

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, October 2, 1959.

The Atlantic Coast longshore strike started Thursday. This will halt discharge of cargoes from Texas to Maine. The immediate effect will be slight. A continued strike will force cargo buyers to turn to the rail markets.

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER

October 16, 1959.

One of B.C.'s oldest Interior mills was sold this week. The Burns Lumber Co. Ltd. and subsidiaries at Nelson, B.C. was bought by Mr. A. Erickson from Oregon for approximately a million and a half dollars.

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER

October 30, 1959.

One of the first vessels not booked before the strike cleared B.C. ports this week for USNH, so that is 5,000,000 board feet sold and loaded in the past seven weeks. There is probably more.

Friday, Nov. 13, 1959.

For the first 10 months of this year, Prince George area mills shipped a total of 5363 cars of Western White Spruce. This is 23% less than the 7012 cars shipped during the first 10 months of 1958. Biggest slump in shipments was during September and October of this year when a total of 1051 cars were shipped compared with 1452 cars for the same two months in 1958.

General Motors Corporation finally switched from Spruce crating to plywood for export in their Ontario plant. The company booked some three million square feet of plywood underlay with a B.C. plywood producer. Reason for the switch: Plywood can be reused at destination and makes into crates faster than Spruce crating.

Friday, November 27, 1959.

Last May, the American Lumber Standards refused grade recognition to Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association which represents most of the bigger manufacturers in the Southern Interior of B.C. Although ILMA met all grade requirements, ALS said they could not approve a foreign agency. Now ILMA is working through Canadian Standards Association whose recognition they hope will be approved by ALS and PHA. Commissioner Zimmerman said he was aware of the ILMA presentation and the new regulations were designed with U.S. mills in mind.

G.H. Carr, of Balfour Guthrie (Canada) Ltd. said in Vancouver that his company now controls Valley Timber Exporters Ltd. which was formerly a subsidiary of Chaloner of England. Valley is engaged in the export business to U.K. No change of name or management is anticipated at this time.

Friday, December 11, 1959.

INTERIOR GRADING PROGRESS: P.L.I.B. Board of Directors meet in Seattle today. They have received application for membership from Northern Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association; Interior Lumber Manufacturers Association and Cariboo-P.G.E. Association.

The ILMA report they are "gratified" that the PLIB have offered this service. The Association, which represents most manufacturers in the Southern Interior, says they will continue to press for approval of their own grade mark with Canadian Standards Association in Ottawa. Neil Connor, director architectural standards for PHA said he did not see how the deadline could be extended without "the big squawk we will get from our domestic industry which is now conforming."

Longshore Union is in conciliation and talks are expected to continue through July. Negotiations for a new contract in Southern Interior were broken off Wednesday.

Thursday, June 30, 1960.

I.C.C. cancellation of free hold time, effective July 21, means that U.S. transit shippers will route lumber cars over Canadian lines.

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER July 8, 1960.

A fire destroyed B.C. Forest Products Limited head office, and Sitka Spruce mill in Vancouver. Lumber sales organization is through MacMillan, Bloedel and Powell River in Vancouver.

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER July 22, 1960.

Western Plywood Company Ltd. reported consolidated net profits for six months ending April 30 amounted to \$414,000 after providing \$450,000 for depreciation.

Crown Zellerbach Canada Ltd. reported net income for the first six months of this year is up 21% over same period last year. Sales for all the company's products for first half of 1960 totalled \$53,500,000, an increase of 13.1% over the 1959 first half sales

Rayonier Incorporated, reported near record sales for first half of this year, but lower prices reduced the Company's profit. Net sales for the half year totalled \$69,598,331, a 12 1/2% increase over \$65,717,106 for first six months of 1959.

Northern Studs Ltd., at Lac la Hache has purchased Blackwater Timber Co. (Cariboo) Ltd., from Battle & Houghland in Vancouver.

National Forest Products Ltd. formerly Midway Terminals Ltd. with head offices in Vancouver acquired Upper Fraser Spruce Limited, about 50 miles from Prince George. Operation will join Sinclair Spruce Ltd., which the company already owned.

