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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 400,576 M ft. in August, 1957 as compared with 476,259 M ft. in August, 1956 a decrease of 15.9 p.c. from the previous year and a decrease of 0.6 p.c. from the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 47.7 p.c. of the total, showed a decrease of 8.1 p.c. from the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 52.3 p.c. showed a decrease of 21.9 p.c. Shipments in August, 1957 totalled 397,303 M ft., as compared with 441,726 M ft. the previous year, a decrease of 10.1 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 16.1 p.c. and Interior mills a decrease of 4.2 p.c. Total shipments for August increased by 8.4 p.c. over the July figure of 366,544 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of August, 1957 amounted to 552,063 M ft., as compared with 514,515 M ft. at the end of August the previous year and 558,800 M ft. at the end of July of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 266,798 M ft., while Interior mills showed 285,265 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 1956 and 1957. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 414,520 M ft. in July, 1956 to 476,259 M ft. in August, 1956 but decreased from 403,028 M ft. in July, 1957 to 400,576 M ft. in August, 1957. Shipments totalled 366,544 M ft. in July, 1957 and 397,303 M ft. in August, 1957 as compared with 397,586 M ft. in July and 441,726 M ft. in August of 1956. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 518,948 M ft. in July, 1956 to 514,515 M ft. in August, 1956 and decreased from 558,800 M ft. in July, 1957 to 552,063 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 190,091 M ft. in August, 1957 as compared with 206,071 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 851 M ft. in August as compared with 3,563 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 47.7 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in August, 1957 as compared with 43.6 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during July, 1957 and 1956 respectively, were 42.5 and 43.0 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 181,052 M ft. in August of 1957 and 157,045 M ft. in July, 1957 as compared with 215,890 M ft. in August, 1956 and 184,878 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 216,251 M ft. and 225,836 M ft. in August, 1957 and 1956 and 209,499 M ft. and 212,708 M ft. in July, 1957 and 1956. Of all shipments actually reported for August, 39.7 p.c. went to points in Canada, 41.4 p.c. to points in United States, 9.6 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 9.3 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 25.4 p.c. of the total, while 48.8 p.c. went by rail, and 25.8 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, 1957 amounted to 259,022 M ft. and 266,798 M ft. as compared with 278,498 M ft. and 263,598 M ft. in July and August of 1956. Interior mills stocks increased from 240,450 M ft. in July to 250,917 M ft. in August, 1956 but decreased from 299,778 M ft. in July to 285,265 M ft. in August, 1957. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 36.3 p.c. of the total in August, 1957 as compared with 31.2 p.c. in August, 1956 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 91.8 and 85.9.

### Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of July and August, 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 August, 1957 amounted to 271,807 M ft. as compared with 275,703 M ft. in August, 1956. Orders on hand at the end of July, 1957 and 1956 amounted to 249,118 M ft. and 275,013 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 11,143 M ft. in August, 1957 and 4,143 M ft. in August, 1956 as compared with 8,567 M ft. in July, 1957 and 5,659 M ft. in July, 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 August accounted for 79.7 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1955 compared with 78.1 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for July, 1956 and 1957 were 80.1 and 78.1 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, 1957.

