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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. VI.

TORONTO, ONT., JULY 11, 1900

No. 25.

CANADA LUMBERMAN

PUBLISHED BY

The G. H. Mortimer Publishing Co. 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.

Lumberman, Monthly. A 20-page journal, discussing fully and impartially subjects pertinent to the lumber and wood-working industries. Contains interviews with prominent members of the trade, and character sketches and portraits of leading lumbermen. It is especially valuable to saw mill and planing mill men and manufacturers of lumber products.

Subscription price for the two editions for one year, \$1.00.

WANTED AND FOR SALE

Advertisements will be inserted in this department at the rate of 15 cents per line each insertion. When four or more consecutive insertions are ordered a discount of 25 per cent. will be allowed. This notice shows the width of the line and is set in Nonpareil type, 12 lines make one inch. Advertisements must be received not later than 4 o'clock p.m. on Tuesday to insure insertion in the current week's issue.

WANTED.—150 M feet 1-1/4" and 1-1/2" Basswood, 20 M feet 2" Basswood. THOS. MYLES' SONS, Hamilton, Ont.

WANTED—Foreman for small Pulp Mill. A knowledge of the French language preferred. Address "DUNNION," CANADA LUMBERMAN.

HAVE YOU ANY STOCK WHICH YOU WISH to sell? If so, make the fact known to probable buyers by placing an advertisement in the Wanted and For Sale Department. Address, CANADA LUMBERMAN, Toronto.

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FIRST CLASS SALESMAN ON DOORS, Floor Work, Boxes and Lumber. Thoroughly capable of figuring on all interior finish. Middle aged active man, sober, with references; familiar with Eastern New York and Western trade. GILMOUR & Co., Trenton, Canada.

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COMPETENT LUMBER PILERS WANTED for mill in B.C. Address, stating wages, Box 789, CANADA LUMBERMAN.

WANTED.

3 COMPETENT SAW FILERS NONE OTHER need apply. Apply to Box 20, CANADA LUMBERMAN office.

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THREE CARS OF SOFT ELM COFFIN boards—two cars being very dry and cut to one inch thick—also a car of 2 inch plank. Can load at Creemore Station W. J. ADAIR, Laverham, Ont.

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A FIRST CLASS BAND SAWYER, TWO Setters, and one Power Feed, for Pacific Coast mill. State experience, references and wages—all particulars first letter. Box 606, CANADA LUMBERMAN.

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WANTED, IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, Green Hard Maple Squares, 6 1/2" x 6 1/2", 12 feet and up. Cash on delivery at any station in Ontario or Quebec. Address, Box 36, CANADA LUMBERMAN.

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3 cars 1 in. and 1 car 1 1/2 in. Beech.
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Prices on application. J. S. FINDLAY, Owen Sound, Ont.

THE WEST INDIES.

Messrs. S. P. Musson, Son & Co., Barbadoes, in their market report dated June 23rd, have this to say regarding lumber conditions: The "Alice" has arrived from Liverpool with 200m. ft. White Pine; sold to arrive. The "Herbert Rice," from Weymouth, 55m. ft. Shipping, 31m. ft. 2nd quality Spruce Boards, sold at \$22.27 and \$19.26 respectively; also a small lot 7m. ft. Shipping, 28m. 2nd quality White Pine, at \$24.57 and \$24.57. Pitch Pine—No arrival. No further receipts of Shingles, some Long Gaspe Cedar are reported on the way, and prospects for their disposal are unfavorable. Nothing new in Shooks or Woodhoops.

CURRENT TRADE CONDITIONS. ONTARIO.

The dullness which usually characterizes business in midsummer is beginning to be felt. It has become the rule for business men to briefly relax their chase of the golden dollar during the heated term. Heads of departments also look for a vacation, so that for a few weeks to come business will be conducted with less than usual vigor. Apart from this the condition of business appears on the whole to be very satisfactory. Bradstreets reports that while trade conditions are less buoyant than a year ago, the general situation is regarded as fair, mills and factories being well supplied with orders and collections good. Business failures number about the same as last year. The crop prospects have considerably improved, which has a tendency to further strengthen the situation. Lumber manufacturers are manifesting their confidence in the stability of present conditions by holding firmly to existing prices, and we believe they are wise in so doing. Our Ottawa correspondent states that some contractors are delaying building operations in the hope that prices will decline. He expresses the belief, however, that instead of a decline an advance may be looked for. Shantymen who have lately returned from the woods confirm the reports that a large number of logs are stranded in the smaller streams of the Kippewa and Ostoboning districts. We do not know how well-founded is the report which comes from Sault Ste. Marie that owing to a scarcity of lumber in Ontario a supply has had to be imported from British Columbia.

