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December, 1954

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

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 339,714 M ft. in December, 1954 as compared with 278,448 M ft. in December, 1953, an increase of 22.0 p.c. over the previous year but a decrease of 9.7 p.c. from the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 69.2 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 7.7 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 30.8 p.c. showed an increase of 74.8 p.c. Shipments in December, 1954 totalled 364,689 M ft., as compared with 243,823 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 49.6 p.c. with Coast mills registering an increase of 16.5 p.c. and Interior mills an increase of 175.0 p.c. Total shipments for December increased by 6.1 p.c. over the November figure of 343,582 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of December, 1954 amounted to 458,460 M ft., as compared with 501,617 M ft. at the end of December the previous year and 485,147 M ft. at the end of November of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 293,617 M ft., while Interior mills showed 164,843 M ft.

Summary Figures

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Table I gives a comparative summary of production, shipments and stocks of sawn lumber and ties for all British Columbia sawmills for November and December 1953 and 1954. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 272,726 M ft. in November, 1953 to 278,448 M ft. in December, 1953 and from 376,324 M ft. in November to 339,714 M ft. in December, 1954. Shipments totalled 343,582 M ft. in November 1954 and 364,689 M ft. in December, 1954 as compared with 256,199 M ft. in November and 243,823 M ft. in December of 1953. Stocks on hand at sawmills increased from 462,381 M ft. in November, 1953 to 501,617 M ft. in December 1953 and decreased from 485,147 M ft. in November, 1954 to 458,460 M ft. in December 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 234,439 Mft. in December, 1954 as compared with 103,572 Mft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 692 Mft. in December as compared with 1,011 Mft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 69.2 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in December, 1954 as compared with 78.6 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during November, 1954 and November, 1953 respectively, were 63.1 and 79.0 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 224,801 M ft. in December of 1954 and 225,183 M ft. in November, 1954 as compared with 192,964 M ft. in December, 1953 and 203,032 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 139,888 M ft. and 50,859 M ft. in December, 1954 and 1953 and 130,439 M ft. and 53,167 M ft. in November, 1954 and 1953. Of all shipments actually reported for December, 27.8 p.c. went to points in Canada, 41.6 p.c. to points in United States, 20.8 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 9.8 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 45.8 p.c. of the total, while 36.9 p.c. went by rail, and 17.3 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 November and December, 1954 amounted to 279,851 M ft. and 293,617 M ft. as compared with 275,321 M ft. and 295,347 M ft. in November and December of 1953. Interior mills stocks increased from 187,060 M ft. in November to 206,270 M ft. in December, 1953 but decreased from 205,296 M ft. in November to 164,843 M ft. in December, 1954. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 25.9 p.c. of the total in December, 1954 as compared with 33.9 p.c. in December, 1953 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 80.5 and 88.8.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of November and December, 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 December, 1954 amounted to 393,622 M ft. as compared with 325,508 M ft. in December, 1953. Orders on hand at the end of November, 1954 and 1953 amounted to 358,359 M ft. and 335,519 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 8,236 M ft. in December, 1954 and 3,101 M ft. in December, 1953 as compared with 5,741 M ft. in November, 1954 and 10,054 M ft. in November, 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 December accounted for 76.3 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1952 compared with 86.7 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for November, 1953 and 1954 were 86.9 and 76.8 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.

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Table 1. - Comparative Summary of Production, Shipments and Stocks of Lumber

