

THE OTTAWA VALLEY.

(Correspondence of the Canada Lumberman.) No changes can be located in the market lists for lumber in the Ottawa district, for the reason that very little is selling. American buyers who made the trip from Ottawa to Parry Sound last week had all the one report to give at Ottawa on their return. The burden of their wail was "not a stick to be had". They are now scouting the territory east of Ottawa. There will be "something doing" inside a few weeks, however, when business is resumed in which the new cut at the mills is involved.

Recent rains have improved matters, but the fact remains that a considerable percentage of the logs will likely be "hung up" on the creeks. Taken in conjunction with the companion fact that a goodly number of logs intended for this season's cutting at the mills, never got clear of the limits, it can be readily seen that a shortage in supply, is not a wild guess. The above conditions will further supply one to the list of reasons why lumber should remain firm and probably advance in price.

Reports indicate that the export business to the United Kingdom is brisker than for the same period in previous years. The railroads are handling considerable stock to points in Western Ohio and Pennsylvania, but a lull has followed the activity noted a few weeks since in the shipments to New York points via Albany barge line. Presumably the extra demand of the early spring building and manufacturing trade has been satisfied.

The shipments to Canadian points are good, but the local trade is poor, as building operations are not being conducted on an extensive scale. On Tuesday the first shipment by barge was made from Ottawa, the objective point being Oswego, N.Y. The lumber was the property of the Standard Oil Company and will be used in the large box factory the concern operates at that town. It is early yet to state what the extent of the water shipments will be, as the land rates on freights are unsettled. As the demand is brisk, however, it is safe to predict a busy season for the "blue bottoms" of the Ottawa transportation line. While on this question of lumber movements, reference may be made to the boon gained by the mill owners of the Parry Sound district.

The completion of a spur line connecting Parry Sound with Rose Point, on the western division of the Canada Atlantic Railway, will enable the mill men to place their stock in Ontario and American points in good time. Once on the C. A. Ry., they will be enabled to transfer at Scotia Junction to the northern division of the Grand Trunk Ry., and the connection with the Southern Canadian and the American markets will be completed.

When the C. P. Ry. builds the link connecting the Pontiac branch with the transcontinental line, the lumber operators of Ottawa and the Valley will be enabled to reach out for new markets.

Very little British Columbia fir or Southern pine is being received in Ottawa at present, as the nature of the building operations does not call for these woods.

Charles Desmaris, contractor, of Hull, has shipped 1500 poles for a new electric line in Cape Breton. They are 30 and 35 feet in length. The price obtained was considerably in advance of last year's. Mr. Desmaris took out about 4,000 posts in the Gatinacau district during the past winter.

Talk in local lumber circles centres on the early movement of square timber. Mr. Robert Hurdman's first raft has been placed together, and forwarded from Deep River above Pembroke. It should reach Quebec inside of six weeks, breaking all records for early arrival at

that port. The Munro Company, of Pembroke, have a large raft following close on the Hurdman raft.

Dobell, Beckett & Company have secured the Hurdman timber, which will, by reason of its early arrival at Quebec, be placed on the English market at an early date.

Trennan & Company are forwarding considerable square timber over the Parry Sound division of the C.A.Ry., from their limits at Rainy Lake, near Algonquin Park. This timber will be unloaded from the cars at Clarke's Island, in the St. Lawrence, and from thence floated down to Quebec in rafts. The timber will be exported to England by McArthur Bros., of Quebec.

McLachlin Bros. large mill at Arn-

prior has been equipped with new and modern machinery, which will facilitate operations. By the addition of new boilers, the steam power has been increased 500 h.p. New band and circular saws have been added to the equipment. This concern has now two water power and two steam mills, and an increased cut will be obtained this season by operating night and day. The saws will likely take their first logs early next week. This firm escaped the smallpox on its limits last winter, and hence its operations were not interfered with. The logs have been released from the limits and streams, and a steady supply is assured for the summer months. The firm will cut again this season for the American, English and South American markets. Large quantities of

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