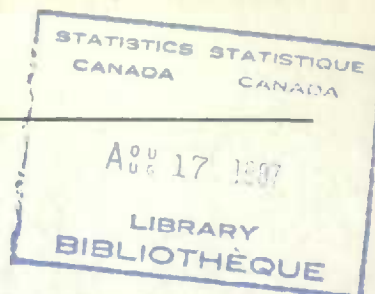


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PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS AND STOCKS ON HAND OF SAWMILLS
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Production of sawn lumber and ties in British Columbia totalled 422,687 M ft. in March, 1955 as compared with 375,247 M ft. in March, 1954, an increase of 12.6 p.c. over the previous year and an increase of 9.4 p.c. over the previous month. Production of Coast mills, which account for 60.4 p.c. of the total, showed an increase of 8.1 p.c. over the same month of the previous year, and the Interior mills, which produced the remaining 39.6 p.c. showed an increase of 20.3 p.c. Shipments in March, 1955 totalled 380,302 M ft., as compared with 369,269 M ft. the previous year, an increase of 3.0 p.c. with Coast mills registering a decrease of 1.7 p.c. but Interior mills an increase of 13.5 p.c. Total shipments for March decreased by 0.2 p.c. from the February figure of 380,894 M ft. Stocks on hand at the end of March, 1955 amounted to 566,473 M ft., as compared with 519,696 M ft. at the end of March the previous year and 516,015 M ft. at the end of February of this year. Coast mills reported stocks totalling 317,727 M ft., while Interior mills showed 248,746 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 February and March 1954 and 1955. Details by species are given for production and stocks while shipments are shown by destination. Total production increased from 319,615 M ft. in February, 1954 to 375,247 M ft. in March, 1954 and from 386,289 M ft. in February to 422,687 M ft. in March, 1955. Shipments totalled 380,894 M ft. in February, 1955 and 380,302 M ft. in March, 1955 as compared with 301,166 M ft. in February and 369,269 M ft. in March of 1954. Stocks on hand at sawmills decreased from 527,255 M ft. in February, 1954 to 519,696 M ft. in March but increased from 516,015 M ft. in February, 1955 to 566,473 M ft. in March 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 253,281 M ft. in March, 1955 as compared with 162,744 M ft. reported by Interior mills. Sawn tie production of Coast mills was 1,850 M ft. in March as compared with 4,812 M ft. for Interior mills. Coast mills accounted for 60.4 p.c. of the total production of sawn lumber and ties in March, 1955 as compared with 66.5 p.c. the previous year. The percentages of Coast mills during February, 1955 and 1954 respectively, were 59.2 and 70.9 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 250,319 M ft. in March of 1955 and 220,261 M ft. in February, 1955 as compared with 254,777 M ft. in March, 1954 and 213,504 M ft. in the previous month, while the Interior mills shipped 129,983 M ft. and 114,492 M ft. in March, 1955 and 1954 and 160,633 M ft. and 87,662 M ft. in February, 1955 and 1954. Of all shipments actually reported for March, 33.8 p.c. went to points in Canada, 34.9 p.c. to points in United States, 17.7 p.c. to the United Kingdom and 13.6 p.c. to other countries. Waterborne shipments accounted for 38.5 p.c. of the total, while 38.7 p.c. went by rail, and 22.8 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 February and March, 1955 amounted to 309,982 M ft. and 317,727 M ft. as compared with 308,460 M ft. and 292,660 M ft. in February and March of 1954. Interior mills stocks increased from 218,795 M ft. in February to 227,036 M ft. in March, 1954 and increased from 206,033 M ft. in February to 248,746 M ft. in March, 1955. Unsold stocks accounted for approximately 27.8 p.c. of the total in March, 1955 as compared with 30.9 p.c. in March, 1954 for Coast mills, while for the Interior mills the percentages were, respectively, 80.8 and 86.2.

Orders on Hand

Table 5 shows the distribution of orders on hand at the end of the months of February and March, 1954 and 1955 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 March, 1955 amounted to 371,061 M ft. as compared with 298,885 M ft. in March, 1954. Orders on hand at the end of February, 1955 and 1954 amounted to 394,613 M ft. and 317,068 M ft., respectively. Purchases of lumber from other mills amounted to 6,590 M ft. in March, 1955 and 8,488 M ft. in March, 1954 as compared with 5,189 M ft. in February, 1955 and 4,671 M ft. in February, 1954.

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 March accounted for 78.2 p.c. of the total production on the basis of the annual returns from 1952 compared with 82.4 p.c. for the previous year. The percentages for February, 1954 and 1955 were 83.9 and 79.4 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, March, 1955.