	August		July		8 Months	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<b>PRODUCTION</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	221,751	178,955	204,847	173,465	1,533,908	1,290,911
Hemlock .....	64,736	75,386	56,922	68,751	557,257	580,345
Balsam Fir .....	5,067	3,303	4,246	3,563	33,018	27,957
Red Cedar .....	43,139	33,694	31,435	34,794	343,220	270,091
Spruce .....	108,465	82,033	86,343	91,975	648,982	582,875
White Pine .....	7,459	6,227	6,437	6,855	50,496	39,666
Ponderosa Pine .....	5,600	3,102	7,707	4,194	41,209	25,542
Lodgepole Pine .....	8,382	7,070	7,514	8,329	48,670	54,077
All other softwoods ....	11,316	10,403	8,770	10,485	70,697	58,411
Total softwoods .....	475,915	400,173	414,221	402,411	3,327,457	2,929,875
Red Alder .....	41	76	88	137	1,002	665
Maple .....	111	212	148	360	1,705	1,516
Birch .....	51	47	41	51	324	301
Cottonwood .....	121	66	22	69	903	466
All other hardwoods ....	20	2	-	-	31	2
Total hardwoods .....	344	403	299	617	3,965	2,950
Total production .....	476,259	400,576	414,520	403,028	3,331,422	2,932,825
<b>SHIPMENTS</b>						
TO: Points in Canada .....	157,401	122,413	143,103	134,526	1,065,554	1,028,970
Points in U.S.A. ....	137,245	127,624	121,351	104,361	1,017,955	924,816
United Kingdom .....	22,864	29,500	29,021	23,856	244,353	224,464
Other Countries .....	26,162	28,817	17,149	18,849	217,305	239,128
Shipments reported .....	343,672	308,354	310,624	281,592	2,545,167	2,417,378
Estimated shipments of						
non-reporting mills ....	98,054	88,949	86,962	84,952	568,816	550,931
Total shipments .....	441,726	397,303	397,586	366,544	3,113,983	2,968,309
<b>STOCKS ON HAND</b>						
	August		July			
	1956	1957	1956	1957		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir .....	197,634	182,434	205,565	179,803		
Hemlock .....	90,153	110,253	104,180	106,127		
Balsam Fir .....	827	1,265	1,420	1,260		
Red Cedar .....	70,082	56,442	71,818	57,658		
Spruce .....	119,523	159,242	95,996	170,333		
White Pine .....	9,625	13,911	10,611	15,558		
Ponderosa Pine .....	16,355	15,176	19,957	17,997		
Lodgepole Pine .....	7,075	4,947	5,639	5,673		
All other softwoods ....	2,686	8,040	3,312	4,192		
Total softwoods .....	513,960	551,710	518,498	558,601		
Red Alder .....	48	-	-	15		
Maple .....	71	-	8	82		
Birch .....	63	-	3	16		
Cottonwood .....	372	348	438	85		
All other hardwoods ....	1	5	1	1		
Total hardwoods .....	555	353	450	199		
Total stocks .....	514,515	552,063	518,948	558,800		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, August, 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.
<b>LUMBER</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	77,618	5,637	83,255	55,749	36,411	92,160
Hemlock .....	66,074	1,106	67,180	6,848	1,289	8,137
Balsam Fir .....	1,976	28	2,004	482	817	1,299
Red Cedar .....	29,988	1,036	31,024	1,605	1,023	2,628
Spruce .....	3,580	224	3,804	46,497	31,717	78,214
White Pine .....	2,456	10	2,466	2,080	1,681	3,761
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	-	-	1,829	1,225	3,054
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	10	10	2,092	4,342	6,434
All other softwoods ...	-	2	2	4,730	5,597	10,327
Total, softwoods ...	181,692	8,053	189,745	121,912	84,102	206,014
Red Alder .....	56	20	76	-	-	-
Maple .....	179	31	210	-	2	2
Birch .....	38	7	45	-	2	2
Cottonwood .....	14	1	15	-	51	51
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	2	-	2
Total, hardwoods ...	287	59	346	2	55	57
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	181,979	8,112	190,091	121,914	84,157	206,071
<b>TIES</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	811	40	851	941	1,748	2,689
Hemlock .....	-	-	-	-	69	69
Balsam Fir .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar .....	-	-	-	-	42	42
Spruce .....	-	-	-	-	15	15
White Pine .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	-	-	43	5	48
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	197	429	626
All other softwoods ...	-	-	-	-	74	74
Total, softwoods ...	811	40	851	1,181	2,382	3,563
Red Alder .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	811	40	851	1,181	2,382	3,563
<b>LUMBER AND TIES</b>	182,790	8,152	190,942	123,095	86,539	209,634

