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

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 388,769 M ft. in October, 1954 as compared with 308,159 M ft. in October, 1953, an increase of 26.2 p.c. over the previous year but a decrease of 7.8 p.c. from the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 60.5 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 3.3 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 39.5 p.c. showed an increase of 91.0 p.c. Shipments in October, 1954 totalled 348,077 M ft., as compared with 292,883 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 18.8 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 7.3 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 48.4 p.c. Total shipments for October decreased by 22.2 p.c. from the September figure of 447,545 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of October, 1954 amounted to 461,133 M ft., as compared with 458,591 M ft. at the end of October the previous year and 417,629 M ft. at the end of September of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 263,083 M ft., while Interior mills showed 198,050 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 1953 and 1954. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production decreased from 356,117 M ft. in September, 1953 to 308,159 M ft. in October, 1953 and from 421,754 M ft. in September, to 388,769 M ft. in October, 1954. Shipments totalled 447,545 M ft. in September 1954 and 348,077 M ft. in October, 1954 as compared with 324,716 M ft. in September and 292,883 M ft. in October of 1953. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 473,968 M ft. in September, 1953 to 458,591 M ft. in October 1953 but increased from 417,629 M ft. in September, 1954 to 461,133 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 235,196 M ft. in October, 1954 as compared with 152,547 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 88 M ft. in October as compared with 938 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 60.5 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in October, 1954 as compared with 74.0 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during September, 1954 and September, 1953 respectively, were 60.5 and 63.8 p.c.

Prepared in the Forestry Section, Industry and Merchandising Division.

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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 226,195 M ft. in October of 1954 and 261,888 M ft. in September, 1954 as compared with 210,772 M ft. in October, 1953 and 216,300 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 121,882 M ft. and 82,111 M ft. in October, 1954 and 1953 and 185,657 M ft. and 108,416 M ft. in September, 1954 and 1953. Of all shipments actually reported for October, 32.6 p.c. went to points in Canada, 40.1 p.c. to points in United States, 17.2 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 10.1 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 37.1 p.c. of the total, while 42.9 p.c. went by rail, and 20.0 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 September and October, 1954 amounted to 253,167 M ft. and 263,083 M ft. as compared with 269,863 M ft. and 271,107 M ft. in September and October of 1953. Interior mills stocks decreased from 204,105 M ft. in September to 187,484 M ft. in October, 1953 and increased from 164,012 M ft. in September to 198,050 M ft. in October, 1954. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 25.1 p.c. of the total in October, 1954 as compared with 30.3 p.c. in October, 1953 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 84.8 and 87.4.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of September and October, 1953 and 1954 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, 1954 amounted to 374,433 M ft. as compared with 292,114 M ft. in October, 1953. Orders on hand at the end of September, 1954 and 1953 amounted to 359,003 M ft. and 240,209 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 4,925 M ft. in October, 1954 and 3,189 M ft. in October, 1953 as compared with 5,454 M ft. in September, 1954 and 4,733 M ft. in September, 1953.

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 78.2 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1952 compared with 87.0 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for September, 1953 and 1954 were 80.4 and 78.4 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, 1954

