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Research Department

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

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 376,324 M ft. in November, 1954 as compared with 272,726 M ft. in November, 1953, an increase of 38.0 p.c. over the previous year and a decrease of 3.2 p.c. from the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 63.1 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 10.6 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 36.9 p.c. showed an increase of 139.7 p.c. Shipments in November, 1954 totalled 343,582 M ft., as compared with 256,199 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 34.1 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 10.9 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 145.3 p.c. Total shipments for November decreased by 1.3 p.c. from the October figure of 348,077 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of November, 1954 amounted to 485,147 M ft., as compared with 462,381 M ft. at the end of November the previous year and 461,133 M ft. at the end of October of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 279,851 M ft., while Interior mills showed 205,296 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 1953 and 1954. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production decreased from 308,159 M ft. in October, 1953 to 272,726 M ft. in November, 1953 and from 388,769 M ft. in October, to 376,324 M ft. in November, 1954. Shipments totalled 348,077 M ft. in October 1954 and 343,582 M ft. in November, 1954 as compared with 292,883 M ft. in October and 256,199 M ft. in November of 1953. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 458,591 M ft. in October, 1953 to 462,381 M ft. in November 1953 and increased from 461,133 M ft. in October, 1954 to 485,147 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 237,400 M ft. in November, 1954 as compared with 138,436 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 103 M ft. in November as compared with 385 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 63.1 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in November, 1954 as compared with 79.0 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during October, 1954 and October, 1953 respectively, were 60.5 and 74.0 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 225,183 M ft. in November of 1954 and 226,195 M ft. in October, 1954 as compared with 203,032 M ft. in November, 1953 and 210,772 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 130,439 M ft. and 53,167 M ft. in November, 1954 and 1953 and 121,882 M ft. and 82,111 M ft. in October, 1954 and 1953. Of all shipments actually reported for November, 28.1 p.c. went to points in Canada, 44.2 p.c. to points in United States, 18.8 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 8.9 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 41.1 p.c. of the total, while 42.8 p.c. went by rail, and 16.1 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 October and November, 1954 amounted to 263,083 M ft. and 279,851 M ft. as compared with 271,107 M ft. and 275,321 M ft. in October and November of 1953. Interior mills stocks decreased from 187,484 M ft. in October to 187,060 M ft. in November, 1953 but increased from 198,050 M ft. in October to 205,296 M ft. in November, 1954. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 27.5 p.c. of the total in November, 1954 as compared with 29.8 p.c. in November, 1953 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 81.5 and 89.4.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of October and November, 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 November, 1954 amounted to 358,359 M ft. as compared with 335,519 M ft. in November, 1953. Orders on hand at the end of October, 1954 and 1953 amounted to 374,433 M ft. and 292,114 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 5,741 M ft. in November, 1954 and 10,054 M ft. in November, 1953 as compared with 4,925 M ft. in October, 1954 and 3,189 M ft. in October, 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 November accounted for 76.8 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1952 compared with 86.9 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for October, 1953 and 1954 were 87.0 and 78.2 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, November, 1954

