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

October, 1952

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 356,576 M ft. in October, 1952 as compared with 310,053 M ft. in October, 1951, an increase of 15.0 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 4.0 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 64.6 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 8.7 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 35.4 p.c. showed an increase of 28.6 p.c. Shipments in October, 1952 totalled 332,706 M ft., as compared with 294,940 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 12.8 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 6.7 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 26.3 p.c. Total shipments for October increased by 3.0 p.c. over the September figure of 322,897 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of October, 1952 amounted to 396,152 M ft. as compared with 396,722 M ft. at the end of October the previous year and 394,921 M ft. at the end of September of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 239,353 M ft., while Interior mills showed 156,799 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 September and October, 1951 and 1952. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 265,282 M ft. in September, 1951 to 310,053 M ft. in October, 1951 and from 342,712 M ft. in September, 1952 to 356,576 M ft. in October, 1952. Shipments totalled 322,897 M ft. in September, 1952 and 332,707 M ft. in October, 1952 as compared with 248,539 M ft. in September and 294,940 M ft. in October of 1951. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 393,150 M ft. in September, 1951 to 396,722 M ft. in October and increased from 394,921 M ft. in September, 1952 to 396,152 M ft. in October 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 221,898 M ft. in October, 1952 as compared with 121,108 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 8,624 M ft. in October as compared with 4,946 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 64.6 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in October, 1952 as compared with 68.4 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during September, 1952 and 1951 respectively, were 63.5 and 64.3 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 217,114 M ft. in October of 1952 and 208,588 M ft. in September, 1952 as compared with 203,451 M ft. in October, 1951 and 162,892 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 115,592 M ft. and 91,489 M ft. in October, 1952 and 1951 and 114,309 M ft. and 85,647 M ft. in September, 1952 and 1951. Of all shipments actually reported for October, 35.5 p.c. went to points in Canada, 43.0 p.c. to points in United States, 14.5 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 7.0 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 37.9 p.c. of the total, while 42.8 p.c. went by rail, and 19.3 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 September and October, 1952 amounted to 229,283 M ft. and 239,353 M ft. as compared with 230,965 M ft. and 240,728 M ft. in September and October of 1951. Interior mills stocks decreased from 162,185 M ft. in September to 155,994 M ft. in October, 1951 and decreased from 165,638 M ft. in September to 156,799 M ft. in October, 1952. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 27.1 p.c. of the total in October, 1952 as compared with 35.0 p.c. in October, 1951 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 80.4 and 84.6.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of September and October, 1951 and 1952 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 October, 1952 amounted to 286,566 M ft. as compared with 726,156 M ft. in October, 1951. Orders on hand at the end of September, 1952 and 1951 amounted to 255,641 M ft. and 783,350 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 4,587 M ft. in October, 1952 and 5,223 M ft. in October, 1951 as compared with 4,948 M ft. in September, 1952 and 3,148 M ft. in September, 1951.

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 October accounted for 81.9 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1950 compared with 83.2 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for September, 1951 and 1952 were 78.2 and 81.0, 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, October, 1952

