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

January, 1953.

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 274,359 M ft. in January, 1953 as compared with 248,374 M ft. in January, 1952 an increase of 10.5 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 4.7 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 72.7 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 8.6 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 27.3 p.c. showed an increase of 15.8 p.c. Shipments in January, 1953 totalled 256,713 M ft., as compared with 234,921 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 9.3 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 4.1 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 24.9 p.c. Total shipments for January decreased by 1.1 p.c. from the December figure of 259,619 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of January, 1953 amounted to 426,493 M ft., as compared with 436,278 M ft. at the end of January the previous year and 415,799 M ft. at the end of December, 1952. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 263,296 M ft., while Interior mills showed 163,197 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 January, 1952 and 1953 and December, 1951 and 1952. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 220,192 M ft. in December, 1951 to 248,374 M ft. in January, 1952 and from 262,027 M ft. in December, 1952 to 274,359 M ft. in January, 1953. Shipments totalled 259,619 M ft. in December, 1952 and 256,713 M ft. in January, 1953 as compared with 225,596 M ft. in December, 1951 and 234,921 M ft. in January of 1952. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 435,954 M ft. in December, 1951 to 436,278 M ft. in January, 1952 and increased from 415,799 M ft. in December, 1952 to 426,493 M ft. in January 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 197,691 M ft. in January, 1953 as compared with 72,829 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 1,672 M ft. in January as compared with 2,167 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 72.7 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in January, 1953 as compared with 73.9 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during December, 1952 and 1951 respectively, were 70.1 and 71.3 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 184,152 M ft. in January of 1953 and 178,250 M ft. in December, 1952 as compared with 176,830 M ft. in January, 1952 and 166,929 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 72,561 M ft. and 58,091 M ft. in January, 1953 and 1952 and 81,369 M ft. and 58,667 M ft. in December, 1952 and 1951. Of all shipments actually reported for January, 34.3 p.c. went to points in Canada, 40.3 p.c. to points in United States, 19.4 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 6.0 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 38.9 p.c. of the total, while 43.1 p.c. went by rail, and 18.0 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 December, 1952 and January, 1953 amounted to 244,192 M ft. and 263,296 M ft. as compared with 256,655 M ft. and 258,450 M ft. in December, 1951 and January of 1952. Interior mills stocks decreased from 179,299 M ft. in December, 1951 to 177,828 M ft. in January, 1952 and decreased from 171,607 M ft. in December, 1952 to 163,197 M ft. in January, 1953. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 26.1 p.c. of the total in January, 1953 as compared with 30.5 p.c. in January, 1952 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 81.0 and 83.1.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of December, 1951 and 1952 and January, 1952 and 1953 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 January, 1953 amounted to 343,610 M ft. as compared with 577,265 M ft. in January, 1952. Orders on hand at the end of December, 1952 and 1951 amounted to 318,928 M ft. and 599,889 M ft. respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 3,931 M ft. in January, 1953 and 2,348 M ft. in January, 1952 as compared with 3,607 M ft. in December, 1952 and 3,427 M ft. in December 1951.

Active Mills Reporting

Table 6 gives the number of active mills reporting each month for Coast and Interior of British Columbia. The mills reporting for January accounted for 84.9 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1950 compared with 86.4 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for December, 1951 and 1952 were 84.4 and 84.3 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, January, 1953.

