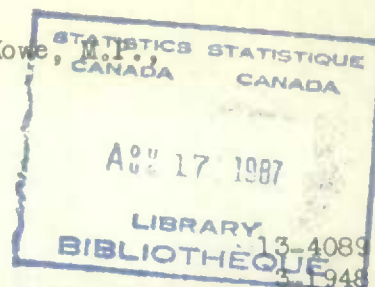


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PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS ON HAND OF SAWMILLS
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

JUL 28 1948

March, 1948

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 228,256 M ft. in March, 1948, as compared with 200,500 M ft. in March, 1947, an increase of 13.8 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 8.5 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 77.5 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 7.6 p.c. over the same month the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 22.5 p.c., showed an increase of 42.4 p.c. Shipments in March, 1948 totalled 229,727 M ft., as compared with 228,877 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 0.4 p.c., with Coast mills registering a decrease of 6.6 p.c., and Interior mills an increase of 33.7 p.c. Total shipments for March increased by 7.3 p.c. over the February figure of 214,183 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of March, 1948 amounted to 276,031 M ft., as compared with 209,763 M ft. the previous year and 255,573 M ft. at the end of February of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 197,671 M ft., while Interior mills showed 78,360 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 March, 1947 and 1948, and February, 1947 and 1948. Details by species are given for production and stocks, while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 189,312 M ft. in February to 200,500 M ft. in March of 1947 and from 210,468 M ft. in February, 1948 to 228,256 M ft. in March. Shipments totalled 214,183 M ft. in February and 229,727 M ft. in March of this year as compared with 193,325 M ft. and 228,877 M ft. during the corresponding months last year. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 230,700 M ft. in February, 1947 to 209,763 M ft. in March, but increased to 255,573 M ft. in February, 1948 and to 276,031 M ft. in March.

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 168,678 M ft. in March, as compared with 47,352 M ft., reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 8,235 M ft. in March, as compared with 3,991 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 77.5 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in March, 1948, as compared with 82.0 p.c. the previous year. The percentages for Coast Mills during February, 1948 and 1947, respectively, were 79.8 p.c. and 81.4 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 177,008 M ft. in March, 1948 and 166,358 M ft. in February as compared with 189,447 M ft. and 154,874 M ft. in the corresponding months of the previous year, while the Interior mills shipped 52,719 M ft., and 47,825 M ft. in 1948, and 39,430 M ft. and 38,451 M ft. during the corresponding months of the previous year. Of all shipments actually reported for March, 52.1 p.c. went to points in Canada, 25.6 p.c. to points in the United States, 14.8 p.c. to the United Kingdom, and 6.8 p.c. to other countries. Shipments to unspecified destinations accounted for the remainder (0.7 p.c.). Waterborne shipments accounted for 28.4 p.c. of the total, while 47.4 p.c. went by rail, about 23.5 p.c. by truck and 0.7 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 February and March of this year amounted to 184,981 M ft., and 197,671 M ft., as compared with 176,600 M ft. and 157,516 M ft. in February, and March of 1947. Interior mills stocks decreased from 54,100 M ft. in February, 1947 to 52,247 M ft. in March, 1947, but increased from 70,592 M ft. in February, 1948 to 78,360 M ft. in March, 1948. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 32.9 p.c. of the total in March, 1948, as compared with 24.2 p.c. in March, 1947 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were respectively, 82.1 and 66.4.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of February and March, 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 March, 1948, amounted to 536,190 M ft., as compared with 524,905 M ft. in March, 1947. Orders on hand at the end of February, 1948 and 1947, amounted to 529,149 M ft. and 466,724 M ft. respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 7,359 M ft. in March, 1947, 5,417 M ft. in March, 1948, as compared with 4,968 M ft. in February, 1947, and 4,791 M ft. in February, 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 March accounted for 88.2 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1945, compared with 89.4 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for February 1947 and 1948 were 90.4 and 89.1 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, March, 1948.

