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

JUNE, 1951

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 339,809 M ft. in June 1951 as compared with 312,514 M ft. in June 1950 an increase of 8.8 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 6.4 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 68.0 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 0.8 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 32.0 p.c. showed an increase of 30.6 p.c. Shipments in June 1951 totalled 304,224 M ft., as compared with 330,463 M ft. the previous year, a decrease of 7.9 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 9.8 p.c. and Interior mills a decrease of 2.4 p.c. Total shipments for June increased by 4.3 p.c. over the May figure of 291,762 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of June 1951 amounted to 410,699 M ft., as compared with 322,069 M ft. at the end of June the previous year and 407,056 M ft. at the end of May of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 269,481 M ft., while Interior mills showed 141,218 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 1950 and 1951. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 291,004 M ft. in May 1950 to 312,514 M ft. in June 1950 and from 320,271 M ft. in May to 339,809 M ft. in June 1951. Shipments totalled 291,762 M ft. in May 1951 and 304,224 M ft. in June 1951 as compared with 294,922 M ft. in May and 330,463 M ft. in June of 1950. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 327,946 M ft. in May 1950 to 322,069 M ft. in June but increased from 407,056 M ft. in May 1951 to 410,699 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 226,958 M ft. in June 1951 as compared with 105,517 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 4,209 M ft. in June as compared with 3,125 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 68.0 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in June 1951 as compared with 73.4 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during May 1951 and 1950 respectively, were 75.4 and 77.8 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 purchasers and reported by them also, thereby causing a certain amount of duplication.

Shipments of Coast mills amounted to 224,440 M ft. in June of 1951 and 228,270 M ft. in May 1951 as compared with 248,739 M ft. in June 1950 and 236,537 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 79,784 M ft. and 81,724 M ft. in June 1951 and 1950 and 63,492 M ft. and 58,385 M ft. in May 1951 and 1950. Of all shipments actually reported for June, 37.4 p.c. went to points in Canada, 29.4 p.c. to points in United States, 25 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 8.1 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 36.1 p.c. of the total, while 44.8 p.c. went by rail, and 19.1 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 1951 amounted to 269,145 M ft. and 269,481 M ft. as compared with 230,131 M ft. and 212,249 M ft. in May and June of 1950. Interior mills stocks increased from 97,815 M ft. in May to 109,820 M ft. in June 1950 and increased from 137,911 M ft. in May to 141,218 M ft. in June 1951. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 33.3 p.c. of the total in June 1951 as compared with 32.4 p.c. in June 1950 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 78.8 and 71.5.

## Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of May and June 1950 and 1951 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 1951 amounted to 587,265 M ft. as compared with 355,581 M ft. in June 1950. Orders on hand at the end of May 1951 and 1950 amounted to 399,007 M ft. and 381,727 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 7,225 M ft. in June 1951 and 9,667 M ft. in June 1950 as compared with 7,947 M ft. in May 1951 and 8,202 M ft. in May 1950.

## 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 77.4 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1949 compared with 80.6 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for May 1950 and 1951 were 82.1 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, 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, 1951.

