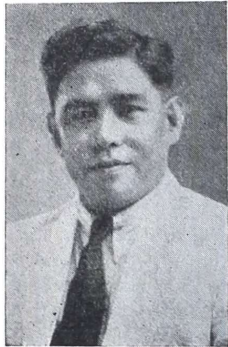


## L U M B E R   R E V I E W

By FLORENCIO TAMESIS  
*Director, Bureau of Forestry*



Total lumber and timber exports for November and December registered an increase of 20% as compared with the corresponding period in 1935. Japan continued to be the largest consumer of logs. There were exported to this market during the months under review 18,-877,752 board feet of

timber as compared with 13,545,528 board feet for the same months last year, or an increase of 39%. The November exports to Japan registered considerable decline from the previous month owing to typhoons, which made the handling of logs particularly difficult. However, in December log shipments returned to normal. It is believed that a much greater amount of logs could have to advantage been shipped to Japan during November and December as demand in this market was unusually active because of limited lumber importations from the United States as a result of the Pacific Coast strike.

Lumber shipments to the United States registered a decrease of 8% as compared with the corresponding period in 1935. This decrease was, however, not due to a slackening of demand in that market but the difficulties encountered by local exporters in securing bottoms, as a result of the Pacific Coast strike. Despite the above adverse condition and an increase of \$1.00 in freight rate per 1000 board feet to Pacific ports and an increase of \$1.50 to Atlantic ports, the United States remained the largest consumer of sawn lumber.

There were 3,421,680 board feet of lumber shipped to China in November and December as compared with 3,120,640 board feet for the same months in 1935, or an increase of 9%. As usual, this market took in both sawn lumber and logs. A particularly large shipment of the latter product was made in December, the total export for this month being 3,353,416 board feet, 96% of which was unsawn timber. Demand in Australia during the months under review was unusually active. Exports to this market amounted to 569,008 board feet, most of which were sawn lumber, as compared with only 270,936 board feet for November and December of last year, or an increase of 110%. Sample shipments of lauan logs for plywood purposes are being made to this market. A considerable volume of trade in logs is expected if these sample shipments are found satisfactory.

Exports to Europe declined 57% from the November and December figure of last year. This was largely due to a slack demand in Great Britain, which is, however, merely seasonal. Germany seems to be showing greater interest on Philippine woods. During the months under review, there were 33,072 board feet shipped to that country as against none for the correspond-

ing period last year. Inquiries from German importers are being received with the view to increasing their orders if satisfactory connections are found.

The domestic market was active. Demand of timber and lumber for construction purposes was strong in view of the approach of the dry season. Mill production during November and December increased 11% compared with the figure for the corresponding months last year. Total deliveries was 9% above mill production for the months under review. Prices are on the

upward trend.

The following statements show the lumber and timber exports, by countries, and the mill production and lumber inventories for the months of November and December, 1936, as compared with the corresponding months of the previous year.

*Lumber and Timber Exports during November and December, 1935 and 1936*

Destination	1936	
	Quantity in Board Feet	Customs-Declared Value
Japan.....	*18,877,752	\$ 365,015

NOTE: \*This represents mostly solid log scale, that is, 424 board feet to a cubic meter.

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United States.....	4,756,008	343,659
China.....	3,421,680	66,064
British Africa.....	607,592	40,557
Australia.....	569,008	40,306
Great Britain.....	461,736	36,234
Portuguese Africa.....	104,728	7,728
Germany.....	33,072	4,030
Canada.....	31,800	1,875
Ireland.....	15,264	1,633
Hawaii.....	10,176	891
Norway.....	9,752	1,098
Sweden.....	5,088	410
Turkey in Europe.....	2,120	295
Singapore.....	848	175
Spain.....		
Hongkong.....		
New Zealand.....		
Denmark.....		
Netherlands.....		
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>28,906,624</b>	<b>P 909,970</b>

