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.

Veneers of Canadian manufacture are not confined to species native to Canada. A number of imported woods of special decorative value are veneered successfully and provide the furniture industry with a wide choice of finishes. Exports of veneer and plywood produced in Canada increased in value from $969,256 in 1938 to a high of $30,103,676 in 1955, but declined to $29,020,281 in 1956.

22.—Veneer and Plywood Produced for Sale by Type 1952-55

Type		1952	1953	1954	1955
Veneer (1/10 inch Basis)	**M sq. ft.**	**412,751**	**577,504**	**495,222**	**643,213**
	$	**11,999,203**	**17,639,735**	**14,464,264**	**18,437,625**
Domestic softwood	M sq. ft.	185,654	265,222	214,005	318,572
	$	2,343,415	3,194,222	2,491,706	3,817,678
Domestic hardwood	M sq. ft.	217,550	296,986	276,096	315,564
	$	8,863,025	13,039,291	11,560,934	13,881,934
Imported wood	M sq. ft.	9,547	15,296	5,121	9,077
	$	792,763	1,406,222	411,624	738,013
Plywood (1/4 inch Basis)	**M sq. ft.**	**595,038**	**779,051**	**888,499**	**1,159,760**
	$	**49,909,515**	**66,256,470**	**66,971,822**	**82,593,534**
Domestic softwood	M sq. ft.	464,417	628,621	724,799	956,235
	$	32,418,606	44,718,998	45,985,321	57,188,234
Domestic hardwood	M sq. ft.	126,007	142,926	151,003	189,540
	$	16,131,288	19,053,363	18,303,554	22,163,977
Imported wood	M sq. ft.	4,614	7,504	12,697	13,985
	$	1,359,621	2,484,109	2,682,947	3,241,323

Subsection 5.—The Wood-Using Industries

The wood-using group comprises thirteen industries,* other than sawmills and pulp mills, using wood as their principal raw material. Most of these industries obtain from the sawmills the wood they transform into planed and matched lumber, boxes, barrels, furniture, caskets and other manufactured or semi-manufactured products but the veneer and plywood and excelsior industries usually manufacture their products direct from logs and bolts.

This wood-using group does not include every industry into which wood enters as a raw material but only those producing commodities where the chief component is wood. There are a number of industrial groups in which wood is an important raw material as in the manufacture of agricultural implements, musical instruments, etc., and others such as the manufacture of machinery in which wood is necessary but only in comparatively small proportions.

* Furniture; sash, door and planing mills; veneer and plywood; hardwood flooring; boxes, baskets and crates; wood-turning; coffins and caskets; cooperage; woodenware; lasts, trees and wooden shoefindings; beekeepers' and poultrymen's supplies; excelsior; and other wood-using industries.