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

JULY, 1950

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 300,378 M ft. in July 1950, as compared with 227,966 M ft. in July 1949, an increase of 31.8 p.c. over the previous year but a decrease of 3.9 p.c. from the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 65.8 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 31.0 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 34.2 p.c. showed an increase of 33.2 p.c. Shipments in July 1950 totalled 270,705 M ft. as compared with 198,236 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 36.5 p.c. with the Coast mills registering an increase of 31.7 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 49.1 p.c. Total shipments for July decreased by 18.1 p.c. from the June figure of 330,463 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of July 1950 amounted to 317,073 M ft., as compared with 372,429 M ft. at the end of July the previous year and 322,069 M ft. at the end of June of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 224,615 M ft., while Interior mills showed 92,458 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 June and July 1949 and 1950. Details by species are given for production and stocks, while shipments are shown by destination. Total production decreased from 275,901 M ft. in June 1949 to 227,966 M ft. in July 1949 and from 312,514 M ft. in June to 300,378 M ft. in July 1950. Shipments totalled 330,463 M ft. in June 1950 and 270,705 M ft. in July 1950 as compared with 280,184 M ft. in June and 198,236 M ft. in July of 1949. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 353,093 M ft. in June 1949 to 372,429 M ft. in July but decreased from 322,069 M ft. in June 1950 to 317,073 M ft. in July 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 196,291 M ft. in July 1950 as compared with 99,139 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 1,306 M ft. in July as compared with 3,642 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 65.8 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in July 1950 as compared with 66.2 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during June 1950 and 1949 respectively, were 73.4 and 69.3 p.c.

Prepared in the Forestry Section, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.

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 188,503 M ft. in July of 1950 and 248,739 M ft. in June 1950 as compared with 143,124 M ft. in July 1949 and 220,566 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 82,202 M ft. and 55,112 M ft. in July 1950 and 1949 and 81,724 M ft. and 59,618 M ft. in June 1950 and 1949. Of all shipments actually reported for July, 37.2 p.c. went to points in Canada, 47.2 p.c. to points in United States, 9.4 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 6.2 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 38.4 p.c. of the total, while 43.1 p.c. went by rail and 18.5 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 June and July 1950 amounted to 212,249 M ft. and 224,615 M ft. as compared with 232,069 M ft. and 239,156 M ft. in June and July of 1949. Interior mills stocks increased from 121,034 M ft. in June to 133,273 M ft. in July 1949 but decreased from 109,820 M ft. in June to 92,458 M ft. in July 1950. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 34.2 p.c. of the total in July 1950, as compared with 37.0 p.c. in July 1949 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively 77.0 and 71.4.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of June and July 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 July 1950, amounted to 420,006 M ft. as compared with 234,847 M ft. in July 1949. Orders on hand at the end of June 1950 and 1949, amounted to 355,581 M ft. and 210,181 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 9,452 M ft. in July 1950 and 10,436 M ft. in July 1949 as compared with 9,667 M ft. in June 1950 and 10,279 M ft. in June 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 July accounted for 77.2 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1948 compared with 74.9 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for June 1949 and 1950 were 77.0 and 80.6 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, 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, July, 1950.

