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Research Dept

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

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 430,839 M ft. in June, 1958 as compared with 401,142 M ft. in June, 1957 an increase of 7.4 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 7.0 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which accounts for 51.6 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 14.1 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 48.4 p.c. showed an increase of 1.1 p.c. Shipments in June, 1958 totalled 461,767 M ft. as compared with 460,381 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 0.3 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 3.9 p.c. but Interior mills an increase of 5.6 p.c. Total shipments for June increased by 13.4 p.c. over the May figure of 407,255 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of June, 1958 amounted to 547,149 M ft., as compared with 524,310 M ft. at the end of June the previous year and 552,087 M ft. at the end of May of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 276,372 M ft., while Interior mills showed 270,777 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 May and June, 1957 and 1958. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 374,277 M ft. in May, 1957 to 401,142 M ft. in June, 1957 and from 402,602 M ft. in May, 1958 to 430,839 M ft. in June, 1958. Shipments totalled 407,255 M ft. in May, 1958 and 461,767 M ft. in June, 1958 as compared with 440,371 M ft. in May and 460,381 M ft. in June of 1957. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 593,689 M ft. in May, 1957 to 524,310 M ft. in June and decreased from 552,087 M ft. in May, 1958 to 547,149 M ft. in June 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 220,272 M ft. in June, 1958, as compared with 206,072 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 2,058 M ft. in June as compared with 2,437 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 51.6 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in June, 1958 as compared with 48.6 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during May, 1958 and 1957 respectively, were 57.3 and 55.0 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 245,954 M ft. in June of 1958 and 226,258 M ft. in May, 1958 as compared with 255,926 M ft. in June, 1957 and 242,630 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 215,813 M ft. and 204,455 M ft. in June, 1958 and 1957 and 180,997 M ft. and 197,741 M ft. in May, 1958 and 1957. Of all shipments actually reported for June, 44.0 p.c. went to points in Canada, 39.4 p.c. to points in United States, 8.4 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 8.2 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 29.1 p.c. of the total, while 44.1 p.c. went by rail, and 26.8 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 May and June, 1958 amounted to 291,626 M ft. and 276,372 M ft. as compared with 268,933 M ft. and 226,953 M ft. in May and June of 1957. Interior mills stocks decreased from 324,726 M ft. in May to 297,357 M ft. in June, 1957 but increased from 260,461 M ft. in May to 270,777 M ft. in June, 1958. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 37.1 p.c. of the total in June, 1958 as compared with 39.3 p.c. in June, 1957 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 90.1 and 92.9.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of May and June, 1957 and 1958 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 June, 1958 amounted to 260,669 M ft. as compared with 220,226 M ft. in June, 1957. Orders on hand at the end of May, 1958 and 1957 amounted to 249,603 M ft. and 256,923 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 10,775 M ft. in June, 1958 and 10,750 M ft. in June, 1957 as compared with 8,894 M ft. in May, 1958 and 10,280 M ft. in May, 1957.

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 June accounted for 80.5 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1956 compared with 79.0 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for May, 1957 and 1958 were 77.9 and 80.7 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, June, 1958.

