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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

**BIRCH PLYWOOD DOOR SKINS AND BIRCH VENEER PANELS:
WORKERS AND FORMER WORKERS OF ALLEN QUIMBY VENEER CO.,
BINGHAM, MAINE, DIVISION OF COLUMBIA PLYWOOD CORP.,
A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF COLUMBIA CORP.,
PORTLAND, OREG.**

**Report to the President
on Investigation No. TEA-W-259
Under Section 301(c)(2) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962**

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UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

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REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT

U.S. International Trade Commission,
February 18, 1975.

To the President:

In accordance with section 301 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C. 1901), the U.S. International Trade Commission herein reports the results of investigation No. TEA-W-259 made under section 301(c)(2) of the act to determine whether, as a result in major part of concessions granted under trade agreements, articles like or directly competitive with birch plywood door skins and birch veneer panels (of the types provided for in items 240.14 and 240.34 1/ of the Tariff Schedules of the United States (TSUS)) produced by Allen Quimby Veneer Company Division, Bingham, Maine, of Columbia Plywood Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of Columbia Corp., Portland, Oreg., are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to cause, or threaten to cause, the unemployment or underemployment of a significant number or proportion of the workers of such firm or an appropriate subdivision thereof.

The investigation was instituted on January 3, 1975, on the basis of a petition for adjustment assistance filed under section 301(a)(2) of the act on behalf of the present and former workers of the Bingham, Maine, plant. The petition was received December 19, 1974.

1/ Items 240.14 and 240.34 cover birch plywood door skins and birch veneer panels, respectively. In their petition, workers of Allen Quimby Veneer Company indicated the relevant item number to be 206.30-- wood doors with or without hardware. Subsequent investigation revealed that the latter item number was not descriptive of the articles produced by the petitioning workers.

Notice of the investigation was published in the Federal Register (40 F.R. 1,754) on January 9, 1975. No public hearing was requested and none was held.

The information in this report was obtained from Allen Quimby Veneer Company, other domestic producers and purchasers of plywood door skins, the Hardwood Plywood Manufacturers Association, the U.S. Customs Service, the petitioners, and the Commission's files.

Finding of the Commission

On the basis of its investigation, the Commission finds unanimously that articles like or directly competitive with birch plywood door skins and birch veneer panels (of the types provided for in item 240.14 and 240.34 of the Tariff Schedules of the United States) produced by Allen Quimby Veneer Company Division, Bingham, Maine, of Columbia Plywood Corp., a wholly owned subsidiary of Columbia Corp., Portland, Oreg., are not, as a result in major part of concessions granted under trade agreements, being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to cause, or threaten to cause, the unemployment or underemployment of a significant number or proportion of the workers of such firm or an appropriate subdivision thereof.

Views of Chairman Bedell, Vice Chairman Parker,
and Commissioner Moore 1/

Our determination in this investigation is in the negative because the criteria established by section 301(c)(2) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (TEA) have not been met. Before an affirmative determination can be made, the Commission must find that each of the following consideration has been satisfied.

- (1) Articles like or directly competitive with those produced by the workers' firm are being imported in increased quantities;
- (2) The increased imports are a result in major part of concessions granted under trade agreements;
- (3) A significant number or proportion of the workers of the firm, or an appropriate subdivision thereof, are unemployed or underemployed or threatened with unemployment or underemployment; and
- (4) The increased imports resulting in major part from trade-agreement concessions are the major factor in causing or threatening to cause the unemployment or underemployment of the workers.

The Allen Quimby Veneer Company (hereafter referred to as "Quimby") is located in Bingham, Maine, and produces birch plywood door skins and birch veneer panels. The Allen Quimby Veneer Company was acquired by Columbia Corp. in May of 1973. * * *

1/ Commissioner Ablondi concurs in the result.

Imports of birch and lauan door skins, articles like or directly competitive with birch door skins produced by Quimby, have supplied 70-90 percent of the total apparent consumption of door skins in the United States for a number of years. By far the greater quantity of imports consists of lauan door skins which are not produced in the United States. From 1970 through 1974 the imports of birch door skins declined irregularly. Available import data indicated that in 1974 the imports of birch door skins were less than imports in any year since 1962. From 1968 through 1974 the imports of lauan door skins declined irregularly to approximately one-half the level of 1968. These decreases in imports of like or directly competitive articles occurred despite the decreases in duty rates made as a result of the sixth (Kennedy) round of trade negotiations. These duty reductions began in 1968 after duties were further reduced, but it appears that in prior years imports were more closely related to building activity than to changes in duty levels.

Imports and domestic production of birch door skins have also fluctuated with changes in the style and type of doors required in residential construction. For several years, the housing industry has utilized an increasing proportion of hardboard door skins in place of door skins of plywood. Hardboard door skins now represent 22 percent of the total market. There are practically no imports of hardboard door skins.

The housing industry is experiencing its most severe recession since World War II. Residential housing starts were 39% lower in the second half of 1974 than in the second half of 1973. This reduction in housing

starts is reflected in increased unemployment throughout the industry and cannot be said to be the result in major part of concession-generated imports.

Conclusion

On the basis of the evidence in this proceeding, we have concluded that imports of like or directly competitive door skins resulting in major part from trade agreement concessions are not being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be the major factor causing the unemployment or underemployment of the workers at the Allen Quimby Veneer plant. Therefore, we have made a negative determination.

View of Commissioner Leonard

My determination in this investigation is in the negative because not all of the criteria established by section 301(c)(2) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (TEA) have been met. Before an affirmative determination can be made, the Commission must find that each of the following criteria has been satisfied.

- (1) Articles like or directly competitive with those produced by the workers' firm are being imported in increased quantities;
- (2) The increased imports are a result in major part of concessions granted under trade agreements;
- (3) A significant number or proportion of the workers of the firm, or an appropriate subdivision thereof, are unemployed or underemployed or are threatened with unemployment or underemployment; and
- (4) The increased imports resulting in major part from trade-agreement concessions are the major factor causing or threatening to cause the unemployment or underemployment of the workers.

In this case I find that one or more of the requisite criteria are not satisfied and thus a negative determination must be made.

