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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., OCTOBER 17, 1900

No 39

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.

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. Its special articles on technical and mechanical subjects are 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.

CURRENT TRADE CONDITIONS.

ONTARIO.

If the Ottawa valley can be taken as the barometer of the lumber industry of the province, the outlook for pine lumber is decidedly promising. From that district an active movement of stock is reported, at prices slightly in advance of those ruling one month ago. One manufacturer reports he sold last week of one million feet of lumber at the highest price of the season. Almost every grade of pine is moving, with a heavy demand for box stock and for dimension 10 inches and up in width. The only weakness pertains to the lower grades, and this is far from approaching depression. Stocks in the hands of manufacturers are believed to be fully 25 per cent. less than at same period last year. In the Georgian Bay district there is a larger accumulation of stock in proportion to the production, but it cannot be said that the stock in any locality is excessive, and with a revival in demand, prices would be likely to advance. In Western Ontario the fall trade has been backward. Some members of the trade do not expect much improvement until after the turn of the year. The statistical position of pine lumber, however, is strong, and manufacturers have decided to take full advantage of the situation and keep up prices even in the face of a slow demand. The stocks of retailers and consumers are known to be light, and sooner or later they must replenish their supplies.

The hardwood market is in a somewhat uncertain position. The stock of hardwoods at the mills is larger than last year, while very little buying is being done. Perhaps the only exception to this is basswood, which is in light supply. The larger manufacturers have not receded from their position and are holding out for full prices.

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Recent rains in New Brunswick have interfered with the lumber business. Some of the railroads have been tied up, making it impossible to ship lumber. The spruce market, although not active, is showing a little more strength, due to an improved demand and firmer prices in the Eastern States. Most of the mills have disposed of their export stock, but much of it has not yet been moved owing to the difficulty which shippers have encountered in effecting vessel charters at reasonable rates. As this stock is likely to be held over until the spring, there is

considerable uncertainty as to the prices which will rule next season. It may be said, however, that spruce lumber is each year gaining a stronger foothold in foreign markets, and that if manufacturers guard against an over-production, there is little doubt but that the product of the spruce mills will always find a market at fair prices. White cedar shingles are selling at \$2.75 on Boston rate of freight. Some large orders have been placed, as there is a likelihood that this price will be advanced in the near future.

UNITED STATES.

The lumber transactions of the past week would seem to indicate that the result of the Presidential election is being discounted. There has been a noticeable revival in trade, and consuming industries which until recently kept out of the market are now buying with some liberality. For the first week in October the sales of lumber in the Duluth market reached 10,000,000 feet. A certain portion of lumber dealers and consumers will probably not enter the market to buy stock until after the election, but other buyers believe that lumber can be obtained cheaper at the present time than after the election, and are acting accordingly. Pine prices are firm, with the better grades inclined to advance slightly. Some weakness is reported in certain low grades. No. 1 barn boards, for instance, are selling one dollar lower in the Albany market. At Buffalo they are also in large supply and weak, while the stock of the better grades of lumber is not particularly large. In the Chicago market the greatest weakness pertains to low grade inch. It is said that some common inch has been sold in that market as low as \$14.50, but about \$15.50 is the average quotation. Reports from the Eastern States tell of firmness in the spruce market. In New York northern spruce has advanced one dollar per thousand, firsts and seconds selling at \$20, while eastern spruce is about \$2 higher. Hardwoods are firm as the result of a better inquiry, but as yet there is no noticeable improvement in demand. Plain oak and birch have been more enquired for.

The position of the lath market is improving. No. 1 white pine is selling in Buffalo at \$3, mixed at \$2.75, and No. 2 at \$2.50. In Chicago No. 1 is quoted at \$2.75 and mixed from \$2.40 to \$2.50. An improvement is reported in the demand for shingles. A scarcity of red cedar shingles has developed, which has had an effect on the other grades. Some buyers

are said to have been unable to find a sufficient quantity to meet their requirements.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Statistics are to hand showing the stocks of timber in the public docks at the leading British ports on September 30th of this year as compared with the same period one year ago. Taken as a whole, the figures do not reflect a very satisfactory condition of the trade, inasmuch as the stocks generally are larger than last year. The receipts of North of Europe timber have been very heavy. From Canada, however, there has been a light import, and the figures of this trade are more promising. In the London docks there is a heavier stock this year of spruce deals and battens, oak, birch, elm, ash and pine timber, but pine deals and battens show a decrease of nearly 500,000 pieces. At Liverpool the stock of pine and spruce deals is about the same as last year, but oak, elm, ash, and waney and square pine timber are in smaller supply. The Glasgow showing is more favorable. Quebec deals are about half the stock of last year, while waney pine, red pine, oak and elm timber are considerably less. The market is firm, and prices quoted by the leading brokers are almost without change. In timber, oak seems to lead in point of firmness, selling at about three shillings per cubic foot for first-class stock. Spruce prices, which receded slightly towards the end of September, have now recovered lost ground. Little new business for next season has been done, and it is difficult to forecast what the opening prices will be. The selling season is likely to open later than last year.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

Hurd Bros., of Buffalo, last week purchased two cargoes of lumber at Marinette, Wis.