	July		June		7 Months	
	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	151,399	122,455	163,410	140,083	913,638	842,550
Hemlock	54,615	34,137	59,990	48,686	339,368	281,461
Balsam Fir	1,621	898	1,344	987	19,417	7,174
Red Cedar	20,590	18,215	27,748	28,715	165,560	147,872
Spruce	49,108	36,796	40,014	40,278	219,976	209,239
White Pine	6,580	2,231	3,818	2,740	23,455	19,412
Ponderosa Pine	5,842	5,044	6,596	5,778	25,140	25,374
Lodgepole Pine	1,653	827	1,579	881	6,353	5,441
All other softwoods	7,920	6,070	6,917	6,385	29,907	30,131
Total softwoods	299,328	226,673	311,416	274,533	1,742,814	1,568,654
Red Alder	337	600	284	448	2,683	3,791
Maple	316	293	325	438	2,184	2,121
Birch	61	81	60	101	563	625
Cottonwood	326	319	327	381	1,409	1,927
All other hardwoods	10	-	102	-	157	86
Total hardwoods	1,050	1,293	1,098	1,368	6,996	8,550
Total softwoods and hardwoods	300,378	227,966	312,514	275,901	1,749,810	1,577,204
SHIPMENTS						
To: Points in Canada	83,052	92,901	100,491	121,118	528,638	606,249
Points in U.S.A.	105,167	33,354	146,256	44,055	801,571	321,983
United Kingdom	21,044	24,377	18,742	47,574	81,663	217,577
Other countries	13,673	14,871	20,879	22,806	127,473	133,530
Destination not specified	-	-	-	1,685	-	8,002
Total shipments reported	222,936	165,503	286,368	237,238	1,539,345	1,287,341
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills	47,769	32,733	44,095	42,946	211,151	237,923
Total shipments reported and estimated	270,705	198,236	330,463	280,184	1,750,496	1,525,264
STOCKS ON HAND						
	July		June			
	1950	1949	1950	1949		
Douglas Fir	156,062	179,498	151,317	165,008		
Hemlock	58,005	56,873	55,438	58,441		
Balsam Fir	1,802	1,741	1,768	1,108		
Red Cedar	24,381	31,700	25,670	36,411		
Spruce	43,201	63,312	52,330	57,645		
White Pine	12,138	7,688	7,289	7,549		
Ponderosa Pine	10,266	13,533	16,185	11,194		
Lodgepole Pine	1,279	1,411	1,709	1,213		
All other softwoods	8,835	14,716	9,411	12,853		
Total softwoods	315,969	370,472	321,117	351,422		
Red Alder	371	662	319	555		
Maple	316	504	350	463		
Birch	105	162	95	127		
Cottonwood	312	629	188	526		
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-		
Total hardwoods	1,104	1,957	952	1,671		
Total softwoods and hardwoods	317,073	372,429	322,069	353,093		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn

July, 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.
<u>LUMBER</u>						
Douglas Fir	104,381	10,593	114,974	16,596	16,312	32,908
Hemlock	49,294	2,215	51,509	1,346	1,373	2,719
Balsam Fir	513	80	593	599	411	1,010
Red Cedar	16,215	2,348	18,563	1,328	691	2,019
Spruce	3,606	1,260	4,866	16,727	27,230	43,957
White Pine	4,458	69	4,527	1,027	1,020	2,047
Ponderosa Pine	71	29	100	2,884	2,848	5,732
Lodgepole Pine	-	2	2	269	1,221	1,490
All other softwoods	313	1	314	1,482	5,568	7,050
Total, softwoods ..	178,851	16,597	195,448	42,258	56,674	98,932
Red Alder	149	188	337	-	-	-
Maple	212	104	316	-	-	-
Birch	10	38	48	-	13	13
Cottonwood	109	33	142	-	184	184
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	10	-	10
Total, hardwoods .	480	363	843	10	197	207
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	179,331	16,960	196,291	42,268	56,871	99,139
<u>TIES</u>						
Douglas Fir	734	181	915	1,212	1,390	2,602
Hemlock	336	46	382	2	3	5
Balsam Fir	-	1	1	-	17	17
Red Cedar	-	-	-	-	8	8
Spruce	-	8	8	-	277	277
White Pine	-	-	-	-	6	6
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	-	10	10
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	-	161	161
All other softwoods	-	-	-	32	524	556
Total, softwoods ..	1,070	236	1,306	1,246	2,396	3,642
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	1,070	236	1,306	1,246	2,396	3,642
LUMBER AND TIES	180,401	17,196	197,597	43,514	59,267	102,781