The Allen Quimby Veneer Co. (hereafter referred to as "Quimby"), located in Bingham, Maine, produces birch plywood door skins and birch veneer panels. * * *

Increased imports

Imported birch and lauan door sidings, articles like or directly competitive with those produced by Quimby, have supplied 70-90 percent of the total apparent consumption of door skins in the United States for several years. But have they been imported in such increased quantities as the TEA requires? From 1970 through 1974 the imports of birch door skins declined irregularly. In 1974 the imports of birch door skins were less than in any year since 1962. From 1968 through 1974 the imports of lauan door skins declined irregularly to approximately half the quantity entered in 1968. Imports of hardboard and all other types of door skins have been so small as to have been a negligible competitive factor in the marketplace. Imports of wood doors which are plain or covered by door skins of varying kinds increased from 1970 to a peak in 1973, then fell 40 percent in 1974. Imported doors never amounted to more than 5 percent of apparent domestic consumption. The aggregate imports of birch, lauan, and all other types of door skins and completed doors declined irregularly from 1970 through 1974, and, as a result, it appears that the first criterion of the TEA referred to above has not been satisfied.

Duty reductions on the articles at issue were made in five annual stages beginning in 1968, but imports did not increase each year during this period. Indeed, over the entire period 1968 through 1974, imports declined and during 1974 were substantially lower than they had been in 1968.

In 1970-72, during the last three stages of the reduction in duty under the Kennedy Round of trade-agreement concessions, U.S. producers' shipments of birch door skins doubled, while the aggregate imports of all like and directly competitive articles remained nearly level. In 1973 and 1974, when there was no change in the rate of duty, U.S. producers' shipments and imports both declined precipitously. The changes in shipments and imports were responses to factors other than duty cuts. One important factor was the level of residential housing starts, which increased from 1.5 million in 1970 to 2.4 million in 1972 and then declined to 1.4 million in 1974.

Another important factor which influenced domestic shipments and imports of birch door skins was the growing replacement of plywood by hardboard door skins, the proportion of which increased from 45 percent of U.S. producers' shipments in 1970 to 75 percent in 1973, and from 3 percent of U.S. consumption of door skins in 1970 to about 23 percent in 1973-74.

Thus, there seems to be no positive correlation between trade-agreement concessions and increased imports, let alone the latter being "in major part" the result of the former, as directed by the statute. Rather, if there is any one cause of import increases and decreases, it seems to be the level of residential housing starts in the United States. In any event, the evidence does not support that increased imports are the result in major part of trade-agreement concessions.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, I have determined that, as a result in major part of concessions granted under trade agreements, articles like or directly competitive with articles produced by the affected workers are not being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be the major factor causing the workers' unemployment.

View of Commissioner Minchew

In response to the petition filed on behalf of the workers of the Bingham, Maine, plant of Allen Quimby Veneer Co., for a determination of their eligibility to apply for adjustment assistance under section 301(c)(2) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (TEA), I have concluded that the statutory requirements set forth in section 301(c) of that act are not met and, accordingly, I have made a negative determination.

The TEA sections 301(c)(2) and (3) state that--

(2) In the case of a petition by a group of workers for adjustment assistance under chapter 3, the Tariff Commission shall promptly make an investigation to determine whether, as a result in major part of concessions granted under trade agreements, an article like or directly competitive with an article produced by such workers' firm, or an appropriate subdivision thereof, is being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to cause, or threaten to cause, unemployment or underemployment of a significant number or proportion of the workers of such firm or subdivision.

(3) For purposes of paragraph . . . (2), increased imports shall be considered to cause, or threaten to cause, serious injury to a firm or unemployment or underemployment, as the case may be, when the Tariff Commission finds that such increased imports have been the major factor in causing, or threatening to cause, such injury or unemployment or underemployment.

The facts of the investigation indicate that imports are not increasing and in the absence of increasing imports, I have not been able to find that a primary requirement of the statute is met; i.e., increased imports have not been the major factor causing the unemployment of the workers.

INFORMATION OBTAINED IN THE INVESTIGATION

Articles Under Investigation

General description

The Allen Quimby Veneer Co.'s major item of production was birch door skins. As a byproduct of the door skin operation, Quimby manufactured birch veneer panels for kitchen cabinets. * * *

Door skins are made of other wood species and of hardboard as well as of birch plywood. Such other door skins are, therefore, considered along with those of birch plywood in this report. Hollow core flush doors on which door skins are used are also considered, although they were not manufactured by the company.

* * * * *

Door skins

A plywood door skin is generally made of three plies of veneer glued together into a sheet which is about 1/8 inch thick and not more than 47 inches by 85 inches in size. The grain of the outer plies (face and back) generally runs lengthwise of the panel and that of the center ply (core) crosswise of the panel. The face ply determines the wood-species designation of the door skin. The core ply and back plies may be of different species than the face ply and are usually of lesser quality.

Two door skins, supported within, as well as on the ends and sides, make a hollow flush door. Plywood door skins are made in various types and grades and are constructed to meet the requirements of the door manufacturers. The doors into which they are made are used predominantly in housing (single-family and multiple dwellings), but they are used in office and institutional buildings and industrial plants as well. The principal factors determining the type and class of plywood door skin are listed below.

Species.--The surface plies are made from a variety of hardwood species, principally lauan, birch, and oak. Birch surface plies are much more expensive than lauan, although less so than oak. The core plies are made of an inexpensive veneer of poorer quality, usually lauan. Gum and other hardwood species also are used in various parts of the country.

Size.--The skins are generally 1/8 inch thick and are made to conform to U.S. standard flush door sizes. A commonly used size is 30-1/2 inches

by 80-1/2 inches (17 square feet).

Grade.--Door skins are graded according to the quality of the veneer of the face and back with special emphasis on the face ply. The most commonly used grades are premium, good, and sound. Further breakdowns such as good No. 1 and good No. 2 are sometimes used.

Finish.--Door skins may be given a finish at the plywood plant, by an intermediate processor, or by the door manufacturer. A clear finish is used to display and enhance the natural grain. The surface of certain species, such as gum, may be painted to cover an indistinct or unattractive grain.

Type of bond.--Plywood door panels are produced chiefly in two types of bond. Type II plywood, with a moisture-resistant bond to withstand occasional wetting and drying, is commonly produced for use on interior doors. Type I plywood, with a fully waterproof bond to withstand full weather exposure, is produced for entrance and storm doors. Ninety-five percent of production by Quimby was of Type II plywood door skins.

Hardboard door skins are made from wood fibers matted together under heat and pressure. Such door skins are cut to size from hardboard produced on equipment customarily used for the manufacture of a variety of hardboard products. Hardboard door skins are almost always painted, and are generally sold at prices in the lower end of the price range for door skins. * * *

U.S. Tariff Treatment

Birch door skins are dutiable under TSUS item 240.14 at 7 1/2 percent ad valorem (see table 1 in the appendix). The rate was 50 percent ad valorem in the Tariff Act of 1930. Pursuant to trade-agreement concessions it was reduced to 25 percent in 1936, to 20 percent in 1950, to 15 percent in 1951, and finally, in five annual stages, to 7 1/2 percent ad valorem, effective January 1, 1972 (table 2).