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

The government of Quebec has been appealed to on behalf of the lumber interests of the Province to aid the establishment of transport facilities to Cape Colony, where it is believed that a large and profitable trade in lumber and timber products might be secured. This belief seems to be borne out by the following figures showing the imports of lumber and wood products into Cape Colony during the year 1898.—Wood, unmanufactured, \$1,050,235; wood, plain or grooved, \$657,780; wood, manufactured, other than furniture, \$663,305; furniture and cabinet-ware, \$1,767,400. The end of the war is apparently yet too far distant to admit of the hope that any business can be done in the South African market this year, but provision should be made to secure a share of the trade that will be forthcoming next spring.

The situation in New Brunswick remains much the same as reported last week. The favorable business conditions prevailing may be gauged by the fact that the list of failures during the last six months has been unusually light. Apropos of the mention made last week of the movement to secure a fortnightly summer service from St. John to Great Britain. Messrs. Wm. Thomson & Son, managers of the Battle line of freight steamers, state that next year they expect to operate a fortnightly service between St. John and Liverpool and Manchester. An event

of considerable importance to lumber shippers, was the strike of ship laborers at St. John last week, and the consequent advance of 10 cents per hour in wages, which the Messrs. Thomson state means an increase of from 70 to 90 cents per standard for handling cargoes of deals.

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The situation in British Columbia is clearly and comprehensively set forth by one of the largest manufacturing companies, in a letter to the CANADA LUMBERMAN, as follows. "If it were not for one thing the lumber export trade on the Pacific coast would be in a highly satisfactory condition, and that one difficulty is the lack of tonnage. Dating back as far as the American-Spanish war, there has been a shortage of lumber carriers on this coast, and freight rates have therefore correspondingly advanced. It was anticipated, when this war was closed, that the vessels would come back to their old business again, but then came in the war in the Transvaal, taking up so many steamers, in whose places sailers were utilized in the trade in which they were running previous to becoming transports and, what is more of a local matter, the trade with Cape Nome and the Alaska gold fields has absorbed a large number of the steady lumber carriers, so freight rates have kept up, and are not only keeping up, but appear to be steadily advancing. The high rates of freight now ruling have a tendency to deter foreign purchasers from placing orders, and although all the mills are now running to their full capacity, there is but little new business offering, and they are working on orders taken previous to the advance in freights.

The owners of timber limits on this coast, seeing how rapidly the limits in the East are being used up, are beginning to realize the value of their holdings, and have raised the price of stumpage. This has made a corresponding advance in the price of logs, which affects the price of lumber in turn. The log market on Puget Sound and British Columbia is firm, the supply being kept about equal to the demand.

The export price of lumber is the best that has been for years, and every indication is that there will be a further advance in the near future. The trouble in China has closed that market for a while. Australia has contracted well ahead, and from there cannot be expected much new business until there is some drop in freights, and the old contracts have been filled. South Africa, after it comes under British rule, will undoubtedly prove a great market, but here again the high rate of freights are working against the Pacific coast timber.

Taking everything into consideration, the outlook for the lumber exporters on this coast is very fair.

UNITED STATES.

During the past week stock taking has been in progress and there has consequently been a lull in transactions. The holiday season is also at hand and is inducing quietness in the lumber trade as

n all other departments of business. There is reported to be a slight improvement in demand, however, from the Eastern States market, which is regarded as an indication that wholesalers have reached the point where stocking up must be done, and also that they have ceased to expect a drop in values. Bradstreet's reports go to show that the business of the country is in a prosperous condition, there being fewer failures than for many years past. This fact coupled with the prospect of good crops in most parts of the country and the resumption of building consequent upon a settlement of the labor disputes which paralyzed operations earlier in the season, should certainly largely increase the demand and maintain the strength of the market. The consumption for the first six months of the year is far behind that of 1899, notwithstanding prices have not declined to any considerable extent. It is therefore reasonable to expect that with the strengthening of the demand there will be no further decline. As a result of recent rains many of the logging streams in the North West have risen to an extent sufficient to allow of the drives being brought down to the mills, and manufacturing operations have recommenced. For more than a month, however, many of the mills have been idle, so that there is certain to be a decrease in their output. The demand for hardwood for the export trade is improving, but for home consumption there is but little request, although it is not expected that prices will fall much below present figures.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The consumption of timber in the British market for the first half of the present year shows a deficiency, as compared with the first six months of 1899, of 26,408 standards of sawn and planed goods, and 4,713 loads of floated timber. Notwithstanding the arrival of numerous vessels since the date of last report the market shows no sign of weakness. Deal sizes, especially 11 inch, are usually scarce, and some merchants are obliged to buy at second hand and high prices from other dealers who were fortunate enough to lay in a stock early in the season before tonnage became so difficult to secure.

