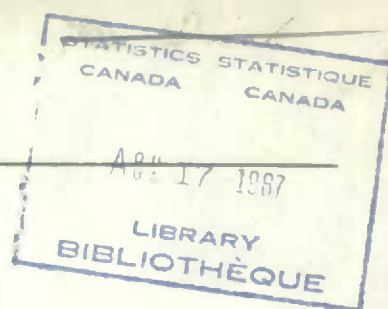


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PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS ON HAND OF SAWMILLS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 417,388 M ft. in March, 1956 as compared with 413,242 M ft. in March, 1955 an increase of 1.0 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 7.9 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 52.7 p.c. of the total, showed a decrease of 13.2 p.c. from the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 47.3 p.c. showed an increase of 23.4 p.c. Shipments in March, 1956 totalled 383,802 M ft., as compared with 380,302 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 0.9 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 13.1 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 27.9 p.c. Total shipments for March increased by 8.6 p.c. over the February figure of 353,503 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of March, 1956 amounted to 563,681 M ft., as compared with 566,473 M ft. at the end of March the previous year and 545,214 M ft. at the end of February of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 298,687 M ft., while Interior mills showed 264,994 M ft.

Summary Figures

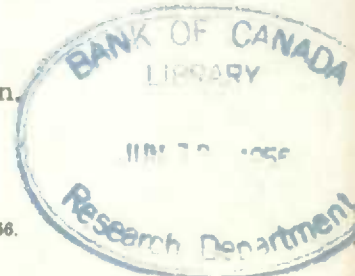
Table 1 gives a comparative summary of production, shipments and stocks of sawn lumber and ties for all British Columbia sawmills for February and March, 1955 and 1956. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 377,361 M ft. in February, 1955 to 413,242 M ft. in March, 1955 and from 386,946 M ft. in February to 417,388 M ft. in March, 1956. Shipments totalled 353,503 M ft. in February, 1956 and 383,802 M ft. in March, 1956 as compared with 380,894 M ft. in February and 380,302 M ft. in March of 1955. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 516,015 M ft. in February, 1955 to 566,473 M ft. in March and increased from 545,214 M ft. in February, 1956 to 563,681 M ft. in March 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 217,780 M ft. in March, 1956 as compared with 194,817 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 2,015 M ft. in March as compared with 2,776 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 52.7 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in March, 1956 as compared with 61.2 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during February, 1956 and 1955 respectively, were 56.2 and 60.1 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 217,577 M ft. in March of 1956 and 200,233 M ft. in February, 1956 as compared with 250,319 M ft. in March, 1955 and 220,261 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 166,225 M ft. and 129,983 M ft. in March, 1956 and 1955 and 153,270 M ft. and 160,633 M ft. in February, 1956 and 1955. Of all shipments actually reported for March, 41.4 p.c. went to points in Canada, 38.5 p.c. to points in United States, 10.9 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 9.2 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 28.8 p.c. of the total, while 45.7 p.c. went by rail, and 25.5 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 February and March, 1956 amounted to 299,100 M ft. and 298,687 M ft. as compared with 309,982 M ft. and 317,727 M ft. in February and March of 1955. Interior mills stocks increased from 206,033 M ft. in February to 248,746 M ft. in March, 1955 and increased from 246,114 M ft. in February to 264,994 M ft. in March, 1956. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 30.0 p.c. of the total in March, 1956 as compared with 27.8 p.c. in March, 1955 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 88.8 and 80.8.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of February and March, 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 March, 1956 amounted to 339,806 M ft. as compared with 371,061 M ft. in March, 1955. Orders on hand at the end of February, 1956 and 1955 amounted to 337,806 M ft. and 394,613 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 5,197 M ft. in March, 1956 and 6,590 M ft. in March, 1955 as compared with 5,661 M ft. in February, 1956 and 5,189 M ft. in February, 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 March accounted for 79.5 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1954 compared with 78.2 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for February, 1955 and 1956 were 79.4 and 80.5 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, March, 1956.

