

CANADA LUMBERMAN

WEEKLY EDITION

The Lumberman Monthly Edition, 20 pages } \$1.00 PER YEAR { The Lumberman Weekly Edition, every Wednesday

THIS PAPER REACHES REGULARLY THE PRINCIPAL LUMBER MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS THROUGHOUT CANADA, AND WHOLESALE BUYERS IN GREAT BRITAIN, THE UNITED STATES, AND OTHER FOREIGN MARKETS.

VOL. VII.

TORONTO, ONT., NOVEMBER 20, 1901

No. 42

CANADA LUMBERMAN

PUBLISHED BY

The G. H. Mortimer Publishing Co's
of Toronto, Limited

Confederation Life Building - TORONTO.

Branch Office:

IMPERIAL BUILDING, MONTREAL.

Weekly Lumberman, published every Wednesday, contains reliable 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 timber and lumber manufacturers and exporters and the purchasers of timber products at home and abroad.

WANTED AND FOR SALE

FOR SALE - 600,000 FEET GOOD WHITE
Pine Mill Culls, Dry. Address "OTTAWA," office
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WANTED - GOOD BOOK-KEEPER AND
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Bay district, duties to commence first of year;
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LUMBERMAN.

WANTED - WHITE PINE LATH.

Quote price f.o.b. shipping point; state weight
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FOR S

Valuable hardwood timber limit. Berth No. 3,
Township Nipissing, on which there is basswood,
spruce, hemlock, dry pine and other woods. Portions
of 516 to 2818 Co. Township Nipissing, 77 square
miles. Also patented lands 31 and 32 on which there
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AT THE

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ON

Wednesday, December 18, 1901

AT 2 P. M.

The subscriber has been instructed to offer
for sale, BY AUCTION, at the above time and
place, and subject to the conditions which will
be announced at the time of sale, the licenses
for TIMBER BERTHS 111 and 117, on the
NORTH SHORE LAKE HURON, and known
as the Townships of

GOUGH AND DUNLOP

36 square miles each.

The above berths are licensed under the
most favorable conditions, and in addition
to a large quantity of pine there are other
valuable woods, which are included in the
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five per cent. per annum.

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CURRENT TRADE CONDITIONS.

ONTARIO.

Assisted by fine weather, the lumber trade is making a most satisfactory showing for the month of November. Upon the close of navigation, which will take place very soon, the yards will have light stocks to carry into the winter. Some of the mills have been compelled to close down earlier than expected on account of inability to secure workmen. Prices of pine lumber are hardening. While there has been no further advance in the upper grades, the weakness in the lower grades has disappeared. This is particularly the case in respect to box lumber and mill culls, which are selling fully one dollar higher than a month or six weeks ago. The market for these grades is advancing, owing to the light supply, and many predict much higher prices before next spring.

Although no change has been made in prices for lath as quoted on page vi., some sales are being made at higher figures, and the position of stocks warrant a considerable advance, which will doubtless take place within one month. Shingles are higher. XX pine are selling in Toronto at \$1.80 to \$1.90, and XXX at \$2.60 to \$2.70. For XX \$1.60 is being asked at the mill. There is much speculation as to how far the price of shingles will advance, as the supply is exceptionally light. Inquiries sent out to Georgian Bay millmen reveal the fact that there are very few shingles to be purchased. As an illustration of the scarcity a manufacturer who almost invariably has gone into winter quarters with from 15,000,000 to 20,000,000 shingles, is this winter completely sold out; while others are intimating that \$1.70 will be their next quotation for XX.

Hardwood prices are steady. The demand is heavier than a fortnight ago. Soft elm and maple are exhibiting less strength than other hardwoods. Manufacturers are showing little disposition to cut prices, apparently looking for an early improvement in the demand.

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Shipments of spruce lumber from Montreal within the past fortnight have been quite numerous, although mostly of small lots. As the close of navigation is drawing near, interest is turning to the volume of the wintering stock. No figures are yet obtainable, but when they are given out it is possible that they will show a smaller quantity than is generally expected. Quebec shippers who are in touch with that market seem confident of a

sharp recovery in prices next season. From the eastern provinces the shipments to Great Britain during the past week have been light, but a considerable quantity of clapboards and shingles has been shipped to the United States. Clapboards are scarce and strong at last quotations. The advance in the price of cedar shingles has been maintained. One or two manufacturers are asking as much as \$3.25 for extra cedars, on Boston freight rate.