Lauan door skins are dutiable under item 240.17 of the TSUS at 20 percent ad valorem (table 1). The rate of duty was reduced, pursuant to a trade-agreement concession effective June 6, 1951, from 40 percent ad valorem in the Tariff Act of 1930 to 20 percent ad valorem.

Door skins of plywood other than of birch or lauan are included with the plywoods provided for in items 240.10-240.25 (except 240.14 and 240.17) according to the species of the face ply and whether or not they are face finished. The rates of duty have been reduced by trade-agreement concessions and range from 8 1/2 percent to 20 percent ad valorem. Door skins of hardboard are dutiable under items 245.00-245.30 according to value per short ton and whether or not they are face finished (tables 3-6). The rates of duty have been reduced by trade-agreement concessions and are 7 1/2 percent and 15 percent ad valorem.

Birch veneer panels for assembly into kitchen cabinets are included with other birch veneer panels in TSUS item 240.34, on which the rate has been reduced pursuant to trade agreements from 50 percent to

7 1/2 percent ad valorem (table 7).

Wood doors, including hollow core flush doors made with door skins, are provided for in item 206.30 at the rate of 7 1/2 percent ad valorem, a trade-agreement rate (table 8).

U.S. Producers

There is no well-defined or separately classified industry producing plywood door skins. In 1965, at the time of the earlier investigation on hardwood plywood door skins by the U.S. Tariff Commission (now the U.S. International Trade Commission), 1/ it was determined that 40 out of approximately 200 hardwood plywood plants produced door skins. At the present time there are about 190 plants producing hardwood plywood, of which about 9 manufacture door skins and only 5 produce birch door skins. A number of the producers withdrew in the late 1960's at the same time that imports were increasing, particularly imports of lauan door skins. The producers are scattered throughout the east coast, the Great Lakes region, and the west coast. Many of them manufacture other plywood and veneer products as well as door skins. Quimby was the largest domestic producer of plywood door skins.

The producers of hardboard door skins are not readily differentiated from other hardboard-product manufacturers because the same presses can be used to produce door skins and many other types of hardboard. It is possible for a plant to switch production from one product line to another overnight. Out of approximately 30 plants manufacturing hardboard, 5 reported having produced hardboard door skins at some time during the

1/ Tariff Commission Reports to the President on Petition for Adjustment Assistance by General Plywood Corp., Investigation No. TEA-F-6, TC Publication 162, 1965. The Commission split equally on the decision, making no affirmative finding.

period 1970-74. Quimby did not manufacture door skins of hardboard.

The number of domestic producers of plywood panels for kitchen cabinets is unknown, but such panels could be produced by many of the 190 domestic hardwood plywood plants. Domestic kitchen-cabinet manufacturers totaled nearly 1,800 in 1972.

The number of domestic producers of hollow core flush doors is also unknown, but is believed to be less than 200 establishments.

U.S. Consumption

U.S. consumption of all door skins increased rapidly in the 1950's, as the hollow flush doors in which they were used replaced solid wood doors in residential construction. Consumption has since fluctuated along with residential construction. Consumption of all door skins rose from 745 million square feet in 1970 to 1.0 billion in 1972, but with the subsequent decline in residential construction, it fell to 653 million square feet in 1974. The increase from 1970 to 1972 was less pronounced and the eventual decline below the 1970 level was more pronounced, in birch and lauan door skins than in the total because of the large increase from 1970 to 1974 in the consumption of hardboard door skins (table 9).

Consumption of birch doorskins peaked at 191 million square feet in 1972, but then decreased to 112 million square feet in 1974; during the last quarter of 1974 consumption amounted to only 12 million square feet. The consumption of birch door skins as a share of total consumption of all door skins amounted to 23 percent or less during 1970-74.

Consumption of lauan door skins is supplied almost entirely by imports and accounted for 54 to 74 percent of consumption of all door skins annually during 1970-74.

Consumption of hardboard door skins, which is supplied almost entirely by domestic production, rose from 3 percent of the total in 1970 to a high of 24 percent in 1973.

Consumption of flush doors as well as of birch veneer panels of the type produced by Quimby is supplied chiefly by domestic production.

U.S. Production, Shipments and Exports

There have been a number of changes in the composition of door skin production in the last 10 to 15 years. At the time of the 1965 investigation, domestic producers manufactured plywood door skins predominantly of birch, oak, and gum. By 1970, hardboard had become a major item and birch and oak had become the major species used in plywood door skins, with the other species accounting for less than 1 percent of the total.

Shipments of door skins rose rapidly from 53 million square feet in 1970 to 277 million square feet in 1972, remained fairly steady in 1973, and then dropped sharply to 194 million square feet in 1974. The decline in residential housing construction was a major factor in the decline in shipments (table 9).

Birch door skin shipments increased from 19 million square feet in 1970 to 41 million square feet in 1973, but then decreased for the first time in the 5-year period to 26 million square feet in 1974. Shipments of lauan door skins are negligible.

Hardboard door skin shipments increased from 24 million square feet in 1970 to 215 million square feet in 1972, but then dropped to 146 million square feet in 1974. Hardboard constituted 78 percent of total shipments in 1972 and 75 percent of the total in 1974.

U.S. shipments of all types of hollow core flush doors approximated 30 million units in 1972 and are believed to have declined substantially during 1973 and 1974.

Exports of door skins of all types are believed to be negligible.

Exports of the other articles reviewed herein are also believed to be of minor importance.

U.S. Imports

Birch door skins

Imports of birch door skins increased irregularly from an estimated 26 million square feet in 1950 to 122 million square feet in 1966, when they were first reported separately. They reached a high of 158 million square feet in 1968 and 1969, then declined irregularly to 126 million square feet in 1973 and 87 million square feet in 1974 (table 10). Imports in the last 3 months of 1974 were 65 percent less than in the corresponding period of 1973 (table 11).

The ratio of imports to consumption of birch door skins declined gradually from 84 percent in 1970 to 75 percent in 1973, and then increased to 78 percent in 1974. It was 83 percent in the last quarter of 1974, when both production and imports were sharply reduced (table 9).

Since 1967, Japanese imports of birch door skins have accounted for 50 to 69 percent of all birch door skin imports in terms of quantity. Canadian imports accounted for 37 percent of all birch door skin imports in 1966, between 11 and 28 percent in 1967-72, and about 35 percent in 1973 and 1974 (table 10).

The birch door skins from Japan enter largely on the west coast and in the Gulf and South Atlantic States. The Canadian shipments enter in the Northeastern and North Central States (table 12).