	March		February		3 Months	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir.....	182,847	179,678	155,498	162,964	510,057	506,266
Hemlock.....	80,239	78,592	77,157	69,082	233,405	216,759
Balsam Fir.....	1,598	4,400	1,208	4,262	4,322	13,034
Red Cedar.....	44,335	39,819	50,028	43,943	139,786	136,808
Spruce.....	79,063	90,940	74,174	81,877	242,279	238,974
White Pine.....	6,857	5,696	7,420	5,299	20,172	15,888
Ponderosa Pine.....	3,312	3,442	2,395	2,899	8,628	10,291
Lodgepole Pine.....	4,267	6,848	3,821	5,971	12,275	18,265
All other softwoods...	9,760	7,430	5,412	9,980	24,149	26,961
Total softwoods ...	412,278	416,845	377,113	386,277	1,195,073	1,183,246
Red Alder.....	150	89	93	272	412	520
Maple.....	121	154	54	260	279	685
Birch.....	69	35	30	43	171	111
Cottonwood.....	624	265	71	89	781	413
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	5	-	10
Total hardwoods ..	964	543	248	669	1,643	1,739
Total production ..	413,242	417,388	377,361	386,946	1,196,716	1,184,985
SHIPMENTS						
TO: Points in Canada ..	113,754	135,378	101,902	114,933	312,755	364,185
Points in U. S. A..	117,229	125,981	114,820	122,345	350,334	369,060
United Kingdom ...	59,469	35,497	54,231	26,669	180,818	103,805
Other Countries ..	45,758	30,015	27,956	29,320	106,216	81,250
Shipments reported....	336,210	326,871	298,909	293,267	950,123	918,300
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills ..	44,092	56,931	81,985	60,236	166,871	193,212
Total shipments	380,302	383,802	380,894	353,503	1,116,994	1,111,512
STOCKS ON HAND						
	March		February			
	1955	1956	1955	1956		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir.....	210,186	211,040	188,491	204,659		
Hemlock.....	107,461	109,622	110,751	102,242		
Balsam Fir.....	291	1,209	355	2,306		
Red Cedar.....	60,487	69,885	59,221	73,023		
Spruce.....	132,205	137,171	108,827	128,632		
White Pine.....	17,676	8,552	16,334	11,358		
Ponderosa Pine.....	22,455	14,398	17,341	11,506		
Lodgepole Pine.....	5,982	5,669	4,747	5,876		
All other softwoods ..	9,505	5,517	9,719	5,532		
Total softwoods ...	566,248	563,063	515,786	545,134		
Red Alder.....	-	31	-	25		
Maple.....	4	45	3	39		
Birch.....	1	21	11	14		
Cottonwood.....	216	519	209	-		
All other hardwoods ..	4	2	6	2		
Total hardwoods ..	225	618	229	80		
Total stocks	566,473	563,681	516,015	545,214		

Table 2 - Lumber and Ties Sawn, March, 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	87,084	4,708	91,792	45,980	38,227	84,207
Hemlock	72,585	936	73,521	3,627	1,216	4,843
Balsam Fir	2,925	86	3,011	603	764	1,367
Red Cedar	36,769	682	37,451	1,628	740	2,368
Spruce	8,068	169	8,237	49,065	33,561	82,626
White Pine	2,434	112	2,546	917	2,233	3,150
Ponderosa Pine	301	14	315	1,283	1,774	3,057
Lodgepole Pine	-	7	7	3,249	3,130	6,379
All other softwoods..	627	3	630	1,323	5,224	6,547
Total, softwoods...	210,793	6,717	217,510	107,675	86,869	194,544
Red Alder	66	23	89	-	-	-
Maple	127	23	150	-	4	4
Birch	27	4	31	-	4	4
Cottonwood	-	-	-	250	15	265
All other hardwoods..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods..	220	50	270	250	23	273
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	211,013	6,767	217,780	107,925	86,892	194,817
TIES						
Douglas Fir	1,565	248	1,813	675	1,191	1,866
Hemlock	195	7	202	-	26	26
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	22	22
Red Cedar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	66	11	77
White Pine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	17	53	70
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	182	280	462
All other softwoods..	-	-	-	-	253	253
Total, softwoods...	1,760	255	2,015	940	1,836	2,776
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods..	1,760	255	2,015	940	1,836	2,776
LUMBER AND TIES	212,773	7,022	219,795	108,865	88,728	197,593