	October		September		10 Months	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	163,665	181,085	166,416	186,841	1,581,085	1,666,258
Hemlock	65,487	78,000	69,686	84,834	641,837	654,330
Balsam Fir	716	2,624	1,577	1,923	12,161	13,985
Red Cedar	35,419	40,407	33,825	48,630	359,117	396,375
Spruce	26,387	63,124	61,680	70,598	536,430	578,275
White Pine	3,696	5,221	5,598	7,040	54,769	50,921
Ponderosa Pine	2,971	4,059	3,892	5,683	38,813	39,819
Lodgepole Pine	2,358	3,183	3,214	3,909	30,920	30,248
All other softwoods ..	7,155	10,504	10,035	11,901	80,185	83,535
Total softwoods	307,854	388,207	355,923	421,359	3,335,317	3,513,746
Red Alder	122	273	67	134	2,101	1,190
Maple	106	137	73	119	1,700	1,023
Birch	25	74	30	61	377	455
Cottonwood	52	78	24	81	505	654
All other hardwoods ..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods	305	562	194	395	4,683	3,322
Total production	308,159	388,769	356,117	421,754	3,340,000	3,517,068
SHIPMENTS						
To: Points in Canada ..	82,062	100,928	99,344	119,766	982,497	1,005,820
Points in U.S.A. ..	107,471	124,230	118,542	139,663	1,072,118	1,145,049
United Kingdom ..	36,512	53,327	34,889	57,008	370,213	542,545
Other Countries ..	35,452	31,371	25,815	31,854	253,199	280,127
Shipments reported....	261,497	309,856	278,590	348,291	2,678,027	2,973,541
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills	31,386	38,221	46,126	99,254	396,717	582,399
Total shipments	292,883	348,077	324,716	447,545	3,074,744	3,555,940
STOCKS ON HAND						
	October		September			
	1953	1954	1953	1954		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir	207,714	187,143	209,226	165,597		
Hemlock	81,927	89,178	81,895	76,774		
Balsam Fir	1,210	4,168	1,574	761		
Red Cedar	47,626	50,366	46,088	52,492		
Spruce	80,359	88,494	95,615	79,436		
White Pine	11,040	19,239	12,498	13,931		
Ponderosa Pine	10,254	10,546	9,308	16,209		
Lodgepole Pine	3,600	5,484	3,766	5,417		
All other softwoods ..	14,571	6,017	13,777	6,539		
Total softwoods	458,301	460,635	473,747	417,156		
Red Alder	101	71	75	7		
Maple	98	18	63	-		
Birch	47	40	49	24		
Cottonwood	44	364	34	436		
All other hardwoods ...	-	5	-	6		
Total hardwoods	290	498	221	473		
Total stocks	458,591	461,133	473,968	417,620		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, October, 1954.

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.....	107,301	9,131	116,432	35,993	27,891	63,884
Hemlock	70,414	1,825	72,239	4,443	1,296	5,739
Balsam Fir	1,176	91	1,267	760	596	1,356
Red Cedar	36,786	2,034	38,820	916	671	1,587
Spruce	4,434	574	5,008	29,701	28,405	58,106
White Pine	557	6	563	2,463	2,194	4,657
Ponderosa Pine ...	-	161	161	888	2,999	3,887
Lodgepole Pine ...	-	-	-	1,038	2,084	3,122
All other softwoods.	178	14	192	4,339	5,822	10,161
Total, softwoods ..	220,846	13,836	234,682	80,541	71,958	152,499
Red Alder	169	104	273	-	-	-
Maple	105	32	137	-	-	-
Birch	26	12	38	18	18	36
Cottonwood	-	66	66	2	10	12
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	300	214	514	20	28	48
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	221,146	14,050	235,196	80,561	71,986	152,547
TIES						
Douglas Fir	67	15	82	282	405	687
Hemlock	-	6	6	-	16	16
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	1	1
Red Cedar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	-	10	10
White Pine	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ponderosa Pine ...	-	-	-	-	11	11
Lodgepole Pine ...	-	-	-	18	43	61
All other softwoods	-	-	-	98	53	151
Total, softwoods ..	67	21	88	398	540	938
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods .	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ...	67	21	88	398	540	938
LUMBER AND TIES	221,213	14,071	235,284	80,959	72,526	153,485

