

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, August 25, 1967

Joseph Alexander Adair Sr., 72, well known Portland, Oregon wholesaler died last week. He had been the head of his own company since 1945, and active in the lumber business since 1913.

Friday, Sept. 8, 1967

Toffan Lumber Ltd., a wholesale company in Calgary, Alberta has gone into voluntary liquidation it was announced this week.

Friday, Sept. 22, 1967

Interior manufacturers have accepted the Munroe recommendations of 44¢ an hour over two years. Northern operators added the rider to their acceptance that it is binding only that employees also accept.

Some 500 employees at Celgar Ltd., in Castlegar, B.C. are now on strike. Celgar did not ask for a government supervised strike vote and had bargained separately from the other two employer groups. About 300 members of the Pulp and Paper Workers of Canada at Celgar are idled because they refuse to cross IWA picket lines.

Sept. 29, 1967.

Thirty thousand members of the IWA working in the coast forest industry will be asked to pay a \$5.00 a month assessment into a strike fund to help interior lumber workers in a strike.

August was the biggest lumber shipment month for the P.G.E. railway. A total of 3650 cars were shipped which at an average of 40 M per car is 146,000,000 f.b.m.

John Lane, former sales manager of Beaver Planing Mills at Quesnel has opened his own wholesale company. Beaver is now a division of A.L. Patchett & Sons Ltd. Sales manager is Hank Dressler.

Of the 18 mills where the government supervised strike vote was held, five voted in favor of strike action.

These were employees at Alexander Forest Products, a division of B.C. Forest Products Ltd., Upper Fraser Spruce Mills, Shelley Spruce, Sinclair Spruce and Eagle Lake Sawmills. These four mills are part of the Northwood Mills Ltd.

Friday, October 6, 1967.

In the south the bulk of production from Kamloops to Crows Nest, some two and half million board feet a day is at a standstill. However in addition to the Prince George mills and those west to Prince Rupert, mills at Williams Lake, Quesnel and down the P.G.E. including all the B.C. Coast are still operating. Coast mills churn out about 12 million board feet a day.

IWA and NILA have a meeting scheduled for this week to discuss the north strike situation. No meeting is reported scheduled for the southern Interior group.

Friday, October 13, 1967

No meetings are reported scheduled in the southern Interior between management and IWA where some 44 mills are now strikebound.

Booth Lumber Ltd. and Staniforth Lumber & Veneer Ltd. of Montreal have incorporated a new company to purchase and operate the Birch veneer and sawmills of Dominion Auers Ltd. at Lachute and Rapides des Joachims in Quebec.

Friday, October 19, 1967.
Employees of Tubafour Stud Mills Ltd. at Quesnel and the Weldwood of Canada stud mill at Lac La Hache will receive a 24¢ hourly wage increase retroactive to Sept. 1, 1967; an additional 10¢ hourly on May 1, 1968 and another 10¢ on Sept. 1, 1969.

Friday, October 27, 1967

Since 1946 all lumber products of British Columbia Forest Products Limited (annual gross sales in excess of \$100 million) have been sold by MacMillan Bloedel Limited.

Effective January 1, 1968 this policy is changed. Then all U.S. rail sales of B.C. Forest Products will be made from the Vancouver office. They will be under supervision of K.P. Clark. This includes future sales of White Spruce from the company's Alexander Forest Products mill now on strike.

Tohoko Pulp Company and Sumitomo Forestry Company of Japan are partners with Cattermole Timber Company of Chilliwack, B.C. in construction of a \$4.5 million pulp mill at Finlay River in northern B.C.

The Price Company Limited of Quebec reports net income for seven months ending July 31 of \$5,285,000 compared with \$5,038,000 a year earlier.

Friday, November 3, 1967.

The town councils of Castlegar and Kinnaird have offered to act as mediators in the IWA strike that has shut down the Celgar Ltd., sawmill and woods division and pulp mill. Celgar negotiated separately from the other sawmills and was the first company struck. IWA has offered to meet with Celgar officials.

Friday, Nov. 10, 1967

In southern B.C. 44 mills are still strikebound. Neither side has announced new meetings.

Tri-Pac Lumber Limited, a wholesale lumber company, has opened offices in Vancouver. Bill Dunbar, formerly with Rayonier Canada Ltd., and Ivan Vance formerly with MacMillan Bloedel Ltd., are in charge.

Dan Steer, president of Dan Steer Lumber Ltd., North Vancouver, B.C. has sold controlling interest in the company to A.A. Elgert, former operator of Beaver Planing Mills Ltd., at Quesnel. Company is now Abco Forest Products Ltd.

Friday, November 17, 1967.

A pioneer, respected Oregon lumberman, Roland E. Chapman, 78, died in Portland on November 12. Mr. Chapman was president of Chapman Lumber Company which was founded by his father in Portland in 1901.