The market for spruce continues remarkably strong, many specifications call for 6 to 8 inch, of which the market is at present quite bare. Unless heavy shipments arrive late in the season there is little reason to anticipate a drop in values. Up to the present time the indications point to a decrease in supply as compared with last year. At a recent auction sale in London of North Europe and Colonial deals there was keen competition among the purchasers. Many consumers are now taking stock for the first six months of the year. When this is completed the condition of demand will become more clear.

An auction sale of spruce and pine deals, comprising 150 standards of the former and 120 of the latter, forming a shipment from St. John, N. B., was held at Liverpool recently. The stock is said to have been of poor quality, being hard and knotty and irregular in thickness. 3x11 sold at £9; 3x10 at £8; and 3x9 at £8 1s 3d. 3x8 and 3x7 sold at £7 15s; 2½x7 at £7 per standard. £7 6s 3d was offered and refused for 3x7 and 3x8 red pine deals, as was also a bid of £7 for 2x5 and 3x6 scantling. Cargoes of 1,500 to 1,750 standards New Brunswick spruce deals, full specifications, are selling at £7 15s c.i.f. Liverpool. Floorings are reported to be selling well on the London market, the favorite dimensions being 1 inch and ¾ inch. There is also a good demand for ¾ inch matching. Tonnage is difficult to procure from Canadian ports, unless vessel owners' demands are promptly agreed to. From the bay of Fundy 58s 9d to 60s is quoted, and from the St. Lawrence 60s to 62s 6d.

The Fred Robinson Lumber Co., of Kevel stoke, b. C., is experiencing considerable loss through high water. Their kevelstoke mill will probably close down for a short time, being unable to get logs from the Wingham camp.

THE GLASGOW MARKET.

Messrs. Allison, Causland & Co., in their trade circular dated June 30th, say: "The market during the past quarter has been in a sound condition, the amount of business transacted being considerable. Importers are well through their stocks. Arrivals have been light and chiefly on contract, and with the present high rate of freight, it is improbable that there will be heavy consignments. On the other hand consumers still hold heavy stocks. The present outlook is not at all clear, as, with the high prices prevailing for coal and all raw material, general trade is no doubt falling away rapidly; in fact, it is said that not one new shipbuilding contract has been booked in the Clyde during the past month. As will be observed from the tables, the stock compares very favorably with past years."

The condition of stocks and demand for Canadian timber is given as follows:

YELLOW PINE.—WANEV.—Prime wood, the demand is limited, but is firmly held. 2nd class timber has been more in request; the reductions in the stock is largely in this grade. Quotations.—Prime wood, 19 to 20 inches average, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. 2nd class, 18d to 2s 2d per c. ft. SQUARE.—The stock is almost entirely in importers' hands. The demand is limited, and little business has been done.

RED PINE.—Stocks are heavy, with little enquiry. 1st class is quoted at 22d to 2s 2d. F. A. Q. 17d to 19d per cubic foot.

ELM.—The stock is exceedingly small. Prices are very firm. Quotations—45 to 50 feet average, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per c. ft.

OAK.—The stock is considerably reduced, but is still quite sufficient for the demand.

ASH.—The stock of Quebec wood is practically nil.

BIRCH.—The demand has been moderate. Several lines have changed hands at fair figures. Quotations—18d to 21d for 14 to 16 inch average.

PINE.—FIRSTS.—Stocks are small and prices very firm, but sales have been rather limited. Quotations.—Broad, £26 16s 3d to £29 11s 3d. Undersized, £20 12s 6d to £22 13s 9d per Std. Pet. St. Seconds.—There is little or no stock in importers' hands. Quotations.—Broad, £19 18s 9d to £22 13s 9d. Undersized—£15 16s 3d to £17 3s 9d per Std. Pet. Std. Thirds.—Are in moderate demand at good prices. Regulars are quoted at £12 7s 6d to £13 1s 3d. Undersized, £9 12s 6d to £9 19s 4d per Std. Pet. Std. Fourths.—Eleven inch and Undersized are in more request than Broad, but all are firmly held. Quotations.—Regulars, £9 12s 6d. Undersized, £8 5s to £8 18s 9d per Std. Pet. Std.

REDS.—There is a good demand, but sales are limited owing to the high prices asked by sellers. Quotations—£15 2s 6d to £16 10s per Std. Pet. Std.

SPRUCE.—There is still a fair stock, but much reduced since last quarter. Prices are good. Quotations—£7 11s 3d to £9 5s 7d per Std. Pet. Std.

DEALS, BATTENS AND BOARDS.—There has been a good consumption, and values remain very steady at £7 11s 3d to £10 6s 3d per Std. Pet. Std.

