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PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS ON HAND OF SAWMILLS  
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA  
NOVEMBER, 1948

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 222,174 M ft. in November 1948 as compared with 196,005 M ft. in November 1947, an increase of 13.4 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 7.1 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 77.7 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 9.3 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 22.3 p.c. showed an increase of 30.1 p.c. Shipments in November 1948 totalled 199,663 M ft., as compared with 215,728 M ft. the previous year, a decrease of 7.4 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 9.2 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 0.3 p.c. Total shipments for November decreased by 3.8 p.c. from the October figure of 207,467 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of November 1948, amounted to 296,982 M ft. as compared with 236,365 M ft. the previous year and 266,541 M ft. at the end of October of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 210,974 M ft., while Interior mills showed 86,008 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 November, 1947 and 1948, and October, 1947 and 1948. Details by species are given for production and stocks, while shipments are shown by destination. Total production decreased from 240,084 M ft. in October to 196,005 M ft. in November 1947 but increased from 207,383 M ft. in October 1948 to 222,174 M ft. in November. Shipments totalled 207,467 M ft. in October and 199,663 M ft. in November of this year as compared with 233,220 M ft. and 215,728 M ft. during the corresponding months last year. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 247,333 M ft. in October 1947 to 236,365 M ft. in November but increased from 266,541 M ft. in October 1948 to 296,982 M ft. in November.

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 166,498 M ft. in November, as compared with 48,333 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 6,174 M ft. in November as compared with 1,169 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 77.7 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in November, 1948, as compared with 80.6 p.c. the previous year. The percentages for Coast mills during October, 1948 and 1947, respectively were 74.1 and 74.2 p.c.

### 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 reshipped 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 159,519 M ft. in November of 1948 and 160,041 M ft. in October as compared with 175,695 M ft. and 183,262 M ft. in the corresponding months of the previous year, while the Interior mills shipped 40,144 M ft. and 47,426 M ft. in 1948, and 40,033 M ft. and 49,958 M ft. during the corresponding months of the previous year. Of all shipments actually reported for November, 51.0 p.c. went to points in Canada, 17.5 p.c. to points in United States, 14.4 per cent to the United Kingdom, and 16.0 p.c. to other countries. Shipments to unspecified destinations accounted for the remainder (1.1 p.c.). Waterborne shipments accounted for 32.2 p.c. of the total, while 45.0 p.c. went by rail, about 21.7 p.c. by truck and 1.1 p.c. by unspecified carriers.

### 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 October and November of this year amounted to 177,378 M ft. and 210,974 M ft. as compared with 160,388 M ft. and 152,557 M ft. in October and November of 1947. Interior mills stocks decreased from 86,945 M ft. in October 1947 to 83,808 M ft. in November 1947, and from 89,163 M ft. in October 1948 to 86,008 M ft. in November 1948. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 34.4 p.c. of the total in November 1948, as compared with 35.0 p.c. in November 1947 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively 85.5 and 80.8.

### Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of October and November, 1947 and 1948, 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 November, 1948, amounted to 285,207 M ft., as compared with 544,208 M ft. in November 1947. Orders on hand at the end of October 1948 and 1947, amounted to 307,257 M ft. and 571,906 M ft., **respectively**. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 7,297 M ft. in November, 1947, 6,811 M ft. in November, 1948, as compared with 7,725 M ft. in October, 1947 and 10,948 M ft. in October, 1948.

### 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 November accounted for 77.9 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1945, compared with 88.5 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for October 1947 and 1948 were 85.4 and 82.2, **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, 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, November, 1948

