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

JUNE, 1950

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 312,514 M ft. in June 1950 as compared with 275,901 M ft. in June 1949, an increase of 11.7 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 6.9 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 73.4 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 16.7 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 26.6 p.c. showed a decrease of 1.9 p.c. Shipments in June 1950 totalled 330,463 M ft., as compared with 280,184 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 15.2 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 11.3 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 27.0 p.c. Total shipments for June increased by 10.8 p.c. over the May figure of 294,922 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of June 1950 amounted to 322,069 M ft. as compared with 353,093 M ft. at the end of June the previous year and 327,946 M ft. at the end of May of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 212,249 M ft., while Interior mills showed 109,820 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 1949 and 1950. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 250,811 M ft. in May 1949 to 275,901 M ft. in June 1949 and from 291,004 M ft. in May to 312,514 M ft. in June 1950. Shipments totalled 294,922 M ft. in May 1950 and 330,463 M ft. in June 1950 as compared with 244,791 M ft. in May and 280,184 M ft. in June of 1949. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 374,435 M ft. in May 1949 to 353,093 M ft. in June and decreased from 327,946 M ft. in May 1950 to 322,069 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 226,560 M ft. in June 1950 as compared with 80,753 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 2,745 M ft. in June as compared with 2,456 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 73.4 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in June 1950 as compared with 69.3 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during May 1950 and 1949 respectively, were 77.8 and 75.0 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 re-shipped to other provinces or exported by the purchases and reported by them also, thereby causing a certain amount of duplication.

Shipments of Coast mills amounted to 248,739 M ft. in June of 1950 and 236,537 M ft. in May 1950 as compared with 220,566 M ft. in June 1949 and 197,045 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 81,724 M ft. and 59,618 M ft. in June 1950 and 1949 and 58,385 M ft. and 47,746 M ft. in May 1950 and 1949. Of all shipments actually reported for June, 35.1 p.c. went to points in Canada, 51.1 p.c. to points in United States, 6.5 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 7.3 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 41.2 p.c. of the total, while 38.8 p.c. went by rail and 20.0 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 1950 amounted to 230,131 M ft. and 212,249 M ft. as compared with 250,213 M ft. and 232,069 M ft. in May and June of 1949. Interior mills stocks decreased from 124,222 M ft. in May to 121,024 M ft. in June 1949, but increased from 97,815 M ft. in May to 109,820 M ft. in June 1950. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 32.4 p.c. of the total in June 1950, as compared with 38.8 p.c. in June 1949 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 71.5 and 82.9.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of May and June 1949 and 1950, 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 1950, amounted to 355,581 M ft. as compared with 210,181 M ft. in June 1949. Orders on hand at the end of May 1950 and 1949, amounted to 381,727 M ft. and 229,897 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 9,667 M ft. in June 1950 and 10,279 M ft. in June 1949 as compared with 8,202 M ft. in May 1950 and 7,112 M ft. in May 1949.

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 80.6 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1948 compared with 77.0 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for May 1949 and 1950 were 74.6 and 82.1 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, June, 1950.