	June		May		6 Months	
	1957	1958	1957	1958	1957	1958
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	185,531	192,368	168,964	180,814	925,742	1,028,135
Hemlock	73,594	75,923	77,460	76,071	425,646	432,418
Balsam Fir	2,816	2,412	3,394	3,413	20,778	18,994
Red Cedar	36,384	52,929	36,890	52,414	196,771	269,506
Spruce	79,870	80,177	64,868	66,174	409,243	423,774
White Pine	4,214	5,478	6,725	6,078	26,381	30,867
Ponderosa Pine	4,092	4,438	5,438	3,829	18,304	17,761
Lodgepole Pine	6,247	7,828	4,847	6,888	38,788	46,351
All other softwoods ..	7,958	9,020	5,256	6,506	37,567	42,958
Total softwoods ...	400,706	430,573	373,842	402,187	2,099,220	2,310,764
Red Alder	110	46	71	175	440	442
Maple	187	148	215	123	918	888
Birch	41	41	54	56	199	204
Cottonwood	98	31	95	61	333	219
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods ...	436	266	435	415	1,890	1,753
Total production	401,142	430,839	374,277	402,602	2,101,110	2,312,517
SHIPMENTS						
TO: Points in Canada ...	182,409	173,623	145,856	137,844	772,031	777,021
Points in U.S.A. ...	123,315	155,372	134,065	147,459	692,831	801,463
United Kingdom	41,053	32,969	31,186	36,623	171,108	211,786
Other Countries	38,389	32,512	39,368	28,457	191,462	191,298
Shipments reported	385,166	394,476	350,475	350,383	1,827,432	1,981,568
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills ..	75,215	67,291	89,896	56,872	377,030	342,023
Total shipments	460,381	461,767	440,371	407,255	2,204,462	2,323,591
STOCKS ON HAND						
	June		May			
	1957	1958	1957	1958		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir	170,779	205,789	181,433	204,246		
Hemlock	91,206	93,154	114,604	94,102		
Balsam Fir	1,260	259	1,170	269		
Red Cedar	52,908	71,692	60,948	70,730		
Spruce	166,873	139,353	185,983	148,571		
White Pine	13,245	14,856	15,454	14,565		
Ponderosa Pine	18,221	13,249	20,085	11,029		
Lodgepole Pine	5,382	5,151	8,999	6,076		
All other softwoods ..	4,070	3,318	4,637	2,339		
Total softwoods ...	523,944	546,821	593,313	551,927		
Red Alder	62	9	-	-		
Maple	62	107	43	103		
Birch	4	31	4	6		
Cottonwood	235	180	326	50		
All other hardwoods ..	3	1	3	1		
Total hardwoods ...	366	328	376	160		
Total stocks	524,310	547,149	593,689	552,087		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, June, 1958

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	89,356	4,236	93,592	64,330	31,086	95,416
Hemlock	70,048	1,239	71,287	3,018	1,596	4,614
Balsam Fir	781	169	950	443	927	1,370
Red Cedar	46,761	1,245	48,006	4,117	805	4,922
Spruce	4,953	311	5,264	48,807	26,097	74,904
White Pine	732	3	735	3,072	1,671	4,743
Ponderosa Pine	13	2	15	2,944	1,442	4,386
Lodgepole Pine	-	43	43	1,865	5,262	7,127
All other softwoods ..	123	10	133	3,211	5,360	8,571
Total, softwoods ..	212,767	7,258	220,025	131,807	74,246	206,053
Red Alder	19	27	46	-	-	-
Maple	116	27	143	-	5	5
Birch	25	9	34	-	7	7
Cottonwood	15	9	24	1	6	7
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	175	72	247	1	18	19
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	212,942	7,330	220,272	131,808	74,264	206,072
TIES						
Douglas Fir	1,943	110	2,053	368	939	1,307
Hemlock	-	4	4	-	18	18
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	92	92
Red Cedar	-	1	1	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	6	3	9
White Pine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	-	37	37
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	55	603	658
All other softwoods ..	-	-	-	222	94	316
Total, softwoods	1,943	115	2,058	651	1,786	2,437
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	1,943	115	2,058	651	1,786	2,437
LUMBER AND TIES	214,885	7,445	222,330	132,459	76,050	208,509

