

to ensure that shipments went forward as fast as ships could be found to carry them. Exports of all species to the United Kingdom totalled over 1,500 million bd.ft. during the year 1940, which represented an increase of nearly 400 million bd.ft. over the previous record established in 1939. Three-fifths of the total volume was shipped from British Columbia. In order to conserve shipping, special arrangements were made with the railway companies which enabled the rail shipment of more than 250 million bd.ft. of lumber from the west coast to the eastern seaboard. In 1941 purchases by the British Timber Controller were considerably reduced and Canadian exports to the United Kingdom were curtailed accordingly.

The rapidly growing demand for foreign exchange and especially for United States dollars with which to purchase aircraft, munitions, tools and other war supplies, made necessary the maintenance of exports to United States and other countries. Over 930 million bd.ft. were sold in these markets in 1940, representing a reduction of less than 6 p.c. as compared with the exports of the previous year. During 1941 the market for Canadian lumber in the United States expanded rapidly because of the demand for lumber for defence purposes.

In addition to enlarged export commitments the Canadian lumber industry was called on to supply practically all of the lumber used in connection with Canada's war effort and to meet ordinary domestic needs. By the summer of 1940 it became evident that the increased demands arising from the War might place too great a strain on the ordinary organization of the trade. To meet the rapidly developing situation a Timber Controller for Canada was appointed under the Minister of Munitions and Supply. During the month of July a Timber Control Office was organized at Ottawa. Representatives were appointed at Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg and Saint John, and committees of representative lumbermen were established in each principal producing region to advise and co-operate with the Timber Controller. The Control Office was staffed by members of industrial associations and individual companies, thus ensuring that the men charged with administering government policy with respect to the industry were themselves intimately acquainted with its problems. Services of members of the staff of the Dominion Forest Service of the Department of Mines and Resources were made available to the Control as required.

The wide powers originally granted to the Timber Controller were extended in 1941 to enable him to take all steps necessary "to fulfil the present and potential needs of Canada and her Allies". Thus he is empowered to regulate every phase of the lumber industry from the disposal of standing timber to the sale of manufactured products.

During the second half of 1940 practically all purchases of lumber, shingles, flooring and millwork for government account were supervised from the Timber Controller's Office. In addition, contractors undertaking war projects were helped to secure necessary supplies and their orders were given official prior consideration. Specifications for buildings and articles made of wood were reviewed and suggestions likely to decrease costs and promote efficient use of available stocks were made whenever necessary. By the end of the year domestic consumption of lumber for war purposes had totalled over 400 million bd.ft., of which 115 million bd.ft. was bought by the Government. Some 5,000 wooden buildings were erected at naval, military and air establishments and training schools and at war factories. More than