	November		October		11 Months	
	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<b>PRODUCTION</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	116,930	106,685	106,858	122,614	1,226,852	1,221,141
Hemlock .....	46,756	41,936	39,298	47,784	504,901	482,119
Balsam Fir .....	1,406	1,697	1,030	2,106	16,116	19,733
Red Cedar .....	24,233	22,419	21,996	26,097	241,894	245,917
Spruce .....	19,126	12,478	24,187	27,464	275,700	258,365
White Pine .....	2,572	2,050	2,842	3,063	35,749	29,594
Ponderosa Pine .....	2,747	2,289	3,076	2,477	35,820	36,162
Lodgepole Pine .....	571	443	581	623	6,591	6,514
All other softwoods .....	6,602	4,744	6,535	6,449	65,567	63,108
Total softwoods .....	220,943	194,741	206,403	238,677	2,409,190	2,362,653
Red Alder .....	432	296	430	386	4,389	4,623
Maple .....	243	281	180	303	2,533	3,365
Birch .....	62	65	58	79	814	919
Cottonwood .....	494	622	312	639	5,867	7,777
All other hardwoods .....	-	-	-	-	6	3
Total hardwoods .....	1,231	1,264	980	1,407	13,609	16,687
Total softwoods & hard- woods .....	222,174	196,005	207,383	240,084	2,422,799	2,379,340
<b>SHIPMENTS</b>						
To: Points in Canada .....	85,421	79,765	88,959	89,047	983,020	944,687
Points in U.S.A. ....	29,390	30,150	44,289	32,446	516,334	226,581
United Kingdom .....	24,061	58,289	26,588	63,884	358,081	619,441
Other countries .....	26,754	27,197	19,034	22,043	213,982	314,271
Destination not specified .....	1,915	1,699	1,849	836	16,238	9,047
Total shipments reported .....	167,541	197,100	180,719	208,256	2,087,655	2,114,027
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....	32,122	18,628	26,748	24,964	342,079	248,066
Total shipments reported and estimated .....	199,663	215,728	207,467	233,220	2,429,734	2,362,093
<b>STOCKS ON HAND</b>						
	November		October			
	1948	1947	1948	1947		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir .....	142,478	107,655	121,079	107,307		
Hemlock .....	57,407	38,314	46,581	42,221		
Balsam Fir .....	1,942	1,791	1,594	2,689		
Red Cedar .....	28,236	23,529	26,451	24,970		
Spruce .....	38,332	41,702	43,716	46,303		
White Pine .....	7,297	6,660	7,205	6,890		
Ponderosa Pine .....	6,775	7,048	7,180	6,172		
Lodgepole Pine .....	658	1,172	833	1,213		
All other softwoods .....	12,529	6,734	10,900	7,593		
Total softwoods .....	295,654	234,605	265,539	245,358		
Red Alder .....	332	439	280	491		
Maple .....	250	326	197	372		
Birch .....	86	105	93	129		
Cottonwood .....	660	890	432	983		
All other hardwoods .....	-	-	-	-		
Total hardwoods .....	1,328	1,760	1,002	1,975		
Total softwoods & hard- woods .....	296,982	236,365	266,541	247,333		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn  
November, 1948

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 .....	86,742	9,379	96,121	8,718	7,630	16,348
Hemlock .....	32,729	8,302	41,031	1,680	1,975	3,655
Balsam Fir .....	392	108	500	137	735	872
Red Cedar .....	19,924	1,740	21,664	1,030	1,231	2,261
Spruce .....	3,257	475	3,732	6,709	8,630	15,339
White Pine .....	1,504	153	1,657	347	568	915
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	3	3	1,234	1,504	2,738
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	3	3	183	330	513
All other softwoods .	710	2	712	1,527	4,012	5,539
Total, softwoods ..	145,258	20,165	165,423	21,565	26,615	48,180
Red Alder .....	258	174	432	-	-	-
Maple .....	125	118	243	-	-	-
Birch .....	8	45	53	-	6	6
Cottonwood .....	115	232	347	6	141	147
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	506	569	1,075	6	147	153
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	145,764	20,734	166,498	21,571	26,762	48,333
<b>TIES</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	3,192	456	3,648	453	360	813
Hemlock .....	1,880	162	2,042	22	6	28
Balsam Fir .....	-	29	29	-	5	5
Red Cedar .....	39	269	308	-	-	-
Spruce .....	-	43	43	2	10	12
White Pine .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ponderosa Pine ...	-	-	-	-	6	6
Lodgepole Pine ....	-	-	-	10	45	55
All other softwoods	85	19	104	76	171	247
Total softwoods ..	5,196	978	6,174	563	603	1,166
Red Alder .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	-	-	-	3	3
Cottonwood .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	3	3
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	5,196	978	6,174	563	606	1,169
<b>LUMBER AND TIES</b>	<b>150,960</b>	<b>21,712</b>	<b>172,672</b>	<b>22,134</b>	<b>27,368</b>	<b>49,502</b>