BIRCH.—There has been practically no import of logs, but planks have come on freely, most parcels being sold ex quay. Prices however are now somewhat weaker.

SPRUCE.—Any consignments meet with a ready sale at good prices. Quotations—£7 11s 3d to £9 19s 4d per Std. Pet. Std. for 2nd quality average.

THE OTTAWA VALLEY.

(Correspondence of the C. NADA LUMBERMAN.)

Local lumber operations have assumed the energy characteristic of them before the disastrous fire, and shipping is becoming brisker. J. R. Booth's mill is working night and day, and all available piling ground is being utilized. Considerable lumber is being shipped to American points by rail, but owing to a slow movement in building operations across the border this feature of the business is not as brisk as it otherwise would be.

The Hull Lumber Company is cutting steadily in three mills, and shipping to American points by rail direct from the saw. Gilmour & Hughson's steam mill is turning out a large cut, the W. C. Edwards Company is cutting night and day, and Bailey's mill in Aylmer is also being operated with two shifts.

As yet no delay has been caused at the local mills by the non arrival of logs.

Despite the fact that building operations in the burnt districts of both Hull and Ottawa are brisk, the local lumber market shows no bullish tendencies. In Ottawa several contractors look for an easier movement in prices, and hence the building operations in some quarters have been delayed. Prices will ad-

vance, as the local and outside demand is bound to increase. Last week the first shipment by water was made from the Booth mill at the Chaudiere the river yard having been filled with the cut. Men are engaged putting the large piling ground along the Quebec side of the river in shape to receive the new cut.

Considerable lumber is being shipped to Hull from the small mills of the Gatineau, and building operations are much brisker in the Quebec city than in Ottawa. The fire by-law gives the ratepayers a year in which to make their buildings fireproof, and the city, with the exception of Main street, is being built up solid, with wooden shells, to be enclosed later in brick, etc.

Ottawa is to have another new and large wood working establishment. The W. C. Edwards Company has secured control of the Capital Planing Mills and Ottawa Specialty Company. The premises in the latter concern were swept clean in the fateful fire, but the business, manufacturing office and bank fittings, etc., will be conducted in the large stone grist mill on the Edwards premises at New Edinburgh, which has been unoccupied for some time. The rougher class of work will be turned out in the Capital planing mill as before, but on a larger scale. The Ottawa Specialty Company did a large local and export business and employed 50 hands. About 150 will be employed in the new establishment. Machinery to the value of \$10,000 will be installed, and about \$50,000 will be invested in the business altogether. The concern is to be one of the largest of its kind in eastern Canada.

Large numbers of river and shanty men are returning to Ottawa from the drives. The clerks who have been working on the Hull Lumber Company's limits have also returned. They report that many logs are stranded on the smaller streams of the Kippewa and Ostoboning districts.

Recently Mr. J. R. Booth, the millionaire millowner of Ottawa, advanced the wages of his men, having in mind the losses they sustained in the recent fire.

Building operations on the E. B. Eddy Company's establishments are well advanced. The machine shop is completed, and work on the woodworking establishment and match factory is being pushed ahead. The paper mills are being rebuilt on a larger scale than before, and the foundations for the immense paper mills are being laid. The saw mill will also be built on a larger scale than before, and on the same site. Extensive limits have been secured by the E. B. Eddy Company, and the wood working and paper making branches promise a larger output than before the fire. Considerable delay was experienced in removing the large amount of machinery and debris. Fully 500 men are now engaged about the works.

The Ottawa city council at its last meeting adopted the fire by-law thrown out at a previous meeting. The clauses of the by-law limit the piling of lumber in residential areas to 500-000 ft. and a distance of at least 10 ft. must be allowed for in the proximity of streets and buildings. In the more thickly populated parts this distance is increased to 60 feet. The by-law

also provides that buildings must be made fire-proof, and roofs covered with fire-proof shingles or other materials.

From advices received by Ottawa firms from their American agents, it would seem that there is a deadlock between the manufacturers and wholesale dealers and the retail dealers in building materials at American points. As a result business is slack, thus affecting the shipments and the local business in export lines.

OTTAWA, July 9, 1900.

SHIPPING MATTERS.

The bark Launberga, 1,218 tons, arrived at Yarmouth to load lumber for South America, on April 17th, and did not get away until the 30th of June. The custom of the port only being 20 M. per working day, actually gave this vessel 55 lay days. The facilities for loading at Yarmouth are far behind the age, which makes it a very undesirable place for large vessels.

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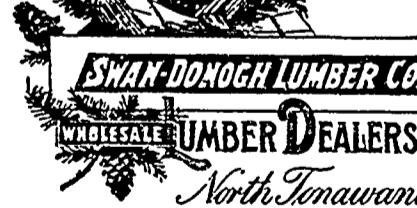
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