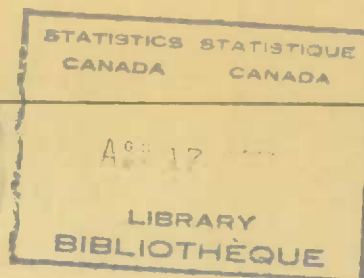


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PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS ON HAND OF SAWMILLS
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 277,817 M ft. in December, 1956 as compared with 343,919 M ft. in December, 1955 a decrease of 19.2 p.c. from the previous year and a decrease of 23.5 p.c. from the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 59.5 p.c. of the total, showed a decrease of 18.5 p.c. from the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 40.5 p.c. showed a decrease of 20.3 p.c. Shipments in December, 1956 totalled 248,405 M ft., as compared with 328,815 M ft. the previous year, a decrease of 24.5 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 24.7 p.c. and Interior mills a decrease of 24.1 p.c. Total shipments for December decreased by 28.1 p.c. from the November figure of 345,620 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of December, 1956 amounted to 602,162 M ft., as compared with 515,069 M ft. at the end of December the previous year and 570,660 M ft. at the end of November of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 300,906 M ft., while Interior mills showed 301,256 M ft.

Summary Figures

Table 1 gives a comparative summary of production, shipments and stocks of sawn lumber and ties for all British Columbia sawmills for November and December 1955 and 1956. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 319,846 M ft. in November, 1955 to 343,919 M ft. in December, 1955 but decreased from 362,975 M ft. in November to 277,817 M ft. in December, 1956. Shipments totalled 345,620 M ft. in November, 1956 and 248,405 M ft. in December, 1956 as compared with 372,235 M ft. in November and 328,815 M ft. in December of 1955. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 463,921 M ft. in November, 1955 to 515,069 M ft. in December and increased from 570,660 M ft. in November, 1956 to 602,162 M ft. in December of this year.

Production

Table 2 gives particulars of lumber and tie production for Coast mills and Interior mills separately, and also shows separately the production of lumber and ties, by species. Production of sawn lumber in Coast mills amounted to 164,656 M ft. in December, 1956 as compared with 107,416 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 691 M ft. in December as compared with 5,054 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 59.5 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in December, 1956 as compared with 59.0 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during November, 1956 and 1955 respectively, were 57.8 and 62.4 p.c.

Prepared in the Forestry Section, Industry and Merchandising Division.

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Shipments

Table 3 gives details of lumber and tie shipments, by months, for Coast mills and Interior mills separately. Shipments by truck, by rail and waterborne are shown for each Canadian province, to points in the United States, to the United Kingdom and to other countries, for all mills reporting. Total estimated shipments of non-reporting mills are also given. It is to be noted, however, that some lumber originally reported as having been shipped to points in British Columbia may have been re-shipped to other provinces or exported by the purchasers and reported by them also, thereby causing a certain amount of duplication.

Shipments of Coast mills amounted to 153,428 M ft. in December of 1956 and 203,903 M ft. in November, 1956 as compared with 203,658 M ft. in December, 1955 and 200,493 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 94,977 M ft. and 125,157 M ft. in December, 1956 and 1955 and 141,717 M ft. and 171,742 M ft. in November, 1956 and 1955. Of all shipments actually reported for December, 37.3 p.c. went to points in Canada, 38.3 p.c. to points in United States, 8.8 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 15.6 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 27.3 p.c. of the total, while 49.3 p.c. went by rail, and 23.4 p.c. by truck.

Stocks

Table 4 gives particulars of stocks of lumber and ties at sawmills by months. It distinguishes between stocks sold but not shipped and stocks unsold, and between stocks at Coast and Interior mills, by species. Total stocks at Coast mills in November and December, 1956 amounted to 290,011 M ft. and 300,906 M ft. as compared with 273,508 M ft. and 278,369 M ft. in November and December of 1955. Interior mills stocks increased from 190,413 M ft. in November to 236,700 M ft. in December, 1955 and increased from 280,649 M ft. in November to 301,256 M ft. in December, 1956. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 32.7 p.c. of the total in December, 1956 as compared with 28.0 p.c. in December, 1955 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 90.0 and 84.9.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of November and December, 1955 and 1956 for Coast mills only. Similar information is not collected from Interior mills and no attempt has been made to estimate orders on hand of non-reporting mills on the Coast. Destination and mode of shipments are shown in this table, which also gives total lumber purchases reported by some mills. Total orders on hand at the end of December, 1956 amounted to 275,562 M ft. as compared with 329,907 M ft. in December, 1955. Orders on hand at the end of November, 1956 and 1955 amounted to 275,480 M ft. and 342,964 M ft. respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 2,276 M ft. in December, 1956 and 6,219 M ft. in December, 1955 as compared with 4,604 M ft. in November, 1956 and 4,067 M ft. in November, 1955.