The value of imports ranged from \$10 million to \$15 million a year in 1966-72. It increased to \$18 million in 1973, then was reduced to less than \$13 million in 1974 (table 10).

The Japanese article had a unit value, before duty and other costs, of \$74 to \$97 per thousand square feet in 1966-72, as compared with \$96 to \$105 for the Canadian article. In 1973 the unit value of the Japanese article increased by about one-half to \$147, and that of the Canadian article, by about one-third to \$138 (table 10). The unit value in 1974 for the Japanese article was \$139, and for the Canadian article, \$160. Freight, duty, and other costs for the Japanese door skins amounted to about 20 percent of the unit value and for the Canadian door skins, to about 15 percent. The landed duty-paid cost of the Japanese article was, therefore, \$89 to \$116 per thousand square feet in 1966-72, \$177 in 1973, and \$167 in 1974. For the Canadian article, the landed duty value was \$111 to \$120 in 1966-72, \$159 in 1973, and \$184 in 1974.

Lauan door skins

Imports of lauan door skins from Taiwan and other Far Eastern countries are several times as large as those of birch door skins and account for by far the bulk of all plywood door skins consumed in the United States. The lauan door skins are used in the same manner as the birch, although birch is preferred to lauan by some users because of its light color, grain characteristics, and hard surface.

Imports of lauan door skins increased from an estimated 4 million square feet in 1950 to 492 million in 1966, when they were first classified separately. They reached a high of 708 million square feet in 1968, but then declined irregularly to 469 million square feet in 1973 and to 373 million square feet in 1974 (table 13). In the last quarter of 1974 they were more than 50 percent less than in the corresponding period of 1973 (table 14).

The imported lauan door skins accounted for between 72 and 74 percent of the total consumption of door skins in the United States in 1970 and 1971 but only 54 to 57 percent in 1972-74, when hardboard door skins rose to between 21 and 24 percent of total consumption of door skins (table 9).

The lauan door skins, unlike the birch, entered in the Middle Atlantic States as well as elsewhere in the United States (table 15). The imports were valued at \$18 million to \$29 million a year in 1966-73, with 1968, 1971, and 1973 being the peak years. In 1974 the value of imports was between \$24 and \$25 million. They had an average unit value before duty and other costs of \$37 to \$41 per thousand square feet in 1966-72, \$58 per thousand square feet in 1973, and \$66 per thousand square feet in 1974 (table 13). The landed cost after duty (20 percent) and other costs (13 percent) was \$49 to \$55 per thousand square feet in 1966-72, \$77 in 1973, and \$87 in 1974.

Other imports

Imports of hardboard door skins are known to be small, and those of birch veneer panels of the type produced by Quimby, to be negligible.

Imports of flush doors, although perhaps a substantial portion of imports of all wood doors (table 16), amount to less than 5 percent of domestic consumption of flush doors, and to as small a proportion of domestic door skin consumption.

Prices

The average price at the mill for birch door skins of all grades as reported by producers, was \$118 per thousand square feet in 1970, \$113 in 1971, and \$123 in 1972. It rose to \$152 in 1973 and \$173 in 1974. The average price was maintained at nearly the same amount in the last two quarters of the year, despite a sharp decrease in the quantity sold (table 18).

The average price of the Japanese birch door skins, after duty and other costs, was \$29 per thousand square feet below that for domestic birch door skins in 1970. It became higher than the average price of the domestic birch in 1973, but fell well below the average price of domestic birch in the last quarter of 1974.

The birch door skins from Canada were sold, after duty and other costs, at prices similar to those of the domestic.

The average price of oak and other plywood door skins (including walnut, rosewood, and other specialties) is considerably higher than the average price of birch door skins. On the other hand, the average prices of imported lauan and of domestic hardboard are considerably lower than the average prices of birch door skins.

Operations of the Allen Quimby Veneer Co.

Corporate history

The Allen Quimby Veneer Co. began production in Bingham, Maine, in the 1940's. The business remained a family operation until the mid-1960's when it was purchased by the Nu-Tone Division (Cincinnati, Ohio) of the Scoville manufacturing Co. It was acquired by Columbia Plywood Corp., a subsidiary of Columbia Corp. (Portland, Oreg.) in May 1973.

Columbia Corp. operates in three major industries: building materials manufacturing and retailing, and malting. Columbia Plywood Corp., a subsidiary of Columbia Corp., operated three building materials plants besides Quimby. Two of these are veneer plants, one at Newport, Vt. (now partially closed), and the other at Presque Isle, Maine (now closed). The third is a plant producing wall paneling at Klamath Falls, Oreg., where much of the output of the two veneer plants had been used. * * *

Columbia Corp. operates, in addition to its manufacturing subsidiaries, Columbia International, to sell the corporation's hardwood plywood products, to provide marketing assistance to the subsidiaries, and to import hardwood plywood, hardwood lumber, and millwork from the Far East.

Product

As indicated earlier, Quimby produced birch plywood door skins and a number of products less important to the operation such as

veneer panels for kitchen cabinets * * *.

Plant capacity and output

The mill operated by Quimby has a stated capacity of 65 million square feet of plywood door skins a year. It was established in the 1940's and through a series of additions has grown to a plant 222,000 square feet in size. * * *

The mill's layout is functional, and the mill was well maintained.

* * * * *

Employment

The labor force was nonunion. The mill was run on a two-shift basis, and employment amounted to 262 to 311 persons in 1970-72. The labor force fluctuated above and below those figures into 1974 until October. Initial layoffs occurred on October 10, 1974, and the

mill was closed several weeks later * * *. In December only the plant manager, the comptroller, and several other office personnel were employed on workers' compensation, payment of bills, and disposal of inventory.

Financial information

* * * Tentative plans for improvement of the mill, upon recovery of the market, included a \$500,000 outlay to replace obsolete equipment, to get away from a single product in the building line--birch door skins--and to revamp the entire veneer product (app. B). * * *

Conversations with major customers of the Allen Quimby Veneer Co.

Information was obtained on purchases from Quimby in 1973 and 1974 by 11 customers * * *.

The customers have purchased their door skins from foreign sources since the shutdown of Quimby. Five former customers are using only Canadian birch, two are using only Japanese birch, two are using Japanese and Canadian birch, and two are using Canadian birch as well as lauan.

* * *

* * * * *

There has been relatively little substitution of lauan for birch by Quimby's customers, * * *.

