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PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS ON HAND OF SAWMILLS

IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

SEPTEMBER, 1947

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 236,876 M ft. in September, as compared with 217,117 M ft. in August, an increase of 9.1 p.c. Production of Coast mills, which account for 70.3 p.c. of the total, increased by 19.2 p.c., while the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 29.7 p.c., showed a decrease of 9.2 p.c. Shipments in September totalled 222,344 M ft., as compared with 207,288 M ft. the previous month, an increase of 7.3 p.c., with Coast mills registering an increase of 9.9 p.c. and Interior mills a decrease of .3 p.c. Stocks on hand at the end of September amounted to 246,342 M ft., as compared with 228,580 M ft. at the end of August. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 159,090 M ft. while Interior mills showed 87,252 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, August and September. Details by species are given for production and stocks, while shipments are shown by destination. Total production declined from 225,626 M ft. in July to 217,117 M ft. in August but increased to 236,876 M ft. in September. Shipments totalled 208,083 M ft. in July, 207,288 M ft. in August and 222,344 M ft. in September. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 227,954 M ft. in July to 228,580 M ft. in August and to 246,342 M ft. in September.

Production

Table 2 gives particulars of lumber and tie production, by months, 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 157,823 M ft. in September, as compared with 66,064 M ft., reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 8,942 M ft. in September, as compared with 4,247 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 70.3 per cent of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in September, as compared with 64.3 p.c. in August.

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 to 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 reshipped to other provinces or exported by the purchasers and be reported by them also, thereby causing a certain amount of duplication.

Shipments of Coast mills amounted to 168,707 M ft. in September as compared with 153,513 M ft. in August, while the Interior mills shipped 53,637 M ft., and 53,775 M ft. during the corresponding months. Of all shipments actually reported for September, 43.6 p.c. went to points in Canada, 13.9 p.c. to points in the United States, 29.8 p.c. to the United Kingdom, and 12.2 p.c. to other countries. Shipments to unspecified destinations accounted for the remainder (0.5 p.c.). Waterborne shipments accounted for 41.4 p.c. of the total, while 37.2 p.c. went by rail, about 20.9 p.c. by truck and 0.5 p.c. by unspecified carriers.

Stocks

Table 4 gives particulars of stocks of lumber and ties of 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 September amounted to 159,090 M ft., as compared with 155,404 M ft. in August. Interior mills' stocks, however, increased from 73,176 M ft. in August to 87,252 M ft. in September. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 37.4 p.c. of the total in September, as compared with 38.1 p.c. in August for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were respectively 80.9 and 69.0.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of July, August and September 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 shipment are shown in this table, which also gives total lumber purchases reported by some mills. Total orders on hand at the end of September amounted to 531,099 M ft., as compared with 540,540 M ft. in August and 564,884 M ft. in July. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 5,347 M ft. in July, 4,297 M ft. in August and 8,720 M ft. in September.

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 September accounted for 85.3 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1945, and the percentages for July and August were 82.9 p.c. and 81.8 p.c. 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, Western Lumber Manufacturers' Association of Canada, 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, September, 1947.