Active Mills Reporting

Table 6 gives the number of active mills reporting each month for the Coast and Interior of British Columbia. The mills reporting for December accounted for 79.2 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1954 compared with 80.3 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for November, 1955 and 1956 were 78.6 and 78.4 respectively. It is hoped that the compilation will eventually include all mills in the 500,000 feet and over classification.

The co-operation of the British Columbia Lumber Manufacturers' Association, Interior Lumber Manufacturers' Association and Northern Interior Lumbermen's Association in the collection of these statistics is gratefully acknowledged.

Table 1. - Comparative Summary of Production, Shipments and Stocks of Lumber and Ties of British Columbia Sawmills, December, 1956.

	December		November		12 months	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	160,640	126,192	157,515	174,174	2,172,062	2,136,767
Hemlock	64,895	55,952	61,111	72,165	855,421	814,884
Balsam Fir	2,719	2,664	3,080	4,332	28,852	46,065
Red Cedar	32,537	28,875	35,327	41,082	521,339	485,424
Spruce	63,554	47,415	44,166	51,219	843,383	847,252
White Pine	4,675	4,577	4,865	5,427	75,242	70,698
Ponderosa Pine	2,743	2,108	2,860	3,521	51,037	50,716
Lodgepole Pine	5,254	4,248	4,160	4,552	60,453	64,931
All other softwoods ...	6,445	5,566	6,409	6,209	111,211	95,030
Total, softwoods	343,462	277,597	319,493	362,681	4,719,000	4,611,767
Red Alder	178	73	114	96	1,832	1,281
Maple	197	107	190	138	1,927	2,343
Birch	60	25	28	42	641	447
Cottonwood	18	15	17	18	1,059	886
All other hardwoods ...	4	-	4	-	56	28
Total, hardwoods	457	220	353	294	5,515	4,985
Total, production	343,919	277,817	319,846	362,975	4,724,515	4,616,752
SHIPMENTS						
TO: Points in Canada ..	99,368	81,141	94,610	102,482	1,359,135	1,505,041
Points in U.S.A. ...	100,042	83,570	110,064	126,811	1,503,869	1,476,581
United Kingdom	49,480	19,241	30,789	24,473	600,096	339,145
Other Countries ...	40,448	34,092	38,381	34,256	416,425	344,462
Shipments reported	289,338	218,044	273,844	288,022	3,879,525	3,665,229
Estimated shipments non-reporting mills ...	39,477	30,361	98,391	57,598	897,833	806,712
Total shipments	328,815	248,405	372,235	345,620	4,777,358	4,471,941
STOCKS ON HAND						
	December		November			
	1955	1956	1955	1956		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir	204,860	198,894	201,549	219,773		
Hemlock	101,472	122,467	96,811	115,187		
Balsam Fir	1,395	1,357	3,787	1,813		
Red Cedar	61,880	68,276	56,459	67,955		
Spruce	102,325	162,853	71,282	125,321		
White Pine	15,668	11,990	11,684	11,487		
Ponderosa Pine	13,273	14,050	12,122	18,581		
Lodgepole Pine	4,834	9,217	4,451	6,076		
All other softwoods ...	9,323	12,610	5,676	3,985		
Total, softwoods	515,030	601,714	463,821	570,178		
Red Alder	4	-	43	41		
Maple	5	51	25	44		
Birch	-	-	14	17		
Cottonwood	28	396	15	379		
All other hardwoods ...	2	1	3	1		
Total hardwoods	39	448	100	482		
Total stocks	515,069	602,162	463,921	570,660		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, December, 1956

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS		
	Reported	Estimated	Total	Reported	Estimated	Total
	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
Lumber						
Douglas Fir	74,179	2,991	77,170	21,814	22,640	44,454
Hemlock	51,419	915	52,334	2,756	570	3,326
Balsam Fir	1,876	64	1,940	188	496	684
Red Cedar	26,149	567	26,716	1,822	337	2,159
Spruce	3,752	110	3,862	24,810	18,648	43,458
White Pine	1,908	74	1,982	1,165	1,425	2,590
Ponderosa Pine	5	2	7	963	1,042	2,005
Lodgepole Pine	-	4	4	2,040	1,727	3,767
All other softwoods ...	442	1	443	2,081	2,870	4,951
Total, softwoods ...	159,730	4,728	164,458	57,639	49,755	107,394
Red Alder	57	16	73	-	-	-
Maple	85	20	105	-	2	2
Birch	15	5	20	-	5	5
Cottonwood	-	-	-	2	13	15
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	157	41	198	2	20	22
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	159,887	4,769	164,656	57,641	49,775	107,416
Ties						
Douglas Fir	477	95	572	1,241	2,755	3,996
Hemlock	117	2	119	146	27	173
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	40	40
Red Cedar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	-	95	95
White Pine	-	-	-	5	-	5
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	-	96	96
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	-	477	477
All other softwoods ...	-	-	-	-	172	172
Total, softwoods ...	594	97	691	1,392	3,662	5,054
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	594	97	691	1,392	3,662	5,054
Lumber and Ties	160,481	4,866	165,347	59,033	53,437	112,470