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties  
November, 1948

	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: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia .....	31,131	5,453	795	37,379
Alberta .....		3,327	xxxxxx	3,327
Saskatchewan .....		3,480	xxxxxx	3,480
Manitoba .....		5,295	xxxxxx	5,295
Ontario .....		10,480	-	10,480
Quebec .....		3,046	-	3,046
New Brunswick .....		214	-	214
Nova Scotia .....		231	-	231
Prince Edward Island .....		-	-	-
Total for Canada .....	31,131	31,526	795	63,452
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports .....		671	188	859
Atlantic Ports .....		627	4,358	4,985
Other points, by rail .....		19,215	xxxxxx	19,215
Total for U.S.A. ....		20,513	4,546	25,059
United Kingdom .....	x	1,030	22,876	23,906
Other countries .....	x	1,009	25,688	26,697
Destination or carrier not specified .....				1,915
Total shipments reported .....	31,131	54,078	53,905	141,029
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....				18,490
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....				159,519
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia .....	5,229	2,423	-	7,652
Alberta .....	29	5,255	xxxxxx	5,284
Saskatchewan .....		2,592	xxxxxx	2,592
Manitoba .....		2,478	xxxxxx	2,478
Ontario .....		3,825	-	3,825
Quebec .....		138	-	138
New Brunswick .....		-	-	-
Nova Scotia .....		-	-	-
Prince Edward Island .....		-	-	-
Total for Canada .....	5,258	16,711	-	21,969
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports .....		17	-	17
Atlantic Ports .....		96	-	96
Other points, by rail .....		4,218	xxxxxx	4,218
Total for U.S.A. ....		4,331	-	4,331
United Kingdom .....	x	103	52	155
Other countries .....	x	57	-	57
Destination or carrier not specified .....				-
Total shipments reported .....	5,258	21,202	52	26,512
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....				13,632
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....				40,144
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				



Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills  
November, 1948

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>SOLD (but not shipped)</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	69,771	7,884	77,655	970	2,019	2,989
Hemlock .....	29,481	6,784	36,265	-	501	501
Balsam Fir .....	289	110	399	-	187	187
Red Cedar .....	15,718	1,610	17,328	36	311	347
Spruce .....	2,370	415	2,785	1,800	2,184	3,984
White Pine .....	2,763	124	2,887	1,791	144	1,935
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	2	2	312	382	694
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	2	2	-	95	95
All other softwoods ..	303	17	320	686	1,057	1,743
Total, softwoods ...	120,695	16,948	137,643	5,595	6,880	12,475
Red Alder .....	117	139	256	-	-	-
Maple .....	84	95	179	-	-	-
Birch .....	12	36	48	-	2	2
Cottonwood .....	102	186	288	-	36	36
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	315	456	771	-	38	38
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	121,010	17,404	138,414	5,595	6,918	12,513
<b>UNSOLD</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	39,747	4,133	43,880	6,094	11,860	17,954
Hemlock .....	12,842	3,557	16,399	1,300	2,942	4,242
Balsam Fir .....	163	58	221	36	1,099	1,135
Red Cedar .....	6,655	844	7,499	1,236	1,826	3,062
Spruce .....	1,311	217	1,528	17,209	12,826	30,035
White Pine .....	625	65	690	940	845	1,785
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	1	1	3,835	2,243	6,078
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	1	1	2	558	560
All other softwoods ..	2,069	9	2,078	2,177	6,211	8,388
Total, softwoods ...	63,412	8,885	72,297	32,829	40,410	73,239
Red Alder .....	3	73	76	-	-	-
Maple .....	21	50	71	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	19	19	4	13	17
Cottonwood .....	-	97	97	29	210	239
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	24	239	263	33	223	256
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	63,436	9,124	72,560	32,862	40,633	73,495
<b>SOLD AND UNSOLD</b> ..	184,446	26,528	210,974	38,457	47,551	86,008

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of November, 1948 and Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

		Month ending -			
		November		October	
		1948	1947	1948	1947
		M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<b>ORDERS ON HAND</b>					
<b>For shipment to points in British Columbia</b>					
Local .....		16,645	27,135	19,516	28,434
Coastwise and interior .....		4,362	8,943	5,892	9,266
Total .....		21,007	36,078	25,408	37,700
<b>For shipment by rail to:</b>					
Prairie Provinces .....		13,851	16,520	17,451	17,597
Eastern Provinces .....		27,971	32,926	28,320	35,059
United States of America .....		25,251	38,114	21,484	33,590
Total .....		67,073	87,560	67,255	86,246
<b>For waterborne shipment to:</b>					
California .....		845	-	791	-
U.S. Atlantic Ports .....		7,966	-	1,757	-
Eastern Canada .....		13,199	147	-	2,298
Export Markets .....		175,117	420,423	212,046	445,662
Total .....		197,127	420,570	214,594	447,960
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND .....		285,207	544,208	307,257	571,906
		November		October	
		1948	1947	1948	1947
<b>LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS</b>					
MILLS .....		6,811	7,297	10,948	7,725

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting, November, 1948

		November		October	
		1948	1947	1948	1947
Coast .....	No.	105	114	108	110
Interior .....	No.	92	106	93	108
Total, British Columbia .....	No.	197	220	201	218

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

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