	November		October		11 Months	
	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	142,037	170,408	163,665	181,085	1,723,122	1,836,666
Hemlock	65,982	76,111	65,487	78,000	707,819	730,441
Balsam Fir	571	2,093	716	2,624	12,732	16,078
Red Cedar	30,611	45,651	35,419	40,407	389,728	442,026
Spruce	21,552	58,526	26,387	63,124	557,982	636,801
White Pine	3,386	5,929	3,696	5,221	58,155	56,850
Ponderosa Pine	2,825	4,295	2,971	4,059	41,638	44,114
Lodgepole Pine	1,335	2,864	2,358	3,183	32,255	33,112
All other softwoods ...	4,158	10,041	7,155	10,504	84,343	93,576
Total softwoods	272,457	375,918	307,854	388,207	3,607,774	3,889,664
Red Alder	153	151	122	273	2,254	1,341
Maple	80	130	106	137	1,780	1,153
Birch	18	49	25	74	395	504
Cottonwood	18	76	52	78	523	730
All other hardwoods ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods	269	406	305	562	4,952	3,728
Total production ...	272,726	376,324	308,159	388,769	3,612,726	3,893,392
SHIPMENTS						
To: Points in Canada ...	65,056	85,117	82,062	100,928	1,047,553	1,090,937
Points in U.S.A. ...	87,463	133,958	107,471	124,230	1,159,581	1,279,007
United Kingdom ...	46,625	57,082	36,512	53,327	416,838	599,627
Other Countries ...	31,930	26,886	35,452	31,371	285,129	307,013
Shipments reported	231,074	303,043	261,497	309,856	2,909,101	3,276,584
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills	25,125	40,539	31,386	38,221	421,842	622,938
Total shipments	256,199	343,582	292,883	348,077	3,330,943	3,899,522
STOCKS ON HAND						
	November		October			
	1953	1954	1953	1954		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir	208,751	196,940	207,714	187,143		
Hemlock	87,388	93,277	81,927	89,178		
Balsam Fir	2,244	1,454	1,210	4,168		
Red Cedar	45,149	56,204	47,626	50,366		
Spruce	81,120	89,932	80,359	88,494		
White Pine	12,375	17,656	11,040	19,239		
Ponderosa Pine	10,028	15,387	10,254	10,546		
Lodgepole Pine	3,715	7,027	3,600	5,484		
All other softwoods ...	11,417	6,856	14,571	6,017		
Total softwoods	462,187	484,733	458,301	460,635		
Red Alder	63	6	101	71		
Maple	54	-	98	18		
Birch	40	12	47	40		
Cottonwood	34	391	44	364		
All other hardwoods ..	3	5	-	5		
Total hardwoods ...	194	414	290	498		
Total stocks	462,381	485,147	458,591	461,133		

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

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS		
	Reported	Estimated	Total	Reported	Estimated	Total
	M ft. b.m.	M ft. b.m.	M ft. b.m.	Mft. b.m.	Mft. b.m.	Mft. b.m.
LUMBER						
Douglas Fir	103,164	7,764	110,928	32,923	26,141	59,064
Hemlock	70,803	1,996	72,799	1,978	1,326	3,304
Balsam Fir	1,082	74	1,156	406	531	937
Red Cedar	40,860	1,889	42,749	2,117	785	2,902
Spruce	5,928	580	6,508	23,102	28,909	52,011
White Pine	1,161	5	1,166	2,212	2,548	4,760
Ponderosa Pine ...	-	129	129	1,398	2,764	4,162
Lodgepole Pine ...	-	-	-	1,041	1,798	2,839
All other softwoods.	1,573	12	1,585	2,778	5,653	8,431
Total, softwoods	224,571	12,449	237,020	67,955	70,455	138,410
Red Alder	44	107	151	-	-	-
Maple	83	47	130	-	-	-
Birch	18	14	32	-	17	17
Cottonwood	-	67	67	-	9	9
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	145	235	380	-	26	26
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	224,716	12,684	237,400	67,955	70,481	138,436
TIES						
Douglas Fir	97	5	102	131	183	314
Hemlock	-	1	1	-	7	7
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	-	7	7
White Pine	-	-	-	-	3	3
Ponderosa Pine ...	-	-	-	-	4	4
Lodgepole Pine ...	-	-	-	8	17	25
All other softwoods	-	-	-	-	25	25
Total, softwoods	97	6	103	139	246	385
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	97	6	103	139	246	385
LUMBER AND TIES	224,813	12,690	237,503	68,094	70,727	138,821

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, November, 1954.