	October		September		10 Months	
	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	184,814	154,673	171,597	132,575	1,339,136	1,458,662
Hemlock	54,746	57,287	60,903	40,959	531,889	588,512
Balsam Fir	1,060	2,280	1,019	1,240	8,222	13,181
Red Cedar	36,620	32,374	30,367	26,483	259,741	268,165
Spruce	59,031	45,885	59,951	46,859	471,641	446,103
White Pine	5,401	4,242	4,891	3,899	51,102	42,509
Ponderosa Pine	3,192	3,138	3,303	3,962	37,592	36,709
Lodgepole Pine	3,005	1,809	2,836	1,685	23,271	16,308
All other softwoods	8,280	7,521	7,352	6,713	64,106	62,878
Total softwoods	356,149	309,209	342,219	264,375	2,786,700	2,933,027
Red Alder	159	275	225	313	2,576	3,442
Maple	110	251	136	337	2,118	2,838
Birch	49	115	39	121	602	934
Cottonwood	109	203	92	136	1,331	1,584
All other hardwoods	-	-	1	-	3	4
Total hardwoods	427	844	493	907	6,630	8,802
Total Production	356,576	310,053	342,712	265,282	2,793,330	2,941,829
SHIPMENTS						
To: Points in Canada	101,294	85,590	101,880	80,233	853,109	860,568
Points in U.S.A.	122,626	76,192	100,924	65,844	802,889	753,617
United Kingdom	41,540	68,984	49,571	41,971	626,829	600,831
Other countries	19,738	25,923	23,053	21,356	109,571	238,482
Shipments reported	285,198	256,689	275,428	209,404	2,392,398	2,453,498
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills	47,508	38,251	47,469	39,135	382,622	378,788
Total shipments	332,706	294,940	322,897	248,539	2,775,020	2,832,286
	October		September			
	1952	1951	1952	1951		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
STOCKS ON HAND						
Douglas Fir	186,947	166,392	177,137	170,239		
Hemlock	63,537	70,520	70,395	63,713		
Balsam Fir	1,072	3,449	1,154	2,936		
Red Cedar	37,646	40,665	35,291	36,522		
Spruce	76,019	76,535	78,517	81,330		
White Pine	7,996	10,913	8,700	9,786		
Ponderosa Pine	9,734	10,694	11,288	12,612		
Lodgepole Pine	2,935	2,604	3,593	2,458		
All other softwoods	9,805	12,968	8,423	11,234		
Total softwoods	395,691	394,740	394,498	390,830		
Red Alder	157	913	165	1,158		
Maple	119	522	85	648		
Birch	53	295	37	298		
Cottonwood	132	246	136	210		
All other hardwoods	-	6	-	6		
Total hardwoods	461	1,982	423	2,320		
Total Stocks	396,152	396,722	394,921	393,150		

Table 2 - Lumber and Ties Sawn
October, 1952

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	123,418	7,654	131,072	28,513	15,579	44,092
Hemlock	47,268	1,543	48,811	2,443	1,908	4,351
Balsam Fir	190	81	271	214	530	744
Red Cedar	31,202	2,819	34,021	875	1,487	2,362
Spruce	5,762	231	5,993	33,219	19,630	52,849
White Pine	1,264	48	1,312	2,171	1,742	3,913
Ponderosa Pine	-	20	20	1,745	1,380	3,125
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	1,109	1,561	2,670
All other softwoods .	75	12	87	2,501	4,441	6,942
Total softwoods	209,179	12,408	221,587	72,790	48,258	121,048
Red Alder	27	107	134	-	10	10
Maple	45	44	89	-	-	-
Birch	10	21	31	-	8	8
Cottonwood	-	57	57	-	42	42
All other hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods ...	82	229	311	-	60	60
Total softwoods and hardwoods ...	209,261	12,637	221,898	72,790	48,318	121,108
TIES						
Douglas Fir	6,018	617	6,635	1,532	1,483	3,015
Hemlock	1,362	124	1,486	98	-	98
Balsam Fir	-	45	45	-	-	-
Red Cedar	-	237	237	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	109	80	189
White Pine	-	165	165	-	11	11
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	30	17	47
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	13	322	335
All other softwoods .	-	-	-	729	522	1,251
Total softwoods	7,380	1,188	8,568	2,511	2,435	4,946
Red Alder	-	15	15	-	-	-
Maple	-	21	21	-	-	-
Birch	-	10	10	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	10	10	-	-	-
All other hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods ...	-	56	56	-	-	-
Total softwoods and hardwoods ...	7,380	1,244	8,624	2,511	2,435	4,946
LUMBER AND TIES						
	216,641	13,881	230,522	75,301	50,753	126,054