	March		February		3 Months	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
PRODUCTION						
Douglas Fir	177,173	186,447	149,300	158,689	435,112	520,591
Hemlock	64,226	81,068	55,934	77,924	178,139	235,817
Balsam Fir	1,882	1,670	1,340	1,261	3,820	4,512
Red Cedar	41,930	44,812	39,402	50,898	107,954	141,624
Spruce	68,407	82,587	59,440	77,525	161,787	253,288
White Pine	4,740	7,056	2,564	7,596	10,337	20,734
Ponderosa Pine	3,346	3,456	1,675	2,506	6,110	9,019
Lodgepole Pine	4,415	4,451	3,492	3,988	9,727	12,820
All other softwoods	8,788	10,146	6,333	5,651	18,079	25,157
Total softwoods	374,907	421,693	319,480	386,038	931,065	1,223,562
Red Alder	115	151	49	94	207	415
Maple	133	122	45	54	236	281
Birch	54	70	20	31	87	174
Cottonwood	38	651	21	72	75	811
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total hardwoods	340	994	135	251	605	1,681
Total production	375,247	422,687	319,615	386,289	931,670	1,225,243
SHIPMENTS						
To: Points in Canada	109,049	113,754	82,376	101,902	244,096	312,755
Points in U.S.A.	115,445	117,229	95,263	114,820	278,775	350,334
United Kingdom	69,069	59,469	59,375	54,231	160,256	180,818
Other Countries	28,973	45,758	27,908	27,956	72,810	106,216
Shipments reported	322,536	336,210	264,922	298,909	755,937	950,123
Estimated shipments						
of non-reporting mills ...	46,733	44,092	36,244	81,985	105,557	166,871
Total shipments	369,269	380,302	301,166	380,894	861,494	1,116,994
STOCKS ON HAND						
	March		February			
	1954	1955	1954	1955		
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.		
Douglas Fir	218,579	210,186	221,020	188,491		
Hemlock	78,940	107,461	92,158	110,751		
Balsam Fir	1,947	291	2,232	355		
Red Cedar	56,058	60,487	55,936	59,221		
Spruce	116,867	132,205	113,332	108,827		
White Pine	13,560	17,676	12,428	16,334		
Ponderosa Pine	14,717	22,455	9,240	17,341		
Lodgepole Pine	5,467	5,982	7,517	4,747		
All other softwoods	13,184	9,505	13,165	9,719		
Total softwoods	519,319	566,248	527,028	515,786		
Red Alder	137	-	71	-		
Maple	103	4	65	3		
Birch	76	1	48	11		
Cottonwood	61	216	40	209		
All other hardwoods	-	4	3	6		
Total hardwoods	377	225	227	229		
Total stocks	519,696	566,473	527,255	516,015		

Table 2. - Lumber and Ties Sawn, March, 1955.

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	118,697	6,045	124,742	31,604	25,384	56,988
Hemlock	74,733	1,575	76,308	2,785	1,842	4,627
Balsam Fir	-	97	97	480	1,089	1,569
Red Cedar	40,799	960	41,759	1,251	1,802	3,053
Spruce	4,411	430	4,841	41,344	35,357	76,701
White Pine	3,232	5	3,237	1,281	2,533	3,814
Ponderosa Pine ..	237	43	280	1,475	1,640	3,115
Lodgepole Pine ..	-	-	-	1,787	2,271	4,058
All other softwoods	1,609	10	1,619	3,404	4,819	8,223
Total, softwoods	243,718	9,165	252,883	85,411	76,737	162,148
Red Alder	43	108	151	-	-	-
Maple	76	46	122	-	-	-
Birch	39	15	54	-	16	16
Cottonwood	-	71	71	571	9	580
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	158	240	398	571	25	596
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	243,876	9,405	253,281	85,982	76,762	162,744
TIES						
Douglas Fir	1,672	85	1,757	799	2,161	2,960
Hemlock	81	12	93	-	40	40
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	4	4
Red Cedar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spruce	-	-	-	1,012	33	1,045
White Pine	-	-	-	-	5	5
Ponderosa Pine ..	-	-	-	-	61	61
Lodgepole Pine ..	-	-	-	164	229	393
All other softwoods	-	-	-	-	304	304
Total, softwoods	1,753	97	1,850	1,975	2,837	4,812
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	1,753	97	1,850	1,975	2,837	4,812
LUMBER AND TIES	245,629	9,502	255,131	87,957	79,599	167,556

Table 3. - Shipments of Sawn Lumber and Ties, March, 1955.

