

FREIGHT RATES: No particular change has been made during the past month although on direct shipment of hemp from Legaspi, the differential has been reduced from 20/- to 10/- per ton of 20 cwt.

STATISTICS: The figures below are for the period ending August 3rd, 1931:

	1931 Bs.	1930 Bs.
<i>Manila Hemp</i>		
On January 1st.....	112,802	195,035
Receipts to date.....	716,631	837,214
	829,433	1,032,249
Shipments to—		
U. K.	193,982	198,758
Continent.....	112,538	118,580
U. S.	146,924	338,582
Japan.....	223,582	176,659
Elsewhere.....	49,855	60,573
	726,881	893,152

LUMBER REVIEW
By ARTHUR F. FISCHER
Director of Forestry



The lumber and timber exports during the month of April, 1931, decreased 42%, as compared with the same month in 1930. This apparently big decrease in lumber and timber exports would be misleading if no mention is made here of the fact that the recent burning of three important saw-mills affected considerably the exports during

the month under review but did not influence shipments during the corresponding month last year. It can be seen from the statement of exports below that as compared with March of this year, this month's shipments are not so discouraging as it appears to be for there was an increase of 85%. As a matter of fact the lumber trade has been steadily picking up since February, although prices remained low. From the low mark of 2,476,584 board feet corresponding to the month of February, the export shipments steadily jumped to 6,428,264 board feet for the month under review, while the lumber deliveries from the mills rose from 11,293,892 board feet to 13,646,899 board feet for April, 1931. There was also a steady increase in production from 8,021,638 board feet to 11,374,287 board feet during the above period.

As stated in the last review, the above improvement in the local trade is expected to be only seasonal as the general economic condition of the Islands is still depressed, and whether or not the export trade may continue the favorable trend it has shown during the last three months is uncertain, unless the general economic situation in foreign markets changes for the better.

It is, however, reassuring to know that in the United States, a gradually expanded consumption seems to be slowly starting; that the building trade is showing a little improvement, and new Federal and other public projects are expected to create new demands; and that manufacturers are concentrating vast amount of attention and energy to the program of holding off production for a sufficient time to permit of the disposal of carry-over stocks. In Shanghai and Hongkong construction activities are making for fairly good sales. More or less regular shipments of logs are being made to Japan in spite of the still prevailing industrial and commercial inactivity in that country. In South Africa, which is becoming a steady market for Philippine lumber, it has been reported that lumber demand is strong with no signs of a weakening market. The present economic depression seems to have had very little effect upon construction activities in that country. Shipments to the United Kingdom remained steady. Special demand in this market for Apitong has been noted.

As compared with the previous month, exports to China registered an increase of 29%; to Japan an increase of 49%; to the United States

an increase of 59%; and to United Kingdom an increase of 23%.

The following statements show the lumber and timber exports, by countries, and mill production and lumber inventory for the month of April, 1931, as compared with the corresponding month the previous year.

Lumber and Timber Export for April

Destination	1931	
	Board Feet	Value
Japan.....	3,878,328	P 104,358
United States.....	1,672,256	158,675
United Kingdom.....	297,224	33,757
China.....	295,952	19,654
British Africa.....	274,328	21,705
Hawaii.....	9,328	2,207
Spain.....	848	400
Germany.....		70
Australia.....		
Canada.....		
Netherlands.....		
Portuguese Africa.....		
TOTAL.....	6,428,264	P 340,826

Destination	1930	
	Board Feet	Value
Japan.....	4,319,712	P 166,275
United States.....	2,821,720	215,191
United Kingdom.....	1,068,480	81,231
China.....	1,640,456	99,008
British Africa.....	97,944	15,719
Hawaii.....		
Spain.....		
Germany.....		
Australia.....	1,051,096	70,904
Canada.....	73,352	6,225
Netherlands.....	8,056	700
Portuguese Africa.....	848	115
TOTAL.....	11,081,664	P 655,368

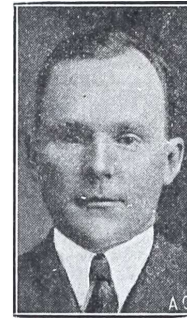
For 43 Mills for the month of April

Month	Lumber Deliveries from Mills	
	1931	1930
April.....	13,646,899	25,766,363
Month	Lumber Inventory	
	1931	1930
April.....	23,659,933	48,643,621
Month	Mill Production	
	1931	1930
April.....	11,374,287	18,256,304

NOTE:—Board Feet should be used.

REVIEW OF THE EXCHANGE MARKET

By RICHARD E. SHAW
Manager, National City Bank



The market on the whole has been dead dull. Selling rates during the latter part of the month were slightly on the easy side and several Banks were good sellers of moderate amounts of U. S. Dollar T. T. at 1% pr. Buying rates for T. T. held steady at 3/4% pr. for deliveries to the end of the year. Banks were offering 3/4% pr. for ready O/D credit bills and 1/4% discount for

60 d/s D/A bills for August-December settlements. The underlying tone of the market was firm at the close.

The following purchases of U.S.S T.T. have been made from the Insular Treasurer since last report:

June 20th to July 3rd.....	Nil
Week ending July 11th.....	U.S.\$300,000
Week ending July 18th.....	200,000
Week ending July 25th.....	425,000

With the sudden drop in the New York London cross-rate about the middle of the month Sterling selling rates were somewhat weaker and Banks would sell T.T. at 2/- 7/16 ready but were not keen buyers at better than 2/- 9/16.

On June 30th the New York-London cross-rate closed at 4.8630, rose to a high of 4.8660 on several occasions during the first half of July, dropped suddenly on July 16th to a low of 4.8350 and was quoted at 4.86 on the last business day of the month.

London Bar Silver stood at 13-3/4 ready and 13-3/4 forward on June 30th. The white metal rose to 13-11/16 ready and 13-11/16 forward on July 6th and gradually receded to 12-11/16 ready and 12-11/16 forward on July 27th. The closing rates were 13-11/16 ready and 13-11/16 forward.

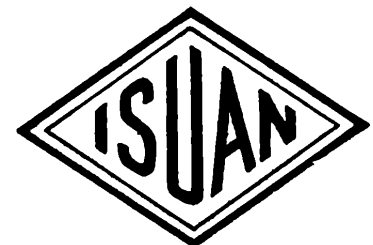
New York Bar Silver was quoted at 29-1/8 on June 30th. On July 6th it had risen to a high for that month of 29-3/4. By July 27th the rate had weakened off to 27-3/8 and finally closed at 28.

Telegraphic transfers on other points were quoted as follows on July 31st:

Paris.....	12.45
Madrid.....	93
Singapore.....	114-1/2
Japan.....	100-1/2
Shanghai.....	159-1/4
Hongkong.....	50-1/4
India.....	136
Java.....	122-3/8

Recommended By Leading Doctors

Drink It for Your
Health's Sake



TEL. 5-73-06

Nature's Best Mineral Water