

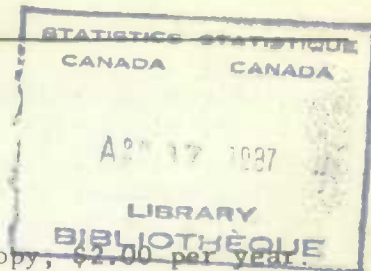
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Research Department

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

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 386,377 M ft. in March, 1957 as compared with 440,537 M ft. in March, 1956 a decrease of 12.3 p.c. from the previous year but an increase of 11.5 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 51.1 p.c. of the total, showed a decrease of 12.3 p.c. from the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 48.9 p.c. showed a decrease of 12.3 p.c. Shipments in March, 1957 totalled 354,560 M ft., as compared with 383,802 M ft. the previous year, a decrease of 7.6 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 7.3 p.c. and Interior mills a decrease of 8.0 p.c. Total shipments for March increased by 13.3 p.c. over the February figure of 312,973 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of March, 1957 amounted to 670,137 M ft., as compared with 563,681 M ft. at the end of March the previous year and 623,708 M ft. at the end of February of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 301,728 M ft., while Interior mills showed 368,409 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, 1956 and 1957. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 407,393 M ft. in February, 1956 to 440,537 M ft. in March, 1956 and from 346,514 M ft. in February to 386,377 M ft. in March, 1957. Shipments totalled 312,973 M ft. in February, 1957 and 354,560 M ft. in March, 1957 as compared with 353,503 M ft. in February and 383,802 M ft. in March of 1956. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 545,214 M ft. in February, 1956 to 563,681 M ft. in March and increased from 623,708 M ft. in February, 1957 to 670,137 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 196,111 M ft. in March, 1957 as compared with 184,989 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 1,147 M ft. in March as compared with 4,130 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 51.1 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in March, 1957 as compared with 51.1 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during February, 1957 and 1956 respectively were 51.0 and 54.6 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 201,641 M ft. in March of 1957 and 174,009 M ft. in February, 1957 as compared with 217,577 M ft. in March, 1956 and 200,233 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 152,919 M ft. and 166,225 M ft. in March, 1957 and 1956 and 138,964 M ft. and 153,270 M ft. in February, 1957 and 1956. Of all shipments actually reported for March, 44.0 p.c. went to points in Canada, 38.9 p.c. to points in United States, 8.1 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 9.0 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 21.8 p.c. of the total, while 49.5 p.c. went by rail, and 28.7 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, 1957 amounted to 306,767 M ft. and 301,728 M ft. as compared with 299,100 M ft. and 298,687 M ft. in February and March of 1956. Interior mills stocks increased from 246,114 M ft. in February to 264,994 M ft. in March, 1956 and increased from 316,941 M ft. in February to 368,409 M ft. in March, 1957. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 33.6 p.c. of the total in March, 1957 as compared with 30.0 p.c. in March, 1956 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 92.9 and 88.8.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of February and March, 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 March, 1957 amounted to 295,241 M ft. as compared with 339,806 M ft. in March, 1956. Orders on hand at the end of February, 1957 and 1956 amounted to 278,655 M ft. and 337,806 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 5,078 M ft. in March, 1957 and 5,197 M ft. in March, 1956 as compared with 3,193 M ft. in February, 1957 and 5,661 M ft. in February, 1956.

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 77.2 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1955 compared with 79.5 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for February, 1956 and 1957 were 80.5 and 77.1 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, March, 1957.

