

LUMBER REVIEW
By ARTHUR F. FISCHER
Director of Forestry



In spite of the general economic depression, still prevailing the world over, fair shipments of Philippine lumber to foreign markets are maintained, and prices are steady although comparatively low. As compared with the exports for March and April of this year, the shipments for the two months under review registered an increase of 8%. Also,

the total shipment, or delivery, from the mills was more than the production during the period under review. There were 29,338,543 board feet shipped from the mills during May and June, 1931, as against a mill production of 28,684,061 board feet for the same period.

The timber export trade with Japan is gaining impetus due largely to the activity of a firm which is making regular monthly shipments of logs to that country. There were shipped to Japan, during May and June of this year 6,224,320 board feet, mostly in the form of logs, as against 2,234,480 board feet exported during the same period in 1930, or an increase of 178%. Great Britain is becoming an important market for Philippine lumber. The exports to that country during the two months under review amounted to 1,411,496 board feet as compared with 1,246,984 board feet for the same period last year, or an increase of 13%. It is interesting to note, in this connection, that in England although there was considerable decline in the total lumber imports during 1930, certain classes of woods, among which is the so-called Philippine Mahogany, registered increases. Also it is interesting to state here that Philippine hardwood is reported as being in good demand for furniture, shop fittings or interior trim and other special uses in South Africa.

Encouraging developments in other principal markets for Philippine lumber are as follows: (1) The new timber sales policy in the United States to the effect that no new territory will be opened by the Forest Service while the depression continues in the lumber industry. This policy, it is believed, should contribute to market betterment. (2) The recent reversal of the former position of the Federal Trade Commission with respect to the use of the term "Philippine Mahogany" which reversal now allows the use of such term for Philippine lumber sold in the United States. (3) The continuation of building activities in Shanghai and Hongkong and cities tributaries to this latter port.

As long as the above favorable conditions in the principal markets for Philippine lumber exist, there is no reason why the lumber and timber shipments in fair quantities should not continue. However, the local lumber producers must be exceedingly careful in keeping up grades for foreign shipments. Considerable market upsets are experienced through shipment of distressed cargoes of loosely graded or ungraded lumber generally peddled by brokers in the United States. The normal amount of exports and the return of normal prices can not be properly expected until the general business depression affecting the above countries is over.

The following statements show the lumber and timber exports, by countries, and mill production and lumber inventories for the months of May and June, 1931, as compared with the corresponding months the previous year:

LUMBER AND TIMBER EXPORTS

Destination	May 1931	
	Board Feet	Value
Japan.....	2,324,792	₱ 56,749
United States.....	1,329,240	119,803
Great Britain.....	991,736	83,782
British Africa.....	30,952	4,849
China.....	21,200	1,909

Canada.....	14,540	2,070
Hawaii.....	5,512	1,187
Australia.....	—	—
Other British East Indies.....	—	—
Netherlands.....	—	—

Total..... 4,718,272 P270,349

Destination	May 1930	
	Board Feet	Value
Japan.....	1,405,560	₱ 45,475
United States.....	4,468,536	360,662
Great Britain.....	916,688	68,191
British Africa.....	—	—
China.....	125,504	7,391
Canada.....	80,560	3,349
Hawaii.....	10,176	2,323
Australia.....	223,448	14,892
Other British East Indies.....	64,024	13,868
Netherlands.....	25,440	2,200

Total..... 7,319,936 P518,351

Destination	June 1931	
	Board Feet	Value
Japan.....	3,899,528	₱ 111,067
United States.....	1,523,856	115,008
Great Britain.....	419,760	40,766
China.....	72,080	8,117
Canada.....	44,096	4,790
Guam.....	16,112	6,749
Hawaii.....	8,904	1,585
Germany.....	424	1
Australia.....	—	—
Ireland.....	—	—
British Africa.....	—	—
Netherlands.....	—	—
Hongkong.....	—	—
Other British East Indies.....	—	—

Total..... 5,984,760 P288,083

Destination	June 1930	
	Board Feet	Value
Japan.....	828,920	₱ 28,096
United States.....	2,939,592	221,017
Great Britain.....	330,296	30,284
China.....	1,545,480	88,171
Canada.....	—	—
Guam.....	—	—
Hawaii.....	7,632	1,200
Germany.....	2,544	120
Australia.....	170,024	8,205
Ireland.....	22,048	2,415
British Africa.....	39,432	4,304
Netherlands.....	25,440	2,300
Hongkong.....	425,696	41,693
Other British East Indies.....	27,984	6,000

Total..... 6,365,088 P433,805

FOR 43 MILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE

Months	Lumber Deliveries from Mills	
	1931	1930
May.....	13,853,056	18,478,717
June.....	15,485,487	17,805,381
Total.....	29,338,543	36,284,098

Months	Lumber Inventory	
	1931	1930
May.....	24,786,901	40,343,233
June.....	26,203,066	45,701,561
Total.....	50,989,967	86,044,794

NOTE:—Board Feet should be used.

DANIEL RODERICK WILLIAMS



Free Press Photo

Judge D. R. Williams, widely known American pioneer in the Philippines, died in Manila of meningitis, provoked by pneumonia, September 21, at St. Paul's. His illness had endured about a week. The body was cremated. Funeral services were held at the Cathedral of St. Mary and St. John, Bishop G. F. Mosher officiating, with Miss Wilson at the organ. Floral offerings were profuse. Oldtime friends were the pallbearers: Captain H. L. Heath, C. M. Cotterman, John R. Wilson, J. W. Ferrier, F. A. Seymour, and Carson Taylor. Judge Williams' passing was a poignant loss to many friends here and in America, where he was known from coast to coast and had a literary reputation (aside from that in the law) from the three books and many pamphlets and articles he had published about the Philippines. On May 13 he had passed his 60th year, but he was in vigorous health until the fatal and brief attack that came upon him while he was engaged on his third book against separating the Philippines from the United States.

A daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Williams Frazier, of Hollywood, is the nearest surviving relative. Her mother died here, many years ago.

Judge Williams came to the Philippines with his family as secretary to Bernard Moses of the Philippine commission, and afterward was the secretary of the Taft commission, out of which came his first book, *The Odyssey of the Philippine Commission*. This was a narrative of the commission's travels and work in the Philippines. Later books dealt with the economic and political questions involved in America's sovereignty here. Upon his death, Judge Williams was eulogized by all the Manila press, the opposition acknowledging him a gallant foe who spoke and defended his opinions openly and only with fair means.

The title of judge came of his term as judge of the oldtime land court, 1903-1905, after leaving the commission. He then practiced law in Manila until 1920, when he went to Shanghai and practiced before the U. S. court there for two years, then to the United States, to practice law in California and to write and lecture on the Philippines—always against giving them up. The Manila Daily Bulletin, our American newspaper, said of him, "He worked for this country in good faith." A fitting epitaph for a man who lived with the purpose of being useful to his fellows to the full power of his generous talents. Judge Williams was a native of Missouri. He was born at Dawn, a town in that state, May 13, 1871. In the Philippines he left an extensive estate, said to be about 80,000 hectares, on the Pacific coast of Luzon below Baler bay. This estate is undeveloped.