Friday, Dec. 1, 1967.

Robert Schlosser, president of the Salmon Arm local of the IWA said this week that timber company directors will "fry in hell" before southern Interior wood workers settle for less than wage parity with B.C. coastal workers.

Wage parity with the B.C. Coast would be an immediate 50 cent raise on the base rate of \$2.26 an hour.

Friday, Jan. 5, 1968

The customs department in Vancouver reported that the Proclamation allowing U.S. dressed lumber to enter Canada duty free became effective on January 1. Most effect will be felt in B.C. by producers of Idaho White Pine, who will now have to compete with mills in Idaho.

Friday, Jan. 12, 1968

The B.C. Forest Service log scale report shows that the production loss in the strikebound southern interior is averaging 60,000,000 board feet a month. On an average of 20 working days a month, this is 3,000,000 board feet a day. The strike is now in its third month.

Friday, Jan. 19, 1968

The union proposed the same terms for the rest of the strikebound industry as 500 workers at Celgar Ltd. will receive in the settlement agreed last week. Celgar resumed operations on January 15.

Reports of stumpage rate increases on crown timber have alarmed the B.C. Coast forest industry's chief labor negotiator, John Billings. The president of Forest Industrial Relations which negotiates with lumber workers on behalf of 120 companies said that if higher stumpage rates are levied, this will increase costs of production, which the industry cannot afford.

Friday, Jan. 26, 1968

B.C. Lands and Forest minister Williston warned the lumber industry that the government does not intend to allow its share of forest revenue to fall. He said that revenue this year is expected to be \$10 million below estimates.

Friday, Feb. 9, 1968.

A suggestion from B.C. Labor minister Leslie Peterson that labor and management leaders in the coast forest industry agree to the appointment of an independent consultant, has been accepted.

In southern B.C. the IWA strike continues for the fifth month. Production loss is averaging three million board feet each working day. There is no immediate sign of renewed negotiations.

Detroit Steel Corporation announced it is studying the possible acquisition of Georgia Pacific Corp. through an exchange of stock.

Friday, Feb. 16, 1968

The suggestion from B.C. labor minister Leslie Peterson that labor and management leaders in the coast lumber industry agree to the appointment of an independent consultant, collapsed at the first meeting between FIR and the IWA.

W. Guy Flavelle, 66, of Port Moody, B.C. has died. Mr. Flavelle, a former executive of Flavelle Cedar Ltd. was a senior sales officer of Weldwood of Canada Ltd., at his retirement in 1966. The prominent B.C. lumber executive was a church and community worker in Port Moody for 40 years.

Preliminary figures from the B.C. Council of Forest Industries show that shipments to United Kingdom in 1967 totalled 597,000,000 b.f.m. (sales were 882,378,000 b.f.m. according to Timber Trades Federation of United Kingdom.) Shipments in 1966 totalled 718,000,000 b.f.m.

Friday, March 1, 1968.

On the B.C. coast the IWA representing 28,000 members has announced this year it will seek a 50 cent an hour increase across the board for a one year contract. Negotiations start March 15th. Current contract expires June 30. These IWA demands were termed unrealistic by John M. Billings, president of Forest Industrial Relations which bargains for 126 coast manufacturers. He pointed out that the IWA had recently refused to participate in a fact finding study proposed by the B.C. minister of Labor.

Due to the lack of production in the Southern Interior and the start of Spring breakup, lumber is hard to buy for any reasonable shipment. Many mills have order files extending into two months. They are not interested in counter offers.

Friday, March 8, 1968.

An attempt by supervisory personnel of Kootenay Forest Products, at Nelson B.C. to cross picket lines Wednesday failed. The Company wanted to restart operations. There was no violence as some 200 IWA strikers formed a picket line at the plant. M.J. Lucas, general manager Crown Zellerbach Paper Co. Ltd., said business houses are taking increasingly longer periods to pay their bills and this is shrinking the cash flow and working capital of their suppliers in a frightening way.

Well known lumber executive Reed Banford has been appointed vice president of manufacturing at Revelstoke Building Materials Limited. Mr. Banford will be in charge of all Company's lumber operations in B.C. and Alberta.

MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. reported 1967 sales increased 13 per cent to \$540,584,464 but profits dropped 15 percent to \$36,189,166.

Friday, March 15, 1968.

Crows Nest Industries will seek shareholders permission at their annual meeting April 30 to spend from \$7 to \$8 million on sawmill and plywood plants at Elko, west of Fernie B.C.

CNI President W.R. Prentice announced the company will unveil a master plan soon to make it a major competitor in the B.C. timber industry.

West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd., at Quesnel B.C. report they have purchased all the shares of A.L. Patchett & Sons Ltd. No price was announced.