

# Madison's Lumber Retrospective

A 60-year walk down  
forestry's Memory Lane

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

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

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER Sept. 29, 1952.

Temporary shutdown of logging camps on northern end of Vancouver Island, due to fire hazard will again reduce Hemlock offerings. This is where large stands of Hemlock are cut.

Japan bought her first postwar cedar logs in Vancouver last week (see Cedar). She has already bought some 3,000,000 feet of Douglas Fir logs and would

The labor situation with IWA remains unsettled. Several producers have reported that an increase in wages at the present time would put them out of business at present market prices. At the best prices can only hold their present level - they certainly will not increase this year.

Two Japanese importers in Vancouver last week bought 2,000,000 feet of cedar logs, first since the war. They are for domestic construction. Prices paid for logs was not disclosed. Charter party rate was \$20 F.I.O. for Japanese vessels. These vessels were chartered in Japan some weeks ago when the offshore market was depressed. The Japanese importers said this rate could not be duplicated today. While this initial cedar purchase did not make any appreciable dent in the cedar log market, it is a forerunner of future business. There are no restrictions on the export of cedar logs from Canada to Japan.

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER October 10, 1952.

All transits were reported slow moving. What are usually premium items as 2x8 - 12' and 14' - No. 1 & 2 Com. Dry dimension were not selling last week. Cars of Dry 2x4 all 16' offered in transit at \$101 were not finding buyers. In many instances no reasonable counter offers were being made in New York and Boston. It was a tough job to find a buyer. "If a customer wants a certain car" said one Spruce wholesaler "He will pay for it. But the trouble is to first find the customer."

MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER November 1, 1952.

No. 3 dimension from Kamloops is still moving at \$48 for 2x4 to the Canadian markets. There are a few sales reported down to \$45 but we have a notion this would be pretty poor No. 3 dimension.

According to Forestry department officials September sawing in the Fort George forest district dropped about 5% during September from a comparable figure in 1951. Mills cut 38,703,083 b.f.m. in September of this year compared with 42,352,165 in the same month last year.

Total cut in Prince George area for first 10 months of this year is 262,211,561 b.f.m. an increase of 9% over last year.

Sawlog production for the first three months of this year from the Fort George forest district is up 16% over the same period last year. Total cut for above period this year is 180,000,000 b.f.m. compared with 155,000,000 b.f.m. for same period last year.

## MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER

May 16, 1953.

Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau report for first three months of this year. During that period B.C. sent an average of 40,000,000 board feet per month by water to New York area compared with 5,412,244 board feet total for the three month period in 1952.

The other side of the picture is reflected in the falling off of U.K. and other off-shore markets. B.C. only shipped just over half the amount during the first three months of this year compared with her shipments last year. Then she shipped

## MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER

June 1, 1953.

There is a tightening of collections to retailers. The credit situation is not bad, but a larger percentage of accounts are becoming overdue. One Toronto wholesaler reported 5% of his accounts would be curtailed for slow payment. Another in the Toronto area said his might run as high as 10% and another said 7%. All agreed it is a weeding out process in the competitive market conditions which are expected to continue.

A prominent Canadian lumber man C.H. "Chuck" Grinnell, vice president and managing director, Seaboard Lumber Sales Co. Ltd. retires this month. He is replaced by Claude N. Effinger, former assistant manager and secretary.

## MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER

August 15, 1953.

In Vancouver six more lumber companies have agreed to pay the IWA increase of 14¢ an hour. The remaining 27 operators who say they cannot pay, are being threatened by IWA with strike action.

## MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER

Sept. 1, 1953.

Marginal operators in Vancouver have agreed to meet IWA increase of 14¢ - a 9¢ cost of living bonus employees were already getting and 5¢ an hour increase. One medium sized operator said it would cost more to shut down than to pay the increase.

## MADISON'S CANADIAN LUMBER REPORTER

Sept. 15, 1953.

The Interior mills are in a much better position from a freight point of view to sell on the Prairie markets if they develop this Fall, than are Coast mills.

According to Kamloops Forest District, a total of 44,065,486 f.b.m. logs were scaled in August; 351,770 lineal feet of cedar poles and piling; 4,780 fir poles and piling; 2,550 Fir ties were cut.

Power shortage in some areas is slowing down production. Mills to conserve power must run only night shifts in the Kamloops and Sicamous areas.