	January		December	
	1953	1952	1952	1951
PRODUCTION				
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
Douglas Fir	127,953	119,363	124,578	111,157
Hemlock	62,887	51,840	53,978	44,704
Balsam Fir	636	526	695	612
Red Cedar	29,706	27,633	27,330	22,519
Spruce	39,549	35,671	42,382	29,736
White Pine	4,160	5,018	3,719	3,558
Ponderosa Pine	1,598	1,462	1,552	1,553
Lodgepole Pine	2,536	1,554	2,136	1,358
All other softwoods	4,868	4,531	5,332	4,352
Total softwoods	273,893	247,598	261,702	219,549
Red Alder	243	363	136	242
Maple	145	269	115	208
Birch	31	46	25	82
Cottonwood	47	98	49	111
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods	466	776	325	643
Total Production	274,359	248,374	262,027	220,192
SHIPMENTS				
To: Points in Canada	77,503	61,724	78,157	55,372
Points in U.S.A.	90,987	64,617	92,051	50,871
United Kingdom	43,775	65,948	36,525	60,196
Other countries	13,501	17,493	19,473	26,287
Shipments reported	225,766	209,782	226,206	192,726
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills	30,947	25,139	33,413	32,870
Total shipments	256,713	234,921	259,619	225,596
	January		December	
	1953	1952	1952	1951
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
STOCKS ON HAND				
Douglas Fir	192,022	186,344	189,744	193,948
Hemlock	82,605	76,230	72,258	72,448
Balsam Fir	940	4,286	925	1,494
Red Cedar	42,554	43,872	38,781	43,825
Spruce	79,270	82,573	82,917	79,089
White Pine	8,132	15,123	9,098	13,423
Ponderosa Pine	8,095	12,024	9,302	12,972
Lodgepole Pine	3,379	3,519	3,267	3,105
All other softwoods	8,699	11,096	8,840	13,880
Total softwoods	425,696	435,067	415,132	434,184
Red Alder	381	462	165	620
Maple	231	453	252	644
Birch	70	130	64	305
Cottonwood	115	166	150	201
All other hardwoods	-	-	36	-
Total hardwoods	797	1,211	667	1,770
Total Stocks	426,493	436,278	415,799	435,954

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn

January, 1953

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	95,738	4,728	100,466	15,265	9,264	24,529
Hemlock	60,197	1,302	61,499	604	618	1,222
Balsam Fir	60	66	126	218	292	510
Red Cedar	26,185	2,139	28,324	1,001	336	1,337
Spruce	3,653	339	3,992	19,596	15,928	35,524
White Pine	2,550	20	2,570	790	766	1,556
Ponderosa Pine	-	17	17	767	807	1,574
Lodgepole Pine	5	-	5	1,263	1,104	2,367
All other softwoods	242	11	253	1,805	2,379	4,184
Total, softwoods ..	188,630	8,622	197,252	41,309	31,494	72,803
Red Alder	192	50	242	-	1	1
Maple	111	33	144	-	-	-
Birch	7	18	25	-	6	6
Cottonwood	-	28	28	6	13	19
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	310	129	439	6	20	26
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	188,940	8,751	197,691	41,315	31,514	72,829
TIES						
Douglas Fir	1,358	73	1,431	837	690	1,527
Hemlock	153	13	166	-	-	-
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar	-	45	45	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	-	33	33
White Pine	-	29	29	-	5	5
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	-	7	7
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	20	144	164
All other softwoods	-	-	-	219	212	431
Total, softwoods ..	1,511	160	1,671	1,076	1,091	2,167
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	1	1	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ..	-	1	1	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	1,511	161	1,672	1,076	1,091	2,167
LUMBER AND TIES	190,451	8,912	199,363	42,391	32,605	74,996

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, January, 1953.

