

The total production of the shingle mills of British Columbia in 1902 was about 500,000,000.

Perhaps the Kootenay district furnishes the best example of the growth of the saw-milling industry in British Columbia. Six years ago there was one small saw-mill in the East Kootenay district south of the Columbia Lakes, and valuable timber limits were passed by as hardly worth noticing. Mills have since been built all along the Kootenay, Moyie and Elk valleys. It is estimated that the cut of the coming season will aggregate 120,000,000 feet. The capacity of the various mills is estimated as follows: Cotton, at Crow's Nest, 2,000,000 feet; Carbon Creek Lumber Company, 2,000,000; Fernie Lumber Company, 5,000,000; Mott & Son Company, Fernie, 5,000,000; Cedar Valley Improvement Company, Fernie and Morrissey, 5,000,000; McCrea Lumber Company, Coal Creek, 5,000,000; Robinson-McKenzie Lumber Company, Cranbrook, 5,000,000; King Mercantile Company, Cranbrook, 5,000,000; Leask & Slater, Cranbrook, 5,000,000; Larrie Lumber Company and Finch & Jones, Marysville, 4,000,000; East Kootenay Lumber Company, four mills, 20,000,000; Crow's Nest Lumber Company, Wardner, 12,000,000; Moyie Lumber Company, Elk Mouth, 2,000,000. At Slocan the Ontario-Slocan Lumber Company is building a mill to have a daily capacity of 100,000 feet.

Only two companies were engaged in the export trade, namely, the British Columbia Mills, Timber and Trading Company, and the Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Company. Their shipments aggregated about 56,000,000 feet, somewhat less than the total export trade of 1901.

The loss in export trade was due to lighter shipments to South America, China and Japan. Whereas South America took approximately 13,000,000 feet in 1901, less than 9,000,000 feet was shipped to that country last year. Upwards of 12,000,000 feet was shipped in 1901 to China and Japan, an increase over last year of 7,000,000 feet. These losses were made up in part by increased shipments to South Africa, the trade with that country expanding from 4,000,000 feet in 1901 to nearly 11,000,000 feet last year. The shipments to Australia and Great Britain varied but little from the previous year. The figures in detail for two years are given below:

SHIPMENTS BY COUNTRIES.

	1901.	1902.
Feet B. M.	Feet B. M.	
Australia	22,019,807	20,632,584
South America	13,045,214	8,815,833
United Kingdom	8,009,864	8,174,134
China and Japan	12,702,602	5,053,444
South Africa	3,926,620	10,675,008
United States		875,842
Fiji Islands		20,751
Germany	1,211,061	38,033
Calcutta	3,036,530	
Mexico	746,762	
Belgium		950,449
Alaska	170,260	
Bombay	44,852	
Total	66,714,271	55,855,405

The following table shows the port of shipment, destination, quantity and value of foreign cargoes.

FROM CHEMAMUN.

Vessel	Destination	Feet B. M.	Value.
Lahaina	South Africa	1,300,611	\$11,004
Jane L. Stanford	Mellbourne	1,137,861	10,015
James Johnson	Sydney	1,166,082	10,762
Chas. E. Moody	Adelaide	1,378,381	11,500
Ostara	South Africa	1,665,061	15,015
Star of Bengal	Adelaide	1,308,402	12,542
Sonoma	Sydney	731,419	6,167
King Cyrus	Sydney	840,427	7,544
Antigone	U. K.	1,162,830	16,275
Lucifera	Sydney	1,072,534	9,347
Arctura	Sydney	1,303,090	15,957
Paramita	Sydney	1,151,210	101,742
Servia	Adelaide	1,302,067	10,855
Ema Louisa	W. Coast S.A.	965,735	8,115
Emily Reed	Cape Town	1,210,357	13,166

FROM CHEMAMUN.

Vessel	Destination.	Feet B. M.	Value
Antonietta	W. Coast S. A.	737,053	7,360
Lake Leman	W. Coast S. A.	859,587	7,240
Antofagasta	W. Coast S. A.	772,219	9,980
India	W. Coast S. A.	869,053	7,674
Prosper	Valparaiso	768,573	6,750
Atlantic	U. K.	1,388,279	23,773
Balboa	Mollendo	844,545	12,405
Helios	South Africa	725,606	8,091
John A. Buggs	Cape Town	1,505,031	18,052

FROM HASTINGS.