	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	45,353	1,885	1,503	48,741
Yukon and Northwest Territories		33	-	33
Alberta		1,984	xxxxxxx	1,984
Saskatchewan		841	xxxxxxx	841
Manitoba		1,565	xxxxxxx	1,565
Ontario		6,894	-	6,894
Quebec		1,648	740	2,388
New Brunswick		391	-	391
Nova Scotia		616	33	649
Prince Edward Island		40	-	40
Newfoundland		179	-	179
Total for Canada	45,353	16,076	2,276	63,705
<u>Points in U. S. A.</u>				
Pacific Ports		1,623	23	1,646
Atlantic Ports		1,201	22,784	23,985
Other points, by rail		51,249	xxxxxxx	51,249
Total for U. S. A.		54,073	22,807	76,880
United Kingdom	x	25	58,436	58,461
Other countries	x	195	45,563	45,758
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported ..	45,353	70,369	129,082	244,804
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				5,515
Total shipments, reported and estimated				250,319
<u>INTERIOR MILLS</u>				
TO: <u>Points in Canada:</u>				
British Columbia	30,519	4,350	-	34,869
Yukon and Northwest Territories		-	-	-
Alberta	984	2,056	xxxxxxx	3,040
Saskatchewan		1,850	xxxxxxx	1,850
Manitoba		3,654	xxxxxxx	3,654
Ontario		5,389	-	5,389
Quebec		1,247	-	1,247
New Brunswick		-	-	-
Nova Scotia		-	-	-
Prince Edward Island		-	-	-
Newfoundland		-	-	-
Total for Canada	31,503	18,546	-	50,049
<u>Points in U. S. A.</u>				
Pacific Ports		199	-	199
Atlantic Ports		1,004	-	1,004
Other points, by rail		39,146	xxxxxxx	39,146
Total for U. S. A.		40,349	-	40,349
United Kingdom	x	703	305	1,008
Other countries	x	-	-	-
Destination or carrier not specified				-
Total shipments reported ..	31,503	59,598	305	91,406
Estimated shipments of non-reporting mills				38,577
Total shipments, reported and estimated				129,983
x- Shipped by rail to Eastern Seaboard Port.				

Table 4. - Stocks of Lumber and Ties at Sawmills
March 31, 1955.

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	100,259	3,878	104,137	9,342	8,453	17,795
Hemlock	77,903	3,014	80,917	225	204	429
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red Cedar	31,399	1,215	32,614	245	222	467
Spruce	4,651	180	4,831	9,873	8,935	18,808
White Pine	5,608	217	5,825	1,648	1,491	3,139
Ponderosa Pine .	-	-	-	2,672	2,418	5,090
Lodgepole Pine ..	-	-	-	329	298	627
All other softwoods	1,121	43	1,164	728	659	1,387
Total, softwoods	220,941	8,547	229,488	25,062	22,680	47,742
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cottonwood	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	220,941	8,547	229,488	25,062	22,680	47,742
<u>UNSOLD</u>						
Douglas Fir	34,983	1,353	36,336	27,254	24,664	51,918
Hemlock	21,199	820	22,019	2,150	1,946	4,096
Balsam Fir	-	-	-	153	138	291
Red Cedar	23,779	920	24,699	1,421	1,286	2,707
Spruce	2,088	81	2,169	55,852	50,545	106,397
White Pine	2,711	105	2,816	3,095	2,801	5,896
Ponderosa Pine .	60	2	62	9,083	8,220	17,303
Lodgepole Pine ..	-	-	-	2,811	2,544	5,355
All other softwoods	125	5	130	3,582	3,242	6,824
Total, softwoods	84,945	3,286	88,231	105,401	95,386	200,787
Red Alder	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maple	4	-	4	-	-	-
Birch	-	-	-	1	-	1
Cottonwood	-	-	-	113	103	216
All other hardwoods	4	-	4	-	-	-
Total, hardwoods	8	-	8	114	103	217
Total, softwoods and hardwoods	84,953	3,286	88,239	105,515	95,489	201,004
<u>SOLD AND UNSOLD</u>	305,894	11,833	317,727	130,577	118,169	248,746

Table 5. - Distribution of Orders on Hand at End of March, 1955 and
Lumber Purchased from Other Mills (Coast Mills Only)

	March		February	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.	M ft.
ORDERS ON HAND				
For shipments to points in British Columbia				
Local	14,303	18,625	10,827	17,507
Coastwise and Interior	4,118	3,523	3,808	2,512
Total	18,421	22,148	14,635	20,019
For shipment by rail to:				
Prairie Provinces	9,808	7,170	8,431	6,537
Eastern Provinces	15,049	18,835	19,114	17,500
United States of America	33,836	57,286	34,148	59,316
Total	58,693	83,291	61,693	83,353
For waterborne shipments to:				
California	420	1,892	370	325
U.S. Atlantic Ports	44,009	26,522	56,441	17,428
Eastern Markets	335	2,118	2,502	5,000
Exports Markets	177,007	235,090	181,427	268,488
Total	221,771	265,622	240,740	291,241
TOTAL ORDERS ON HAND	298,885	371,061	317,068	394,613
LUMBER PURCHASED FROM OTHER MILLS	8,488	6,590	4,671	5,189

Table 6. - Number of Active Mills Reporting

March, 1955

		March		February	
		1954	1955	1954	1955
Coast	No.	96	105	86	102
Interior	No.	182	285	175	262
Total British Columbia	No.	278	390	261	364

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

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