

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

Vol. 20 No. 10

May 1, 1970.

There was a distinct switch in export lumber to Europe and the U.K. by P.G.E. mills. During the first three months of 1969 a total of 126 cars were exported. For the first three months of this year the total is 265 cars, an increase of 126 cars for overseas export.

Triangle Pacific Forest Products Corporation, of New York has reached an agreement to acquire the Kootenay Division of Pacific Logging Co. Ltd., at Slocan, B.C. This is a subsidiary company of the C.P.R. Triangle also owns Pacific Pine Co. Ltd., at New Westminster and Tubafour Stud Mills at Quesnel B.C.

Vol. 20, No. 9

May 8, 1970

B.C. coast's forest industry is being slowly strangled by a strike of 1200 tow boat personnel.

Almost immediately, the affect rippled through the forest and pulp and paper industry which is totally dependent on tug transportation of logs and product.

Log inventories at most B.C. coast plants are generally good.

Vol. 20 No. 10

May 22, 1970.

There are now 14,000 men in the forest industry idled by the current tugboat dispute. More B.C. coast logging, plywood and pulp mills are shutting down.

R.A. Cloutier of Hearst, Ontario is president elect of the Ontario Lumber Manufacturers Association; G. Malette, first vice president and O.G. Korpela, second vice.

Malpass Lumber & Poles Ltd., at Enderby B.C. has been acquired by the Ganzveld interests, who are well known in the Interior lumber industry.

Vol. 20 No. 12

TELEPHONE MUTUAL-1-6838

May 29, 1970

Northwood Mills Ltd., announced it will spend \$9 million on sawmill expansion at Okanagan Falls and Princeton, B.C. The Penticton mill will be phased out.

Vol. 20 No. 11

June 5, 1970

The freeing of the Canadian dollar by the Federal government on May 31, has resulted in losses of millions of dollars in accounts receivable by lumber manufacturers across Canada.

The Canadian dollar pegged by the government at 92½ cents to the U.S. dollar is now free and increased in value to 98 cents compared with the U.S. dollar.

Wholesale lumber companies in Vancouver who have already paid for cars and now have accounts receivable, report losses from \$3,000.00 to \$25,000.00.

The towboat strike continues. Some mediation progress is reported. The union was fined \$5,000.00 in the B.C. Supreme court for contempt of an injunction that ordered the union to stop picketing a pulp mill.

Con Cawley and Doug Morter will handle sales for Mountain Pine Lumber, of Vancouver. Company was incorporated by Ainsworth Lumber Company and Pinette and Therrien Mills.

Balfour Guthrie Ltd., has acquired Netherland Overseas Mills Ltd., at Prince George, B.C.

Vol. 20 No. 12

June 19, 1970

Well known Prairie lumberman, Len C. Marks, 43, of F.W. Styles Lumber Co. Ltd., Calgary, Alberta has died. Bill Fairley of Vancouver has joined Michael's Forest Products a wholesale lumber company, in Edmonton, Alberta.

Colin H. Jensen is vice president and general manager of Widman Industries Ltd., a Vancouver wholesale lumber company. Neil L. Hood is manager of Canadian sales and William G. Sutton, manager of U.S. sales.

Vol. 20 No. 14

June 26, 1970

Ervin Pahmer, president of St. George Lumber Co. Ltd., Toronto, pleaded guilty to a breach of the Excise Sales Tax Act involving \$246,917. The court was told that Pahmer got \$400,000 worth of lumber from 30 suppliers by quoting a "wholesalers sales tax licence" that had been cancelled. He was remanded until August 4 for sentence, for which the maximum penalty is one year.

Vol. 20 No. 13

July 3, 1970

Price Company Ltd. of Quebec City, will reduce its quarterly common stock dividend from 10¢ - 8-3/4¢ due to the freeing of the Canadian dollar, which according to the Company is having serious impact on earnings from both forest products and mining.

Price owns Skeena Forest Products Ltd. at Terrace B.C. and eastern Canadian mills. They are also in the pulp manufacturing business.

Vol. 20 No. 15

July 10, 1970

Mr Justice Nathan Nemetz of the B.C. Court of Appeal will mediate the contract dispute between the B.C. coast forest industry and the I.W.A.

Former worker owners of Canadian Plywood Corp., at Annacis Island B.C. now in receivership because of back federal income tax, were told that there are several prospects for starting the mill up again. The mill was purchased by the Goldfield Company in the U.S. Its shares are delisted by the American Stock Exchange. The owner workers each received \$2000.00 back for their investment of about \$7,500 in the company when it was formed in 1967. The balance was in Goldfield shares which are still unsold. Former shareholders may reinvest \$2000.00 each to get the mill into operation again.