	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.
<u>COAST MILLS</u>				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia	25,380	2,703	520	28,603
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta		2,799	xxxxxx	2,799
Saskatchewan		1,236	xxxxxx	1,236
Manitoba		2,772	xxxxxx	2,772
Ontario		7,556	-	7,556
Quebec		1,541	-	1,541
New Brunswick		142	-	142
Nova Scotia		94	-	94
Prince Edward Island		28	-	28
Newfoundland		40	-	40
Total for Canada	25,380	18,911	520	44,811
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports		308	2,220	2,528
Atlantic Ports		6,637	28,511	35,148
Other points, by rail		38,486	xxxxxx	38,486
Total for U.S.A.		45,431	30,731	76,162
United Kingdomx		240	43,042	43,282
Other countriesx		478	13,023	13,501
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	25,380	65,060	87,316	177,756
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				6,396
Total shipments, reported and estimated				184,152
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia	15,145	2,097	-	17,242
Yukon and Northwest Territories		115	-	115
Alberta	136	5,550	xxxxxx	5,686
Saskatchewan		3,659	xxxxxx	3,659
Manitoba		2,290	xxxxxx	2,290
Ontario		2,846	-	2,846
Quebec		826	-	826
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		-	-	-
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		28	-	28
Total for Canada	15,281	17,411	-	32,692
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports		-	-	-
Atlantic Ports		105	-	105
Other points, by rail		14,720	xxxxxx	14,720
Total for U.S.A.		14,825	-	14,825
United Kingdomx		20	473	493
Other countriesx		-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	15,281	32,256	473	48,010
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				24,551
Total shipments, reported and estimated				72,561
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills,

January, 1953.

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	97,524	4,685	102,209	6,932	4,108	11,040
Hemlock	59,654	1,283	60,937	50	256	306
Balsam Fir	-	64	64	-	121	121
Red Cedar	21,056	2,131	23,187	69	139	208
Spruce	4,496	331	4,827	7,215	6,587	13,802
White Pine	2,821	48	2,869	937	319	1,256
Ponderosa Pine	-	16	16	1,804	336	2,140
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	135	515	650
All other softwoods ..	299	11	310	349	1,067	1,416
Total, softwoods	185,850	8,569	194,419	17,491	13,448	30,939
Red Alder	-	49	49	-	1	1
Maple	-	33	33	-	-	-
Birch	-	18	18	-	2	2
Cottonwood	-	27	27	-	5	5
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	-	127	127	-	8	8
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	185,850	8,696	194,546	17,491	13,456	30,947
<u>UNSOLD</u>						
Douglas Fir	30,346	1,655	32,001	29,216	17,556	46,772
Hemlock	17,231	453	17,684	2,586	1,092	3,678
Balsam Fir	14	23	37	201	517	718
Red Cedar	16,246	753	16,999	1,568	592	2,160
Spruce	948	117	1,065	31,428	28,148	59,576
White Pine	335	17	352	2,293	1,362	3,655
Ponderosa Pine	-	6	6	4,496	1,437	5,933
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	528	2,201	2,729
All other softwoods ..	8	4	12	2,398	4,563	6,961
Total, softwoods	65,128	3,028	68,156	74,714	57,468	132,182
Red Alder	312	17	329	-	2	2
Maple	186	12	198	-	-	-
Birch	28	6	34	6	10	16
Cottonwood	23	10	33	28	22	50
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ...	549	45	594	34	34	68
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	65,677	3,073	68,750	74,748	57,502	132,250
<u>SOLD and UNSOLD</u> ...	251,527	11,769	263,296	92,239	70,958	163,197

Table 5 - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of January, 1953 and
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	January		December	
	1953	1952	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	9,545	15,089	6,130	14,607
Coastwise and interior	4,870	6,304	4,127	4,057
Total	14,415	21,393	10,257	18,664
<u>For shipment by rail to:</u>				
Prairie Provinces	12,909	10,017	10,636	8,337
Eastern Provinces	20,823	31,278	17,696	32,993
United States of America	43,001	45,465	41,931	38,253
Total	76,733	86,760	70,263	79,583
<u>For waterborne shipment to:</u>				
California	825	1,071	5,000	796
U.S. Atlantic Ports	52,951	1,550	44,934	1,721
Eastern Canada	1,057	-	284	-
Export Markets	197,629	466,491	188,190	499,125
Total	252,462	469,112	238,408	501,642
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	343,610	577,265	318,928	599,889
<u>LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS</u>				
OTHER MILLS	3,931	2,348	3,607	3,427

Table 6 - Number of Active Mills Reporting

January, 1953

		January		December	
		1953	1952	1952	1951
Coast	No.	98	87	101	108
Interior	No.	181	140	197	160
Total, British Columbia	No.	279	227	298	268

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

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