	March		February		3 Months	
	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	114,281	106,592	103,980	103,761	323,591	307,539
Hemlock	47,945	40,790	48,151	34,692	145,516	116,060
Balsam Fir	2,203	861	1,288	935	4,695	2,779
Red Cedar	19,346	24,357	23,265	21,083	62,745	66,391
Spruce	31,707	17,420	22,356	19,133	77,258	51,757
White Pine	2,636	2,216	2,468	2,663	12,632	5,890
Ponderosa Pine	2,843	1,838	1,934	1,384	6,732	4,430
Lodgepole Pine	594	700	530	575	1,641	1,692
All other softwoods	5,447	4,133	5,355	3,989	16,343	12,017
Total softwoods	227,002	198,907	209,327	188,215	651,153	568,555
Red Alder	405	505	334	309	1,264	1,145
Maple	210	287	270	152	774	660
Birch	78	70	69	55	223	182
Cottonwood	557	731	468	581	1,507	1,933
All other hardwoods	4	-	-	-	4	-
Total hardwoods	1,254	1,593	1,141	1,097	3,772	3,920
Total softwoods and hardwoods	228,256	200,500	210,468	189,312	654,925	572,475
SHIPMENTS						
To: Points in Canada	107,343	86,986	88,146	68,741	273,716	218,980
Points in U.S.A.	52,720	20,311	51,275	27,087	146,465	74,073
United Kingdom	30,589	67,332	35,689	41,864	115,347	149,905
Other countries	14,085	34,398	16,267	38,694	40,929	108,999
Destination not specified .	1,350	631	1,261	575	3,663	1,754
Total shipments reported	206,087	209,658	192,638	176,961	580,120	553,711
Estimate of shipments of non-reporting mills	23,640	19,219	21,545	16,364	68,251	50,577
Total shipments reported and estimated	229,727	228,877	214,183	193,325	648,371	604,288
STOCKS ON HAND						
	March		February			
	1948	1947	1948	1947		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir	130,243	96,366	117,484	113,266		
Hemlock	49,699	43,174	50,948	45,306		
Balsam Fir	1,910	1,121	1,479	1,237		
Red Cedar	21,035	22,767	25,222	21,952		
Spruce	49,541	24,461	41,387	28,332		
White Pine	8,229	9,841	7,105	9,210		
Ponderosa Pine	6,983	5,720	5,618	4,948		
Lodgepole Pine	988	880	953	655		
All other softwoods	6,107	4,031	3,978	4,573		
Total softwoods	274,735	208,361	254,174	229,479		
Red Alder	282	406	352	275		
Maple	197	301	240	221		
Birch	104	91	103	92		
Cottonwood	711	604	704	612		
All other hardwoods	2	-	-	21		
Total hardwoods	1,296	1,402	1,399	1,221		
Total softwoods and hardwoods	276,031	209,763	255,573	230,700		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn
March, 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.
<u>Lumber</u>						
Douglas Fir	91,849	3,788	95,637	6,615	4,444	11,059
Hemlock	43,317	940	44,257	962	360	1,322
Balsam Fir	1,140	116	1,256	632	298	930
Red Cedar	17,096	907	18,003	553	376	929
Spruce	5,665	398	6,063	15,788	9,755	25,543
White Pine	1,928	38	1,966	460	210	670
Ponderosa Pine	-	2	2	2,124	704	2,828
Lodgepole Pine	-	3	3	163	241	404
All other softwoods ...	327	2	329	2,621	966	3,587
Total, softwoods ...	<u>161,322</u>	<u>6,194</u>	<u>167,516</u>	<u>29,918</u>	<u>17,354</u>	<u>47,272</u>
Red Alder	244	161	405	-	-	-
Maple	97	113	210	-	-	-
Birch	16	45	61	-	5	5
Cottonwood	229	253	482	-	75	75
All other hardwoods ...	4	-	4	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	<u>590</u>	<u>572</u>	<u>1,162</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	<u>161,912</u>	<u>6,766</u>	<u>168,678</u>	<u>29,918</u>	<u>17,434</u>	<u>47,352</u>
<u>Ties</u>						
Douglas Fir	4,886	510	5,396	1,136	1,053	2,189
Hemlock	2,251	59	2,310	15	41	56
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	17	17
Red Cedar	54	359	413	-	1	1
Spruce	-	61	61	7	33	40
White Pine	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	-	13	13
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	59	128	187
All other softwoods ...	30	25	55	1,026	450	1,476
Total, softwoods ...	<u>7,221</u>	<u>1,014</u>	<u>8,235</u>	<u>2,243</u>	<u>1,736</u>	<u>3,979</u>
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	12	12
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	<u>7,221</u>	<u>1,014</u>	<u>8,235</u>	<u>2,243</u>	<u>1,748</u>	<u>3,991</u>
<u>Lumber and Ties</u>	<u>169,133</u>	<u>7,780</u>	<u>176,913</u>	<u>32,161</u>	<u>19,182</u>	<u>51,343</u>