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties

	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.
COAST MILLS				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	38,958	2,073	2,014	43,045
Yukon and Northwest Territories		19	-	19
Alberta		1,281	xxxxxxx	1,281
Saskatchewan		790	xxxxxxx	790
Manitoba		591	xxxxxxx	591
Ontario		5,832	-	5,832
Quebec		1,801	-	1,801
New Brunswick		46	-	46
Nova Scotia		44	-	44
Prince Edward Island		7	-	7
Newfoundland		67	-	67
Total for Canada	38,958	12,551	2,014	53,523
<u>Points in U. S. A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		1,616	1,174	2,790
Atlantic Ports		9,472	29,836	39,308
Other points, by rail		39,654	xxxxxxx	39,654
Total for U. S. A.		50,742	31,010	81,752
United Kingdomx		1,271	50,457	51,728
Other countriesx		368	30,827	31,195
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	38,958	64,932	114,308	218,198
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				7,997
Total shipments, reported and estimated				226,195
INTERIOR MILLS				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	20,677	3,331	-	24,008
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta	2,351	5,565	xxxxxxx	7,916
Saskatchewan		3,001	xxxxxxx	3,001
Manitoba		5,918	xxxxxxx	5,918
Ontario		6,226	-	6,226
Quebec		303	-	303
New Brunswick		33	-	33
Nova Scotia		-	-	-
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		-	-	-
Total for Canada	23,028	24,377	-	47,405
<u>Points in U. S. A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		18	-	18
Atlantic Ports		86	-	86
Other points, by rail		42,374	xxxxxxx	42,374
Total for U. S. A.		42,478	-	42,478
United Kingdomx		1,019	580	1,599
Other countriesx		-	176	176
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported	23,028	67,874	756	91,658
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				30,224
Total shipments, reported and estimated				121,882
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills

October 31, 1954.

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	86,845	5,524	92,369	6,920	6,199	13,119
Hemlock	61,824	3,933	65,757	210	188	398
Balsam Fir	668	42	710	19	17	36
Red Cedar	26,981	1,716	28,697	35	31	66
Spruce	4,796	305	5,101	4,939	4,425	9,364
White Pine	3,420	218	3,638	1,938	1,736	3,674
Ponderosa Pine ...	-	-	-	1,513	1,355	2,868
Lodgepole Pine....	-	-	-	72	64	136
All other softwoods.	750	48	798	280	252	532
Total, softwoods..	185,284	11,786	197,070	15,926	14,267	30,193
Red Alder.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods..	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	185,284	11,786	197,070	15,926	14,267	30,193
UNSOLD						
Douglas Fir	28,883	1,837	30,720	26,867	24,068	50,935
Hemlock	14,720	936	15,656	3,886	3,481	7,367
Balsam Fir	62	4	66	1,770	1,586	3,356
Red Cedar	15,003	954	15,957	2,978	2,668	5,646
Spruce	1,310	84	1,394	38,313	34,322	72,635
White Pine	1,675	107	1,782	5,351	4,794	10,145
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	4,050	3,628	7,678
Lodgepole Pine....	-	-	-	2,821	2,527	5,348
All other softwoods .	296	19	315	2,306	2,066	4,372
Total, softwoods...	61,949	3,941	65,890	88,342	79,140	167,482
Red Alder	67	4	71	-	-	-
Maple	17	1	18	-	-	-
Birch	27	2	29	6	5	11
Cottonwood	-	-	-	192	172	364
All other hardwoods .	5	-	5	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods..	116	7	123	198	177	375
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	62,065	3,948	66,013	88,540	79,317	167,857
SOLD AND UNSOLD	247,349	15,734	263,083	104,466	93,584	198,050

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of October, 1954 and
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	October		September	
	1953	1943	1953	1954
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipment to points in British Columbia				
Local	11,913	15,241	10,321	14,773
Coastwise and Interior	2,966	1,619	2,715	2,021
Total	14,879	16,860	13,036	16,794
For shipment by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	6,402	5,526	5,875	4,916
Eastern Provinces	12,015	10,114	10,385	10,715
United States of America	34,873	48,663	30,324	52,780
Total	53,290	64,303	46,584	68,411
For waterborne shipments to:				
California	120	737	610	745
U.S. Atlantic Ports	38,408	42,289	33,933	32,750
Eastern Markets	1,450	433	-	125
Export Markets	183,967	249,811	146,046	240,178
Total	223,945	293,270	180,589	273,798
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	292,114	374,433	240,209	359,003
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS				
	3,189	4,925	4,733	5,454

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

October, 1954.

	October		September	
	1953	1954	1953	1954
Coast	No. 102	119	105	115
Interior	No. 199	267	210	279
Total British Columbia	No. 301	386	315	394

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

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