1935		
Destination	Quantity in Board Feet	Customs-Declared Value
Japan.....	13,545,528	P 220,559
United States.....	5,180,856	362,738
China.....	3,120,640	99,381
British Africa.....	626,672	37,036
Australia.....	270,936	11,262
Great Britain.....	1,184,656	90,587
Portuguese Africa.....		
Germany.....		
Canada.....		
Ireland.....	21,200	1,532
Hawaii.....	2,968	553
Norway.....	12,296	1,923
Sweden.....		
Turkey in Europe.....		
Singapore.....	26,288	4,410
Spain.....	3,392	276
Hongkong.....	16,960	998
New Zealand.....	19,928	1,539
Denmark.....	12,296	1,447
Netherlands.....	6,360	715
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>24,050,976</b>	<b>P 834,956</b>

For 50 Mills for the months of November and December

Lumber Deliveries		
	1936	1935
Nov. and Dec.....	38,076,327	37,731,678
Lumber Inventory at end of December		
	1936	1935
Nov. and Dec.....	35,231,933	33,716,443
Mill Production		
	1936	1935
Nov. and Dec.....	34,843,528	31,351,833

**THE RICE INDUSTRY**  
By PERCY A. HILL  
of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija  
Director, Rice Producer's Association



Prices for both rice and palay are practically the same as in last report. Luxury rice quotations are from P5.20 to P5.40 per sack of 56-1/2 kilos, with Macans from P4.75 to P4.95. Macan palay at marketing points from P2.25 to P2.30 with superior classes at from P2.35 to P2.45 per cavan of 44 kilos. A new measure for palay purchased by the Rice and Corn Corporation is the sack of 45.1/2 kilos for shrinkage, with

higher price accordingly. The crop now threshing out, while not a banner one, is very good, thus eliminating the necessity for imports. The NARIC, now has sufficient oash on hand for the purpose of purchasing supplies of palay at convenient points for re-distribution, and the Chinese have, so far, cooperated in keeping the price stable, which is the goal of the NARIC itself. With supply good and price ample this should go far in keeping the market stable. The New Tenancy Act signed by Pres. Quezon before his departure for the United States was a courageous thing. To date some dozen landlords have been killed and wounded for collecting debts at usurious rates, with more to follow. The Act, lying doggo for years, being hamstrung by the provision of its only being applied on the request of town councils, was never expected to be put into force. Only 2 of the 1247 towns and municipal districts did so approve, hence the cutting of the Gordian knot by Pres. Quezon, in an effort to make better provisions for the tenant.

However the new act needs some rectifications and clarifications before its full acceptance by the proprietors, and the refusal to pay debts will automatically dry up the credit of the tenants, as some of the provisions are not contractual but arrived at mutual understandings, otherwise the tenant will lose all his offsets, and be in worse case than before. Former projected laws were too complicated and long, with the addition that only in certain districts they could be put into effect. While the interests charged were clearly usurious, the landlords used the offsets in an endeavour to receive their shares, and which added together made no little sum available to the tenants.

The clarification of these should be made by those familiar with the situation and local conditions which vary greatly, and are not susceptible to laws drawn up by labor leaders. It is no little task to scrap the usages of over 500 years by law. On the other hand if agents provocative continue to interfere, we can expect more Communist and Soviet societies will result. The landlords took little interest in the Tenancy Law for they never expected it to go into effect, altho they were warned, but it will be to their best interests if they do not form too many Protective Associations, until they try it out. The whole question is one of greed versus ignorance and all its complications. To simplify the act, aimed at usury, all the offsets, such as subsistence, supplies, rent of lots, and monies should be put in cash upon which legal interest can be collected, the crop divided equally, less the expenses accruing to both parties as to transplanting, harvesting, irrigation fees and fertilizer costs. The act can still be made more liberal to the tenant if drawn up by an agriculturist familiar with conditions in the Luzon Plain.

However no law ever drawn up can eliminate the phases of human nature unless it is square for both contracting parties, and the clause giving the preponderance of evidence to the tenant, will prove a boomerang to the very agencies who proposed it, if written contracts are used, as they are in about 60% of the cases. Clauses that are too drastic injure the tenant more than the landlord, and require more clarification.

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