

THE LUMBER TRADE.

Prices in the lumber trade of Ontario and Quebec continue steady, the demand for building purposes giving considerable firmness to the market. The prospects for trade in the North-West, though it is quiet at the moment owing to the rush-work of the farmers on other business, are quite bright as there can be no doubt that the great and remunerative crops promised the farmers this year will lead to a general desire to make improvements and extensions to their various properties.

Business in the Maritime Provinces has been fair for local requirements, and shows some improvement for export purpose.

In Great Britain the receipts of lumber have been increasing a little during the last few weeks, but there has been but slight change in prices. A recent circular from Liverpool refers to Canadian lumber as follows:—

Canadian.—Of waney, the bulk of the import went to Manchester, chiefly on contract, and will go largely direct into consumption; the deliveries have been fair, but there is little improvement in the demand to report; values are steady, stocks are ample. Square pine—There have been no arrivals; the stock is light, but the demand is quiet; values are steady. Red pine has not been imported; the demand is very limited, and stocks, though light, are sufficient. Oak logs—No import; there has been a little more enquiry, recent arrivals have gone largely into consumption, and stocks are moderate; there is no change in values to report. Elm—There has been no import during the past month, but the deliveries have been satisfactory, and stocks are moderate; values rule high. Pine deals—These goods are arriving more freely; there has been a fair consumption, but the demand is slow and stocks are large; prices are fairly steady. Red pine deals—There is no improvement in the demand to report. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia spruce and pine deals—The arrivals to the Mersey during the past month have been 18,990 stds. against 15,180 stds. during the corresponding time last year. The consumption has been fairly satisfactory, but stocks have somewhat increased during the month. There has been rather more enquiry, values have an upward tendency, and imports for the balance of the season are expected to be on a moderate scale. Stocks are slightly less than corresponding period last season. Pine deals—The demand continues quiet, and there is no improvement in value to report. Birch—Logs, chiefly from Quebec, on contract, have arrived more freely; there has been a good consumption, stocks are moderate, and prices steady. Planks have been imported moderately, the deliveries have been satisfactory, and stocks are not too large; values are unchanged. British Columbian and Oregon pine—A cargo from Port Blakely has arrived on merchants' account; the deliveries have been fair, but the stock is heavy; values are steady.

TRADE NOTES.

W. Channels' knitting factory at St. Catharines has been gutted by fire at a loss of about \$4,000, partly insured.

It is stated that during July no less than 9,000 cattle were exported from Alberta, and the figure for this month is expected to reach 11,000.

Last week twenty-five bales of wool, claimed to have been smuggled from Canada into the United States, were seized by U.S. Treasury officials on the s.s. St. Croix on its trip from St. John, N.B., to Boston, Mass.

The Railway Commission has issued an order requiring that the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railways make a general reduction in the rates on grain or grain products from Ontario points to Montreal. The change is expected to work with considerable benefit both to farmers and millers.

According to a recent report from G. G. Burke, Canadian commercial agent in Jamaica, there is a revival in the sugar industry in the West Indies. Hundreds of small cane mills are being imported from the United States, and

Mr. Burke urges that Canadian machinists should endeavor to capture this business. He also recommends box shoo manufacturers in Canada to make a move to secure the control of the market for shooks for orange and pineapple boxes.

The high price of hides and the increasing firmness in leathers is causing boot and shoe manufacturers to hold off from purchases as much as possible. It is altogether likely, however, they will have to give the price asked, even though they have eventually to raise the values of their own goods.

A feature in the fruit trade is the exceedingly high price of lemons, which is higher than has been the case for several years. This is believed to be due not only to an extra demand on account of hot weather, but to the frosts in parts of the Italian lemon belt this spring.

All foreign raw silk markets have advanced, and no one will hazard a guess as to where the end is likely to be. Reelers in Europe and Japan are well supplied with money, and will have no need to force business for at least the next sixty days. Could the demand be cut off both from America and Europe for the next six weeks holders would unquestionably revise their schedules, notwithstanding the absence of pressure to sell, but such a contingency is most improbable, thinks the correspondent of the Dry Goods Economist.

The tailor costume for the coming fall will, it is said in Paris, be constructed more in fancy all-wool fabrics (cloth, of course, among the number) than any description of plain material. The latter will be reserved for a more dressy type of robe, consequently for visiting and afternoon wear. We must remember that the tailor suit is no longer, as was the case some two or three years ago, considered suitable for visiting, though it is still not strictly reserved for morning wear. Small checks are sure to be well received, and dressmakers are ordering them freely. Then again, hairline effects are greatly favored.

It is stated that the Keystone Sugar Company, which is about to establish a beet sugar factory at Whitby, Ontario, intend to manufacture sugar from imported raw sugars as well, during the season when beet sugar operations are over. It is believed that, having already the requisite machinery for refining, they will be in a position to import cane sugar from the West Indies and raw beet from Europe, and to manufacture it into the finished product with great advantage.

A committee of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange has decided that all outstanding contracts for the sale of July wheat on which default was made at the expiration of the July delivery shall be settled at the price of \$1.16 a bushel, instead of \$1.35. The greater part of the evidence showed that during the last few days of the month the rapid advance in the price of July wheat was the result of manipulation, and that the final figure, \$1.35, was not a fair price, as at that time the milling and export value of the wheat was not at the very outside more than from \$1.00 to \$1.05 a bushel. The present compromise, though giving the shorts considerable benefit, yet will net them a heavy loss.

The new crop of wool is beginning to move a little more freely, as manufacturers begin to need supplies and place further orders. Prices hold firm at 16c. to 16½c. for unwashed, 25c. to 26½c. for washed, and 20c. for rejects. Since January 1st, this year, the United States has imported 39,182,400 lbs. of wool this year, compared with only 24,455,474 lbs. in the same period in 1904. Total sales of domestic wool in the United States since January 1st, in the principal markets, exclusive of Boston, have been 39,940,971 lbs., compared with 45,695,500 lbs. in the same period in 1904. This makes total sales, domestic and foreign wools, in the United States, 79,123,371 lbs., compared with 70,150,974 in the same period last year.

—The total gross earnings of 62 railroads in the United States for five months of the present year show an increase over the same period of 1904 of \$23,559,175, and of 63 roads for the six months (partly estimated), \$21,659,906. The