

Softwood plywood is produced almost solely in British Columbia. Douglas fir is the type 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 the production of a 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 have increased in value from \$969,256 in 1938 to a high of \$19,024,625 in 1953.

25.—Veneer and Plywood Produced for Sale, by Type, 1949-52

| Type | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Veneer (1/10 in. Basis)— | | | | |
| Domestic softwood.....M sq. ft. | 139,092 | 194,845 | 331,148 | 185,654 |
| \$ | 1,507,973 | 2,008,510 | 3,466,307 | 2,343,415 |
| Domestic hardwood.....M sq. ft. | 156,462 | 164,719 | 203,521 | 217,550 |
| \$ | 3,997,363 | 5,483,890 | 7,350,044 | 8,863,025 |
| Imported wood.....M sq. ft. | 6,595 | 16,546 | 16,406 | 9,547 |
| \$ | 481,303 | 1,359,118 | 1,442,139 | 792,763 |
| Totals, Veneer.....M sq. ft. | 302,149 | 376,110 | 551,075 | 412,751 |
| \$ | 5,986,639 | 8,851,518 | 12,258,490 | 11,999,203 |
| Plywood (1/4 in. Basis)— | | | | |
| Domestic softwood.....M sq. ft. | 360,389 | 389,010 | 482,626 | 464,417 |
| \$ | 19,749,658 | 22,860,818 | 34,047,694 | 32,418,606 |
| Domestic hardwood.....M sq. ft. | 70,583 | 93,552 | 95,610 | 126,007 |
| \$ | 8,082,851 | 11,888,675 | 13,078,960 | 16,131,288 |
| Imported wood.....M sq. ft. | 3,246 | 2,386 | 5,247 | 4,614 |
| \$ | 637,170 | 620,925 | 1,523,694 | 1,359,621 |
| Totals, Plywood.....M sq. ft. | 434,218 | 484,948 | 583,483 | 595,038 |
| \$ | 28,469,679 | 35,370,418 | 48,650,348 | 49,909,515 |

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.

* 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 shoe findings; beekeepers' and poultrymen's supplies; excelsior; and other wood-using industries.