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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 449,127 M ft. in August, 1956 as compared with 449,040 M ft. in August, 1955 an increase of .02 p. c. over the previous year and an increase of 14.9 p. c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 45.2 p. c. of the total, showed a decrease of 10.6 p. c. from the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 54.8 p. c. showed an increase of 11.1 p. c. Shipments in August, 1956 totalled 441,726 M ft., as compared with 481,814 M ft. the previous year, a decrease of 8.3 p. c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 12.8 p. c. and Interior mills a decrease of 3.6 p. c. Total shipments for August increased by 11.1 p. c. over the July figure of 397,586 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of August, 1956 amounted to 514,515 M ft., as compared with 437,570 M ft. at the of August the previous year and 518,948 M ft. at the end of July of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 263,598 M ft., while Interior mills showed 250,917 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 July and August 1955 and 1956. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 400,353 M ft. in July, 1955 to 449,040 M ft. in August, 1955 and from 390,877 M ft. in July to 449,127 M ft. in August, 1956. Shipments totalled 397,586 M ft. in July, 1956 and 441,726 M ft. in August, 1956 as compared with 414,318 M ft. in July and 481,814 M ft. in August of 1955. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 469,494 M ft. in July, 1955 to 437,570 M ft. in August, 1955 and decreased from 518,948 M ft. in July, 1956 to 514,515 M ft. in August 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 201,404 M ft. in August, 1956 as compared with 241,983 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 1,741 M ft. in August as compared with 3,999 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 45.2 p. c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in August, 1956 as compared with 50.6 p. c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during July, 1956 and 1955 respectively, were 44.5 and 49.8 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 215,890 M ft. in August of 1956 and 184,878 M ft. in July, 1956 as compared with 247,500 M ft. in August, 1955 and 224,129 M ft. in August, 1956 and 1955 and 212,708 M ft. and 190,189 M ft. in July, 1956 and 1955. Of all shipments actually reported for August, 45.8 p.c. went to points in Canada, 39.9 p.c. to points in United States, 6.7 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 7.6 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 22.9 p.c. of the total, while 50.1 p.c. went by rail, and 27.0 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 July and August, 1956 amounted to 278,498 M ft. and 263,598 M ft. as compared with 263,166 M ft. and 249,046 M ft. in July and August of 1955. Interior mills stocks decreased from 206,328 M ft. in July to 188,524 M ft. in August, 1955 but increased from 240,450 M ft. in July to 250,917 M ft. in August, 1956. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 31.2 p.c. of the total in August, 1956 as compared with 26.5 p.c. in August, 1955 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 85.9 and 80.7.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of July and August, 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 August, 1956 amounted to 275,703 M ft. as compared with 340,102 M ft. in August, 1955. Orders on hand at the end of July, 1956 and 1955 amounted to 275,013 M ft. and 334,384 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 4,143 M ft. in August, 1956 and 7,829 M ft. in August, 1955 as compared with 5,659 M ft. in July, 1956 and 4,949 M ft. in July, 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 August accounted for 78.1 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1954 compared with 77.0 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for July, 1955 and 1956 were 77.5 and 80.1 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, August, 1956