	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: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	33,465	1,784	2,473	37,722
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta		1,650	xxxxxxx	1,650
Saskatchewan		473	xxxxxxx	473
Manitoba		1,362	xxxxxxx	1,362
Ontario		5,519	-	5,519
Quebec		1,421	-	1,421
New Brunswick		91	-	91
Nova Scotia		84	-	84
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		41	-	41
Total for Canada	33,465	12,425	2,473	48,363
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		1,382	3,637	5,019
Atlantic Ports		4,582	35,837	40,419
Other points, by rail		36,853	xxxxxxx	36,853
Total for U.S.A.		42,817	39,474	82,291
United Kingdomx		561	55,560	56,121
Other countriesx		50	26,318	26,368
Destination or carrier not specified				
Total shipments reported	33,465	55,853	123,825	213,143
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				12,040
Total shipments, reported and estimated				225,183
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	14,423	2,695	-	17,118
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta	812	4,647	xxxxxxx	5,459
Saskatchewan		2,654	xxxxxxx	2,654
Manitoba		4,405	xxxxxxx	4,405
Ontario		6,161	-	6,161
Quebec		957	-	957
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		-	-	-
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		-	-	-
Total for Canada	15,235	21,519		36,754
<u>Points in U.S.A.:</u>				
Pacific Ports		83	-	83
Atlantic Ports		568	-	568
Other points, by rail		51,016	xxxxxxx	51,016
Total for U.S.A.		51,667		51,667
United Kingdomx		597	364	961
Other countriesx		10	508	518
Destination or carrier not specified				
Total shipments reported	15,235	73,793	872	89,900
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				40,539
Total shipments, reported and estimated				130,439
x Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills

November 30, 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	92,992	5,249	98,241	7,007	7,278	14,285
Hemlock	64,144	3,621	67,765	200	208	408
Balsam Fir	168	9	177	2	2	4
Red Cedar	25,034	1,413	26,447	199	207	406
Spruce	5,529	312	5,841	7,370	7,655	15,025
White Pine	2,849	161	3,010	1,962	2,038	4,000
Ponderosa Pine ...	-	-	-	1,548	1,608	3,156
Lodgepole Pine ...	-	-	-	84	87	171
All other softwoods	1,462	83	1,545	276	286	562
Total, softwoods.	192,178	10,848	203,026	18,648	19,369	38,017
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	192,178	10,848	203,026	18,648	19,369	38,017
UNSOLD						
Douglas Fir	30,907	1,745	32,652	25,390	26,372	51,762
Hemlock	17,205	972	18,177	3,398	3,529	6,927
Balsam Fir	55	3	58	596	619	1,215
Red Cedar	20,961	1,183	22,144	3,535	3,672	7,207
Spruce	2,159	122	2,281	32,759	34,026	66,785
White Pine	1,312	74	1,386	4,542	4,718	9,260
Ponderosa Pine ...	1	-	1	5,999	6,231	12,230
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	3,363	3,493	6,856
All other softwoods.	109	6	115	2,273	2,361	4,634
Total, softwoods	72,709	4,105	76,814	81,855	85,021	166,876
Red Alder	6	-	6	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	6	6	12
Cottonwood	-	-	-	192	199	391
All other hardwoods	5	-	5	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	11	-	11	198	205	403
Total, softwoods and hardwoods ..	72,720	4,105	76,825	82,053	85,226	167,279
SOLD AND UNSOLD	264,898	14,953	279,851	100,701	104,595	205,296

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

	November		October	
	1953	1954	1953	1954
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
<u>ORDERS ON HAND</u>				
For shipment to points in British Columbia				
Local	10,598	13,960	11,913	15,241
Coastwise and Interior	2,664	2,620	2,966	1,619
Total	13,262	16,580	14,879	16,860
For shipment by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	5,318	5,236	6,402	5,526
Eastern Provinces	13,477	8,765	12,015	10,114
United States of America	28,044	49,027	34,873	48,663
Total	46,839	63,028	53,290	64,303
For waterborne shipments to:				
California	3,903	765	120	737
U.S. Atlantic Ports	46,237	32,380	38,408	42,289
Eastern Markets	1,150	335	1,450	433
Export Markets	224,128	245,271	183,967	249,811
Total	275,418	278,751	223,945	293,270
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	335,519	358,359	292,114	374,433
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS				
	10,054	5,741	3,189	4,925

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

November, 1954.

		November		October	
		1953	1954	1953	1954
Coast	No.	99	105	102	119
Interior	No.	136	219	199	267
Total British Columbia ..	No.	235	324	301	386

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

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