	September M ft.b.m.	August M ft.b.m.	July M ft.b.m.	9 Months M ft.b.m.
PRODUCTION				
Douglas Fir	115,048	103,137	113,436	991,842
Hemlock	47,574	42,577	40,152	392,399
Balsam Fir	2,638	2,548	2,269	15,930
Red Cedar	23,207	16,501	20,839	197,401
Spruce	33,346	36,927	31,679	218,423
White Pine	2,561	3,257	2,689	24,481
Ponderosa Pine	3,420	3,901	4,872	31,396
Lodgepole Pine	722	808	738	5,448
All other softwoods	6,668	6,106	7,093	51,915
Total, softwoods	235,184	215,762	223,767	1,929,235
Red Alder	437	432	533	3,941
Maple	357	297	371	2,781
Birch	79	87	105	775
Cottonwood	819	539	850	6,516
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	3
Total, hardwoods	1,692	1,355	1,859	14,016
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	236,876	217,117	225,626	1,943,251
SHIPMENTS				
To: Points in Canada	86,030	83,397	90,206	775,875
Points in U.S.A.	27,528	16,202	11,465	163,985
United Kingdom	58,826	55,559	53,857	497,268
Other countries	24,155	24,107	26,036	265,031
Destination not specified ...	949	452	833	6,512
Total shipments reported	197,488	179,717	182,397	1,708,671
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills	24,856	27,571	25,686	204,474
Total shipments, reported and estimated	222,344	207,288	208,083	1,913,145
STOCKS ON HAND				
	30 September M ft.	31 August M ft.	31 July M ft.	
Douglas Fir	107,212	102,188	102,317	
Hemlock	44,321	43,301	47,292	
Balsam Fir	2,002	1,685	1,370	
Red Cedar	21,247	21,366	20,354	
Spruce	44,932	37,637	31,124	
White Pine	8,258	8,186	7,948	
Ponderosa Pine	9,706	6,528	8,396	
Lodgepole Pine	828	942	669	
All other softwoods	5,970	4,687	6,545	
Total, softwoods	244,476	226,520	226,015	
Red Alder	411	540	471	
Maple	327	410	373	
Birch	130	103	106	
Cottonwood	998	1,007	988	
All other hardwoods	-	-	1	
Total, hardwoods	1,866	2,060	1,939	
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	246,342	228,580	227,954	

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn
September, 1947

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>LUMBER</u>						
Douglas Fir.....	85,149	3,121	88,270	11,063	6,282	17,345
Hemlock	39,262	732	39,994	4,004	1,839	5,843
Balsam Fir	1,403	116	1,519	163	877	1,040
Red Cedar	19,650	945	20,595	1,309	880	2,189
Spruce	3,563	390	3,953	19,681	9,624	29,305
White Pine	1,324	20	1,344	680	537	1,217
Ponderosa Pine	28	2	30	1,484	1,890	3,374
Lodgepole Pine	-	3	3	79	437	516
All other softwoods.	517	2	519	2,330	2,622	4,952
Total, softwoods .	150,896	5,331	156,227	40,793	24,988	65,781
Red Alder	127	310	437	-	-	-
Maple	75	282	357	-	-	-
Birch	2	56	58	-	8	8
Cottonwood	-	544	544	137	138	275
All other hardwoods.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	204	1,192	1,396	137	146	283
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	151,100	6,523	157,623	40,930	25,134	66,064
<u>TIES</u>						
Douglas Fir	6,035	655	6,690	1,675	1,068	2,743
Hemlock	1,630	61	1,691	27	19	46
Balsam Fir	-	60	60	-	19	19
Red Cedar	28	394	422	-	1	1
Spruce	-	52	52	-	36	36
White Pine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	-	16	16
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	-	203	203
All other softwoods.	-	27	27	593	577	1,170
Total, softwoods .	7,693	1,249	8,942	2,295	1,939	4,234
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	13	13
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	13	13
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	7,693	1,249	8,942	2,295	1,952	4,247
LUMBER AND TIES	158,793	7,772	166,565	43,225	27,086	70,311

