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

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Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 289,681 M ft. in January, 1957 as compared with 400,708 M ft. in January, 1956 a decrease of 27.7 p.c. from the previous year and a decrease of .7 p.c. from the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 61.3 p.c. of the total, showed a decrease of 17.4 p.c. from the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 38.7 p.c. showed a decrease of 39.6 p.c. Shipments in January, 1957 totalled 306,370 M ft., as compared with 374,207 M ft. the previous year, a decrease of 18.1 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 9.6 p.c. and Interior mills a decrease of 29.1 p.c. Total shipments for January increased by 23.3 p.c. over the December figure of 248,405 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of January, 1957 amounted to 564,392 M ft., as compared with 514,123 M ft. at the end of January the previous year and 602,162 M ft. at the end of December, 1956. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 294,476 M ft., while Interior mills showed 269,916 M ft.

Page 3 gives the final estimates of the production of sawn lumber (excluding sawn ties) for British Columbia and provinces East of the Rockies for 1955 and revised estimates for 1956. Similar revised monthly estimates of sawn lumber production for all provinces (except Newfoundland), are contained in the January issue of the Monthly report entitled "Production, Shipments and Stocks on Hand of Sawmills East of the Rockies".

Summary Figures

Table 1 gives a comparative summary of production, shipments and stocks of sawn lumber and ties for all British Columbia sawmills for December, 1955 and 1956 and January 1956 and 1957. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 361,491 M ft. in December, 1955 to 400,708 M ft. in January, 1956 but decreased from 291,627 M ft. in December, 1956 to 289,681 M ft. in January, 1957. Shipments totalled 248,405 M ft. in December, 1956 and 306,370 M ft. in January, 1957 as compared with 328,815 M ft. in December, 1955 and 374,207 M ft. in January of 1956. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 515,069 M ft. in December, 1955 to 514,123 M ft. in January, 1956 and decreased from 602,162 M ft. in December, 1956 to 564,392 M ft. in January 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 176,051 M ft. in January, 1957 as compared with 106,179 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 1,420 M ft. in January as compared with 6,031 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 61.3 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in January, 1957 as compared with 53.6 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during December, 1956 and 1955 respectively, were 58.0 and 57.4 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 190,565 M ft. in January of 1957 and 153,428 M ft. in December, 1956 as compared with 210,897 M ft. in January, 1956 and 203,658 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 115,805 M ft. and 163,310 M ft. in January, 1957 and 1956 and 94,977 M ft. and 125,157 M ft. in December, 1956 and 1955. Of all shipments actually reported for January, 34.8 p.c. went to points in Canada, 41.8 p.c. to points in United States, 11.5 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 11.9 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 34.0 p.c. of the total, while 43.1 p.c. went by rail, and 22.9 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 December, 1956 and January, 1957 amounted to 300,906 M ft. and 294,476 M ft. as compared with 278,369 M ft. and 278,655 M ft. in December, 1955 and January of 1956. Interior mills stocks decreased from 236,700 M ft. in December, 1955 to 235,468 M ft. in January, 1956 and decreased from 301,256 M ft. in December, 1956 to 269,916 M ft. in January, 1957. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 38.2 p.c. of the total in January, 1957 as compared with 28.5 p.c. in January, 1956 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 92.8 and 85.2.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of December, 1955 and 1956 and January, 1956 and 1957 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 January, 1957 amounted to 258,013 M ft. as compared with 348,648 M ft. in January, 1956. Orders on hand at the end of December, 1956 and 1955 amounted to 275,562 M ft. and 329,907 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 3,784 M ft. in January, 1957 and 5,423 M ft. in January, 1956 as compared with 2,276 M ft. in December, 1956 and 6,219 M ft. in December, 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 January accounted for 83.2 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1954 compared with 79.9 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for December, 1955 and 1956 were 80.3 and 79.2 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.

Final Estimates of Canadian Production of Sawn Lumber for 1955,
and Revised Estimates for 1956.