The str. Scottish King sailed from Montreal for London last week with a cargo of lumber.

C. H. Witthun & Co., of Warton, Ont., last week received a raft of 2,800,000 feet of logs from Little Current.

Among recent sales of lumber at Duluth were the following: 500,000 feet of eastern No. 1 box at \$13.50; 1,000,000 feet of No. 2 and better at \$20; a lot of No. 3 4-inch strips at \$10.35. Prices have ruled at about \$12.50 for No. 3 except for special lots.

The str. Ameland sailed from Quebec last week for a United Kingdom port, with 3,200 loads of timber and 150 standards of deals, shipped by W. & J. Sharples. The bark Saga loaded timber and deals at Sil-

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—50,000 feet 1 1/2 inch winter sawn Basswood. THOS. MYLES' SONS, Hamilton, Ont.

FOR SALE—36 in. Wickes Gang, cutting 14 in deep; located in Canada; price low. WICKES BROS., Saginaw, Mich.

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FOR SALE

ONE 2 INCH 4 SIDED MOULDER, ONE tenon machine No. 161, one mortise machine. These machines were made by the best firms in Canada and are new and up-to-date, only used a short time; also one 38 h. p. return tubular boiler, with foot front and fittings, only used a short time; can furnish maker's guarantee. Will sell cheap for cash or exchange for a 20 h. p. portable boiler and 30 h. p. engine if as good as new. For further particulars apply to JOHN R. MORTIMER, Lansdowne, Pictou Co., N. S.

BUSINESS NOTES.

F. Larouche, lumber dealer, Taillon, Que., is said to be offering to compromise at 50 cents on the dollar.

The Boston Lumber and Brick Company has been incorporated, with capital of \$40,000 and head office at Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

On October 1st the Keewatin Lumber & Manufacturing Company, of Keewatin, Ont., took over the retail lumber business of Dick, Manning & Company in Winnipeg. The new business will be under the management of Mr. Geo. A. Lister.

ery Cove, Que., and left for sea on the same day.

Over 90,000 cords of pulpwood will be cut during the coming winter in the Ottawa valley for the Riordan Pulp Company's mills of Hawkesbury, Ont.

The Central Lumber Co., of Saginaw, Mich., expect to carry over this winter about 5,000,000 feet of lumber. This firm are having considerable stock manufactured by Georgian Bay mills.

Stetson, Cutler & Co., of St. John, have purchased the cargo of lumber taken on board the ship Leorne Burrill at St John for Buenos Ayres some months ago. The steamer went ashore on the Nova Scotia coast and was taken back to St. John.

Lumbering, says an exchange, will be actively carried on this coming winter at Bonny River and St. George, N. B. The Bonny River Lumber Co. will place a portable mill at Red Rock lake for the purpose of sawing birch plank. They expect to get out about 1,000,000 feet.

The Australasian gives the following prices for timber at Melbourne, Australia: Red, 6x1 1/8 11s 6d; 6x 3/4, 9s 6d; 6x 1/2, 7s; 6x 1/4, 5s 3d; 4-out, 5s 9d; white, 6x1 1/8, 9s; 6x 3/4, 7s 9d; 6x 1/2, 7s; 6x 1/4, 4s 9d; 4-out, 5s per 100 ft. lineal. Oregon has had business on a basis of £7 for an average specification ex wharf, and also at the same figure to arrive. Shelving has had small sales at £12. Laths are quoted at 32s 6d, and pickets at £8 to £8 5s per thousand pieces.

Following is a comparative statement of timber measured and culled at Quebec up to 16th October, as reported by the Supervisor of Callers:

Table with 3 columns: Species, 1898, 1899, 1900. Rows include Waney White Pine, White Pine, Red Pine, Oak, Elm, Ash, Basswood, Butternut, Tamarac, Birch and Maple.

Following is a comparative statement of Canadian wood goods in the docks at Glasgow, Yorkhill, etc., on September 30th for two years:

Table with 3 columns: Description, 1899, 1900. Rows include Quebec 1st pine deals, Quebec 1st pine ends, Quebec 2nd pine deals and ends, etc.

THE GLASGOW MARKET. Messrs. Wright, Graham & Co. in their timber market review of 30th September, review the Glasgow market as follows: Since our last report trade here has been in a somewhat peculiar condition. The general impression has been that prices would fall during the summer, and we think this certainly would have been the case had not freight room been so difficult to obtain, and rates so high, which have prevented many consignment shipments from being forwarded. As it is, prices for most descriptions of pine and spruce continue firm, imports having been only sufficient to cover early requirements. The demand is very limited on account of building trades being very dull. The high price of material and high wages have curtailed housebuilding to such an extent that practically no speculative building is now being undertaken. Although there is a fair amount of work on hand in the shipbuilding yards, it is chiefly of the "tramp" steamer type, in the construction of which very little timber is used. The shipbuilders who build passenger boats and undertake Government work are very bare of orders; therefore the timber trade is not likely to benefit much in the near future by shipbuilder's orders.