	June		May		6 Months	
	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	163,410	140,083	158,307	135,143	762,239	720,095
Hemlock	59,990	48,686	55,772	43,936	284,753	247,324
Balsam Fir	1,344	987	1,099	1,218	17,796	6,276
Red Cedar	27,748	28,715	26,974	24,542	144,970	129,657
Spruce	40,014	40,278	30,360	29,780	170,868	172,443
White Pine	3,818	2,740	4,279	3,851	16,875	17,181
Ponderosa Pine	6,596	5,778	6,390	5,143	19,298	20,330
Lodgepole Pine	1,579	881	1,043	700	4,700	4,614
All other softwoods	6,917	6,385	5,565	5,250	21,987	24,061
Total softwoods	311,416	274,533	289,789	249,563	1,443,486	1,341,981
Red Alder	284	448	474	584	2,346	3,191
Maple	325	438	378	260	1,868	1,828
Birch	60	101	147	133	502	544
Cottonwood	327	381	171	243	1,083	1,608
All other hardwoods	102	-	45	28	147	86
Total hardwoods	1,098	1,368	1,215	1,248	5,946	7,257
Total softwoods and hardwoods	312,514	275,901	291,004	250,811	1,449,432	1,349,238
SHIPMENTS						
To: Points in Canada ...	100,491	121,118	89,295	101,368	445,586	513,348
Points in U.S.A. ...	146,256	44,055	132,024	39,295	696,404	288,629
United Kingdom ...	18,742	47,574	19,794	33,967	60,619	193,200
Other countries	20,879	22,806	18,469	16,838	113,800	118,659
Destination not specified	-	1,685	-	1,534	-	8,002
Total shipments reported	286,368	237,238	259,582	193,002	1,316,409	1,121,838
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills ...	44,095	42,946	35,340	51,789	163,382	205,190
Total shipments reported and estimated	330,463	280,184	294,922	244,791	1,479,791	1,327,028
	1950	June	1949	1950	May	1949
STOCKS ON HAND						
Douglas Fir	151,317		165,008	162,579		176,389
Hemlock	55,438		58,441	57,340		66,004
Balsam Fir	1,768		1,108	928		2,024
Red Cedar	25,670		36,411	27,888		34,967
Spruce	52,330		57,645	46,226		58,398
White Pine	7,289		7,549	6,907		8,390
Ponderosa Pine	16,185		11,194	12,126		13,390
Lodgepole Pine	1,709		1,213	1,538		1,442
All other softwoods ...	9,411		12,853	11,388		11,849
Total softwoods	321,117		351,422	326,920		372,853
Red Alder	319		555	425		536
Maple	350		463	307		387
Birch	95		127	127		145
Cottonwood	188		526	167		514
All other hardwoods ...	-		-	-		-
Total hardwoods ...	952		1,671	1,026		1,582
Total softwoods & hardwoods	322,069		353,093	327,946		374,435

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn

June, 1950

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	122,720	11,302	134,022	15,539	9,978	25,517
Hemlock	54,875	2,596	57,471	1,007	853	1,860
Balsam Fir	239	148	387	631	292	923
Red Cedar	22,954	2,595	25,549	1,795	398	2,193
Spruce	4,214	1,413	5,627	12,863	21,349	34,212
White Pine	2,003	76	2,079	993	742	1,735
Ponderosa Pine	-	33	33	5,045	1,494	6,539
Lodgepole Pine	-	2	2	318	1,151	1,469
All other softwoods	364	3	367	2,195	4,035	6,230
Total, softwoods	207,369	18,168	225,537	40,386	40,292	80,678
Red Alder	124	160	284	-	-	-
Maple	211	114	325	-	-	-
Birch	16	23	39	10	11	21
Cottonwood	241	32	273	-	54	54
All other hardwoods	102	-	102	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	694	329	1,023	10	65	75
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	208,063	18,497	226,560	40,396	40,357	80,753
TIES						
Douglas Fir	1,631	437	2,068	938	865	1,803
Hemlock	560	97	657	-	2	2
Balsam Fir	-	3	3	-	31	31
Red Cedar	-	1	1	-	5	5
Spruce	-	16	16	-	159	159
White Pine	-	-	-	-	4	4
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	17	7	24
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	-	108	108
All other softwoods	-	-	-	165	155	320
Total, softwoods	2,191	554	2,745	1,120	1,336	2,456
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	2,191	554	2,745	1,120	1,336	2,456
LUMBER AND TIES	210,254	19,051	229,305	41,516	41,693	83,209

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, June, 1950.