and	Ties o	of British	Columbia	Sawmills,	December,	1954
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	December		November		12 Months		
	1953 1954		1953 1954		1953	1954	
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	
PRODUCTION		1/ = 01/	142 02 =	. = 0 100	1 0/0 225	2 004 402	
Douglas Fir	146,215	167,816	142,037	170,408	1,869,337	2,004,482	
Hemlock	62,460	70,253	65,982	76,111	770,279	800,694	
Balsam Fir	479	1,978	571	2,093	13,211	18,056	
Red Cedar	31,127	40,810	30,611	45,651	420,855	482,836	
Spruce	26,489	43,660	21,552	58,526	584,471	680,461	
White Pine	4,096	4,259	3,386	5,929	62,251	61,109	
Ponderosa Pine	1,575	2,544	2,825	4,295	43,213	46,658	
Lodgepole Pine	1,318	1,727	1,335	2,864	33,573	34,839	
All other softwoods	4,478	6,379	4,158	10,041	88,821	99,955	
Total softwoods		339,426			3,886,011	4,229,090	
Red Alder	106	135	153	151	2,360	1,476	
Maple	73	81	80	130	1,853	1,234	
Birch	16	33	18	49		537	
Cottonwood	16	39	18	76	539	769	
All other hardwoods	211	200				4 01/	
Total hardwoods	211		269			4,016	
Total production	278,448	339,714	272,726	376,324	3,891,174	4,233,106	
SHIPMENTS							
To: Points in Canada	63,969	74,982	65,056	85,117	1,111,522	1,165,919	
Points in U.S.A	78,706	112,186	87,463		1,238,287	1,391,193	
United Kingdom	52,111	56,111	46,625				
Other Countries	24,330	26,511	31,930		309,459	333,524	
Shipments reported	219,116				3,128,217	3,546,374	
Estimated shipments							
of non-reporting mills	24,707	94,899	25,125	40,539	446,549	717,837	
Total shipments	243,823	364,689	256,199	343,582	3,574,766	4,264,211	
		Dec	ember		Nove	mber	
		1953	19	54	1953	1954	
STOCKS ON HAND		M ft.	M	ft.	M ft.	M ft.	
Douglas Fir	2	229,573	179	, 493	208,751	196,940	
Hemlock		87,355	102	, 307	87,388	93,277	
Balsam Fir		1,518		417	2,244	1,454	
Red Cedar		45,526	53	, 833	45,149	56,204	
Spruce		95,031	83	, 110	81,120	89,932	
White Pine		14,306	11	, 115	12,375	17,656	
Ponderesa Pine		10,864	15	,648	10,028	15,387	
Lodgepole Pine		4,185	4	, 866	3,715	7,027	
All other softwoods		13,056	7	, 281	11,417	6,856	
Total softwoods	5	501,414	458	,070	462,187	484,733	
Red Alder		70		7	63	6	
Maple		61		1	54	-	
Birch		37		25	40	12	
Cottonwood		35		352	34	391	
All other hardwoods		_		5	3	5	
Total hardwoods		203		390	194	414	
Total stocks	F	501,617	458	, 460	462,381	485,147	

Table 2 - Lumber and Ties Sawn, December, 1954

Species			LS		ERIOR MII		
	Reported Estimated Total			Reported Estimated		Total	
	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m.	Mft.b.m	
LUMBER							
Douglas Fir	117,117	5,523	122,640	25,926	17,772	43,698	
Hemlock	64,482	1,300	65,782	3,189	1,208	4,397	
Balsam Fir	1,190	40	1,230	437	310	747	
Red Cedar	36,619	1,350	37,969	1,898	943	2,841	
Spruce	4,386	304	4,690	15,676	23,228	38,904	
White Pine	1,734	4	1,738	804	1,717	2,521	
Ponderosa Pine	-	43	43	1,043	1,026	2,500	
Lodgepole Pine	_	-	_	1,474	673	1,716	
All other softwoods	61	8	69	2,866	3,372	6,238	
Total, softwoods	225,589	8,572	234, 161	53,313	50,249	103,562	
Red Alder	74	61	135	-	_	_	
Maple		29	81		-gn		
Birch		8	27	_	6	6	
Cottonwood	- /	35	35		4	4	
All other hardwoods				~			
Total, hardwoods.	145	133	278		10	10	
Total, softwoods							
and hardwoods	225,734	8,705	234,439	53,313	50,259	103,572	
				33,33	30,137		
TIES							
Douglas Fir	571	62	633	530	315	845	
Hemlock	44	15	59	_	15	15	
Balsam Fir	-			-	1	1	
Red Cedar	_		-	-			
Spruce , , , , , , , , , , , ,	-	-	-	61	5	66	
White Pine	-	400	-	-	-	_	
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	-	_	1	1	
Lodgepole Pine	-	-	-	_	11	1.1	
All other softwoods.	-		-	24	48	72	
Total, softwoods,	615	77	692	615	396	1,011	
Red Alder		-	-	-	-		
Maple	puls	-	-	-	-	-	
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	mil	
Cottonwood	-	-		-	-	40	
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-		-	
Total, hardwoods		-	-	-	-	-	
Total, softwoods							
and hardwoods	615	77	692	615	396	1,011	