| | August | | July | | 8 Months | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| | 1955 | 1956 | 1955 | 1956 | 1955 | 1956 |
| | M ft. | M ft. | M ft. | M ft. | M ft. | M ft. |
| PRODUCTION | | | | | | |
| Douglas Fir..... | 205,058 | 209,328 | 184,795 | 193,508 | 1,445,042 | 1,456,367 |
| Hemlock | 73,018 | 62,875 | 63,529 | 55,182 | 585,753 | 541,970 |
| Balsam Fir..... | 2,174 | 4,813 | 1,414 | 4,031 | 13,713 | 31,503 |
| Red Cedar | 50,908 | 41,978 | 39,640 | 30,527 | 365,441 | 332,965 |
| Spruce | 85,082 | 99,648 | 80,687 | 79,311 | 570,046 | 597,166 |
| White Pine | 7,996 | 6,932 | 5,797 | 5,970 | 50,575 | 47,332 |
| Ponderosa Pine.. | 5,559 | 5,137 | 6,626 | 7,095 | 35,891 | 37,825 |
| Lodgepole Pine.. | 5,933 | 7,708 | 6,642 | 6,918 | 36,540 | 44,820 |
| All other softwoods | 12,843 | 10,381 | 10,830 | 8,045 | 72,518 | 65,305 |
| Total,softwoods | 448,571 | 448,800 | 399,960 | 390,587 | 3,175,519 | 3,155,253 |
| Red Alder | 166 | 40 | 160 | 86 | 1,221 | 979 |
| Maple | 179 | 109 | 150 | 145 | 1,177 | 1,667 |
| Birch | 47 | 49 | 49 | 40 | 438 | 315 |
| Cottonwood | 65 | 111 | 28 | 19 | 929 | 824 |
| All other hardwoods | 12 | 18 | 6 | - | 35 | 28 |
| Total,hardwoods | 469 | 327 | 393 | 290 | 3,800 | 3,813 |
| Total,production | 449,040 | 449,127 | 400,353 | 390,877 | 3,179,319 | 3,159,066 |
| SHIPMENTS | | | | | | |
| TO:Points in Canada | 145,261 | 157,401 | 122,051 | 143,103 | 906,805 | 1,065,554 |
| Points in U.S.A. | 144,233 | 137,245 | 124,631 | 121,351 | 1,017,105 | 1,017,955 |
| United Kingdom | 48,737 | 22,864 | 40,984 | 29,021 | 425,382 | 244,353 |
| Other Countries | 30,550 | 26,162 | 39,562 | 17,149 | 288,948 | 217,305 |
| Shipments reported | 368,781 | 343,672 | 327,228 | 310,624 | 2,638,240 | 2,545,167 |
| Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills | 113,033 | 98,054 | 87,090 | 86,962 | 610,956 | 568,816 |
| Total shipments. | 481,814 | 441,726 | 414,318 | 397,586 | 3,249,196 | 3,113,983 |
| | | | | | | |
| | August | | July | | | |
| | 1955 | 1956 | 1955 | 1956 | | |
| | M ft. | M ft. | M ft. | M ft. | | |
| STOCKS ON HAND | | | | | | |
| Douglas Fir..... | 182,614 | 197,634 | 180,145 | | 205,565 | |
| Hemlock | 82,111 | 90,153 | 85,887 | | 104,180 | |
| Balsam Fir..... | 1,535 | 827 | 519 | | 1,420 | |
| Red Cedar | 51,068 | 70,082 | 57,375 | | 71,818 | |
| Spruce | 80,656 | 119,523 | 104,721 | | 95,996 | |
| White Pine | 10,606 | 9,625 | 13,017 | | 10,611 | |
| Ponderosa Pine . | 19,004 | 16,355 | 20,270 | | 19,957 | |
| Lodgepole Pine . | 3,874 | 7,075 | 3,321 | | 5,639 | |
| All other softwoods | 5,900 | 2,686 | 4,227 | | 3,312 | |
| Total softwoods | 437,368 | 513,960 | 469,482 | | 518,498 | |
| Red Alder | 14 | 48 | - | | - | |
| Maple | 90 | 71 | 2 | | 8 | |
| Birch | 26 | 63 | 3 | | 3 | |
| Cottonwood | 68 | 372 | 2 | | 438 | |
| All other hardwoods | 4 | 1 | 5 | | 1 | |
| Total hardwoods | 202 | 555 | 12 | | 450 | |
| Total stocks... | 437,570 | 514,515 | 469,494 | | 518,948 | |

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, August, 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 | 89,293 | 5,296 | 94,589 | 55,816 | 54,383 | 110,199 |
| Hemlock | 55,400 | 1,429 | 56,829 | 5,006 | 688 | 5,694 |
| Balsam Fir | 2,649 | 92 | 2,741 | 973 | 1,067 | 2,040 |
| Red Cedar | 38,540 | 893 | 39,433 | 1,965 | 580 | 2,545 |
| Spruce | 5,720 | 178 | 5,898 | 51,319 | 42,418 | 93,737 |
| White Pine | 1,500 | 131 | 1,631 | 2,447 | 2,834 | 5,281 |
| Ponderosa Pine.... | 84 | 5 | 89 | 2,381 | 2,591 | 4,972 |
| Lodgepole Pine.... | - | 7 | 7 | 3,539 | 3,739 | 7,278 |
| All other softwoods. | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2,972 | 7,121 | 10,093 |
| Total, softwoods . | 193,187 | 8,034 | 201,221 | 126,418 | 115,421 | 241,839 |
| Red Alder | 19 | 21 | 40 | - | - | - |
| Maple | 82 | 22 | 104 | - | 5 | 5 |
| Birch | 32 | 5 | 37 | 6 | 6 | 12 |
| Cottonwood | 2 | - | 2 | 80 | 29 | 109 |
| All other hardwoods. | - | - | - | 18 | - | 18 |
| Total, hardwoods. | 135 | 48 | 183 | 104 | 40 | 144 |
| Total, softwoods and hardwoods . | 193,322 | 8,082 | 201,404 | 126,522 | 115,461 | 241,983 |
| TIES | | | | | | |
| Douglas Fir | 1,184 | 228 | 1,412 | 1,032 | 2,096 | 3,128 |
| Hemlock | 323 | 6 | 329 | - | 23 | 23 |
| Balsam Fir | - | - | - | - | 32 | 32 |
| Red Cedar | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Spruce | - | - | - | - | 13 | 13 |
| White Pine | - | - | - | 20 | - | 20 |
| Ponderosa Pine ... | - | - | - | - | 76 | 76 |
| Lodgepole Pine ... | - | - | - | - | 423 | 423 |
| All other softwoods. | - | - | - | 17 | 267 | 284 |
| Total, softwoods . | 1,507 | 234 | 1,741 | 1,069 | 2,930 | 3,999 |
| Red Alder | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Maple | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Birch | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cottonwood | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| All other hardwoods. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total, hardwoods. | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total, softwoods and hardwoods . | 1,507 | 234 | 1,741 | 1,069 | 2,930 | 3,999 |
| LUMBER AND TIES | 194,829 | 8,316 | 203,145 | 127,591 | 118,391 | 245,982 |