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, June, 1958

	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	63,650	1,967	2,065	67,682
Yukon and Northwest Territories		2	-	2
Alberta		2,379	xxxxxxx	2,379
Saskatchewan		1,057	xxxxxxx	1,057
Manitoba		1,647	xxxxxxx	1,647
Ontario		8,704	-	8,704
Quebec		2,302	585	2,887
New Brunswick		405	-	405
Nova Scotia		175	-	175
Prince Edward Island		5	-	5
Newfoundland		288	-	288
Total for Canada	63,650	18,931	2,650	85,231
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports	222	1,257	-	1,479
Atlantic Ports		1,756	47,251	49,007
Other points, by rail		38,955	xxxxxxx	38,955
Total for U.S.A.	222	41,968	47,251	89,441
United Kingdomx		198	31,916	32,114
Other countriesx		58	32,454	32,512
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	63,872	61,155	114,271	239,298
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				6,656
Total shipments, reported and estimated				245,954
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	38,883	4,311	-	43,194
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta	2,728	8,976	xxxxxxx	11,704
Saskatchewan		6,844	xxxxxxx	6,844
Manitoba		7,667	xxxxxxx	7,667
Ontario		16,192	-	16,192
Quebec		2,674	-	2,674
New Brunswick		30	-	30
Nova Scotia		87	-	87
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		-	-	-
Total for Canada	41,611	46,781	-	88,392
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports	281	145	-	426
Atlantic Ports		663	-	663
Other points, by rail		64,842	xxxxxxx	64,842
Total for U.S.A.	281	65,650	-	65,931
United Kingdomx		510	345	855
Other countriesx		-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	41,892	112,941	345	155,178
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				60,635
Total shipments, reported and estimated				215,813

x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills, June, 1958

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	73,706	2,554	76,260	6,708	3,851	10,559
Hemlock	60,643	2,101	62,744	700	402	1,102
Balsam Fir	71	2	73	-	-	-
Red Cedar	29,551	1,024	30,575	535	307	842
Spruce	2,302	80	2,382	7,468	4,288	11,756
White Pine	1,762	61	1,823	1,377	791	2,168
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	239	137	376
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other softwoods ..	7	-	7	-	-	-
Total, softwoods ..	168,042	5,822	173,864	17,027	9,776	26,803
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	48	2	50	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	48	2	50	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	168,090	5,824	173,914	17,027	9,776	26,803
<u>UNSOLD</u>						
Douglas Fir	38,031	1,318	39,349	50,581	29,040	79,621
Hemlock	21,664	751	22,415	4,379	2,514	6,893
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	118	68	186
Red Cedar	33,638	1,165	34,803	3,476	1,996	5,472
Spruce	3,690	128	3,818	77,120	44,277	121,397
White Pine	1,767	61	1,828	5,741	3,296	9,037
Ponderosa Pine	96	3	99	8,115	4,659	12,774
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	3,272	1,879	5,151
All other softwoods ..	50	2	52	2,070	1,189	3,259
Total, softwoods ..	98,936	3,428	102,364	154,872	88,918	243,790
Red Alder	9	-	9	-	-	-
Maple	55	2	57	-	-	-
Birch	24	1	25	4	2	6
Cottonwood	2	-	2	113	65	178
All other hardwoods ..	1	-	1	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	91	3	94	117	67	184
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	99,027	3,431	102,458	154,989	88,985	243,974
SOLD AND UNSOLD	267,117	9,255	276,372	172,016	98,761	270,777

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of June, 1958 and

Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	June		May	
	1957	1958	1957	1958
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipments to points in British Columbia				
Local	18,266	17,522	23,086	17,082
Coastwise and Interior	3,788	4,350	4,680	4,632
Total	22,054	21,872	27,766	21,714
For shipments by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	5,304	4,500	8,271	4,753
Eastern Provinces	9,363	11,775	13,553	10,997
United States of America	34,954	45,922	47,176	45,634
Total	49,621	62,197	69,000	61,384
For waterborne shipments to:				
California	-	-	925	-
U.S. Atlantic Ports	12,943	89,122	17,177	68,944
Eastern Markets	600	200	1,300	-
Exports Markets	135,008	87,278	140,755	97,561
Total	148,551	176,600	160,157	166,505
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	220,226	260,669	256,923	249,603
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM				
OTHER MILLS	10,750	10,775	10,280	8,894

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

June, 1958

	June		May	
	1957	1958	1957	1958
Coast No.	91	89	85	84
Interior No.	289	270	243	259
Total, British Columbia ... No.	380	359	328	343

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

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