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

November, 1953

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 266,235 M ft. in November, 1953 as compared with 309,226 M ft. in November, 1952 a decrease of 13.9 p.c. from the previous year and a decrease of 11.4 p.c. from the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 79.0 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 3.2 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 21.0 p.c. showed a decrease of 46.9 p.c. Shipments in November, 1953 totalled 256,199 M ft., as compared with 268,241 M ft. the previous year, a decrease of 4.5 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 9.2 p.c. but Interior mills a decrease of 35.5 p.c. Total shipments for November decreased by 12.5 p.c. from the October figure of 292,883 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of November, 1953 amounted to 462,381 M ft., as compared with 400,086 M ft. at the end of November the previous year and 458,591 M ft. at the end of October of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 275,321 M ft., while Interior mills showed 187,060 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 October and November, 1952 and 1953. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production decreased from 395,233 M ft. in October, 1952 to 309,226 M ft. in November, 1952 and from 300,544 M ft. in October to 266,235 M ft. in November, 1953. Shipments totalled 292,883 M ft. in October 1953 and 256,199 M ft. in November, 1953 as compared with 332,706 M ft. in October and 268,241 M ft. in November of 1952. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 396,152 M ft. in October, 1952 to 400,086 M ft. in November and increased from 458,591 M ft. in October, 1953 to 462,381 M ft. in November 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 205,283 M ft. in November, 1953 as compared with 53,694 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 5,037 M ft. in November as compared with 2,221 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 79.0 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in November, 1953 as compared with 65.9 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during October, 1953 and 1952 respectively, were 74.2 and 61.1 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 203,032 M ft. in November of 1953 and 210,772 M ft. in October, 1953 as compared with 185,857 M ft. in November, 1952 and 217,114 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 53,167 M ft. and 82,384 M ft. in November, 1953 and 1952 and 82,111 M ft. and 115,592 M ft. in October, 1953 and 1952. Of all shipments actually reported for November, 28.2 p.c. went to points in Canada, 37.9 p.c. to points in United States, 20.2 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 13.7 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 50.5 p.c. of the total, while 34.6 p.c. went by rail, and 14.9 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 October and November, 1953 amounted to 271,107 M ft. and 275,321 M ft. as compared with 239,353 M ft. and 245,908 M ft. in October and November of 1952. Interior mills stocks decreased from 156,799 M ft. in October to 154,178 M ft. in November, 1952 and decreased from 187,484 M ft. in October to 187,060 M ft. in November, 1953. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 29.8 p.c. of the total in November, 1953 as compared with 27.3 p.c. in November, 1952 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 89.4 and 77.6.

### Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of October and November, 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 November, 1953 amounted to 335,519 M ft. as compared with 317,248 M ft. in November, 1952. Orders on hand at the end of October, 1953 and 1952 amounted to 292,114 M ft. and 286,566 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 10,054 M ft. in November, 1953 and 5,245 M ft. in November, 1952 as compared with 3,189 M ft. in October, 1953 and 4,587 M ft. in October, 1952.

### 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 November accounted for 86.9 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1951 compared with 75.0 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for October, 1952 and 1953 were 73.9 and 87.0 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, November, 1953

