



Dozer-stacker at Nanaimo Lakes, Vancouver Island.

PSYUs after surveys are completed and permissible harvests are calculated.

Cutting licenses are issued for fixed periods. After cutting, the licensee must reforest except where nature does an adequate job by itself. If a licensee fails to do so, his license is revoked. In recent years the focus of reforestation has been on improving the yield, with only desirable species planted. Between 1972 and 1976 some 656,000 acres were planted with 267 million new trees, mostly by hand. In the past the rate of reforestation did not match the cutting rate, but it does now, and plans are being formulated to reforest several million neglected acres.

How Trees Are Cut, Moved and Manufactured

Trees are cut by fallers, sawed into lengths by

buckers and dragged to central landings by machines or winch lines.

On the coast they are transported by truck or train to the tidewater where booms are made up and the logs are loaded on self-dumping barges or towed to the mills by tugs. In the interior they are moved by trucks and trains directly to the mills or to rivers or lakes.

As recently as 1950 the industry used only twenty per cent of a tree. Today the integrated industry uses every part — bark becomes mill fuel; sawdust is used for pulp, fuel logs or directly as fuel; and preliminary slabs and edgings are converted to pulp chips. In recent years stronger metal alloys have been used to manufacture thinner saw blades, reducing the amount of sawdust and increasing the amount of wood that remains lumber.

MacMillan Bloedel, the largest and most modern of the timber processors, has seventeen logging divisions in British Columbia that produce 9,107,000 cubic metres of wood. Some 1,500,000,000 board feet of lumber are cut in its mills at Chemainus, Harmac (Nanaimo), New Westminster, Port Alberni, Powell River and Vancouver. Each mill has its specialty: Port Alberni makes 3/8" plywood, shakes and shingles; New Westminster, wood products specialties and poles; Vancouver, particle board and panel board. Bleached, unbleached and semi-bleached kraft paper is manufactured at Harmac, Port Alberni and Powell; newsprint at Port Alberni and Powell; fine papers and corrugated containers at New Westminster.



MacMillan Bloedel pulp and paper mill at Port Alberni.