale dealers do not feel satisfied to pay until there is a fair prospect of placing their holdings to advantage. The low price of farm products is one of the agencies which is said to be hindering the enlargement of demand, restricting, as at does, the amount of money available for making farm improvements. Taking the different markets, we find the most activity in the east, where money is much easier and the outlook for building operations rather promising. At Philadelphia the white pine in irket is improving, and it is believed that some good contracts will shortly be placed, the erection of over 2,000 houses being contemplated. The city work is getting in better shape, and country operations promise soon to open up. Unfavorable weather at Boston has

is probable the demand for tonnage will prevented any probable development of trade. Spruce frames are selling at \$14; shingles and clapboards, while not in great inquiry, are somewhat steadier. A slightly better feeling prevails at Buffalo and Tonawanda, although business is below the average at this season of the year. There is very little life to the hardwood trade, beyond some purchasing of desirable stocks for export. The furniture factories, which are known to have light supplies, have not yet commenced to replenish their stocks, although necessity will no doubt compel them to do so shortly. For railway purposes it is expected a considerable quantity of hardwoods will be required.

FOREIGN.

Importors of Canadian goods in the British markets have placed a large portion of their early cargoes, and are now less anxious to close contracts than earlier in the season. There are some transactions for late delivery, but precaution is observed by both buyers and sellers. The east coast is comparatively bare of white pine deals, and larger quantities are due to arri e than usual. Much interest has been centred in the late public auctions, at which prices for spruce and pine deals have shown no diminution. The results of sales at Glasgow and London are given in another column. There is quite s brisk trade doing in hardwoods at most of the principal ports. At Liverpool and Hull building is active, owing to mild weather, and an improvement in the demand for deals, scantlings and boards is looked for. Some chartering of vessels is reported, but as yet very few steamers are offering.

SHIPPING MATTERS.

The barque Minnehaha has been chartered to load deals at West Bay, N. B., for Cardiff or Newport, at 40s.

The schooner B. R. Woodside, which has oven chartered to load number at Church Point, N. S., for Havanna, gets an advance of 25 cents over last year's rate.

Lumber freight rates from British Columbia points are as follows: Sydney, 30s.: Mel-trourne or Adelaide, 37s. Oct. Port Pirie, 32s. to the first of th

The following lumber charters are reported: Minnie G. Whitney. Supelo to United Kingdom, sawn timber, 92 of . Egeria, New York to Buenos Avies, lumber. \$8, Rosario, \$9: Assyria (previously) Pensacola to Cardiff, Newport, Swansca of Creenock, sawn timber, 978 fed. Ariz na. same. Maona, Boston to Buenos Ayres, lumber, \$8: Rosario, \$9; 500-ton harque, Cape Tormentine to w.c. England or c.c. Ireland, deals, 455.