APPENDIX A
Statistical Tables

Table 1.--Birch and lauan door skins: U.S. rates of duty, 1930 to 1974

(In percent ad valorem)

Authority and effective date	Rate of duty	
	Birch	Lauan
Tariff Act of 1930, June 18, 1930-----	50	40
Bilateral trade agreement with Finland, Nov. 2, 1936-----	25	
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)		
May 25, 1950-----	20	
June 6, 1951-----	15	20
Jan. 1, 1968-----	13	
Jan. 1, 1969-----	12	
Jan. 1, 1970-----	10	
Jan. 1, 1971-----	9	
Jan. 1, 1972-----	7.5	

Table 2.--Plywood door skins, birch and lauan: U.S. rates of duty and imports for consumption, 1950-74

Year	Birch		Lauan	
	Rate of duty	Imports <u>1/</u>	Rate of duty	Imports <u>1/</u>
	Percent ad valorem	million square feet	Percent ad valorem	million square feet
1950-----	20	26	40	4
1951-----	15	25	20	9
1952-----	15	31	20	12
1953-----	15	48	20	74
1954-----	15	58	20	193
1955-----	15	85	20	278
1956-----	15	74	20	322
1957-----	15	56	20	407
1958-----	15	44	20	333
1959-----	15	74	20	567
1960-----	15	67	20	419
1961-----	15	64	20	457
1962-----	15	76	20	486
1963-----	15	89	20	467
1964-----	15	99	20	502
1965-----	15	108	20	483
1966-----	15	122	20	492
1967-----	15	118	20	467
1968-----	13	158	20	709
1969-----	12	158	20	460
1970-----	10	153	20	540
1971-----	9	132	20	685
1972-----	7.5	151	20	579
1973-----	7.5	126	20	469
1974-----	7.5	86	20	373

1/ In 1950-65, estimated from imports of birch and lauan plywood.

Source: Imports from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce, except as noted.

Table 3.--Hardboard, not face finished, valued not over \$48.33-1/3
per short ton: U.S. rates of duty, 1930-74

Authority and effective date	Rate of duty
Tariff Act of 1930, June 18, 1930-----	30% ad val.
Bilateral trade agreement with-- Sweden, Aug. 5, 1935-----	\$14.50 per short ton but not less than 15% ad val. nor more than 30% ad val.
Finland, Nov. 2, 1936-----	\$14.50 per short ton but not less than 15% ad val. nor more than 30% ad val.
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT): Canada, Jan. 1, 1948-----	\$ 7.25 per short ton but not less than 7.5% ad val. nor more than 15% ad val.
TSUS, Aug. 31, 1963-----	15% ad val.
GATT:	
Jan. 1, 1968-----	13% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1969-----	12% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1970-----	10% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1971-----	9% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1972-----	7.5% ad val.

Note: Prior to the TSUS, nearly all the imports into the United States of hardboard of the type covered here were classified as pulpboard, plate finished, under par. 1413 of the Tariff Act of 1930, but there were quantities classified under par. 1402. The above rates for the period prior to Aug. 31, 1963, represent the rates under par. 1413.

Table 4.--Hardboard, not face finished, valued over \$48.33-1/3 but not over \$96.66-2/3 per short ton: U.S. rates of duty, 1930-74

Authority and effective date	Rate of duty
Tariff Act of 1930, June 18, 1930-----	30% ad val.
Bilateral trade agreement with--	
Sweden, Aug. 5, 1935-----	\$14.50 per short ton but not less than 15% ad val. ^{1/} nor more than 30% ad val.
Finland, Nov. 2, 1936-----	\$14.50 per short ton but not less than 15% ad val. nor more than 30% ad val.
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT):	
Canada, Jan. 1, 1948-----	\$ 7.25 per short ton but not less than 7.5% ad val. nor more than 15% ad val.
TSUS, Aug. 31, 1963-----	\$ 7.25 per short ton
GATT:	
Jan. 1, 1968-----	1/ 13% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1969-----	1/ 12% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1970-----	1/ 10% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1971-----	1/ 9% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1972-----	7.5% ad val.

^{1/} But not more than \$7.25 per short ton.

Note: Prior to the TSUS, nearly all the imports into the United States of hardboard of the type covered here were classified as pulpboard, plate finished, under par. 1413 of the Tariff Act of 1930, but there were quantities classified under par. 1402. The above rates for the period prior to Aug. 31, 1963, represent the rates under par. 1413.

Table 5.--Hardboard, not face finished, valued over \$96.66-2/3 per short ton: U.S. rates of duty, 1930-74

Authority and effective date	Rate of duty
Tariff Act of 1930, June 18, 1930-----	30% ad val.
Bilateral trade agreement with--	
Sweden, Aug. 5, 1935-----	\$14.50 per short ton but : not less than 15% ad val. : nor more than 30% ad val.
Finland, Nov. 2, 1936-----	\$14.50 per short ton but : not less than 15% ad val. : nor more than 30% ad val.
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT):	
Canada, Jan. 1, 1948-----	\$ 7.25 per short ton but : not less than 7.5% ad : val. nor more than 15% : ad val.
TSUS, Aug. 31, 1963-----	7.5% ad val.

Note: Prior to the TSUS, nearly all the imports into the United States of hardboard of the type covered here were classified as pulpboard, plate finished, under par. 1413 of the Tariff Act of 1930, but there were quantities classified under par. 1402. The above rates for the period prior to Aug. 31, 1963, represent the rates under par. 1413.

Table 6.--Hardboard, face finished: U.S. rates of duty, 1930-74

Authority and effective date	Rate of duty
Tariff Act of 1930, June 18, 1930	1/ 45% ad val.
Bilateral trade agreement with-- Sweden, Aug. 5, 1935-----	\$14.50 per short ton but : not less than 15% ad val. : nor more than 30% ad val.
Finland, Nov. 2, 1936-----	\$14.50 per short ton but : not less than 15% ad val. : nor more than 30% ad val.
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT): Canada, Jan. 1, 1948-----	\$ 7.25 per short ton but : not less than 7.5% ad : val. nor more than 15% : ad val.
TSUS, Aug. 31, 1963-----	1/ 30% ad val.
GATT:	
Jan. 1, 1966-----	28% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1967-----	26% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1968-----	23.5% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1969-----	21.5% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1970-----	19% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1971-----	17% ad val.
Jan. 1, 1972-----	15% ad val.

Note: Prior to the TSUS, nearly all the imports into the United States of hardboard of the type covered here were classified as pulp-board, plate finished, under par. 1413 of the Tariff Act of 1930, but there were quantities classified under pars. 397, 1402, and 1539(b).

1/ The trade agreement rate of 30% ad valorem as of Aug. 31, 1963 (TSUS) represents a weighted average rate for all imports. Forty-five percent ad valorem was the statutory rate assigned as a composite of 4 rates, but not until 1963.