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, August, 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 .....	39,209	1,916	862	41,987
Yukon and Northwest Territories .....		160	-	160
Alberta .....		957	xxxxxxx	957
Saskatchewan .....		584	xxxxxxx	584
Manitoba .....		698	xxxxxxx	698
Ontario .....		4,950	-	4,950
Quebec .....		1,509	-	1,509
New Brunswick .....		244	-	244
Nova Scotia .....		46	-	46
Prince Edward Island .....		-	-	-
Newfoundland .....		131	-	131
Total for Canada .....	39,209	11,195	862	51,266
<u>Points in U.S.A.</u>				
Pacific Ports .....		536	244	780
Atlantic Ports .....		1,096	25,137	26,233
Other points, by rail .....		39,824	xxxxxxx	39,824
Total for U.S.A. ....		41,456	25,381	66,837
United Kingdom .....x		1,189	27,828	29,017
Other countries .....x		4,871	23,852	28,723
Destination or carrier not specified .....				-
Total shipments reported ....	39,209	58,711	77,923	175,843
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....				5,209
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....				181,052
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia .....	38,215	2,937	-	41,152
Yukon and Northwest Territories .....	-	-	-	-
Alberta .....	1,932	4,513	xxxxxxx	6,445
Saskatchewan .....		6,553	xxxxxxx	6,553
Manitoba .....		4,469	xxxxxxx	4,469
Ontario .....		11,192	-	11,192
Quebec .....		1,126	-	1,126
New Brunswick .....		150	-	150
Nova Scotia .....		60	-	60
Prince Edward Island .....		-	-	-
Newfoundland .....		-	-	-
Total for Canada .....	40,147	31,000	-	71,147
<u>Points in U.S.A.</u>				
Pacific Ports .....		1,389	-	1,389
Atlantic Ports .....		588	-	588
Other points, by rail .....		58,810	xxxxxxx	58,810
Total for U.S.A. ....		60,787	-	60,787
United Kingdom .....x		133	350	483
Other countries .....x		-	94	94
Destination or carrier not specified .....				-
Total shipments reported ....	40,147	91,920	444	132,511
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....				83,740
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....				216,251
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

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

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS		
	Reported M ft.b.m.	Estimated M ft.b.m.	Total M ft.b.m.	Reported M ft.b.m.	Estimated M ft.b.m.	Total M ft.b.m.
<u>SOLD (But not Shipped)</u>						
Douglas Fir .....	62,048	2,767	64,815	4,892	3,439	8,331
Hemlock .....	66,952	2,986	69,938	2,380	1,673	4,053
Balsam Fir .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar .....	27,253	1,215	28,468	290	204	494
Spruce .....	2,986	133	3,119	4,581	3,221	7,802
White Pine .....	3,529	158	3,687	1,561	1,098	2,659
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	-	-	86	60	146
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	23	16	39
All other softwoods ...	40	2	42	-	-	-
Total, softwoods ...	162,808	7,261	170,069	13,813	9,711	23,524
Red Alder .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	162,808	7,261	170,069	13,813	9,711	23,524
<u>UNSOLD</u>						
Douglas Fir .....	39,400	1,757	41,157	40,006	28,125	68,131
Hemlock .....	25,664	1,145	26,809	5,551	3,902	9,453
Balsam Fir .....	-	-	-	743	522	1,265
Red Cedar .....	22,216	991	23,207	2,509	1,764	4,273
Spruce .....	3,342	149	3,491	85,043	59,787	144,830
White Pine .....	1,603	71	1,674	3,459	2,432	5,891
Ponderosa Pine .....	250	11	261	8,672	6,097	14,769
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	2,882	2,026	4,908
All other softwoods ...	106	5	111	4,631	3,256	7,887
Total, softwoods ...	92,581	4,129	96,710	153,496	107,911	261,407
Red Alder .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood .....	13	1	14	196	138	334
All other hardwoods ...	5	-	5	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	18	1	19	196	138	334
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	92,599	4,130	96,729	153,692	108,049	261,741
<u>SOLD AND UNSOLD</u>	255,407	11,391	266,798	167,505	117,760	285,265

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of August, 1957 and  
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	August		July	
	1956 M ft.	1957 M ft.	1956 M ft.	1957 M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipments to points in British Columbia				
Local .....	24,446	14,017	21,675	12,961
Coastwise and Interior .....	2,677	3,531	3,090	4,523
Total .....	27,123	17,548	24,765	17,484
For shipments by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces .....	6,431	4,625	8,222	4,431
Eastern Provinces .....	16,890	14,459	20,881	8,666
United States of America ....	48,241	39,859	49,484	38,679
Total .....	71,562	58,943	78,587	51,776
For waterborne shipments to:				
California .....	565	405	565	-
U.S. Atlantic Ports .....	26,171	25,419	34,592	17,845
Eastern Markets .....	3,420	-	2,250	-
Exports Markets .....	146,862	169,492	134,254	162,013
Total .....	177,018	195,316	171,661	179,858
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND .....	275,703	271,807	275,013	249,118
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM				
OTHER MILLS .....	4,143	11,143	5,659	8,567

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting August, 1957

	August		July	
	1956	1957	1956	1957
Coast .....No.	95	84	89	87
Interior .....No.	290	293	319	303
Total, British Columbia ..No.	385	377	408	390

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

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