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties
September, 1947

	By Truck (Local Sales)	By Rail	Waterborne	Total Shipments
	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
<u>COAST MILLS</u>				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia	35,793	3,989	1,187	40,969
Alberta		2,126	xxxxx	2,126
Saskatchewan		1,834	xxxxx	1,834
Manitoba		2,969	xxxxx	2,969
Ontario		8,990	-	8,990
Quebec		3,260	-	3,260
New Brunswick		352	-	352
Nova Scotia		671	-	671
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Total for Canada	35,793	24,191	1,187	61,171
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports		227	1,041	1,268
Atlantic Ports		207	-	207
Other points, by rail		16,629	xxxxx	16,629
Total for U.S.A.		17,063	1,041	18,104
United Kingdom x		910	55,755	56,665
Other countries x		491	23,481	23,972
Destination or carrier not specified				949
Total shipments reported	35,793	42,655	81,464	160,861
Estimated shipments of				
non-reporting mills				7,846
Total shipments, reported and estimated				168,707
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia	5,507	2,512	21	8,040
Alberta	55	3,776	xxxxx	3,831
Saskatchewan		2,148	xxxxx	2,148
Manitoba		4,056	xxxxx	4,056
Ontario		5,828	-	5,828
Quebec		697	-	697
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		259	-	259
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Total for Canada	5,562	19,276	21	24,859
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports		731	-	731
Atlantic Ports		157	-	157
Other points, by rail		8,536	xxxxx	8,536
Total for U.S.A.		9,424	-	9,424
United Kingdom x		1,915	246	2,161
Other countries x		129	54	183
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	5,562	30,744	321	36,627
Estimated shipments of				
non-reporting mills				17,010
Total shipments, reported and estimated				53,637
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills
September, 1947

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	58,612	2,257	60,869	3,070	1,743	4,813
Hemlock	18,493	474	18,967	962	440	1,402
Balsam Fir	301	105	406	2	212	214
Red Cedar	12,748	801	13,549	526	209	735
Spruce	1,534	264	1,798	3,037	2,290	5,327
White Pine	2,819	12	2,831	1,571	127	1,698
Ponderosa Pine	157	1	158	648	452	1,100
Lodgepole Pine	-	2	2	-	152	152
All other softwoods ..	58	17	75	275	758	1,033
Total, softwoods ...	94,722	3,933	98,655	10,091	6,383	16,474
Red Alder	115	185	300	-	-	-
Maple	57	169	226	-	-	-
Birch	32	34	66	-	5	5
Cottonwood	-	325	325	156	33	189
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	204	713	917	156	38	194
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	94,926	4,646	99,572	10,247	6,421	16,668
<u>UNSOLD</u>						
Douglas Fir	26,938	1,349	28,287	5,863	7,380	13,243
Hemlock	20,768	283	21,051	1,036	1,865	2,901
Balsam Fir	234	63	297	185	900	1,085
Red Cedar	4,631	479	5,110	969	884	1,853
Spruce	1,168	158	1,326	26,785	9,696	36,481
White Pine	2,205	7	2,212	979	538	1,517
Ponderosa Pine	49	1	50	6,484	1,914	8,398
Lodgepole Pine	-	1	1	30	643	673
All other softwoods ..	747	10	757	894	3,211	4,105
Total, softwoods ...	56,740	2,351	59,091	43,225	27,031	70,256
Red Alder	-	111	111	-	-	-
Maple	-	101	101	-	-	-
Birch	-	20	20	18	21	39
Cottonwood	1	194	195	150	139	289
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	1	426	427	168	160	328
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	56,741	2,777	59,518	43,393	27,191	70,584
SOLD AND UNSOLD	151,667	7,423	159,090	53,640	33,612	87,252

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of September, 1947, and Lumber Purchased from Other Mills During Those Months (Coast Mills Only).

	Month ending:-		
	30 September	31 August	31 July
	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>			
For shipment to points in British Columbia:			
Local	30,080	26,638	25,848
Coastwise and interior	10,608	12,050	12,375
Total	40,688	38,688	38,223
For shipment by rail to:			
Prairie Provinces	17,541	18,884	19,615
Eastern Provinces	29,573	27,153	31,201
United States of America	29,247	26,953	25,561
Total	76,361	72,990	76,377
For waterborne shipment to:			
California	-	550	-
U. S. Atlantic Ports	240	25	-
Eastern Canada	20	2,000	-
Export Markets	413,790	426,287	450,284
Total	414,050	428,862	450,284
<u>TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND</u>	531,099	540,540	564,884
	September	August	July
	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
<u>LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS</u>	8,720	4,297	5,347

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting, September, 1947.

	September	August	July
	No.	No.	No.
Coast	109	110	110
Interior	118	117	120
Total, British Columbia	227	227	230

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

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