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, August, 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. |
| COAST MILLS | | | | |
| TO: Points in Canada: | | | | |
| British Columbia | 52,479 | 2,131 | 1,947 | 56,557 |
| Yukon and Northwest Territories | | - | - | - |
| Alberta | | 2,566 | xxxxxx | 2,566 |
| Saskatchewan | | 1,183 | xxxxxx | 1,183 |
| Manitoba | | 1,464 | xxxxxx | 1,464 |
| Ontario | | 9,445 | - | 9,445 |
| Quebec | | 4,913 | - | 4,913 |
| New Brunswick | | 122 | - | 122 |
| Nova Scotia | | 246 | - | 246 |
| Prince Edward Island | | - | - | - |
| Newfoundland | | 140 | - | 140 |
| Total for Canada | 52,479 | 22,210 | 1,947 | 76,636 |
| Points in U.S.A.: | | | | |
| Pacific Ports | | 865 | - | 865 |
| Atlantic Ports | | 2,187 | 31,263 | 33,450 |
| Other points, by rail | | 51,910 | xxxxxx | 51,910 |
| Total for U.S.A. | | 54,962 | 31,263 | 86,225 |
| United Kingdomx | | 2,487 | 19,595 | 22,082 |
| Other countriesx | | 1,089 | 25,073 | 26,162 |
| Destination or carrier not specified | | | | |
| Total shipments reported | 52,479 | 80,748 | 77,878 | 211,105 |
| Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills | | | | 4,785 |
| Total shipments, reported and estimated | | | | 215,890 |
| INTERIOR MILLS | | | | |
| TO: Points in Canada: | | | | |
| British Columbia | 38,838 | 4,719 | - | 43,557 |
| Yukon and Northwest Territories | | - | - | - |
| Alberta | 1,624 | 4,978 | xxxxxx | 6,602 |
| Saskatchewan | | 5,678 | xxxxxx | 5,678 |
| Manitoba | | 6,803 | xxxxxx | 6,803 |
| Ontario | | 16,764 | - | 16,764 |
| Quebec | | 1,235 | - | 1,235 |
| New Brunswick | | - | - | - |
| Nova Scotia | | 102 | - | 102 |
| Prince Edward Island | | - | - | - |
| Newfoundland | | 24 | - | 24 |
| Total for Canada | 40,462 | 40,303 | - | 80,765 |
| Points in U.S.A.: | | | | |
| Pacific Ports | | - | - | - |
| Atlantic Ports | | 2,860 | - | 2,860 |
| Other points, by rail | | 48,160 | xxxxxx | 48,160 |
| Total for U.S.A. | | 51,020 | - | 51,020 |
| United Kingdomx | | - | 782 | 782 |
| Other countriesx | | - | - | - |
| Destination or carrier not specified | | | | |
| Total shipments reported | 40,462 | 91,323 | 782 | 132,567 |
| Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills | | | | 93,269 |
| Total shipments, reported and estimated | | | | 225,836 |
| x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port. | | | | |