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

	By Truck (Local Sales) M ft.b.m.	By Rail M ft.b.m.	Waterborne M ft.b.m.	Total Shipments M ft.b.m.
<u>COAST MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	43,630	6,116	1,499	51,245
Alberta		3,196	XXXXXX	3,196
Saskatchewan		2,463	XXXXXX	2,463
Manitoba		4,020	XXXXXX	4,020
Ontario		11,998	-	11,998
Quebec		5,835	-	5,835
New Brunswick		920	-	920
Nova Scotia		706	-	706
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Total for Canada	43,630	35,254	1,499	80,383
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		653	1,751	2,404
Atlantic Ports		1,667	11,676	13,343
Other points, by rail		27,511	XXXXXX	27,511
Total for U.S.A.		29,831	13,427	43,258
United Kingdom x		587	29,617	30,204
Other countries x		109	13,921	14,030
Destination or carrier not specified				1,350
Total shipments reported	43,630	65,781	58,464	169,225
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				7,783
Total shipments, reported and estimated				177,008
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	4,749	2,776	-	7,525
Alberta	40	4,286	XXXXXX	4,326
Saskatchewan		2,242	XXXXXX	2,242
Manitoba		3,538	XXXXXX	3,538
Ontario		8,239	-	8,239
Quebec		1,068	-	1,068
New Brunswick		22	-	22
Nova Scotia		-	-	-
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Total for Canada	4,789	22,171	-	26,960
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		-	-	-
Atlantic Ports		338	-	338
Other points, by rail		9,124	XXXXXX	9,124
Total for U.S.A.		9,462	-	9,462
United Kingdom x		168	217	385
Other countries x		55	-	55
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	4,789	31,856	217	36,862
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				15,857
Total shipments, reported and estimated				52,719
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills
March, 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.
<u>Sold (But not Shipped)</u>						
Douglas Fir	78,392	3,222	81,614	2,037	1,499	3,536
Hemlock	27,973	749	28,722	99	109	208
Balsam Fir	578	87	665	19	86	105
Red Cedar	11,478	949	12,427	246	103	349
Spruce	5,079	344	5,423	3,707	2,669	6,376
White Pine	2,651	29	2,680	1,384	57	1,441
Ponderosa Pine	-	2	2	371	196	567
Lodgepole Pine	-	2	2	7	100	107
All other softwoods ...	351	20	371	699	386	1,085
Total, softwoods ...	<u>126,502</u>	<u>5,404</u>	<u>131,906</u>	<u>8,569</u>	<u>5,205</u>	<u>13,774</u>
Red Alder	102	121	223	-	-	-
Maple	71	85	156	-	-	-
Birch	22	34	56	-	5	5
Cottonwood	93	189	282	200	20	220
All other hardwoods ...	2	-	2	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	<u>290</u>	<u>429</u>	<u>719</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>225</u>
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	<u>126,792</u>	<u>5,833</u>	<u>132,625</u>	<u>8,769</u>	<u>5,230</u>	<u>13,999</u>
<u>Unsold</u>						
Douglas Fir	31,480	1,581	33,061	5,140	6,892	12,032
Hemlock	18,855	367	19,222	1,045	502	1,547
Balsam Fir	318	43	361	384	395	779
Red Cedar	6,581	465	7,046	742	471	1,213
Spruce	846	169	1,015	24,458	12,269	36,727
White Pine	2,764	14	2,778	1,067	263	1,330
Ponderosa Pine	-	1	1	5,513	900	6,413
Lodgepole Pine	-	1	1	416	462	878
All other softwoods ...	1,326	10	1,336	1,539	1,776	3,315
Total, softwoods ...	<u>62,170</u>	<u>2,651</u>	<u>64,821</u>	<u>40,304</u>	<u>23,930</u>	<u>64,234</u>
Red Alder	-	59	59	-	-	-
Maple	-	41	41	-	-	-
Birch	-	17	17	5	21	26
Cottonwood	15	93	108	7	94	101
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	<u>15</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>127</u>
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	<u>62,185</u>	<u>2,861</u>	<u>65,046</u>	<u>40,316</u>	<u>24,045</u>	<u>64,361</u>
<u>Sold and Unsold</u>	<u>188,977</u>	<u>8,694</u>	<u>197,671</u>	<u>49,085</u>	<u>29,275</u>	<u>78,360</u>

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

	Month ending:-			
	March		February	
	1948 M ft.	1947 M ft.	1948 M ft.	1947 M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipment to points in British Columbia				
Local	25,377	35,224	25,438	34,948
Coastwise and interior	6,323	11,334	9,244	8,525
Total	31,700	46,558	34,682	43,473
For shipment by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	19,238	21,888	17,476	29,172
Eastern Provinces	36,288	29,334	45,391	26,650
United States of America	40,917	21,277	34,037	23,398
Total	96,443	72,499	96,904	79,220
For waterborn shipment to:				
California	1,093	-	3,420	-
U.S. Atlantic Ports	13,098	385	5,819	-
Eastern Canada	642	-	-	2,799
Export Markets	393,214	405,463	388,324	341,232
Total	408,047	405,848	397,563	344,031
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	536,190	524,905	529,149	466,724
<u>LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS</u>				
	March 1948	1947	February 1948	1947
	5,417	7,359	4,791	4,968

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

	March		February	
	1948	1947	1948	1947
CoastNo	114	92	113	92
InteriorNo	124	90	130	92
Total, British Columbia	238	182	243	184

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

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