Table 7.--Birch veneer panels: U.S. rates of duty, 1930-1974

(In percent ad valorem)

Authority and effective date	Rate of duty
Tariff Act of 1930, June 18, 1930-----	50
Bilateral trade agreement with-- Finland, Nov. 2, 1936-----	25
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)	
May 25, 1950-----	20
June 6, 1951-----	15
Jan. 1, 1968-----	13
Jan. 1, 1969-----	12
Jan. 1, 1970-----	10
Jan. 1, 1971-----	9
Jan. 1, 1972-----	7.5

Table 8.--Wood doors: U.S. rates of duty, 1930-74

(In percent ad valorem)

Authority and effective date	Rate of duty
Tariff Act of 1930, June 18, 1930-----	33-1/3
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT):	
May 25, 1950-----	16-2/3
June 30, 1956-----	15-1/2
June 30, 1957-----	15
Jan. 1, 1968-----	13
Jan. 1, 1969-----	12
Jan. 1, 1970-----	10
Jan. 1, 1971-----	9
Jan. 1, 1972-----	7 1/2

Table 9.--Door skins: U.S. shipments, imports and apparent consumption 1/, annual 1970-74 and by calendar quarter, 1974

Period	Shipments						Imports 2/						Apparent consumption						Ratio of imports of birch																																																																																																		
	Birch		Oak		Hard-board		Total 3/		Birch		Lauan		Total 3/		Birch		Total		To total consumption		To consumption to birch percent																																																																																																
	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	million square feet	percent	percent	percent	percent																																																																																																
1970-----	19	10	24	53	153	539	692	172	745	21	84	1971-----	32	17	64	113	132	685	817	164	930	14	81	1972-----	40	22	215	277	151	579	730	191	1,007	15	79	1973-----	41	22	206	269	126	469	595	167	864	15	75	1974-----	26	22	146	194	87	373	459	112	653	13	78	Jan.-Mar-----	9	5	33	48	25	116	141	34	189	13	74	Apr.-June-----	9	6	50	65	23	88	111	32	176	13	72	July-Sept-----	6	5	33	44	28	127	155	34	199	14	82	Oct.-Dec-----	2	6	30	38	10	42	52	12	90	11	83										
1972-----	40	22	215	277	151	579	730	191	1,007	15	79	1973-----	41	22	206	269	126	469	595	167	864	15	75	1974-----	26	22	146	194	87	373	459	112	653	13	78	Jan.-Mar-----	9	5	33	48	25	116	141	34	189	13	74	Apr.-June-----	9	6	50	65	23	88	111	32	176	13	72	July-Sept-----	6	5	33	44	28	127	155	34	199	14	82	Oct.-Dec-----	2	6	30	38	10	42	52	12	90	11	83																																		
1974-----	26	22	146	194	87	373	459	112	653	13	78	Jan.-Mar-----	9	5	33	48	25	116	141	34	189	13	74	Apr.-June-----	9	6	50	65	23	88	111	32	176	13	72	July-Sept-----	6	5	33	44	28	127	155	34	199	14	82	Oct.-Dec-----	2	6	30	38	10	42	52	12	90	11	83																																																										
Apr.-June-----	9	6	50	65	23	88	111	32	176	13	72	July-Sept-----	6	5	33	44	28	127	155	34	199	14	82	Oct.-Dec-----	2	6	30	38	10	42	52	12	90	11	83																																																																																		
Oct.-Dec-----	2	6	30	38	10	42	52	12	90	11	83																																																																																																										

1/ Exports, not separately reported, known to be small.

2/ Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

3/ Does not include other kinds, the quantity of which is known to be small.

Note.--Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown.

Source: Compiled from data furnished to the Commission by the individual producers, except as noted.

Table 10.--Birch door skins: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources, 1966-74

Source	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	Quantity (million square feet)								
Japan-----	46	59	82	96	105	80	87	73	55
Canada-----	45	33	40	25	17	30	41	43	29
Finland-----	31	27	35	37	31	22	23	10	3
All other-----	1/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/
Total-----	122	118	158	158	153	132	151	126	87
	Value (1,000 dollars)								
Japan-----	4,375	5,165	7,497	8,425	7,800	6,405	8,354	10,755	7,642
Canada-----	4,312	3,210	4,015	2,607	1,740	3,098	4,362	5,931	4,709
Finland-----	1,836	1,595	2,072	2,440	2,124	1,663	2,398	1,458	623
All other-----	32	-	5	4	1	4	-	2	7
Total-----	10,554	9,970	13,589	13,477	11,665	11,170	15,114	18,146	12,981
	Unit value (per 1,000 square feet) 2/								
Japan-----	\$95.27	\$87.82	\$91.48	\$87.51	\$74.48	\$80.36	\$96.54	\$147.33	\$139.08
Canada-----	96.31	98.46	99.48	103.09	99.68	103.95	105.37	137.93	159.68
Finland-----	59.48	59.42	58.88	66.62	68.26	74.30	103.15	145.80	221.35
All other-----	124.90	-	56.64	40.97	112.25	79.73	-	-	709.70
Average-----	86.64	84.31	86.23	85.14	76.09	84.66	99.98	144.05	148.76

1/ Less than 500,000 square feet.

2/ Calculated from the unrounded figures.

Note.--Because of rounding, figures may not add to the totals shown.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 11.--Birch door skins: U.S. imports for consumption, by months, 1973 and 1974

Month	Quantity		Value		Unit value (per 1,000 square feet)	
	1973	1974	1973	1974	1973	1974
	1,000	1,000				
	square feet:square feet:					
January-----	14,198	6,487	\$1,467,938	\$1,035,881	\$103.39	\$159.68
February-----	12,252	7,624	1,442,096	1,160,761	117.70	152.25
March-----	9,235	11,055	1,178,725	1,770,472	127.64	160.15
April-----	12,230	5,021	1,695,326	819,610	138.62	163.27
May-----	9,549	10,576	1,418,556	1,671,169	148.56	158.02
June-----	10,499	7,704	1,662,589	1,227,443	158.36	159.33
July-----	9,151	9,723	1,474,845	1,502,348	161.17	154.51
August-----	8,607	12,484	1,388,237	1,755,237	161.29	140.60
September-----	10,713	6,270	1,761,452	883,468	164.42	140.90
October-----	16,048	3,905	2,504,756	465,091	156.08	119.10
November-----	6,980	2,571	1,093,959	328,020	156.73	127.58
December-----	6,515	3,844	1,057,957	361,641	162.39	94.08
Total or average-----	125,977	87,264	18,146,436	12,981,141	144.05	148.76

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 12.--Birch door skins: U.S. imports for consumption from Japan and Canada, by port of unloading, 1973 and January-November 1974