	By Truck	By	Water -	Total
	(Local Sales)	Rail	borne	Shipments
COAST MILLS	Mft.b.m.	M ft.b.m.	M ft, b. m.	Mft.b.m.
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia	29 320	1,276	1,975	32,571
Yukon and Northwest Territor		1,510	24	24
Alberta		2,279	xxxxxx	2,279
Sa skatche wan		455	XXXXXX	455
		1,044	XXXXXX	1,044
Manitoba		5,540	AAAAAA	5,540
		1,217	-	1,217
Quebec		110		110
		133	-	133
Nova Scotia		133	an	133
Prince Edward Island		51	-	51
Newfoundland			1 000	
Total for Canada	. 29,320	12,105	1,999	43,424
Points in U.S.A.:		402	0.42	1 424
Pacific Ports		482	942	1,424
Atlantic Ports		913	40,936	41,849
Other points, by rail	_	42,553	XXXXXX	42,553
Total for U.S.A.		43,948	41,878	85,826
United Kingdom		1,150	52.727	53,877
Other countries	X	39	26.416	26,455
Destination or carrier not specificated shipments reported	ed			
Estimated shipments of non-report				
Total shipments, reported an	d estimated		4000000	. 224,801
INTERIOR MILLS				
TO: Points in Canada:				
British Columbia	. 16,224	1,560	-	17,784
Yukon and Northwest Territo	ries	_	-	_
Alberta	. 1,119	2.693	XXXXXX	3,812
Saskatchewan		1,649	XXXXXX	1,649
Manitoba	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 2 1	3,997	XXXXXX	3,997
Ontario		2 / 0 /		3,684
Quebec		/	750	632
New Brunswick			_	616
Nova Scotia			_	_
Prince Edward Island			m _r	
Newfoundland			90	-
Total for Canada		14,215	24	31,558
Points in U.S.A.:				
Pacific Ports		77	-	77
Atlantic Ports			-	839
Other points, by rail			xxxxxx	25,444
Total for U.S.A.		- / - / -	-	26,360
			618	2,234
Other countries			56	56
Destination or carrier not enecifi	ed			111111111111111111111111111111111111111
Destination or carrier not specifi Total shipments reported	17.343	42.191	674	60,208
Estimated shipments of non-report	rting mills	-, -, -, -		
Total shipments, reported an	d estimated			. 139,888

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills

December 31, 1954.

Species	COAST MILLS			INTERIOR MILLS			
Species	Reported	Estimated	Total	Reported	Estimated	Total	
	Mft.b m	M ft b m	Mft.b m	M ft. b. m.	Mft.b.m.	M ft. b. m	
SOLD (but not shipp							
Douglas Fir	100,966	3,917	104,883	5,926	5,566	11,492	
Hemlock	69,663	2,703	72,366	123	116	239	
Balsam Fir	121	5	126	2	2	4	
Red Cedar	28,848	1,119	29,967	94	88	182	
Spruce	5,482	213	5,695	5,808	5,456	11,264	
White Pine	3,479	135	3,614	1,617	1,519	3,136	
Ponderosa Pine	-	49	-	2,407	2,261	4,668	
Lodgepole Pine	_		_	80	75	155	
All other softwoods	828	32	860	521	489	1,010	
Total, softwoods	209,387	8,124	217,511	16,578	15,572	32,150	
Red Alder	-	_	-	-	<	_	
Maple	79	-	-	-	-	-	
Birch		Der .	***	-	-		
Cottonwood	-		_	_	-	_	
All other hardwoods	3	-	-			-	
Total, hardwoods	=	-	-	=	-	-	
Total, softwoods							
and hardwoods	209,387	8,124	217,511	16,578	15,572	32,150	
UNSOLD							
Douglas Fir	27,818	1,079	28,897	17,646	16,575	34,221	
Hemlock	22,856	887	23,743	3,073	2,886	5,959	
Balsam Fir	106	4	110	91	86	177	
Red Cedar	19,523	758	20,281	1,755	1,648	3,403	
Spruce	1,250	48	1,298	33,441	31,412	64,853	
White Pine	1,614	63	1,677	1,386	1,302	2,688	
Ponderosa Pine	-	-	20.	5,662	5,318	10,980	
Lodgepole Pine	*	=	20	2,429	2,282	4,711	
All other softwoods	83	3	86	2,746	2,579	5,325	
Total, softwoods	73,250	2.842	76,092	68,229	64.088	132,317	
Red Alder	6	1	7	_	_	-	
Maple	1	px	1	548		-	
Birch	1		1	12	12	24	
Cottonwood	=	Е	-	182	170	352	
All other hardwoods		-	5	-	-	-	
Total, hardwoods	13	1	14	194	182	376	
Total, softwoods							
and hardwoods	73,263	2,843	76,106	68,423	64,270	132,693	
SOLD AND UNSOLD	282,650	10,967	293,617	85,001	79,842	164,843	

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of December, 1954 and

Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	Dece	December		mber
	1953	1954	1953	1954
ORDERS ON HAND	M ft	M ft	M ft	M ft.
For shipment to points in British Columbia				
Local	12,387 2,688	12,807 2,358	10,598 2,664	13,960 2,620
Total	15,075	15,165	13,262	16,580
For shipment by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces Eastern Provinces United States of America	5,798 14,104 31,382	4,675 9,912 55,805	5,318 13,477 28,044	5,236 8,765 49,027
Total	51,284	70,392	46,839	63,028
For waterborne shipments to:				
California U.S. Atlantic Ports Eastern Markets	100 53,742 1,460 203,847	316 29,416 278,333	3,903 46,237 1,150 224,128	765 32,380 335 245,271
Exports Markets , , , ,	259,149	308,065	275,418	2.78, 751
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	325,508	393.622	335,519	358,359
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS	3,101	8,236	10,054	5,741

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

December, 1954.

	December		November	
	1953	1954	1953	1954
Coast No,	93	107	99	105
nterior No.	142	236	136	219
Total British Columbia No.	235	343	235	324

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

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