Hardwoods are also very slow of sale, the cabinetmaking trade being very dull indeed; so that we may say that although prices for most descriptions of woods keep fairly firm, the trade as a whole is in an unsatisfactory condition, as the volume of business doing is on a very limited scale in comparison to what was done during the last few years. It is therefore very probable that should many heavy consignments be made they would occasion an unusually severe fall in values.

WANAY BOARDWOOD.—The stock on hand is being held for high prices, and the demand is limited. Prime large wood is quoted at from 2s 9d to 3s; second-class wood at from 1s 9d to 2s 2d per cubic foot.

RED PINE.—There is not much demand. First-class wood is quoted at 1s 10d to 2s 2d; second-class from 1s 6d to 1s 8d per cubic foot.

OAK.—There is a good stock on hand, and demand is quiet. Price—2s 10d to 3s 3d per cubic foot for large prime wood; smaller and second quality at from 2s to 2s 4d per cubic foot.

ELM.—The stock is light and firmly held, prime wood of large average being offered at 3s 3d to 3s 6d per cubic foot.

ASH.—The demand has been good, and consignments have met with ready sale on arrival. Price—2s 2d to 2s 4d per cubic foot.

BIRCH.—The import has been overdone, and in consequence prices have fallen. Several parcels of 300 to 600 logs 15 to 16 inch average have sold at 1s 3d to 1s 4d per cubic foot, and quite a number of consignments have had to be stored. Sales are only possible at low prices, and shipments should be kept back.

QUEBEC WHITE PINE DEALS.—Prices

keep firm, but the extent of business is limited. 1st quality, broad, £27 10s to £30 5s per St. Pet. Std.; 11 in., £24 15s to £26 2s 6d; 7 in. to 10 in. and ends, £19 5s to £22 13s 9d. 2nd quality, broad, £21 to £22 13s 9d per St. Pet. Std.; 11 in., £18 4s 4d to £20 12s 6d; 7 in. to 10 in., £15 2s 6d to £17 3s 9d. 3rd quality broad, £14 18s 9d to £16 10s per St. Pet. Std.; 11 in., £13 1s to £13 8s 1d; narrows, £10 13s 4d to £11. 4th quality broad, £11 to £11 6s 10d per St. Pet. Std.; 11 in., £9 12s to £11; narrows, £8 5s to £8 18s 9d.

RED PINE DEALS.—Parcels have met with ready sale. Prices quoted are about—9 and 11 in. by 3 in. and 4 in., £13 15s to £15 2s 6d per St. Pet. Std.; narrows, £11 to £12.

QUEBEC WHITE PINE SIDINGS.—The demand for first quality has been good, but the high prices asked has restricted business to a great extent. First quality.—2 in. thick, averaging 12 in. to 13 in. wide, £22 to £23 7s 6d per St. Pet. Std.; 1 1/2 in., 12 to 13 in. wide, £22 to £23; 1 1/4 in., 11 in. to 12 in. wide, £21 6s 3d to £22; 1 in., 10 in. to 12 in. wide, £16 10s to £18 11s 3d; 1 1/2 and 2 in. strips, 4 in. to 7 in. wide, £17 3s 9d to £19 5s.

SPRUCE DEALS.—The demand keeps good, and prices are well maintained. Prices quoted—£7 11s 3d to £10 per St. Pet. Std.

ST. JOHN PINE DEALS.—Consignments have sold readily, and prices are firm.

ST. JOHN SPRUCE DEALS.—(2nd quality average).—Consignments have been chiefly sold on arrival. Price—£7 11s 3d to £10 per St. Pet. Std.

BIRCH LOGS are only saleable at very low prices.

BIRCH PLANKS.—The import has been small, and parcels arriving have met with ready sale. Price—£8 to £8 18s 9d per St. Pet. Std.

M. Watson, general store and saw mill, Kinmount, Ont., is reported to have assigned to J. H. Sootheran.

The lumber yard of Alex. McLaren on Papineau avenue, Montreal, was damaged by fire last week to the extent of \$4,000.

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ALL KINDS OF LOGS AND LUMBER. PAYMENT BY MONTREAL BANKERS. Denny, Mott & Dickson LONDON, ENG. MASON, GORDON & CO. WHOLESALE TIMBER Montreal, Quebec.

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WHOLESALE LUMBER DEALERS Houston, G. T. & Co., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A. Shier, J. D., Bracebridge, Ont. Wiggins, H. D., Boston, Mass.

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