Month	Year	British Columbia			East of Rockies	Total Canada ^x
		Coast	Interior	Total		
January	1955	235,626	189,950	425,576	211,306	636,882
	1956	212,719	179,113	391,832	195,717	587,549
February	1955	231,001	162,649	393,650	239,052	632,702
	1956	220,635	181,582	402,217	247,894	650,111
March	1955	257,127	169,732	426,859	301,373	728,232
	1956	222,891	212,855	435,746	263,929	699,675
April	1955	235,561	103,760	339,321	141,673	480,994
	1956	214,560	131,793	346,353	137,196	483,549
May	1955	243,046	146,440	389,486	291,893	681,379
	1956	228,063	165,564	393,627	269,243	662,870
June	1955	252,401	195,433	447,834	388,939	836,773
	1956	230,724	203,999	434,723	392,816	827,539
July	1955	201,157	217,523	418,680	356,403	775,083
	1956	175,447	231,525	406,972	392,839	799,811
August	1955	229,076	238,552	467,628	317,807	785,435
	1956	206,131	264,388	470,519	365,824	836,343
September	1955	242,330	237,883	480,213	277,013	757,226
	1956	206,197	216,816	423,013	293,799	716,812
October	1955	221,626	215,836	437,462	165,552	603,014
	1956	220,724	206,360	427,084	190,369	617,453
November	1955	202,293	128,506	330,799	112,969	443,768
	1956	213,006	162,148	375,154	123,949	499,103
December	1955	204,852	151,925	356,777	163,044	519,821
	1956	168,521	117,361	285,882	124,821	410,703
12 months	1955 ^x	2,756,096	2,158,189	4,914,285	2,967,024	7,881,309 ^x
	1956 ^x	2,519,618	2,273,504	4,793,122	2,998,396	7,791,518 ^x

^x Production in the Yukon and N.W.T. (6,033 M ft. b.m.) and Newfoundland (32,691 M ft. b.m.) not included in the 1955 quantities; 1956 quantities not yet available.

Table 1. - Comparative Summary of Production, Shipments and Stocks of Lumber and Ties of British Columbia, January, 1957.

	January		December	
	*1956	1957	*1955	*1956
PRODUCTION	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
Douglas Fir	171,884	123,690	168,125	132,119
Hemlock	70,925	65,000	66,766	57,488
Balsam Fir	4,552	3,153	2,862	2,773
Red Cedar	55,269	29,051	33,396	29,702
Spruce	71,910	56,505	69,106	51,529
White Pine	5,192	2,481	5,021	4,864
Ponderosa Pine	4,307	1,600	2,996	2,294
Lodgepole Pine	5,895	4,493	5,727	4,597
All other softwoods	10,230	3,555	7,023	6,034
Total, softwoods	400,164	289,528	361,022	291,400
Red Alder	163	42	182	75
Maple	277	66	201	109
Birch	35	34	62	26
Cottonwood	64	11	20	17
All other hardwoods	5	-	4	-
Total, hardwoods	544	153	469	227
Total, production	*400,708	289,681	*361,491	*291,627
SHIPMENTS				
TO: Points in Canada	113,874	87,226	99,368	81,141
Points in U.S.A.	120,734	104,868	100,042	83,570
United Kingdom	41,639	28,983	49,480	19,241
Other Countries	21,915	29,917	40,448	34,092
Shipments reported	298,162	250,994	289,338	218,044
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills.	76,045	55,376	39,477	30,361
Total shipments	374,207	306,370	328,815	248,405
STOCKS ON HAND	January		December	
	1956	1957	1955	1956
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
Douglas Fir	199,570	201,832	204,860	198,894
Hemlock	98,449	114,505	101,472	122,467
Balsam Fir	938	1,637	1,395	1,357
Red Cedar	70,140	64,631	61,880	68,276
Spruce	107,447	140,738	102,325	162,853
White Pine	13,313	10,313	15,668	11,990
Ponderosa Pine	12,794	15,880	13,273	14,050
Lodgepole Pine	5,800	5,923	4,834	9,217
All other softwoods	5,588	8,787	9,323	12,610
Total, softwoods	514,039	564,246	515,030	601,714
Red Alder	22	-	4	-
Maple	45	-	5	51
Birch	15	4	-	-
Cottonwood	-	139	28	396
All other hardwoods	2	3	2	1
Total, hardwoods	84	146	39	448
Total, stocks	514,123	564,392	515,069	602,162

* Revised.

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, January, 1957.

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	74,792	2,653	77,445	19,260	21,179	40,439
Hemlock	61,600	710	62,310	1,375	960	2,335
Balsam Fir	2,025	62	2,087	511	507	1,018
Red Cedar	27,142	504	27,646	676	729	1,405
Spruce	4,901	105	5,006	33,499	17,936	51,435
White Pine	552	70	622	365	1,405	1,770
Ponderosa Pine	-	3	3	506	960	1,466
Lodgepole Pine	-	3	3	1,908	1,871	3,779
All other softwoods ..	791	2	793	667	1,848	2,515
Total, softwoods ...	171,803	4,112	175,915	58,767	47,395	106,162
Red Alder	25	17	42	-	-	-
Maple	44	20	64	-	2	2
Birch	25	5	30	-	4	4
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	11	11
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	94	42	136	-	17	17
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	171,897	4,154	176,051	58,767	47,412	106,179
TIES						
Douglas Fir	1,067	223	1,290	752	3,764	4,516
Hemlock	125	5	130	199	26	225
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	48	48
Red Cedar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	-	64	64
White Pine	-	-	-	89	-	89
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	-	131	131
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	95	616	711
All other softwoods ..	-	-	-	-	247	247
Total, softwoods ...	1,192	228	1,420	1,135	4,896	6,031
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	1,192	228	1,420	1,135	4,896	6,031
LUMBER AND TIES	173,089	4,382	177,471	59,902	52,308	112,210