(in thousands of square feet)		
Port of unloading	: 1973	: Jan. -Nov. : 1974
<u>Imports from Japan</u>		
Charleston, S.C-----	: 15,577	: 15,636
Galveston, Tex-----	: 3,619	: 4,979
Houston, Tex-----	: 5,322	: 2,043
Los Angeles, Calif-----	: 9,780	: 8,690
San Francisco, Calif-----	: 3,020	: 2,062
Portland, Oreg-----	: 20,861	: 14,061
Detroit, Mich-----	: 5,136	: -
All other-----	: 9,879	: 4,255
Total-----	: 73,194	: 51,726
<u>Imports from Canada</u>		
St. Albans, Vt-----	: 19,778	: 13,381
Ogdensburg, N.Y-----	: 4,291	: 2,316
Buffalo, N.Y-----	: 1,615	: -
Detroit, Mich-----	: 16,764	: 13,196
All other-----	: 234	: -
Total-----	: 42,682	: 28,893

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 15.--Lauan door skins: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources, 1966-74

Source	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	Quantity (million square feet)								
Taiwan	160	196	293	192	316	476	536	415	309
Japan	294	228	365	236	154	129	21	2	1/
Republic of Korea	12	19	16	8	56	54	18	29	59
Philippines	6	2	9	5	4	9	2	22	5
Nansei Islands	19	22	24	19	10	16	1	-	-
Malaysia	1	1/	1	1/	1/	1	1/	1/	1/
All other	1/	-	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/	1	1/
Total	492	467	708	460	539	685	579	469	373
	Value (1,000 dollars)								
Taiwan	5,302	6,915	10,806	6,842	12,397	13,295	19,515	24,005	20,384
Japan	11,516	9,763	16,305	10,145	7,255	6,082	970	170	86
Republic of Korea	381	727	716	373	2,196	2,260	813	1,552	3,677
Philippines	360	103	435	256	177	365	107	1,298	335
Nansei Islands	657	785	910	743	354	581	30	-	-
Malaysia	18	11	23	3	2/	29	18	-	34
All other	2/	-	9	2	3	5	18	52	-
Total	18,247	18,303	29,205	18,363	22,383	27,619	21,472	27,077	24,515
	Unit value (per 1,000 square feet) 3/								
Taiwan	\$33.13	\$35.30	\$36.93	\$35.65	\$39.23	\$38.43	\$36.40	\$57.78	\$65.92
Japan	39.13	42.90	44.61	42.96	47.26	47.00	47.12	80.98	172.53
Republic of Korea	31.08	38.18	43.50	46.23	39.22	42.09	44.79	67.50	62.70
Philippines	57.64	47.74	50.02	52.59	43.21	40.35	50.44	56.30	74.02
Nansei Islands	34.74	36.10	37.29	38.55	36.18	37.02	33.87	-	-
Malaysia	28.73	28.17	39.61	36.19	61.38	41.71	49.46	-	92.17
All other	40.51	-	35.94	54.31	29.71	33.72	45.13	52.00	-
Average	37.09	39.22	41.22	39.89	41.49	40.33	37.10	57.73	65.68
1/ Less than 500,000 square feet									
2/ Less than \$500.									
3/ Calculated from the unrounded figures.									

Note.--Because of rounding, may not add to totals shown.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the

Table 14.--Lauan door skins: U.S. imports for consumption, by months, 1973 and 1974

Month	Quantity		Value		Unit value	
	1973	1974	1973	1974	1973	1974
	million square feet	million square feet	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	Per 1,000 square feet	Per 1,000 square feet
January	53	38	1,907	2,548	\$35.98	\$67.05
February	58	40	1,855	2,239	31.98	55.98
March	26	38	1,036	3,021	39.85	79.50
April	16	17	896	1,330	56.00	78.24
May	25	30	1,640	2,363	65.60	78.77
June	41	41	2,830	3,018	69.02	73.61
July	40	63	2,849	4,332	71.22	68.76
August	57	36	3,923	2,325	68.82	64.58
September	43	28	2,811	1,585	65.37	56.61
October	55	15	3,715	691	67.54	46.07
November	38	21	2,373	776	62.45	36.95
December	17	7	1,241	288	73.00	41.14
Total	469	373	27,076	24,516	57.73	65.57

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 15.--Lauan deer skins: U.S. imports for consumption by port of unloading, 1973 and January-November 1974

(In thousands of square feet)

Port of unloading	1973	Jan.-Nov. 1974
Philadelphia, Pa-----	66,722	56,444
Baltimore, Md-----	574	15,143
Charleston, S.C-----	123,605	107,824
Tampa, Fla-----	37,457	34,099
New Orleans, La-----	9,343	1,644
Galveston, Tex-----	53,566	30,185
San Diego, Calif-----	23,191	6,378
Los Angeles, Calif-----	22,220	30,159
San Francisco, Calif-----	15,247	8,045
Portland, Ore-----	64,308	57,605
Milwaukee, Wis-----	10,547	-
Detroit, Mich-----	11,933	-
All other-----	30,464	18,938
Total-----	469,177	366,464

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 16.--Wood doors: U.S. imports for consumption, by principal sources, 1970-74

Source	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	Quantity (number)				
Mexico	400,517	503,741	560,250	550,117	442,763
Taiwan	254,387	310,364	599,814	664,524	287,293
Japan	99,357	101,576	79,078	49,639	1/
Spain	50,519	64,371	67,340	30,142	16,475
Canada	75,472	92,327	124,716	159,651	99,826
Colombia	8,067	6,137	8,127	15,551	13,379
All other	21,521	16,541	53,375	57,741	36,317
Total	909,840	1,095,057	1,492,700	1,527,365	896,053
	Value				
Mexico	\$1,894,357	\$2,316,158	\$3,041,638	\$4,076,812	\$4,383,278
Taiwan	1,187,532	1,408,932	2,286,983	4,033,214	2,832,603
Japan	318,943	239,386	129,426	124,992	1/
Spain	340,780	405,684	413,552	227,291	149,129
Canada	429,321	619,196	911,123	1,458,913	1,064,365
Colombia	209,878	252,213	346,208	517,275	641,213
All other	314,296	197,610	409,660	859,962	761,360
Total	4,695,107	5,439,179	7,538,590	11,298,459	9,831,948
	Unit value (per door)				
Mexico	\$4.73	\$4.60	\$5.43	\$7.41	\$9.90
Taiwan	4.67	4.54	3.81	6.07	9.86
Japan	3.21	2.36	1.64	2.52	1/
Spain	6.74	6.30	6.14	7.54	9.05
Canada	5.69	6.71	7.31	9.14	10.66
Colombia	26.02	41.10	42.60	33.26	47.92
All other	14.60	11.95	7.68	14.89	20.96
Total	5.16	4.97	5.05	7.41	10.97

1/ Not available.