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills, August, 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 | 75,748 | 3,233 | 78,981 | 6,419 | 5,956 | 12,375 |
| Hemlock | 60,204 | 2,570 | 62,774 | 485 | 450 | 935 |
| Balsam Fir | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Red Cedar | 31,319 | 1,337 | 32,656 | 187 | 174 | 361 |
| Spruce | 4,046 | 173 | 4,219 | 8,125 | 7,539 | 15,664 |
| White Pine | 2,262 | 97 | 2,359 | 613 | 569 | 1,182 |
| Ponderosa Pine ... | 20 | - | 20 | 2,441 | 2,265 | 4,706 |
| Lodgepole Pine ... | - | - | - | 115 | 106 | 221 |
| All other softwoods . | 212 | 9 | 221 | - | - | - |
| Total, softwoods . | 173,811 | 7,419 | 181,230 | 18,385 | 17,059 | 35,444 |
| Red Alder | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Maple | 49 | 2 | 51 | - | - | - |
| Birch | 22 | 1 | 23 | - | - | - |
| Cottonwood | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| All other hardwoods . | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total, hardwoods . | 71 | 3 | 74 | - | - | - |
| Total, softwoods and hardwoods . | 173,882 | 7,422 | 181,304 | 18,385 | 17,059 | 35,444 |
| <u>UNSOLD</u> | | | | | | |
| Douglas Fir | 29,263 | 1,249 | 30,512 | 39,300 | 36,466 | 75,766 |
| Hemlock | 16,707 | 713 | 17,420 | 4,681 | 4,343 | 9,024 |
| Balsam Fir | - | - | - | 429 | 398 | 827 |
| Red Cedar | 29,664 | 1,266 | 30,930 | 3,182 | 2,953 | 6,135 |
| Spruce | 2,253 | 96 | 2,349 | 50,465 | 46,826 | 97,291 |
| White Pine | 753 | 33 | 786 | 2,748 | 2,550 | 5,298 |
| Ponderosa Pine ... | 122 | 5 | 127 | 5,966 | 5,536 | 11,502 |
| Lodgepole Pine | - | - | - | 3,555 | 3,299 | 6,854 |
| All other softwoods . | 88 | 4 | 92 | 1,231 | 1,142 | 2,373 |
| Total, softwoods . | 78,850 | 3,366 | 82,216 | 111,557 | 103,513 | 215,070 |
| Red Alder | 46 | 2 | 48 | - | - | - |
| Maple | 19 | 1 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Birch | 9 | - | 9 | 16 | 15 | 31 |
| Cottonwood | - | - | - | 193 | 179 | 372 |
| All other hardwoods . | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| Total, hardwoods . | 75 | 3 | 78 | 209 | 194 | 403 |
| Total, softwoods and hardwoods . | 78,925 | 3,369 | 82,294 | 111,766 | 103,707 | 215,473 |
| <u>SOLD AND UNSOLD</u> | 252,807 | 10,791 | 263,598 | 130,151 | 120,766 | 250,917 |

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

| | August | | July | |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1955 | 1956 | 1955 | 1956 |
| | M ft. | M ft. | M ft. | M ft. |
| <u>ORDERS ON HAND</u> | | | | |
| For shipments to points in British Columbia | | | | |
| Local | 20,861 | 24,446 | 19,264 | 21,675 |
| Coastwise and Interior | 2,532 | 2,677 | 2,252 | 3,090 |
| Total | 23,393 | 27,123 | 21,516 | 24,765 |
| For shipments by rail to: | | | | |
| Prairie Provinces..... | 6,243 | 6,431 | 6,654 | 8,222 |
| Eastern Provinces..... | 14,847 | 16,890 | 17,262 | 20,881 |
| United States of America | 60,626 | 48,241 | 55,383 | 49,484 |
| Total | 81,716 | 71,562 | 79,299 | 78,587 |
| For waterborne shipments to: | | | | |
| California..... | - | 565 | 2,060 | 565 |
| U.S. Atlantic Ports..... | 26,421 | 26,171 | 26,772 | 34,592 |
| Eastern Markets | 1,035 | 3,420 | 1,600 | 2,250 |
| Exports Markets | 207,537 | 146,862 | 203,137 | 134,254 |
| Total | 234,993 | 177,018 | 233,569 | 171,661 |
| TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND | 340,102 | 275,703 | 334,384 | 275,013 |
| LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS | 7,829 | 4,143 | 4,949 | 5,659 |

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

August, 1956

| | August | | July | |
|------------------------------|---------|------|------|------|
| | 1955 | 1956 | 1955 | 1956 |
| Coast | No. 94 | 95 | 100 | 89 |
| Interior | No. 295 | 290 | 318 | 318 |
| Total, British Columbia | 389 | 385 | 418 | 408 |

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

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