

The production of sawn lumber in Canada in 1920 reached a total of over four billion feet, board measure, the highest cut recorded since 1912. This was followed, in 1921 however, by a period of depression which was general throughout all fields of industrial activity. The production of lumber in 1921 decreased by over a third and the average value by over \$10 a thousand feet. The cut during 1922 showed an increase of 9.4 p.c. in quantity, accompanied by an increase of over \$2,000,000 in total value, while the production in 1923 again increased to 3,728,445,000 feet, board measure and the value to \$108,290,542.

**2.—Lumber, Lath and Shingle Production in Canada, for the calendar years 1908-1923.**

Years.	Lumber cut.		Shingles cut.		Lath cut.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	M ft. B. M.	\$	M.	\$	M.	\$
1908.....	3,347,126	54,338,036	1,499,396	3,101,996	671,562	1,487,125
1909.....	3,814,942	62,819,477	1,988,753	3,701,182	822,124	1,979,034
1910.....	4,451,652	70,609,233	1,976,640	3,557,211	851,953	1,943,544
1911.....	4,913,202	75,830,954	1,838,474	3,512,078	965,235	2,212,226
1912.....	4,389,723	69,475,784	1,578,343	3,175,319	899,016	2,064,622
1913.....	3,816,642	65,796,438	1,485,279	3,064,641	739,678	1,783,283
1914.....	3,946,254	60,363,369	1,843,554	3,688,746	625,010	1,585,484
1915.....	3,842,676	61,919,806	3,089,470	5,734,852	793,226	2,040,819
1916.....	3,490,550	58,365,349	2,897,562	5,962,933	665,588	1,743,940
1917.....	4,151,703	83,655,097	3,020,956	8,431,215	616,949	1,828,018
1918.....	3,886,631	103,700,620	2,662,521	8,184,448	438,100	1,369,616
1919.....	3,819,750	122,030,653	2,915,309	13,525,625	520,203	2,157,758
1920.....	4,298,804	168,171,987	2,855,706	14,695,159	762,031	5,248,879
1921.....	2,869,307	82,448,585	2,986,580	10,727,096	804,449	4,188,121
1922.....	3,138,598	84,554,172	2,506,956	10,397,080	1,031,420	5,690,328
1923.....	3,728,445	108,290,542	2,718,650	9,617,114	1,153,735	6,324,747

During 1923 a cut of 3,728,445,000 feet, board measure, of lumber, valued at \$108,290,542 was reported (Table 3). The number of mills in operation in 1923 was 2,883 as compared with 2,922 in 1922, but the average production per mill increased from 1,074,000 to 1,295,000 feet. The average number of days each mill was in operation in 1922 was only 90.2, while in 1923 the average number of days in operation increased to 94.5.

The total number of employees on salaries and wages was 32,868 as compared with 31,891 in 1922, an increase of 3 p.c. The total payroll was \$33,490,504, as compared with \$27,621,691 in 1922, an increase of 2.1 p.c. The average earnings per employee for all classes shows an increase over 1922 from \$866 to \$1,019. Other agencies of production, such as fuel and miscellaneous expenses showed increases in 1923, but the total amount of power utilized decreased.

Lath production increased in quantity and value from 1,031,420,000, valued at \$5,690,328, in 1922 to 1,153,735,000, valued at \$6,324,747, in 1923.

Shingle production showed an increase in quantity only from 2,506,956,000, valued at \$10,397,080, in 1922, to 2,718,650,000, valued at \$9,617,114, in 1923.

Other products and by-products of the saw-milling industry showed a general increase in total value from \$5,409,314 to \$5,931,413. These products include veneer, box shooks, spoolwood, cooperage stock, sawn ties, etc. Pulpwood to the amount of 755,933 cords, valued at \$9,730,861, was cut up, barked or rossed in 1923, an increase in quantity and value from the figures for 1922.

The total value of all products of the saw-mills and allied mills during 1923 was \$139,894,677, as compared with \$114,324,580 for 1922, an increase of 22.4 p.c.