Source: Compiled from official statistics of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 17.--Door skins: U.S. shipments, by kinds, 1970-74 and, by quarters, 1974

Item	1974					Total	Jan.- Mar.	Apr.- June	July- Sept.	Oct.- Dec.
	1970	1971	1972	1973	Total					
	Quantity (million square feet)	Quantity (million square feet)	Quantity (million square feet)	Quantity (million square feet)	Quantity (million square feet)					
Birch	19	32	40	41	26	9	9	6	2	
Oak	10	17	22	22	22	5	6	5	6	
Hardboard	24	64	215	206	146	33	50	33	30	
Total 1/	53	113	277	269	194	48	65	44	38	
Value (1,000 dollars) 2/										
Birch	2,250	3,600	4,900	6,250	4,500	1,500	1,600	1,050	350	
Oak	1,550	2,350	3,750	4,150	5,150	1,250	1,400	1,150	1,350	
Hardboard	1,200	3,000	8,150	7,550	10,700	2,250	3,500	3,000	1,950	
Total	5,009	9,000	16,900	18,050	20,460	5,045	6,515	5,240	3,660	
Unit value 2/ (per 1,000 square feet)										
Birch	\$118	\$113	\$123	\$152	\$173	\$167	\$178	\$175	\$175	
Oak	155	138	170	189	234	250	233	230	225	
Hardboard	50	47	38	37	73	68	70	91	65	
Total	95	80	61	67	105	105	100	119	96	

1/ Does not include other species of plywood, the quantity of which is known to be small.

2/ F.o.b. mill.

Source: Compiled from data furnished to the Commission by the individual producers.

Table 18.--Door skins: Average prices in the United States by U.S. producers and importers, annual 1970-73, and by calendar quarter, 1974

(Per 1,000 square feet)

Period	Producers' prices <u>1/</u>				Importers' prices <u>2/</u>		
	Birch	Oak	Other plywood	Hard- board	Birch		Lauan
					from Japan	from Canada	
1970-----	\$118	\$155	\$382	\$50	\$89	\$115	\$55
1971-----	113	138	358	47	96	120	54
1972-----	123	170	319	38	116	121	49
1973-----	152	189	319	37	177	159	77
1974-----	173	234	378	78	167	184	87
Jan.-Mar-----	167	250	463	68	181	180	89
April-June----	178	233	342	70	180	188	102
July-Sept----	175	230	341	91	168	186	86
Oct.-Dec-----	175	225	324	65	119	174	56

1/ F.o.b. mill.

2/ Average landed duty paid cost.

Source: Compiled from data furnished the Commission by the producers, except as noted.

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APPENDIX B
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES FROM THE
SOMERSET REPORTER, SKOWHEGAN, MAINE

December 5, 1974

Quimby employees hoping for work soon

by Toni Paolini

BINGHAM—Former Quimby Veneer Co. employees are still standing by the mailbox waiting for a newsletter informing them of changes in the employment status at the mill.

Many are hoping for a letter which will notify them they will be called back to work, a matter discussed last week at a meeting called by the general manager of Quimby Veneer, Robert Lastofka.

At that meeting some 70 workers of the plant were told that the plant will reopen in May with a starting crew of approximately 100, "provided the economic picture improves in the country."

Lastofka denied rumors that the plant had been purchased by Columbia Corporation of Portland, Oregon as a tax writeoff.

In his opening remarks, he stated that he wished he could come with good news and say the company had recaptured last years market.

"However," he said, "the markets just aren't there. Even now they continue to deteriorate. At the present time, the mill is not operating. Production is 0 and shipping is 0. "Columbia," he went on, "has a definite commitment to this mill. Rumors that it was bought to be deliberately shut down, simply aren't true."

Lastofka went on to state that the company has tentative approval from its west coast home branch for a one-half million dollar improvement plan. This will involve a program to get away from a single product tied to a building line, such as doorskins and kitchen cabinets.

He said that if the economic picture improves in May, plans are underfoot to rehire the employees with the most seniority and also the most efficient.

In June, hopefully, more would be called back should the market continue to improve, according to Lastofka.

In the meantime, pending approval, plans are being made to refurbish and revamp the entire veneer product, he said.

New equipment will be installed, replacing some that is obsolete. Lastofka referred to a "new-used lathe to accomodate eight-foot logs" to be installed which would replace two lathes and drying lines that would be eliminated. Installation of a new reeling system was in the offering plus a half dozen or so other pieces of equipment including a modern press.

Lastofka also stated that the company planned to become involved in veneer for various markets. Angel paneling, furniture, housing, industry plus a new fir and spruce softwood panel for the New York and New England area were all part of the new operation. Doorskins would be manufactured on a residual basis, according to Lastofka.

During the question and answer portion of the meeting, Lastofka stated "I sense a deep feeling of undercurrent that Columbia has singled out Quimby Mill and has some ulterior motive behind the present shutdown. I don't think that is the case."

A grumbled "They should have taken better care of it" was the reply from the back of the audience. Some workers said that the economic picture was also bad in 70-71 but that under the previous management had never experienced so drastic a step as a complete shutdown.

Other areas of concern among the workers were the refusal of the company to process several orders that were received.

Lastofka stated that although the company will have problems reentering the market, it simply did not warrant running the mill for approximately one week's work

October 17, 1974

Quimby drops 200

BINGHAM—A slowdown in house construction has been instrumental in the layoff of over 70 percent of the workers at the Allen Quimby Veneer mill here.

The layoff had affected over 200 workers, and according to the general manager Robert Lastofka about 100 workers are still working on existing orders for plywood and door skins.

Lastofka said that he would like to think that the layoff would be for a short period but that based on the current rate of building and high interest rates for mortgages, the curtailment might be for a longer period.

Orders for products have been down, he said, and have been going down for a long time.

There are no plans to close the mill permanently or completely at this time, and that there are no layoffs at two mother mills owned by the company in Presque Isle and Newport.

According to Lastofka "We are just going week to week".

He denied that recent union activity at the mill had any bearing on the layoff of the majority of the workers.

Citing imports as another stumbling block, Lastofka stated that Columbia is taking action with other wood products company to see what can be done in this vein, through the Trade Readjustment Act. He also stated that the company is looking into extended unemployment benefits but at this time could not promise anything.

In closing the meeting, Lastofka invited the people to stop in at the mill anytime. He also stated that a newsletter would be sent out informing them of changes periodically. Those called back to work would be notified at the proper