	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.
COAST MILLS				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia	45,779	2,912	1,367	50,058
Yukon and Northwest Territories	-	-	-	-
Alberta	3,589	3,589	xxxxxx	3,589
Saskatchewan	3,493	3,493	xxxxxx	3,493
Manitoba	4,075	4,075	xxxxxx	4,075
Ontario	8,377	8,377	-	8,377
Quebec	3,121	3,121	252	3,373
New Brunswick	143	143	-	143
Nova Scotia	230	230	50	280
Prince Edward Island	-	-	-	-
Newfoundland	33	33	-	33
Total for Canada	45,779	25,973	1,669	73,421
Points to U.S.A.				
Pacific Ports		627	1,615	2,242
Atlantic Ports		2,419	75,783	78,202
Other points, by rail		42,507	xxxxxx	42,507
Total for U.S.A.		45,553	77,398	122,951
United Kingdom	x	373	17,867	18,240
Other countries	x	188	20,691	20,879
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported ...	45,779	72,087	117,625	235,491
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				13,248
Total shipments, reported and estimated				248,739
INTERIOR MILLS				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia	10,928	1,540	-	12,468
Yukon and Northwest Territories	-	-	-	-
Alberta	480	3,901	xxxxxx	4,381
Saskatchewan		3,199	xxxxxx	3,199
Manitoba		3,177	-	3,177
Ontario		2,946	-	2,946
Quebec		880	-	880
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		19	-	19
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		-	-	-
Total for Canada	11,408	15,662	-	27,070
Points in U.S.A.				
Pacific Ports		1,084	-	1,084
Atlantic Ports		605	-	605
Other points, by rail		21,616	xxxxxx	21,616
Total for U.S.A.		23,305	-	23,305
United Kingdom	x	45	457	502
Other countries	x	-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total Shipments reported ...	11,408	39,012	457	50,877
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				30,847
Total shipments, reported and estimated				81,724
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills

June, 1950

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.
SOLD (but not shipped)						
Douglas Fir	77,110	7,346	84,456	4,043	4,081	8,124
Hemlock	34,699	1,685	36,384	30	322	352
Balsam Fir	123	95	218	260	122	382
Red Cedar	13,107	1,624	14,731	140	152	292
Spruce	2,865	894	3,759	5,647	8,095	13,742
White Pine	3,123	48	3,171	260	281	541
Ponderosa Pine	-	21	21	4,834	565	5,399
Lodgepole Pine	-	1	1	15	473	488
All other softwoods ..	99	1	100	386	1,576	1,962
Total, softwoods	131,126	11,715	142,841	15,615	15,667	31,282
Red Alder	151	100	251	-	-	-
Maple	175	71	246	-	-	-
Birch	38	14	52	10	4	14
Cottonwood	81	21	102	-	20	20
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	445	206	651	10	24	34
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	131,571	11,921	143,492	15,625	15,691	31,316
UNSOLD						
Douglas Fir	34,194	3,519	37,713	10,794	10,230	21,024
Hemlock	16,622	808	17,430	465	807	1,272
Balsam Fir	75	45	120	743	305	1,048
Red Cedar	7,882	778	8,660	1,607	380	1,987
Spruce	993	428	1,421	13,116	20,292	33,408
White Pine	783	23	806	2,067	704	2,771
Ponderosa Pine	-	10	10	9,339	1,416	10,755
Lodgepole Pine	-	1	1	31	1,188	1,219
All other softwoods ..	2,394	1	2,395	1,002	3,952	4,954
Total, softwoods ..	62,943	5,613	68,556	39,164	39,274	78,438
Red Alder	20	48	68	-	-	-
Maple	70	34	104	-	-	-
Birch	12	7	19	-	10	10
Cottonwood	-	10	10	5	51	56
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	102	99	201	5	61	66
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	63,045	5,712	68,757	39,169	39,335	78,504
SOLD AND UNSOLD	194,616	17,633	212,249	54,794	55,026	109,820

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of June, 1950 and
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast mills Only)

	Month ending -			
	June 1950	June 1949	May 1950	May 1949
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
ORDERS ON HAND				
For shipment to points in British Columbia				
Local	15,858	20,833	18,989	17,895
Coastwise and interior	2,248	4,391	2,703	5,607
Total	18,106	25,224	21,692	23,502
For shipment by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	12,488	17,801	15,201	21,418
Eastern Provinces	23,044	21,551	22,085	27,835
United States of America	51,464	26,938	46,610	20,287
Total	86,996	66,290	83,896	69,540
For waterborne shipment to:				
California	2,796	1,250	50	-
U.S. Atlantic Ports	114,948	6,976	134,541	8,218
Eastern Canada	5,292	50	6,516	423
Export Markets	127,443	110,391	135,032	128,214
Total	250,479	118,667	276,139	136,855
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND ...	355,581	210,181	381,727	229,897
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS				
MILLS	9,667	10,279	8,202	7,112

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting, June, 1950

		June 1950	June 1949	May 1950	May 1949
Coast	No. 128		131	115	130
Interior	No. 154		115	115	111
Total, British Columbia	No. 282		246	230	241

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

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