	November		October		11 Months	
	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952
	M ft	M ft	M ft	M ft	M ft	M ft
<b>PRODUCTION</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	138,785	153,655	159,743	201,375	1,681,200	1,615,526
Hemlock .....	64,536	55,108	64,067	58,155	692,213	617,664
Balsam Fir .....	553	1,085	691	1,243	12,335	10,851
Red Cedar .....	29,939	31,388	34,631	38,843	381,080	307,179
Spruce .....	20,834	49,449	25,496	71,407	554,480	620,579
White Pine .....	3,284	5,515	3,574	6,360	56,282	65,946
Ponderosa Pine .....	2,725	3,218	2,864	3,907	40,151	49,238
Lodgepole Pine .....	1,293	2,639	2,276	3,615	31,272	30,460
All other softwoods .....	4,022	6,760	6,904	9,872	81,549	83,586
Total Softwoods .....	265,971	308,817	300,246	394,777	3,530,562	3,401,029
Red Alder .....	150	147	119	168	2,204	2,861
Maple .....	78	99	104	114	1,742	2,314
Birch .....	18	48	24	53	383	718
Cottonwood .....	18	115	51	121	510	1,572
All other hardwoods .....	-	-	-	-	-	3
Total hardwoods .....	264	409	298	456	4,839	7,468
Total Production .....	266,235	309,226	300,544	395,233	3,535,401	3,408,497
<b>SHIPMENTS</b>						
To: Points in Canada .....	65,056	80,778	82,062	101,294	1,047,553	933,887
Points in U.S.A. ....	87,463	98,888	107,471	122,626	1,159,581	901,777
United Kingdom .....	46,625	29,718	36,512	41,540	416,838	656,547
Other countries .....	31,930	22,244	35,452	19,738	285,129	131,815
Shipments reported .....	231,074	231,628	261,497	285,198	2,909,101	2,624,026
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....	25,125	36,613	31,386	47,508	421,842	419,235
Total Shipments .....	256,199	268,241	292,883	332,706	3,330,943	3,043,261
<b>STOCKS ON HAND</b>						
	November		October			
	1953	1952	1953	1952		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir .....	208,751	187,330	207,714	186,947		
Hemlock .....	87,388	68,888	81,927	63,537		
Balsam Fir .....	2,244	975	1,210	1,072		
Red Cedar .....	45,149	38,808	47,626	37,646		
Spruce .....	81,120	71,461	80,359	76,019		
White Pine .....	12,375	9,553	11,040	7,996		
Ponderosa Pine .....	10,028	10,005	19,254	9,734		
Lodgepole Pine .....	3,715	3,018	3,600	2,935		
All other softwoods .....	11,417	9,358	14,571	9,805		
Total softwoods .....	462,187	399,396	458,301	395,691		
Red Alder .....	63	235	101	157		
Maple .....	54	212	98	119		
Birch .....	40	76	47	53		
Cottonwood .....	34	167	44	132		
All other hardwoods .....	3	-	-	-		
Total hardwoods .....	194	690	290	461		
Total Stocks .....	462,381	400,086	458,591	396,152		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn  
November, 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.
<b>Lumber</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	104,351	4,626	108,977	13,582	9,716	23,298
Hemlock .....	60,337	1,013	61,350	2,333	457	2,790
Balsam Fir .....	130	60	190	58	305	363
Red Cedar .....	27,956	872	28,828	894	217	1,111
Spruce .....	3,361	440	3,801	6,148	10,879	17,027
White Pine .....	1,233	53	1,286	1,315	668	1,983
Ponderosa Pine.....	32	26	58	2,032	631	2,663
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	1	1	283	847	1,130
All other softwoods ...	517	28	545	943	2,369	3,312
Total, softwoods.....	197,917	7,119	205,036	27,588	26,089	53,677
Red Alder .....	103	46	149	-	1	1
Maple .....	37	41	78	-	-	-
Birch .....	1	7	8	-	8	10
Cottonwood .....	2	10	12	2	6	6
All other hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods.....	143	104	247	2	15	17
Total, softwoods and hardwoods .....	198,060	7,223	205,283	27,590	26,104	53,694
<b>Ties</b>						
Douglas Fir .....	4,418	225	4,643	944	923	1,867
Hemlock .....	352	42	394	-	2	2
Balsam Fir .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce .....	-	-	-	-	6	6
White Pine .....	-	-	-	-	15	15
Ponderosa Pine.....	-	-	-	-	4	4
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	-	162	162
All other softwoods ..	-	-	-	37	128	165
Total, softwoods .....	4,770	267	5,037	981	1,240	2,221
Red Alder .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods .....	4,770	267	5,037	981	1,240	2,221
<b>Lumber and Ties</b>	<b>202,830</b>	<b>7,490</b>	<b>210,320</b>	<b>28,571</b>	<b>27,344</b>	<b>55,915</b>

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

	By Truck (Local Sales) M ft.b.m.	By Rail M ft.b.m.	Water- borne M ft.b.m.	Total Shipments M ft.b.m.
<u>COAST MILLS</u>				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia .....	27,776	1,865	694	30,335
Yukon and Northwest Territories .....	-	-	-	-
Alberta .....	-	1,980	xxxxxx	1,980
Saskatchewan .....	-	1,449	xxxxxx	1,449
Manitoba .....	-	2,593	xxxxxx	2,593
Ontario .....	-	6,933	-	6,933
Quebec .....	-	1,622	-	1,622
New Brunswick .....	-	64	-	64
Nova Scotia .....	-	113	-	113
Prince Edward Island .....	-	-	-	-
Newfoundland .....	-	69	-	69
Total for Canada .....	27,776	16,688	694	45,158
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports .....	-	474	1,052	1,526
Atlantic Ports .....	-	822	38,028	38,850
Other points, by rail .....	-	33,780	xxxxxx	33,780
Total for U.S.A. ....	-	35,076	39,080	74,156
United Kingdom ..... <sup>x</sup>	-	1,614	44,301	45,915
Other countries ..... <sup>x</sup>	-	25	31,867	31,892
Destination or carrier not specified .....	-	-	-	-
Total shipments reported .....	27,776	53,403	115,942	197,121
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....	-	-	-	5,911
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....	-	-	-	203,032
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia .....	6,188	658	-	6,846
Yukon and Northwest Territories .....	-	21	-	21
Alberta .....	563	3,155	xxxxxx	3,718
Saskatchewan .....	-	2,860	xxxxxx	2,860
Manitoba .....	-	2,424	xxxxxx	2,424
Ontario .....	-	3,665	-	3,665
Quebec .....	-	317	-	317
New Brunswick .....	-	-	-	-
Nova Scotia .....	-	-	-	-
Prince Edward Island .....	-	-	-	-
Newfoundland .....	-	47	-	47
Total for Canada .....	6,751	13,147	-	19,898
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports .....	-	155	-	155
Atlantic Ports .....	-	-	-	-
Other points, by rail .....	-	13,152	xxxxxx	13,152
Total for U.S.A. ....	-	13,307	-	13,307
United Kingdom ..... <sup>x</sup>	-	-	710	710
Other countries ..... <sup>x</sup>	-	-	38	38
Destination or carrier not specified .....	-	-	-	-
Total shipments reported .....	6,751	26,454	748	33,953
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills .....	-	-	-	19,214
Total shipments, reported and estimated .....	-	-	-	53,167
<sup>x</sup> Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				



Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills  
November, 1953

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS		
	Reported	Estimated	Total	Reported	Estimated	Total
	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m.
<u>Sold (but not shipped)</u>						
Douglas Fir .....	98,187	4,456	102,643	4,697	3,777	8,474
Hemlock .....	60,684	969	61,653	193	163	356
Balsam Fir .....	550	55	605	-	108	108
Red Cedar .....	19,844	801	20,645	207	77	284
Spruce .....	3,854	404	4,258	1,375	3,864	5,239
White Pine .....	2,776	49	2,825	1,921	242	2,163
Ponderosa Pine .....	-	24	24	1,693	225	1,918
Longepole Pine .....	-	1	1	7	358	365
All other softwoods ..	445	26	471	49	888	937
Total, softwoods .....	186,340	6,785	193,125	10,142	9,702	19,844
Red Alder .....	-	42	42	-	-	-
Maple .....	-	38	38	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	6	6	-	3	3
Cottonwood .....	-	10	10	-	2	2
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ....	-	96	96	-	5	5
Total, softwoods and hardwoods .....	186,340	6,881	193,221	10,142	9,707	19,849
<u>Unsold</u>						
Douglas Fir .....	37,161	1,893	39,054	26,765	31,815	58,580
Hemlock .....	19,013	412	19,425	4,581	1,373	5,954
Balsam Fir .....	8	23	31	588	912	1,500
Red Cedar .....	20,653	341	20,994	2,577	649	3,226
Spruce .....	983	172	1,155	37,917	32,551	70,468
White Pine .....	1,136	21	1,157	4,188	2,042	6,230
Ponderosa Pine .....	10	10	20	6,167	1,899	8,066
Lodgepole Pine .....	-	-	-	332	3,017	3,349
All other softwoods ..	209	11	220	2,321	7,468	9,789
Total, softwoods .....	79,173	2,883	82,056	85,436	81,726	167,162
Red Alder .....	-	18	18	-	3	3
Maple .....	-	16	16	-	-	-
Birch .....	-	3	3	4	24	28
Cottonwood .....	-	4	4	-	18	18
All other hardwoods ..	3	-	3	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods ....	3	41	44	4	45	49
Total, softwoods and hardwoods .....	79,176	2,924	82,100	85,440	81,771	167,211
<u>Sold and Unsold</u>	265,516	9,805	275,321	95,582	91,478	187,060

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

	November		October	
	1953	1952	1953	1952
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipment to points in British Columbia				
Local .....	10,598	7,691	11,913	7,584
Coastwise and Interior .....	2,664	4,555	2,966	3,580
Total .....	13,262	12,246	14,879	11,164
For shipment by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces .....	5,318	7,592	6,402	6,725
Eastern Provinces .....	13,477	16,748	12,015	13,002
United States of America .....	28,044	38,165	34,873	44,480
Total .....	46,839	62,505	53,290	64,207
For waterborne shipment to:				
California .....	3,903	1,081	120	1,602
U.S. Atlantic Ports .....	46,237	47,603	38,408	52,703
Eastern Canada .....	1,150	110	1,450	-
Exports Markets .....	224,128	193,703	183,967	156,890
Total .....	275,418	242,497	223,945	211,195
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND .....	335,519	317,248	292,114	286,566
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS .....	10,054	5,245	3,189	4,587

Table 6 - Number of Active Mills Reporting

November, 1953

		November		October	
		1953	1952	1953	1952
Coast .....	No.	99	99	102	103
Interior .....	No.	136	211	199	237
Total, British Columbia	No.	235	310	301	340

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

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