Vessel	Destination.	Feet B. M.	Value
Athenian	China and Japan	142,510	2,504
Empress of Japan	Yokohama	25,404	434
Elizabeth Nicholson	Shanghai	653,509	6,833
Mary A. Troop	Wilmington, Del.	875,843	18,510
Altavella	Ostend, Belgium	650,449	7,725
Reuce	Sydney	1,251,030	12,510
Rose	Fremantle	595,069	5,022
Andromeda	Iquiqui	279,020	7,714
Alderley	Sydney	1,082,562	11,000
Amaranth	Taku	1,380,414	17,380
Pallus	U. K.	1,080,573	10,500
Athenian	Japan	57,612	1,810
Queen Mary	Taku	121,611	3,200
Challenger	Delagoa Bay	1,090,233	9,775
Prince Louis	Cardiff	940,090	15,100
Moana	Sydney	16,211	300
Empress of China	Kobe	9,911	270
Tartar	Yokohama	7,706	205
Miwera	Sydney	32,976	490
I. D. Everett	U. K.	1,413,950	24,000
Invermay	Mellbourne	1,179,206	10,300
Antigua	Fremantle	1,113,464	11,380
Pentaur	Hamburg	38,033	1,050
Aorangi	Sydney	116,625	1,615
St. Francis	Delagoa Bay	1,358,714	12,375
Empress of China	Yokohama	29,078	750
Kirkdale	Taku	1,914,772	20,685
Mona	Sydney	53,129	720
Empress of India	Yokohama	20,162	435
Eric	W. Coast S. A.	671,732	7,700
Kohala	Delagoa	974,760	9,500
Tartar	Japan	160,571	2,340
Miwera	Sava, Fiji	20,751	450
Clavering	Taku, China	401,470	4,020
Foreic	Sydney	261,404	4,950
Window	Iquiqui	681,947	8,500
Ellen A. Read	Greenock	1,178,754	7,120
Albania	London	1,000,949	17,250
Jane L. Stanford	Sydney	1,154,100	13,450
Kailua	Kobe	854,820	11,270
Athenian	Japan	52,322	1,800
Empress of China	Japan	16,750	455
Thistle	Fremantle	942,261	10,000
Tartar	Yokohama	17,266	470
Antuco	Iquiqui	1,234,488	13,550
Empress of China	Yokohama	6,090	150
Jabez Howes	Sydney	1,138,802	13,030

FROM HORNBY ISLAND.

Samar	Santa Rosalia	205,876	3,000
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MANITOBA.

Early in the year it became evident that a large quantity of lumber would be consumed in Manitoba and the Territories. Manufacturers put forth their best endeavors to supply the requirements of their customers, but the buying in anticipation of good crops was extensive, and there developed a shortage in the lumber supply. The demand was unprecedented, all classes of lumber being consumed in large quantity. Building operations in Winnipeg were of large volume, totalling in value nearly three million dollars, and calling for many million feet of lumber. There was scarcely a lull in trade until winter weather brought about a cessation of outdoor work. Manufacturers were always far behind with orders for lumber, as is evidenced by the statement of the manager of one company that they always had unfilled orders on their books for at least three hundred cars.

British Columbia lumber and shingles sold freely in Manitoba, but very little stock was imported from the United States. Prices were advanced at different intervals, and stand materially higher at the close of the year.

COOPERAGE STOCK.

The Sutherland-Innes Company, Chatham, Ont., furnish the following particulars of the cooperage stock market in 1902:

The year has been a most unfavorable one for getting out cooperage stock. While there were fairly good stocks of timber put in at the mills last winter, just as soon as these were

cut out there was no chance of getting any more timber to the mills, consequently as soon as the winter supply of logs was cut out the mills had to close down. This curtailed the production very seriously, and the consequence is at the present time there has been an entire clean-up of cooperage stock in Canada. There has been hardly anything at the mills except No. 2 stock, of which the production last year was very much larger proportionately than is usual. The excess in the production of No. 2 staves was caused by the continual wet weather throughout the season, which mildewed and damaged staves that would otherwise have gone into the No. ones, consequently the percentage of No. ones from the staves cut was very small this season.

The demand for all classes of stock has been exceptionally good, there having been a splendid apple crop, and trade through the country being excellent.

The supply of raw material in Canada has been rapidly exhausted, and the prices of logs and bolts are almost double what they were five years ago.

On the whole the season was not a very satisfactory one for manufacturers of cooperage stock, as while the prices during the latter part of the season were very good, manufacturers had little or no stock to dispose of, it taking about all of the stock of the manufacturers to supply their contracts and their regular customers. In the early part of the season cooperage stock was sold at too low figures, and the prominent manufacturers do not anticipate that stock will ever go down so low again, in fact it would be impossible to sell stock as low again except at a loss, on account of the increase in the cost of raw material.

THE FORESTS OF RUSSIA.

The gradual deforestation of Russia is attracting increased attention throughout the Empire, and the Forestry Society as well as the Forestry Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Domains are discussing means for regulating the consumption of timber and for propagation. There does not seem to be any great cause, however, for apprehension, as a recent official report states that forests in Russia now cover an area of 180,000,000 hectares (464,000,000 acres.) Among European countries Sweden comes next with 44,000,000 acres of forests. In Russia the forests cover 36 per cent. of the whole area of the country. The Swedish forests occupy 44 per cent. of the total area, and the Austro-Hungarian 32 per cent. of the territory of the dual monarchy. Reckoned by the population there are 2.4 acres of forest to each inhabitant of Russia, 0.5 acres in Sweden, 10.4 acres in Norway, and 1.0 acre per head in Germany. The forests have a greater importance for Russians than for people of Western European countries, as villages and country houses are largely built of wood, stone and brick houses being almost unknown, and the forests furnish the main sources of fuel supply.—Journal of the Society of Arts.

NATIONAL WHOLESALE LUMBER DEALERS' ASSOCIATION.

Arrangements have been completed for holding the annual meeting of the above association at the "New Willard" hotel, Washington, D.C., on March 4th and 5th. This meeting will be one of the most important that has ever been held. Many questions of interest to the lumber trade in general will be discussed and it is contemplated that important action will be taken on several matters.

It is reported that C. P. Easton & Company, of Albany, N.Y., have decided to build a saw mill on their timber limits recently purchased in the province of Quebec.