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawm Lumber and Ties, January, 1957

	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: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	35,628	1,564	1,193	38,385
Yukon and Northwest Territories		1	-	1
Alberta		2,029	xxxxxx	2,029
Saskatchewan		611	xxxxxx	611
Manitoba		2,115	xxxxxx	2,115
Ontario		5,931	-	5,931
Quebec		2,097	-	2,097
New Brunswick		309	-	309
Nova Scotia		329	-	329
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		199	-	199
Total for Canada	35,628	15,185	1,193	52,006
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		796	910	1,706
Atlantic Ports		1,644	24,787	26,431
Other points, by rail		49,831	xxxxxx	49,831
Total for U.S.A.		52,271	25,697	77,968
United Kingdomx		138	28,647	28,785
Other countriesx		95	29,822	29,917
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	35,628	67,689	85,359	188,676
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				1,889
Total shipments, reported and estimated				190,565
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	21,508	2,817	-	24,325
Yukon and Northwest Territories .	-	-	-	-
Alberta	391	1,837	xxxxxx	2,228
Saskatchewan		1,316	xxxxxx	1,316
Manitoba		1,952	xxxxxx	1,952
Ontario		4,897	-	4,897
Quebec		457	-	457
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		45	-	45
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		-	-	-
Total for Canada	21,899	13,321	-	35,220
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		292	-	292
Atlantic Ports		672	-	672
Other points, by rail		25,936	xxxxxx	25,936
Total for U.S.A.		26,900	-	26,900
United Kingdomx		163	35	198
Other countriesx		-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	21,899	40,384	35	62,318
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				53,487
Total shipments, reported and estimated				115,805

x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaborad Port.

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills, January, 1957

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						
Douglas Fir	73,246	1,854	75,100	5,337	4,291	9,628
Hemlock	72,131	1,826	73,957	300	241	541
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar	24,236	614	24,850	200	161	361
Spruce	4,879	123	5,002	3,856	3,100	6,956
White Pine	2,888	73	2,961	713	573	1,286
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	419	337	756
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other softwoods ...	30	1	31	-	-	-
Total, softwoods	177,410	4,491	181,901	10,825	8,703	19,528
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	177,410	4,491	181,901	10,825	8,703	19,528
UNSOLD						
Douglas Fir	44,436	1,125	45,561	39,658	31,885	71,543
Hemlock	28,631	725	29,356	5,904	4,747	10,651
Balsam Fir	84	2	86	860	691	1,551
Red Cedar	31,507	798	32,305	3,944	3,171	7,115
Spruce	4,062	103	4,165	69,077	55,538	124,615
White Pine	749	19	768	2,937	2,361	5,298
Ponderosa Pine	200	5	205	8,270	6,649	14,919
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	3,283	2,640	5,923
All other softwoods ...	123	3	126	4,784	3,846	8,630
Total, softwoods	109,792	2,780	112,572	138,717	111,528	250,245
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	2	2	4
Cottonwood	-	-	-	77	62	139
All other hardwoods ...	3	-	3	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	3	-	3	79	64	143
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	109,795	2,780	112,575	138,796	111,592	250,388
SOLD AND UNSOLD	287,205	7,271	294,476	149,621	120,295	269,916



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Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of January, 1957 and

Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	January		December	
	1956	1957	1955	1956
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipments to points in British Columbia				
Local	27,396	16,865	20,083	17,051
Coastwise and Interior	4,353	3,231	3,467	3,752
Total	31,749	20,096	23,550	20,803
For shipments by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	13,299	11,750	11,969	9,498
Eastern Provinces	19,229	18,410	16,338	17,519
United States of America	54,079	53,788	53,590	51,220
Total	86,607	83,948	81,897	78,237
For waterborne shipments to:				
California	1,565	600	1,065	-
U.S. Atlantic Ports	33,650	16,503	29,310	25,206
Eastern Markets	1,646	-	100	-
Exports Markets	193,431	136,866	193,985	151,316
Total	230,292	153,969	224,460	176,522
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	348,648	258,013	329,907	275,562
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM				
OTHER MILLS	5,423	3,784	6,219	2,276

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

January, 1957.

		January		December	
		1956	1957	1955	1956
Coast	No.	82	72	94	83
Interior	No.	265	218	285	261
Total, British Columbia ..	No.	347	290	379	344

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