

7.—Equivalent Volumes of Standing Timber Cut and Values of Products of Woods Operations, by Provinces, 1941 and 1942

Province	Equivalent Volumes in Standing Timber		Values of Products	
	1941	1942	1941	1942
	'000 cu. ft.	'000 cu. ft.	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island.....	14, 702	14, 876	557, 566	574, 214
Nova Scotia.....	152, 605	132, 825	9, 402, 492	8, 627, 223
New Brunswick.....	239, 271	255, 511	16, 785, 386	21, 396, 987
Quebec.....	1, 194, 907	1, 216, 876	79, 280, 501	91, 702, 084
Ontario.....	624, 107	635, 822	45, 010, 170	51, 357, 660
Manitoba.....	86, 551	82, 734	3, 300, 522	3, 317, 696
Saskatchewan.....	118, 006	116, 026	3, 322, 733	3, 471, 304
Alberta.....	137, 326	131, 149	4, 401, 639	4, 722, 488
British Columbia.....	786, 096	662, 753	51, 102, 080	49, 202, 255
Totals.....	3, 353, 571	3, 248, 572	213, 163, 089	234, 371, 891

Wood Fuel.—A serious wood fuel shortage arose in the summer of 1942. Almost one-half of all Canadian householders depend on firewood to heat their homes; throughout the country 46 p.c. burn wood and 42 p.c. burn coal.

About nine-tenths of the fuel wood cut in Canada is felled by farmers or by small operators employing up to 10 men who do the cutting in their spare time or during the off-season of the agricultural year. Although such operations are small, they are so numerous that they add up to about 10,000,000 cords in an ordinary year. Fuel wood accounts for about 37 p.c. of the total quantity of timber cut for all purposes.

In addition to fuel wood, Canadians also burn a substantial cordage of slab-wood, which comprises the sides and pieces of logs cut in sawmills. In peacetime, thousands of cords of such wood could not be economically marketed in communities far removed from the sawmills, and were burned at the mills. However, in 1943 a Government transportation subsidy made it possible to distribute much of this wood for household and industrial use. In British Columbia about 25,000 householders burn sawdust, and thousands of others there and elsewhere burn mill waste.

Because of the manpower shortage, the wood cut during the winter of 1941-42 was insufficient to meet the demand in the following winter. When the supply of seasoned wood became exhausted in some sections, the green wood cut for the winter of 1943-44 had to be burned and the wood-fuel shortage was projected into another year.

To stimulate fuel-wood production, the Government decided early in March, 1943, on the following measures:—

- (1) A subsidy of \$1 per cord was to be paid to dealers on all commercial fuel wood contracted for, and cut on or before June 30, 1943 (this date was later extended), and held to the dealers' account on that date.
- (2) A transportation subsidy was to be paid where necessary.
- (3) The Government would, on request, repurchase from dealers at dealers' cost all commercial fuel wood on which the \$1 subsidy had been paid and which was still in dealers' hands on May 31, 1944.
- (4) Assistance would be given in providing priorities for necessary equipment.
- (5) Farmers who left their farms temporarily to engage in fuel-wood cutting would be deemed, by National Selective Service, to be carrying out their regular occupation, and would be given all the rights of deferment of military service which such an occupation entailed, but such temporary absence was not to interfere with agricultural production.