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

	By Truck (Local Sales)	By Rail	Water- borne	Total Shipments
		M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
<u>COAST MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	31,278	2,774	779	34,831
Yukon and Northwest Territories		68	-	68
Alberta		2,816	xxxxxxx	2,816
Saskatchewan		2,497	xxxxxxx	2,497
Manitoba		4,037	xxxxxxx	4,037
Ontario		7,428	-	7,428
Quebec		2,680	976	3,656
New Brunswick		76	-	76
Nova Scotia		266	480	746
Prince Edward Island		-	256	256
Newfoundland		72	-	72
Total for Canada	31,278	22,714	2,491	56,483
<u>Points in U.S.A.</u>				
Pacific Ports		914	550	1,464
Atlantic Ports		531	47,945	48,476
Other points, by rail		35,578	xxxxxxx	35,578
Total for U.S.A.		37,023	48,495	85,518
United Kingdom	x	162	20,677	20,839
Other countries	x	70	13,603	13,673
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported ..	31,278	59,969	85,266	176,513
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				11,990
Total shipments, reported and estimated				188,503
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	9,346	1,282	-	10,628
Yukon and Northwest Territories	2	-	50	52
Alberta	462	4,701	xxxxxxx	5,163
Saskatchewan		3,331	xxxxxxx	3,331
Manitoba		4,019	-	4,019
Ontario		2,524	-	2,524
Quebec		852	-	852
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		-	-	-
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		-	-	-
Total for Canada	9,810	16,709	50	26,569
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		885	-	885
Atlantic Ports		62	143	205
Other points, by rail		18,559	xxxxxxx	18,559
Total for U.S.A.		19,506	143	19,649
United Kingdom	x	-	205	205
Other countries	x	-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total Shipments reported ..	9,810	36,215	398	46,423
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				35,779
Total Shipments, reported and estimated				82,202
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills

July, 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.
<u>SOLD (but not shipped)</u>						
Douglas Fir	80,359	8,052	88,411	2,390	3,478	5,868
Hemlock	32,602	1,690	34,292	-	270	270
Balsam Fir	202	61	263	87	84	171
Red Cedar	12,453	1,755	14,208	5	137	142
Spruce	1,735	948	2,683	3,350	5,405	8,755
White Pine	7,033	51	7,084	292	202	494
Ponderosa Pine	-	22	22	2,195	561	2,756
Lodgepole Pine	-	1	1	-	272	272
All other softwoods ...	36	-	36	232	1,198	1,430
Total, softwoods	134,420	12,580	147,000	8,551	11,607	20,158
Red Alder	131	140	271	-	-	-
Maple	106	78	184	-	-	-
Birch	50	28	78	-	3	3
Cottonwood	104	25	129	-	36	36
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	391	271	662	-	39	39
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	134,811	12,851	147,662	8,551	11,646	20,197
<u>UNSOLD</u>						
Douglas Fir	37,418	4,196	41,614	7,723	12,446	20,169
Hemlock	21,004	881	21,885	591	967	1,558
Balsam Fir	85	32	117	950	301	1,251
Red Cedar	7,310	914	8,224	1,316	491	1,807
Spruce	1,280	494	1,774	10,650	19,339	29,989
White Pine	928	27	955	2,884	721	3,605
Ponderosa Pine	-	11	11	5,468	2,009	7,477
Lodgepole Pine	-	1	1	33	972	1,005
All other softwoods ...	2,107	-	2,107	978	4,284	5,262
Total, softwoods	70,132	6,556	76,688	30,593	41,530	72,123
Red Alder	27	73	100	-	-	-
Maple	92	40	132	-	-	-
Birch	-	15	15	-	9	9
Cottonwood	5	13	18	-	129	129
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	124	141	265	-	138	138
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	70,256	6,697	76,953	30,593	41,668	72,261
SOLD AND UNSOLD ..	205,067	19,548	224,615	39,144	53,314	92,458

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

	Month ending -			
	July 1950	July 1949	June 1950	June 1949
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
<u>For shipment to points in British Columbia</u>				
Local.....	14,120	18,266	15,858	20,833
Coastwise and interior	3,797	4,891	2,248	4,391
Total	17,917	23,157	18,106	25,224
<u>For shipment by rail to:</u>				
Prairie Provinces.....	14,476	14,813	12,488	17,801
Eastern Provinces	22,946	18,006	23,044	21,551
United States of America	50,722	29,583	51,464	26,938
Total	88,144	62,402	86,996	66,290
<u>For waterborne shipment to:</u>				
California	3,287	-	2,796	1,250
U.S. Atlantic Ports	151,273	14,723	114,948	6,976
Eastern Canada	4,307	600	5,292	50
Export Markets	155,078	133,965	127,443	110,391
Total	313,945	149,288	250,479	118,667
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND.....	420,006	234,847	355,581	210,181
<u>LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS</u>				
.....	9,452	10,436	9,667	10,279

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

		July		June	
		1950	1949	1950	1949
Coast	No.	132	125	128	131
Interior	No.	141	125	154	115
Total, British Columbia	No.	273	250	282	246

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

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