	June		May		6 Months	
	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<b>PRODUCTION</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	✓174,571	163,410	166,611	158,307	881,304	762,239
Hemlock .....	✓58,983	59,990	67,161	55,772	381,713	284,753
Balsam Fir .....	686	1,344	1,142	1,099	7,698	17,796
Red Cedar .....	✓29,292	27,748	33,299	26,974	165,766	144,970
Spruce .....	✓51,864	40,014	32,975	30,360	243,781	170,868
White Pine .....	5,961	3,818	5,852	4,279	26,491	16,875
Ponderosa Pine .....	5,733	6,596	4,485	6,390	18,394	19,298
Lodgepole Pine .....	2,234	1,579	1,576	1,043	8,603	4,700
All other softwoods .....	9,084	6,917	6,365	5,565	31,819	21,987
Total softwoods .....	338,408	311,416	319,466	289,789	1,765,569	1,443,486
Red Alder .....	531	284	285	474	2,213	2,346
Maple .....	426	325	243	378	1,633	1,868
Birch .....	163	60	85	147	485	502
Cottonwood .....	281	327	192	171	968	1,083
All other hardwoods .....	-	102	-	45	-	147
Total hardwoods .....	1,401	1,098	805	1,215	5,299	5,946
Total softwoods and hardwoods .....	339,809	312,514	320,271	291,004	1,770,868	1,449,432
<b>SHIPMENTS</b>						
To: Points in Canada ...	97,343	100,491	94,478	89,295	514,297	445,586
Points in U.S.A. ....	76,403	146,256	72,770	132,024	474,268	696,404
United Kingdom .....	65,302	18,742	73,375	19,794	374,116	60,619
Other countries .....	21,220	20,879	15,343	18,469	141,256	113,800
Total shipments reported	260,268	286,368	255,966	259,582	1,503,937	1,316,409
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....	43,956	44,095	35,796	35,340	204,229	163,382
Total shipments reported and estimated	304,224	330,463	291,762	294,922	1,708,166	1,479,791
<b>STOCKS ON HAND</b>						
	June		May			
	1951	1950	1951	1950		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir .....	✓187,601	151,317	193,062	162,579		
Hemlock .....	✓75,722	55,438	72,791	57,340		
Balsam Fir .....	750	1,768	1,338	928		
Red Cedar .....	✓41,415	25,670	39,399	27,888		
Spruce .....	✓68,455	52,330	61,181	46,226		
White Pine .....	9,402	7,289	14,338	6,907		
Ponderosa Pine .....	11,055	16,185	10,089	12,126		
Lodgepole Pine .....	2,422	1,709	2,571	1,538		
All other softwoods .....	11,488	9,411	10,736	11,388		
Total softwoods .....	408,310	321,117	405,505	326,920		
Red Alder .....	1,061	319	764	425		
Maple .....	699	350	454	307		
Birch .....	289	95	161	127		
Cottonwood .....	340	188	172	167		
All other hardwoods .....	-	-	-	-		
Total hardwoods .....	2,389	952	1,551	1,026		
Total softwoods & hardwoods .....	410,699	322,069	407,056	327,946		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn

June, 1951

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 .....	124,018	10,131	134,149	18,771	15,527	34,298
Hemlock .....	53,841	2,001	55,842	1,108	1,425	2,533
Balsam Fir .....	63	84	147	84	446	530
Red Cedar .....	23,937	3,029	26,966	1,033	1,292	2,325
Spruce .....	3,174	654	3,828	20,479	27,433	47,912
White Pine .....	3,442	18	3,460	894	1,599	2,493
Ponderosa Pine .....	20	4	24	3,352	2,343	5,695
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	406	1,618	2,024
All other softwoods	1,345	11	1,356	2,023	5,482	7,505
Total, softwoods ..	209,840	15,932	225,772	48,150	57,165	105,315
Red Alder .....	260	263	523	-	8	8
Maple .....	109	304	413	-	-	-
Birch .....	13	51	64	-	99	99
Cottonwood .....	12	174	186	35	60	95
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods..	394	792	1,186	35	167	202
Total, softwoods & hardwoods .....	210,234	16,724	226,958	48,185	57,332	105,517
<b>TIES</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	2,934	711	3,645	1,003	1,476	2,479
Hemlock .....	454	97	551	-	57	57
Balsam Fir .....	-	-	-	-	9	9
Red Cedar .....	-	-	-	-	1	1
Spruce .....	-	-	-	49	75	124
White Pine .....	-	-	-	-	8	8
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	-	-	-	14	14
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	46	164	210
All other softwoods	-	-	-	81	142	223
Total, softwoods ..	3,388	808	4,196	1,179	1,946	3,125
Red Alder .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple .....	-	13	13	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	-	13	13	-	-	-
Total, softwoods & hardwoods .....	3,388	821	4,209	1,179	1,946	3,125
<b>LUMBER AND TIES</b>	<b>213,622</b>	<b>17,545</b>	<b>231,167</b>	<b>49,364</b>	<b>59,278</b>	<b>108,642</b>

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, June, 1951.

