

Subsection 3.—The Lumber Industry.

The manufacture of lumber, lath, shingles, and other products of the sawmill is the second most important industry in Canada depending on the forest for its raw materials. Annual statistics covering this and other forest industries were collected and published by the Forest Service of the former Department of the Interior from 1908 to 1916, since when the work has been carried on by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in co-operation with the Forest Service.

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. Production in 1921 decreased by over a third and the average value by over \$10 a thousand feet. This was followed, with one exception, by annual increases up to 1929 and then by annual decreases down to 1932. There were increases in 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1936. British Columbia now produces 59 p.c. of the total. Table 13 gives the production of lumber, lath, and shingles in each year from 1926 to 1936.

13.—Quantities and Values of Lumber, Shingles and Lath Produced in Canada, calendar years 1926-36.

NOTE.—Figures for the years 1908-25, inclusive, will be found at p. 300 of the 1931 Year Book.

Year.	Lumber Cut.		Shingles Cut.		Lath Cut.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	M ft. b.m.	\$	M	\$	M	\$
1926.....	4,185,140	101,071,260	3,299,397	10,521,723	1,378,366	6,527,060
1927.....	4,098,081	97,508,786	2,837,281	8,716,085	1,322,665	5,603,396
1928.....	4,337,253	103,590,035	2,865,994	10,321,341	1,138,417	4,802,616
1929.....	4,741,941	113,349,886	2,707,235	9,423,363	835,799	3,860,799
1930.....	3,989,421	87,710,957	1,914,836	5,388,837	398,254	1,154,593
1931.....	2,497,553	45,977,843	1,453,277	3,331,229	228,050	576,080
1932.....	1,809,884	26,881,924	1,802,008	3,556,823	208,321	474,889
1933.....	1,957,989	27,708,908	1,939,519	4,448,876	151,653	332,364
1934.....	2,578,411	40,509,600	2,408,616	4,422,578	177,988	412,844
1935.....	2,973,169	47,911,256	3,258,253	7,593,765	226,854	536,087
1936.....	3,412,151	61,965,540	3,019,030	6,754,788	286,323	874,231

The total number of sawmills, tie, shingle, lath, veneer, stave, heading and hoop mills, and mills for the cutting-up and barking or rossing of pulpwood reporting in 1936 was 3,638, as compared with 3,698 in 1935. The capital invested in these mills in 1936 was \$78,294,341, employment amounted to 28,786 man-years and wages and salaries amounted to \$21,357,038. The logs, bolts, and other materials of the industry were valued at \$44,360,624 and the gross value of production was \$80,343,291. The net production in 1936 was \$35,982,667.

The production of sawn lumber increased in quantity from 1935 to 1936 by 14.8 p.c. Lath production increased by 26.2 p.c., and shingle production decreased by 7.3 p.c. Quantity decreases were also reported in sawn ties, box shooks, veneer, heading, and a few of the minor products. Total values increased with all but shingles, ties, shooks, staves, and heading. The total gross value of production increased from \$65,905,132 in 1935 to \$80,343,291 in 1936.