



Subsection 4.—The Veneer and Plywood Industries*

The production of hardwood plywood in Canada is confined largely to the eastern provinces. Changes in manufacturing methods applied to hardwood plywood resulted in its adaptation to many uses, particularly to attractive wall finishes for homes and other buildings, flush doors, radio and television cabinets and other home and office furniture.

Softwood plywood is produced almost entirely in British Columbia. Douglas fir is most commonly manufactured because of the availability of large diameter logs of this species from which large sheets of clear veneer can be obtained. The use of synthetic resin adhesives is responsible for this product that has become almost indispensable to the construction industry—for wall panels, concrete forms, roofing, sheeting, house sub-floors; for construction of silos, cribs and caissons; for box-car linings, bus bodies, trailers, power driven and other types of watercraft; for box panels and crate linings, case goods and core-stock for furniture; for plywood-faced doors and for many other uses.

The heating of glued veneers in moulds by high-frequency electric fields (dielectric heating) permits the manufacture of shaped plywood which is now being used for furniture, radio cabinets and similar products. The possibilities of this development are becoming more widely appreciated.

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