	March		February		3 Months	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	189,629	163,794	171,039	148,810	532,552	436,294
Hemlock	80,765	73,515	70,960	66,034	222,650	204,549
Balsam Fir	4,598	5,017	4,466	2,827	13,616	10,997
Red Cedar	40,917	37,339	45,269	27,675	141,455	94,065
Spruce	98,783	82,842	88,994	80,011	259,687	219,358
White Pine	6,048	4,435	5,609	4,175	16,849	11,091
Ponderosa Pine	3,732	1,816	3,165	1,475	11,204	4,891
Lodgepole Pine	7,439	9,605	6,492	8,917	19,826	23,015
All other softwoods	8,052	7,678	10,707	6,404	28,989	17,637
Total softwoods	439,963	386,041	406,701	346,328	1,246,828	1,021,897
Red Alder	91	56	278	57	532	155
Maple	158	211	266	62	701	339
Birch	35	18	45	21	115	73
Cottonwood	290	51	97	46	451	108
All other hardwoods	-	-	6	-	11	-
Total hardwoods	574	336	692	186	1,810	675
Total production	440,537	386,377	407,393	346,514	1,248,638	1,022,572
SHIPMENTS						
To: Points in Canada	135,378	133,823	114,933	111,456	364,185	332,505
Points in U.S.A.	125,981	118,525	122,345	95,917	369,060	319,310
United Kingdom	35,497	24,710	26,669	21,105	103,805	74,798
Other Countries	30,015	27,342	29,320	25,441	81,250	82,700
Shipments reported	326,871	304,400	293,267	253,919	918,300	809,313
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .	56,931	50,160	60,236	59,054	193,212	164,590
Total shipments	383,802	354,560	353,503	312,973	1,111,512	973,903
STOCKS ON HAND						
	March		February			
	1956	1957	1956	1957		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir	211,040	208,062	204,659	210,209		
Hemlock	109,622	124,950	102,242	121,172		
Balsam Fir	1,209	1,172	2,306	910		
Red Cedar	69,885	68,475	73,023	64,493		
Spruce	137,171	225,962	128,632	193,114		
White Pine	8,552	12,006	11,358	9,324		
Ponderosa Pine	14,398	12,457	11,506	12,200		
Lodgepole Pine	5,669	9,161	5,876	6,408		
All other softwoods	5,517	7,619	5,532	5,521		
Total softwoods	563,063	669,864	545,134	623,351		
Red Alder	31	-	25	8		
Maple	45	28	39	23		
Birch	21	4	14	15		
Cottonwood	519	240	-	307		
All other hardwoods	2	1	2	4		
Total hardwoods	618	273	80	357		
Total stocks	563,681	670,137	545,214	623,708		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, March, 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	77,043	4,873	81,916	38,585	39,477	78,062
Hemlock	65,531	1,860	67,391	4,922	986	5,908
Balsam Fir	2,909	116	3,025	1,056	936	1,992
Red Cedar	34,731	1,007	35,738	970	631	1,601
Spruce	5,105	230	5,335	44,813	32,649	77,462
White Pine	1,823	14	1,837	1,114	1,484	2,598
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	695	1,115	1,810
Lodgepole Pine	-	11	11	4,298	4,189	8,487
All other softwoods .	576	2	578	2,156	4,857	7,013
Total, softwoods .	187,718	8,113	195,831	98,609	86,324	184,933
Red Alder	44	12	56	-	-	-
Maple	182	27	209	-	2	2
Birch	11	3	14	2	2	4
Cottonwood	-	1	1	-	50	50
All other hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	237	43	280	2	54	56
Total, softwoods and hardwoods .	187,955	8,156	196,111	98,611	86,378	184,989
TIES						
Douglas Fir	1,139	8	1,147	890	1,779	2,669
Hemlock	-	-	-	135	81	216
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	28	17	45
White Pine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	-	6	6
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	607	500	1,107
All other softwoods .	-	-	-	-	87	87
Total, softwoods .	1,139	8	1,147	1,660	2,470	4,130
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods .	1,139	8	1,147	1,660	2,470	4,130
LUMBER AND TIES	189,094	8,164	197,258	100,271	88,848	189,119