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER August 5, 1960.

MacMillan Bloedel & Powell River has laid off 400 plywood plant employees in Vancouver and Port Alberni. B.C. Forest Products Plywood plant at Victoria has laid off 100 employees. Savona Timber Plywood plant at Savona is temporarily shut down.

Blue River country, along the north arm of the Thompson River, about 100 miles north east of Kamloops is the worst forest fire area in the Southern Interior of B.C. Mills and logging operations through Blue River area are shut down as bush and planer crews fight fires that have burned over 10,000 acres.

Fires are also raging in the Revelstoke area where bush operations are now suspended. Some planers are still operating however. The fires have reduced production mostly in the bush.

Friday, September 9, 1960.

Western Plywood Co. Ltd. and Keeley Lumber Co. Ltd., have both joined Seaboard Lumber Sales Co. Limited. Thirty-two Coastal lumber manufacturers in B.C. now export their lumber products through Seaboard.

Friday, January 8, 1960.

GRADING PROGRESS: In Vancouver today grading committees from Interior associations and Alberta Forest Products Assn. listened while Colonel Jenkins of Canadian Standards Association explained requirements necessary to qualify under PHA grading rules. On September 1, all lumber used on PHA projects will require grade certification C.S.A. - A.L.S. and F.H.A. The six month delay is to allow Canadian shippers to work out their grading problems. At present P.L.I.B. is the only recognized grading Bureau operation in Canada for F.H.A. requirements.

The Maritime Lumber Bureau at Amherst, Nova Scotia, who represents the export shippers in the Maritimes, reports "due to the abnormally wet period through November and part of December there is practically no Spruce available at present" for U.K. According to reports from Eastern Canadian shippers their forward sales at this time are four times as much as they were at the same time last year.

Friday, January 22, 1960.

Cars of lumber from mills shipping on Pacific Great Eastern Railway reached a new high during 1959. A total of 30,954 cars were shipped, compared with 24,032 cars during 1958. December showed an increase of shipments when 2216 cars were shipped compared with 1846 cars in December 1958.

Net profit of MacMillan & Bloedel Ltd. for year ending September 30, 1959 was \$13,016,172 a gain of 60% from the \$8,109,327 in 1958. Gross sales were \$181,469,915 up 13% from previous year.

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER March 4, 1960.

In Vancouver mills continue to ship on export markets. The order file for United Kingdom at end of 1959 is almost double 1958. On December 31 of 1959 unshipped orders to U.K. totalled 232,880,000 fbm against 110,000,000 at end of 1958.

Midway Terminals, with head office in Vancouver, report they are negotiating for Oliver Sawmills at Oliver, B.C. Midway now controls Sinclair Spruce at Sinclair Mills, John Luttin Sawmills at Keremeos and a remanufacturing plant, non operative at Fort William, Ontario.

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER April 14, 1960.

Powell River Company Ltd. made \$9.9 million profit in the last year of independent operation. Annual report of the company to Dec. 31, 1959 showed earnings were up \$2.5 million over the previous year; sales ahead \$7.4 million at \$60,825,000. Merger of Powell River with MacMillan & Bloedel became effective at start of this year.

By mid summer Prince Rupert expects to have its first tide-water mill producing 100 M per shift according to Allfir Lumber Company, of Everett, Washington.

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER April 29, 1960.

MacMillan, Bloedel & Powell River have bought 92% of the stock of Sidney Roofing & Paper Co. Ltd., it was announced in Vancouver this week.

As reported here several weeks ago, Oliver Sawmills, Osoyoos Sawmills, Summerland Box, Transit Planing Mills, Tulameen Forest Products all controlled by M.E. Davis of Penticton, have consolidated with Midway Terminals who also own Sinclair Spruce, John Luttin Limited and a remanufacturing plant at Fort William that is not operating at present.

Friday, June 24, 1960.

U.K. at end of April had purchased 1,600 million feet from Sweden which still leaves that country with an unsold balance of 400 million feet available, Finnish sales to U.K. at end of April totalled 900 million feet and Russia has sold U.K. 800 million feet.