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

		By Truck (Local Sales)	By Rail	Water- borne	Total Shipments
		M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
<u>COAST MILLS</u>					
TO:	Points in Canada				
	British Columbia	44,187	2,492	2,178	48,857
	Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
	Alberta		2,953	xxxxxx	2,953
	Saskatchewan		869	xxxxxx	869
	Manitoba		1,902	xxxxxx	1,902
	Ontario		8,400	-	8,400
	Quebec		2,879	-	2,879
	New Brunswick		285	-	285
	Nova Scotia		132	-	132
	Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
	Newfoundland		83	-	83
	Total for Canada	44,187	19,995	2,178	66,360
	Points in U. S. A.:				
	Pacific Ports		2,368	255	2,623
	Atlantic Ports		3,500	29,114	32,614
	Other points, by rail		47,575	xxxxxx	47,575
	Total for U. S. A.		53,443	29,369	82,812
	United Kingdom.....x		1,958	33,264	35,222
	Other countriesx		880	29,043	29,923
Destination or carrier not specified					
	Total shipments reported.	44,187	76,276	93,854	214,317
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills					3,260
	Total shipments, reported and estimated				217,577
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>					
TO:	Points in Canada:				
	British Columbia	38,836	4,538	-	43,374
	Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
	Alberta	376	5,178	xxxxxx	5,554
	Saskatchewan		3,717	xxxxxx	3,717
	Manitoba.....		5,420	xxxxxx	5,420
	Ontario		9,867	-	9,867
	Quebec		1,033	-	1,033
	New Brunswick		-	-	-
	Nova Scotia		53	-	53
	Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
	Newfoundland		-	-	-
	Total for Canada	39,212	29,806	-	69,018
	Points in U. S. A.:				
	Pacific Ports		41	-	41
	Atlantic Ports		1,225	-	1,225
	Other points, by rail		41,903	xxxxxx	41,903
	Total for U.S.A.		43,169	-	43,169
	United Kingdomx		68	207	275
	Other Countriesx		-	92	92
Destination or carrier not specified					
	Total shipments reported.	39,212	73,043	299	112,554
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills					53,671
	Total shipments, reported and estimated				166,225
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.					

Table 4 - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills March, 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.
SOLD (but not shipped)						
Douglas Fir	87,319	2,882	90,201	6,573	5,357	11,930
Hemlock	73,803	2,436	76,239	552	450	1,002
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	38	31	69
Red Cedar	31,890	1,052	32,942	125	102	227
Spruce	5,273	174	5,447	6,916	5,637	12,553
White Pine	3,384	112	3,496	365	297	662
Ponderosa Pine	290	10	300	1,602	1,306	2,908
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	89	73	162
All other softwoods..	508	16	524	149	121	270
Total, softwoods..	202,467	6,682	209,149	16,409	13,374	29,783
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	24	1	25	-	-	-
Birch	9	-	9	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods.	33	1	34	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods.	202,500	6,683	209,183	16,409	13,374	29,783
UNSOLD						
Douglas Fir	28,877	953	29,830	43,569	35,510	79,079
Hemlock	24,494	808	25,302	3,900	3,179	7,079
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	628	512	1,140
Red Cedar	30,576	1,009	31,585	2,827	2,304	5,131
Spruce	1,725	57	1,782	64,676	52,713	117,389
White Pine	619	20	639	2,069	1,686	3,755
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	6,166	5,024	11,190
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	3,034	2,473	5,507
All other softwoods..	295	10	305	2,434	1,984	4,418
Total, softwoods..	86,586	2,857	89,443	129,303	105,385	234,688
Red Alder	30	1	31	-	-	-
Maple	19	1	20	-	-	-
Birch	8	-	8	2	2	4
Cottonwood	-	-	-	286	233	519
All other hardwoods.	2	-	2	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods.	59	2	61	288	235	523
Total, softwoods and hardwoods.	86,645	2,859	89,504	129,591	105,620	235,211
SOLD AND UNSOLD	289,145	9,542	298,687	146,000	118,994	264,994

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of March, 1956 and

Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	March		February	
	1955	1956	1955	1956
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
<u>For shipments to points in British Columbia</u>				
Local	18,625	31,261	17,507	27,556
Coastwise and Interior	3,523	3,828	2,512	4,327
Total	22,148	35,089	20,019	31,883
<u>For shipments by rail to:</u>				
Prairie Provinces	7,170	12,555	6,537	11,625
Eastern Provinces	18,835	23,962	17,500	22,831
United States of America	57,286	52,729	59,316	47,737
Total	83,291	89,246	83,353	82,193
<u>For waterborne shipments to:</u>				
California	1,892	2,530	325	1,619
U. S. Atlantic Ports	26,522	39,095	17,428	28,978
Eastern Markets	2,118	630	5,000	6,275
Exports Markets	235,090	173,216	268,488	186,858
Total	265,622	215,471	291,241	223,730
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	371,061	339,806	394,613	337,806
<u>LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS</u>				
	6,590	5,197	5,189	5,661

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

March, 1956

	March		February	
	1955	1956	1955	1956
Coast	No. 105	91	102	86
Interior	No. 285	306	262	278
Total, British Columbia	No. 390	397	364	364

A few returns received after compilations were closed have been omitted

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