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, December, 1956

	By Truck (Local Sales) M ft.b.m.	By Rail M ft.b.m.	Water- borne M ft.b.m.	Total Shipments M ft.b.m.
<u>COAST MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	29,693	1,401	1,245	32,339
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta		1,667	xxxxxx	1,667
Saskatchewan		671	xxxxxx	671
Manitoba		1,383	xxxxxx	1,383
Ontario		5,235	-	5,235
Quebec		1,568	-	1,568
New Brunswick		196	-	196
Nova Scotia		141	-	141
Prince Edward Island		9	-	9
Newfoundland		161	-	161
Total for Canada	29,693	12,432	1,245	43,370
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		403	552	955
Atlantic Ports		1,174	4,338	5,512
Other points, by rail		47,973	xxxxxx	47,973
Total for U.S.A.		49,550	4,890	54,440
United Kingdom	x	38	18,994	19,032
Other countries	x	-	34,047	34,047
Destination or carrier not specified				
Total shipments reported	29,693	62,020	59,176	150,889
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				2,539
Total shipments, reported and estimated				153,428
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	21,077	2,483	-	23,560
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta	306	2,568	xxxxxx	2,874
Saskatchewan		2,006	xxxxxx	2,006
Manitoba		2,288	xxxxxx	2,288
Ontario		6,276	-	6,276
Quebec		721	-	721
New Brunswick		26	-	26
Nova Scotia		20	-	20
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		-	-	-
Total for Canada	21,383	16,388	-	37,771
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		81	-	81
Atlantic Ports		676	-	676
Other points, by rail		28,373	xxxxxx	28,373
Total for U.S.A.		29,130	-	29,130
United Kingdom	x	64	145	209
Other countries	x	-	45	45
Destination or carrier not specified				
Total shipments reported	21,383	45,582	190	67,155
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				27,822
Total shipments, reported and estimated				94,977

x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills, December, 1956

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS		
	Reported	Estimated	Total	Reported	Estimated	Total
	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
<u>Sold but not shipped</u>						
Douglas Fir	84,586	2,565	87,151	5,329	4,824	10,153
Hemlock	77,312	2,344	79,656	1,612	1,459	3,071
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar	26,774	812	27,586	522	473	995
Spruce	4,043	123	4,166	7,003	6,339	13,342
White Pine	3,456	105	3,561	1,100	996	2,096
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	228	206	434
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	4	3	7
All other softwoods	273	7	280	-	-	-
Total, softwoods	196,444	5,956	202,400	15,798	14,300	30,098
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	30	1	31	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	30	1	31	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	196,474	5,957	202,431	15,798	14,300	30,098
<u>Unsold</u>						
Douglas Fir	35,349	1,072	36,421	34,206	30,963	65,169
Hemlock	25,225	765	25,990	7,217	6,533	13,750
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	712	645	1,357
Red Cedar	31,369	951	32,320	3,871	3,504	7,375
Spruce	1,901	58	1,959	75,260	68,126	143,386
White Pine	1,109	34	1,143	2,724	2,466	5,190
Ponderosa Pine	225	7	232	7,025	6,359	13,384
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	4,834	4,376	9,210
All other softwoods	378	11	389	6,268	5,673	11,941
Total, softwoods	95,556	2,898	98,454	142,117	128,645	270,762
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	20	-	20	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	208	188	396
All other hardwoods	1	-	1	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	21	-	21	208	188	396
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	95,577	2,898	98,475	142,325	128,833	271,158
<u>Sold and Unsold</u>	<u>292,051</u>	<u>8,855</u>	<u>300,906</u>	<u>158,123</u>	<u>143,133</u>	<u>301,256</u>

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of December, 1956 and
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	<u>December</u>		<u>November</u>	
	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For Shipments to points in British Columbia				
Local	20,083	17,051	17,687	15,315
Coastwise and Interior	3,467	3,752	3,379	4,079
Total	23,550	20,803	21,066	19,394
<u>For shipments by rail to:</u>				
Prairie Provinces	11,969	9,498	9,970	8,795
Eastern Provinces	16,338	17,519	15,165	14,358
United States of America	53,590	51,220	51,091	47,059
Total	81,897	78,237	76,226	70,212
<u>For waterborne shipments to:</u>				
California	1,065	-	1,100	1,710
U.S. Atlantic Ports	29,310	25,206	32,086	25,299
Eastern Markets	100	-	-	67
Export Markets	193,985	151,316	212,486	158,798
Total	224,460	176,522	245,672	185,874
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	329,907	275,562	342,964	275,480
<u>LUMBER PURCHASED FROM</u>				
OTHER MILLS	6,219	2,276	4,067	4,604

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting
December, 1956

		<u>December</u>		<u>November</u>	
		<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Coast	No.	94	83	100	86
Interior	No.	285	261	273	266
Total, British Columbia		379	344	373	352

A few returns received after compilations were closed have been omitted.

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