Reed Group Ltd., of London, England announced they have acquired Colenso Lumber Company in northern Ontario. Reed also has a 50% interest in Prince George Pulp and Paper Ltd. and 37.5% in Intercontinental Pulp, also 43.75% interest in Takla Forest Products at Fort St. James B.C. The two Prince George kraft pulp mills have operating losses totalling \$12.6 million since the start of operations four years ago. Canadian Forest Products Ltd., of Vancouver has similar percentages in the above operations.

Vol. 20 No. 14

July 17, 1970

Lumber manufacturers on the B.C. coast have voted 97% to lock out the IWA unless the union stops wild cat strikes. The lockout could be effective after 72 hours notice.

The IWA denied the allegation of FIR that it gave assurance it would not strike until mediation hearings are over.

Mediation hearings under Mr. Justice Nathan Nemetz are scheduled to open in Vancouver Monday, July 20.

No estimate was given as to the overall total cost to all manufacturers on the B.C. coast. MacMillan Bloedel Ltd and Crown Zellerbach Canada Ltd., reported a 50% decline in net earnings for the first six months of this year. MacMillan Bloedel Ltd., reported a net of \$11.1 million compared with \$25 million for the same period a year ago. Crown Zellerbach a net income of \$3.9 million compared with \$8.1 million.

Vol. 20 No. 16 July 24, 1970.
John M. Billings, president of Forest Industrial Relations, representing B.C. Coast lumber manufacturers warned the special inquiry under Mr. Justice Nathan Nemetz, that continuation of the strike of Weldwoods plywood plant in Vancouver would endanger the hearings. The plant has been strikebound for 12 weeks.

Syd Thompson, president of the Vancouver local of the IWA blamed Weldwood's law suit against the union for the continued strike at the plant. He said he was willing to meet with FIR Officials to discuss the strike.

"For every dollar we lose through law suits, we guarantee the industry is going to lose ten" said Mr. Thompson.

Balance of the first day meeting was taken up by a brief presented by the IWA. Meetings will continue this week.

Six pulp mills in B.C. went on strike today, in defiance of the B.C. government which had reappointed a mediator. Under B.C. law no strike may take place while a dispute is under mediation. Mills affected are B.C. Forest Products at Crofton, MacMillan Bloedel's Harmac plant at Nanaimo, Tahsis Co. Ltd., at Gold River, Rayonier Canada Ltd. at Woodfibre, Crestbrook Pulp and Paper at Cranbrook and Prince George Pulp and Paper.

Vol. 20 No. 15

July 31, 1970

A new crisis developed at the inquiry when workers at Weldwood's Ash street plant struck in support of the 12 week strike by 400 employees at the Kent street operation.

Laurie Brealey, former sales manager for W.R. Stewart Lumber Co. Ltd. in Vancouver has started his own wholesale company at 1700 West 3rd Avenue.

Vol. 20 No. 17

Aug. 7, 1970.

The two month old strike at Weldwood's plant in Vancouver has ended. The IWA agreed to pay the Company \$5000 in damages and \$3000 in costs. Weldwood will drop its suit for damages suffered because of the work stoppage.

MacMillan Bloedel Ltd., has acquired for an undisclosed price the assets of R. Laidlaw Lumber Co. Ltd., at Weston Ontario. The Company has been in business for 90 years.

Kamloops Pulp and Paper Company has bought the outstanding shares of Kamloops Lumber Co. Ltd., and K.L. Building Materials Company from Revelstoke Building Materials Ltd. of Calgary, Alberta.

Vol. 20 No. 18

August 21, 1970

The IWA negotiating committee on the B.C. coast has rejected the recommendations of the Nemetz report for a 60 cent an hour increase, plus fringe benefits over a two year contract.

In spite of the warning from B.C. Labor minister that the union could become the author of its own misfortune, the IWA announced the proposed wage package does not make up for "major disappointments" in the report.

The IWA claims that not sufficient improvement has been made in the health and welfare plan; board and room at camps; correction of the wage imbalance of plywood workers; no effective solution to sub contractors problems and insufficient progress made in trademen's problems.

Vol. 20 No. 17

August 28, 1970

Jack Moore, regional president of the IWA and chairman of the union's negotiating committee said he resigned as committee chairman because he disagreed with the majority view of the committee that a ballot should be sent to members to reject the Nemetz report.

The IWA vote has now been delayed while talks continue on the fringe benefits in the proposed contract. IWA officials at press time were not able to indicate how long the new talks will take. Jack MacKenzie, first regional vice president has replaced Moore as negotiating committee chairman.

Beaver Lumber Co. Ltd., of Winnipeg, a major Canadian line yard company reported net profit for the first half of this year was \$876,000 down from \$1.19 million for the same six months of 1969.