

## LUMBER REVIEW

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Lumber and timber exports in March registered a decline, which is, however, considered as merely temporary. During the month under review there were shipped to this market 9,978,840 board feet of lumber and timber compared with 11,640,496 board feet for the corre-

sponding period last year, or a decrease of 15%. Prospects for this trade continue to be bright judging from the keen demand for timber concessions by prospective operators who expect to cater to the Japanese market. Consumption of sawn lumber by the above market in March increased considerably, amounting to 498,200 board feet compared with 106,848 board feet and 4,240 board feet for February and January, respectively.

Demand in China during the month under review continued comparatively active. There were shipped to this market in March 875,984 of lumber and timber compared with 185,712 board feet for the corresponding month in 1936, or an increase of 371%. Besides rough lumber, usually of a special grade known as the "Quartermaster grade", and round logs, considerable merchantable flooring is being shipped to the above market. It has been reported, however, that some difficulties are being met by local producers in connection with shipment of the latter product, arising from strict ruling recently issued by Customs Authorities in China. It is hoped, however, that these difficulties will be straightened out as soon as the method of grading flooring stocks followed by local exporters is better known by the Chinese authorities.

Exports of lumber and timber to the United States in March registered an increase of 22% compared with the previous month. The above amount is, however, still considered below normal. Local producers still found difficulties in securing adequate space for cargoes due to shortage of bottoms, which arose as a result of the Pacific Coast maritime strike.

## Statement Showing Lumber and Timber Exports During the Month of March, 1936 and 1937

Destination	1937		1936	
	Quantity in Board Feet	Customs-Declared Value	Quantity in Board Feet	Customs-Declared Value
Japan.....	Unsawn Timber..... 9,480,640	¥193,646	11,640,072	¥205,332
	Sawn Timber..... 498,200	9,250	424	196
China.....	Unsawn Timber..... 496,232	10,893	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 380,752	19,368	185,712	8,958
Australia.....	Unsawn Timber..... 306,552	11,949	190,376	6,026
	Sawn Timber..... 547,384	26,868	708,080	37,785
Singapore.....	Unsawn Timber..... 37,736	1,619	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 25,864	4,080	424	120
United States.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	63,600	3,689
	Sawn Timber..... 1,183,808	78,761	4,792,048	324,103
British Africa.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 310,368	23,228	234,472	13,460
Portuguese Africa.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 160,696	12,152	35,192	1,685
Great Britain.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 687,728	61,824	1,021,840	84,384
Hawaii.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 69,960	6,010	15,688	2,454
Denmark.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 6,360	713	15,264	1,145
Norway.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 17,808	2,368	—	—
Ireland.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 7,632	923	70,808	6,358
Sweden.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 22,896	2,674	—	—
New Zealand.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
	Sawn Timber..... 83,104	8,648	43,248	3,300
British E. Indies.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	70,808	15,876
	Sawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
Hongkong.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	424	59
	Sawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
Canada.....	Unsawn Timber..... —	—	5,088	951
	Sawn Timber..... —	—	—	—
TOTAL.....	Unsawn Timber..... 10,320,160	¥218,107	11,894,048	¥215,047
	Sawn Timber..... 4,002,560	256,867	7,199,520	500,834
GRAND TOTAL.....	14,322,720	¥474,974	19,093,568	¥715,881

For 50 Mills for the month of March

Month	Lumber Deliveries from Mills		Lumber Inventory		Mill Production	
	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936
March.....	21,840,700	19,312,825	38,746,215	34,502,496	20,935,547	19,341,816

NOTE:—Board Feet should be used.

Lumber and timber shipments to Australia were steady. Total exports to this market in March aggregated 853,936 board feet, 306,552

board feet of which were logs. This was the first log shipment to Australia during the year. As stated in our previous review, some local producers are now booked for large orders for the above market, necessitating regular shipments. Lumber consumption in Great Britain during the month under review fell off considerably compared with the previous month, but the amount actually shipped may still be considered normal. The decline was due to an apparently comparatively heavy stocks on hand in the above market, due to the unusually large shipment made in February.

The domestic market continued active. Prices for common stocks were comparable to those obtainable in the United States. Mill production in March totalled 20,935,547 board feet compared with 19,341,816 board feet for the same month in 1936. Lumber deliveries during the month under review exceeded production by 4%.

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