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, March, 1957

	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	47,868	3,252	1,433	52,553
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	11	11
Alberta		2,780	xxxxxx	2,780
Saskatchewan		2,034	xxxxxx	2,034
Manitoba		1,658	xxxxxx	1,658
Ontario		6,310	-	6,310
Quebec		2,891	-	2,891
New Brunswick		302	-	302
Nova Scotia		443	-	443
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		110	-	110
Total for Canada	47,868	19,780	1,444	69,092
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		691	1,046	1,737
Atlantic Ports		1,362	12,594	13,956
Other points, by rail		59,512	xxxxxx	59,512
Total for U.S.A.		61,565	13,640	75,205
United Kingdomx		474	24,123	24,597
Other countriesx		180	27,162	27,342
Distination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	47,868	81,999	66,369	196,236
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				5,405
Total shipments, reported and estimated				201,641
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	39,081	4,497	-	43,578
Yukon and Northwest Territories .	-	-	-	-
Alberta 361		3,080	xxxxxx	3,441
Saskatchewan		5,071	xxxxxx	5,071
Manitoba		4,882	xxxxxx	4,882
Ontario		6,648	-	6,648
Quebec		1,033	-	1,033
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		16	-	16
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		62	-	62
Total for Canada	39,442	25,289	-	64,731
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		858	-	858
Atlantic Ports		143	-	143
Other points, by rail		42,319	xxxxxx	42,319
Total for U.S.A.		43,320	-	43,320
United Kingdomx		52	61	113
Other countriesx		-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	39,442	68,661	61	108,164
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				44,755
Total shipments, reported and estimated				152,919
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills, March, 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.
<u>SOLD (but not shipped)</u>						
Douglas Fir	73,908	3,191	77,099	4,000	3,544	7,544
Hemlock	80,716	3,485	84,201	1,082	959	2,041
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar	28,895	1,248	30,143	401	355	756
Spruce	4,183	180	4,363	6,892	6,107	12,999
White Pine	4,174	180	4,354	1,198	1,061	2,259
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	319	283	602
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other softwoods ..	29	1	30	-	-	-
Total, softwoods ..	191,905	8,285	200,190	13,892	12,309	26,201
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	13	1	14	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	13	1	14	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	191,918	8,286	200,204	13,892	12,309	26,201
<u>UNSOLD</u>						
Douglas Fir	37,950	1,639	39,589	48,343	35,487	83,830
Hemlock	24,712	1,067	25,779	7,456	5,473	12,929
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	676	496	1,172
Red Cedar	30,306	1,308	31,614	3,438	2,524	5,962
Spruce	3,020	130	3,150	118,479	86,971	205,450
White Pine	971	42	1,013	2,526	1,854	4,380
Ponderosa Pine	200	9	209	6,716	4,930	11,646
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	5,283	3,878	9,161
All other softwoods ..	128	5	133	4,300	3,156	7,456
Total, softwoods ..	97,287	4,200	101,487	197,217	144,769	341,986
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	13	1	14	-	-	-
Birch	1	-	1	2	1	3
Cottonwood	20	1	21	126	93	219
All other hardwoods ..	1	-	1	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	35	2	37	128	94	222
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	97,322	4,202	101,524	197,345	144,863	342,208
SOLD AND UNSOLD	289,240	12,488	301,728	211,237	157,172	368,409

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

Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	March		February	
	1956	1957	1956	1957
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipments to points in British Columbia				
Local	31,261	23,271	27,556	21,811
Coastwise and Interior	3,828	5,178	4,327	2,902
Total	35,089	28,449	31,883	24,713
For shipments by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	12,555	9,561	11,625	9,967
Eastern Provinces	23,962	15,508	22,831	18,697
United States of America	52,729	58,163	47,737	56,230
Total	89,246	83,232	82,193	84,894
For waterborne shipments to:				
California	2,530	550	1,619	550
U.S. Atlantic Ports	39,095	35,552	28,978	28,878
Eastern Markets	630	-	6,275	25
Exports Markets	173,216	147,458	186,858	139,595
Total	215,471	183,560	223,730	169,048
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	339,806	295,241	337,806	278,655
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS	5,197	5,078	5,661	3,193

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

March, 1957

	March		February	
	1956	1957	1956	1957
CoastNo.	91	80	86	77
InteriorNo.	306	266	278	266
Total, British ColumbiaNo.	397	346	364	343

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

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