

# Madison's Lumber Retrospective

A 60-year walk down  
forestry's Memory Lane

118 RICHARDS STREET - VANCOUVER 2, B.C. - PACIFIC 6838

AN INDEPENDENT MARKET SURVEY COVERING FIR, HEMLOCK, CEDAR, WESTERN WHITE SPRUCE

Friday, April 21, 1967.

A group of Grand Forks B.C. business men have formed Parta Industries Ltd. to investigate the establishment of a particle board factory to utilize sawmill waste.

Establishment of \$100 million pulp and paper company in the vicinity of The Pas, 300 miles northwest of Winnipeg has been undertaken by Churchill Forest Industries Ltd.

April 28, 1967

Subject to a settlement of details with the Alberta government, MacMillan Bloedel intends to build a 150,000 ton pulp mill at Whitecourt, Alberta. Production is scheduled for 1970. The company reported net earnings of \$9,768,659 for the first three months of this year. This is a decline of \$29,176 for the same quarter last year. Sales and other income were \$135.2 million from \$109.4 million.

Friday, May 5, 1967.

Charles R. Widman is new president of the B.C. Wholesale Lumber Association; Edward B. Valpy, vice president and treasurer; William G. Sutherland, secretary.

May 12, 1967.

Crestbrook Forest Industries Ltd., at Cranbrook, B.C. will start immediate construction of a 400 ton a day pulp mill to cost \$42 million. Finance is coming from Honshu Paper Manufacturing Co. Ltd., and Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha Ltd. who have bought 650,000 shares of Crestbrook common stock at \$7.50 per share. They had six members named to the 12 man board of directors.

Friday, May 19, 1967.

Dr. Allen V. Astin, director of the National Bureau of Standards, United States Department of Commerce has issued a formal statement regarding the rejection of the proposed new softwood lumber sizes.

"There is no precedent" observed Dr. Astin, "for publishing a standard under the Department's voluntary standards program where the expressed opposition is of the magnitude involved in this instance".

As one lumber executive noted the industry is right back where it started on softwood lumber sizes as published in the American Lumber Standards rule books.

June 9, 1967.

The assets of Simon Ronacher & Son Ltd., Athalmer B.C. have been acquired by Revelstoke Building Materials Ltd., of Calgary, Alberta. The Company through subsidiaries operates mills in Alberta, Radium and Kamloops, B.C.

A meeting of unsecured creditors of Jim Mathieu Lumber Limited and Quetic Timber Company Limited will be held in Port Arthur, Ontario on June 12. Chiefly, as the result of two fires the companies moved from a profit position in 1963 in excess of \$250,000 to a deficit now of approximately \$1,766,000 of which unsecured creditors total \$375,000. Creditors will be offered a reorganization plan by which the operation should be able to regain its former financial stability. At present a temporary planing mill is producing on a three shift basis.

Kamloops Pulp & Paper Co. Ltd., has changed the name of one of its subsidiaries, Great West Pulp Chips Ltd., to K.P. Wood Products Co. Ltd. Three mills at Avola, Lumby and Merritt are the firms in the K.P. Wood group. Richard J. Levin, formerly of Weyerhaeuser Company is sales manager of K.P. Wood.

Friday, June 16, 1967.

W.L. (Bill) McQuarrie, sales manager of Kicking Horse Forest Products, at Golden, B.C. moves over to Greenwood Forest Products Ltd., at Penticton. His slot will be filled by George Guimont, a former sales manager for Celgar Ltd., at Castlegar, B.C.

Furman Lumber Inc., of Boston, Massachusetts announce they will open a Portland, Oregon branch office in August with Jack Rowan in charge.

June 23, 1967

C.E. Klumb, of Gulfport, Mississippi was elected president of National-American Wholesale Lumber Association at their 75th annual meeting held at Banff, Alberta last week. David A. Mittell, of Boston, Mass. is first vice president and Robert Canton, Minneapolis is second vice president.

J.L. "Joe" Dobi, president of Greenwood Forest Products, Penticton, B.C. announces the purchase of Yellow Lake Sawmills and Clarkes planer mill in that area. Company will expand its supply of Fir and Larch for the laminating industry.

Friday, June 30, 1967.

Direct negotiations for a new contract for the southern and northern Interior of B.C. broke off last week. The IWA will apply for the services of a government conciliator. Interior contracts expire August 31. Negotiations covered a demand for parity for interior workers with the IWA's coast contract. The coast rate rose this month to \$2.76 an hour and parity for the interior would mean a 50-cent hourly increase. IWA membership in northern B.C. is 2,400; and 5,800 in the southern interior.

July 7, 1967

J. Raymond Leblanc, chairman of Canadian Lumbermen's Association "bankruptcy committee" has expressed disappointment with government inertia toward fraudulent bankruptcy rings. He said nothing has been done although as far as back as 1963 he supplied details of conspiracy and fraud in the lumber business, plus names of some of those involved.

Lumbermen in B.C. are assuming that tariffs between Canada and the U.S. will be eliminated on Fir, Pine and Spruce under the adjustments made at the Kennedy Round of tariff negotiations recently completed. The Canadian governments' action on lumber is expected to be reciprocal to the United States.

Friday, July 14, 1967.

Selkirk Spruce Mills at Donald, B.C. have acquired the assets of Cozier Lumber Ltd., at Golden, B.C. Both mills cut mostly White Spruce.

August 4, 1967.

The B.C. government has entered the IWA dispute in the Interior of B.C. which threatens a work stoppage on August 31. Labor Minister Les Peterson is holding talks between manufacturers and IWA officials while the union holds a strike vote, the results of which are expected early this week.

IWA wants parity with the B.C. Coast master contract. This would mean an immediate 50¢ hourly increase on the present \$2.26 an hour for 8,000 IWA members in the northern and southern Interior. Offers by employers of 20 cents an hour over two years in the north and 26 cents over two years in the south were rejected by the IWA.

The strike threat, vacation shutdowns, very bad forest fires in the Interior because of the dry summer, lack of personnel for second shifts are all slowing down lumber production when U.S. buyers seem to need lumber in a hurry.