UNITED STATES.

Taking the lumber market of the United States as a whole, it seems to be in excellent condition. The demand for white pine has fallen off slightly, but the effect of this upon prices has been more than offset by the closing down of the mills in the Mississippi district about one month earlier than last year. The upper grades are particularly strong and are being advanced in many markets. Recent sales at Duluth have been at the highest prices of the season, while still higher figures are predicted before the new year. The large supply of low grade stock will likely prevent any material advance in the price of these grades, although No. 4 and No. 5 boards have lately shown more strength and a better movement. No. 3 boards are selling in the Duluth market at \$13.50. The east is buying quite liberally, as the open weather has permitted the continuation of building operations. Thick No. 1 cuts have been sold in the Buffalo market at \$43. Box grades are selling at \$16 to \$19 and mill culls at \$15. Stocks at Tonawanda and Buffalo are broken, a condition never known to exist heretofore during the closing weeks of navigation. There is a heavy inquiry for box lumber.

A continuation of the better feeling in the hardwood trade is the only favorable feature. There has been no perceptible improvement in the demand, although furniture factories are buying a good deal of maple. Elm and basswood are holding their own in price and would doubtless improve if the demand should pick up. The high prices for spruce continue. Mills at Bangor, Portland, and other points are being operated to their full capacity to supply requirements. In Boston 10 and 12 inch dimensions are selling at \$12; 9 inch and under at \$18 to \$18.50; and 10 and 12 inch random lengths, 10 feet and up, at \$19 to \$19.50.

The shingle situation is as favorable for the producer as it well could be. Dealers and manufacturers are unable to find a sufficient quantity to fill orders. Our

Albany list shows an advance of 25 cents on lath, which are selling there at from \$2.75 to \$3.00.

GREAT BRITAIN.

In many respects the outlook in Great Britain is improving. The import season is considered at an end, and the trade are now in a position to estimate the quantity of stock available to supply the requirements of the winter and early spring. The Board of Trade returns show that the import of sawn lumber has been lighter than last year, although the stock on hand is slightly heavier. Consumption is fairly active, and will no doubt result in reducing the quantity on the market to a normal basis before next season's shipments arrive. Recent auction sales in London have shown an advancing market for pine and spruce, and particularly for 2 x 4 scantlings. Quebec pine deals have not made as great improvement as spruce. As an indication of the trend of the spruce market, it is announced that a cargo from West Bay was last week sold to the Bristol channel at £7 10s., while one month ago such a price would not have been considered by the buyer. A parcel of Halifax spruce is reported to have been sold in London at £7 7s. 6d. c.i.f. Waney board pine is going into consumption freely, a cargo from Quebec lately received at Liverpool having met with a ready sale. A noticeable feature is the reduced stock of birch planks and logs. In August last a parcel of planks was sold at Liverpool at £5 10s. per standard, and it is doubtful that a similar parcel could now be bought under £7 per standard. Birch logs are in strong demand and prices are decidedly firmer. Elm has been inquired for, but the heavy stock of this timber is keeping the price down, and very few sales are made above 3s. per cubic foot.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The cooperage stock market is quiet, with some activity in slack hoops. Prices at Buffalo are as follows: First-class dry elm flour barrel staves, \$7.25 to \$7.50; basswood headings, 5/4 to 5/2 cents; coiled hoops, \$7.75 to \$3 for 6 foot, \$7.25 to \$7.50 for 5 1/2 ft.

Prices for shingles at Tacoma, Wash., continue on the basis of \$1.05 for red cedar stars, and \$1.80 to \$1.85 for clears.

Lath are selling at Duluth at \$2.90 for No. 1 and \$2.25 for No. 2.

J. W. Cochran, J. N. Cochran, S. J. Soley and G. Kerr have purchased, for about \$45,000, the Smith & Hatfield timber lands at Fox River, N. S., and will engage extensively in lumbering at that place.

The barges Porter Chamberlain and H. J. Webb loaded lumber at Little Current,