Table 3 - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, October, 1952

	By Truck (Local Sales)	By Rail	Water- borne	Total Shipments
COAST MILLS	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	32,765	2,461	1,027	36,253
Yukon and Northwest Territories	-	-	-	-
Alberta		1,892	xxxxxx	1,892
Saskatchewan		1,175	xxxxxx	1,175
Manitoba		2,585	xxxxxx	2,585
Ontario		7,900	40	7,940
Quebec		1,627	-	1,627
New Brunswick		563	552	1,115
Nova Scotia		60	-	60
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		137	-	137
Total for Canada	32,765	18,400	1,619	52,784
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		277	3,069	3,346
Atlantic Ports		681	42,813	43,494
Other points, by rail		47,751	xxxxxx	47,751
Total for U.S.A.		48,709	45,882	94,591
United Kingdom	x	270	40,634	40,904
Other countries	x	260	19,478	19,738
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	32,765	67,639	107,613	208,017
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				9,097
Total shipments, reported and estimated				217,114
INTERIOR MILLS				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	21,693	2,488	-	24,181
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta	482	7,336	xxxxxx	7,818
Saskatchewan		5,417	xxxxxx	5,417
Manitoba		4,520	xxxxxx	4,520
Ontario		5,715	-	5,715
Quebec		810	-	810
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		25	-	25
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		24	-	24
Total for Canada	22,175	26,335	-	48,510
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		1,113	-	1,113
Atlantic Ports		42	-	42
Other points, by rail		26,880	xxxxxx	26,880
Total for U.S.A.		28,035	-	28,035
United Kingdom	x	162	474	636
Other countries	x	-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	22,175	54,532	474	77,181
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				38,411
Total shipments, reported and estimated				115,592
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4 - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills
October, 1952

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	95,412	6,265	101,677	7,463	4,164	11,627
Hemlock	41,586	1,263	42,849	262	466	728
Balsam Fir	-	95	95	-	129	129
Red Cedar	20,569	2,315	22,884	78	363	441
Spruce	4,599	175	4,774	6,228	4,810	11,038
White Pine	1,683	161	1,844	1,516	428	1,944
Ponderosa Pine ...	-	15	15	2,677	341	3,018
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	7	459	466
All other softwoods	164	9	173	147	1,212	1,359
Total softwoods ..	164,013	10,298	174,311	18,378	12,372	30,750
Red Alder	18	92	110	-	3	3
Maple	47	49	96	-	-	-
Birch	6	23	29	-	2	2
Cottonwood	-	52	52	-	10	10
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods .	71	216	287	-	15	15
Total softwoods and hardwoods ...	164,084	10,514	174,598	18,378	12,387	30,765
UNSOLD						
Douglas Fir	31,484	2,324	33,808	22,776	17,059	39,835
Hemlock	15,963	468	16,431	1,621	1,908	3,529
Balsam Fir	45	35	80	238	530	768
Red Cedar	11,336	859	12,195	639	1,487	2,126
Spruce	1,634	65	1,699	38,801	19,707	58,508
White Pine	333	60	393	2,062	1,753	3,815
Ponderosa Pine	-	7	7	5,297	1,397	6,694
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	587	1,882	2,469
All other softwoods	55	2	57	3,254	4,962	8,216
Total softwoods ..	60,850	3,820	64,670	75,275	50,685	125,960
Red Alder	-	34	34	-	10	10
Maple	5	18	23	-	-	-
Birch	-	9	9	5	8	13
Cottonwood	-	19	19	9	42	51
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods .	5	80	85	14	60	74
Total softwoods and hardwoods ...	60,855	3,900	64,755	75,289	50,745	126,034
SOLD AND UNSOLD						
UNSOLD	224,939	14,414	239,353	93,667	63,132	156,799

Table 5 - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of October, 1952 and
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	October		September	
	1952	1951	1952	1951
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
<u>For shipment to points in British Columbia</u>				
Local	7,584	13,597	9,939	14,252
Coastwise and interior	3,580	4,356	3,769	3,938
Total	11,164	17,953	13,708	18,190
<u>For shipment by rail to:</u>				
Prairie Provinces	6,725	8,728	8,031	10,171
Eastern Provinces	13,002	33,544	18,829	26,348
United States of America	44,480	32,049	45,472	30,642
Total	64,207	74,321	72,332	67,161
<u>For waterborne shipment to:</u>				
California	1,602	125	925	-
U.S. Atlantic Ports	52,703	963	59,088	1,036
Eastern Canada	-	20	2,181	-
Export Markets	156,890	632,774	107,407	696,963
Total	211,195	633,882	169,601	697,999
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	286,566	726,156	255,641	783,350
<u>LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS</u>				
	4,587	5,223	4,948	3,148

Table 6 - Number of Active Mills Reporting
October, 1952

	October		September	
	1952	1951	1952	1951
Coast No.	103	115	104	115
Interior No.	237	184	229	175
Total, British Columbia No.	340	299	333	290

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

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