	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.
<b>COAST MILLS</b>				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia .....	35,656	3,242	1,122	40,020
Yukon and Northwest Territories .....		-	-	-
Alberta .....		2,696	xxxxxx	2,696
Saskatchewan .....		2,100	xxxxxx	2,100
Manitoba .....		4,248	xxxxxx	4,248
Ontario .....		10,960	-	10,960
Quebec .....		4,381	-	4,381
New Brunswick .....		719	-	719
Nova Scotia .....		735	-	735
Prince Edward Island .....		-	-	-
Newfoundland .....		497	-	497
Total for Canada .....	35,656	29,578	1,122	66,356
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports .....		804	2,228	3,032
Atlantic Ports .....		3,086	5,501	8,587
Other points, by rail .....		51,261	xxxxxx	51,261
Total for U.S.A. ....		55,151	7,729	62,880
United Kingdom .....x		448	63,840	64,288
Other countries .....x		410	20,810	21,220
Destination or carrier not specified .....				-
Total shipments reported ....	35,656	85,587	93,501	214,744
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....				9,696
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....				224,440
<b>INTERIOR MILLS</b>				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia .....	13,611	2,323	-	15,934
Yukon and Northwest Territories .....		-	-	-
Alberta .....	341	4,150	xxxxxx	4,491
Saskatchewan .....		3,274	xxxxxx	3,274
Manitoba .....		2,883	xxxxxx	2,883
Ontario .....		3,935	-	3,935
Quebec .....		470	-	470
New Brunswick .....		-	-	-
Nova Scotia .....		-	-	-
Prince Edward Island .....		-	-	-
Newfoundland .....		-	-	-
Total for Canada .....	13,952	17,035	-	30,987
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports .....		34	-	34
Atlantic Ports .....		243	-	243
Other points, by rail .....		13,246	xxxxxx	13,246
Total for U.S.A. ....		13,523	-	13,523
United Kingdom .....x		435	579	1,014
Other countries .....x		-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified .....				-
Total shipments reported ....	13,952	30,993	579	45,524
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....				34,260
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....				79,784
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				



Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills

June, 1951

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 .....	88,938	8,432	97,370	6,425	4,695	11,120
Hemlock .....	49,908	1,632	51,540	99	409	508
Balsam Fir .....	1	65	66	-	126	126
Red Cedar .....	19,444	2,356	21,800	101	357	458
Spruce .....	2,814	509	3,323	4,082	7,596	11,678
White Pine .....	3,661	14	3,675	356	444	800
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	3	3	2,302	651	2,953
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	14	492	506
All other softwoods ..	872	8	880	252	1,553	1,805
Total, softwoods ...	165,638	13,019	178,657	13,631	16,323	29,954
Red Alder .....	200	205	405	-	2	2
Maple .....	232	247	479	-	-	-
Birch .....	35	40	75	-	27	27
Cottonwood .....	30	134	164	-	17	17
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	497	626	1,123	-	46	46
Total, softwoods & hardwoods .....	166,135	13,645	179,780	13,631	16,369	30,000
<b>UNSOLD</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	42,125	4,207	46,332	15,373	17,406	32,779
Hemlock .....	21,161	814	21,975	182	1,517	1,699
Balsam Fir .....	36	33	69	23	466	489
Red Cedar .....	15,653	1,175	16,828	1,006	1,323	2,329
Spruce .....	1,862	254	2,116	23,178	28,160	51,338
White Pine .....	718	7	725	2,557	1,645	4,202
Ponderosa Pine .....	52	2	54	5,632	2,413	8,045
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	92	1,824	1,916
All other softwoods ..	558	4	562	2,482	5,759	8,241
Total, softwoods ...	82,165	6,496	88,661	50,525	60,513	111,038
Red Alder .....	544	102	646	-	8	8
Maple .....	97	123	220	-	-	-
Birch .....	66	20	86	-	101	101
Cottonwood .....	21	67	88	9	62	71
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	728	312	1,040	9	171	180
Total, softwoods & hardwoods .....	82,893	6,808	89,701	50,534	60,684	111,218
<b>SOLD AND UNSOLD.</b>	<b>249,028</b>	<b>20,453</b>	<b>269,481</b>	<b>64,165</b>	<b>77,053</b>	<b>141,218</b>

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of June, 1951 and  
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	Month ending -			
	June 1951	1950	May 1951	1950
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<b>ORDERS ON HAND</b>				
For shipment to points in British Columbia				
Local .....	15,186	15,858	18,353	18,989
Coastwise and interior .....	4,803	2,248	3,730	2,703
Total .....	19,989	18,106	22,083	21,692
For shipment by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces .....	12,725	12,488	14,862	15,201
Eastern Provinces .....	28,813	23,044	34,962	22,085
United States of America .....	36,903	51,464	35,071	46,610
Total .....	78,441	86,996	84,895	83,896
For waterborne shipment to:				
California .....	676	2,796	310	50
U.S. Atlantic Ports .....	1,933	114,948	4,421	134,541
Eastern Canada .....	485	5,292	2,540	6,516
Export Markets .....	485,741	127,443	284,758	135,032
Total .....	488,835	250,479	292,029	276,139
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND .....	587,265	355,581	399,007	381,727
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS				
.....	7,225	9,667	7,947	8,202

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting, June, 1951.

		June		May	
		1951	1950	1951	1950
Coast .....	No.	124	128	121	115
Interior .....	No.	160	154	127	115
Total, British Columbia .....	No.	284	282	248	230

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

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