LUMBER SITUATION IN JAPAN.

C. M. Croft, Commercial Secretary.

In order to adjust the relation between the demand for and supply of lumber, a law has recently been promulgated in Japan by which the administrative authorities may exercise a wide measure of control over the whole lumber industry. The law provides that orders may be issued governing the selling prices of standing timber, and species or kinds of lumber may be designated and instructions may be given producers, merchants or importers requiring them to sell such designated species to the Japanese Lumber Co. Ltd., a company which is to be formed to administer the control over the lumber trade. Orders may be issued prohibiting or restricting the consumption of the designated kinds of lumber and sawmillers may be given instructions as to the kinds of wood which may be sawn. Provisions also exist by which all transactions in lumber may be subjected to a permit system.

The Lumber Control Law has not, at the time of writing, been brought into force, but will be made effective by Imperial Ordinance to be promulgated at a later date.

A report was recently made available showing the general lumber situated in Japan. The following table shows the acreage of lands which have been cleared and also those which have been afforested during each of the five years from 1935 to 1939 inclusive:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cleared.</th>
<th>Afforested.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>1,058</td>
<td>874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>1,156</td>
<td>940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>1,151</td>
<td>948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>1,202</td>
<td>1,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>1,082</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With respect to the supply and use of lumber in Japan Proper, information available shows that the beginning of 1940 there were stocks estimated to amount to 291,410,000 cubic feet, while the production in that year was 960,250,000 cubic feet; there were “internal imports” (that is from other parts of the Japanese Empire) of 27,820,000 cubic feet and external imports of 32,290,000 cubic feet, making a total supply of 1,311,770,000 cubic feet. The home consumption totalled 918,560,000 cubic feet, internal exports amounted to 55,780,000 cubic feet and external exports to 86,850,000 cubic feet, thus leaving stocks at the end of 1940 of 250,580,000 cubic feet.

Of the domestic consumption in 1940, estimated at 918,560,000 cubic feet, it is believed that 169,220,000 cubic feet was used for building purposes and furniture making, 96,740,000 cubic feet for packing purposes, 115,560,000 cubic feet for mining, 80,720,000 cubic feet for pulp making, 36,560,000 cubic feet for ships, 24,970,000 cubic feet for road construction, 29,360,000 cubic feet for vehicles, 33,460,000 cubic feet for railway sleepers, 13,120,000 cubic feet for poles and the balance of 318,750,000 cubic feet was used for various unspecified purposes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Imported Seed</th>
<th></th>
<th>Local Collection</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lots (1)</td>
<td>Lbs. of Seed Involved (2)</td>
<td>Trees per lb. (3)</td>
<td>Lots (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cryptomeria japonica</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21/2</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cupressus lawsoniana</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cupressus macrocarpa</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14,500</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larix decidua</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus canariensis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14,500</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus caribaea</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>7,000</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus echinata</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14,500</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus laricio</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>11,800</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus muriicata</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>39,000</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus murrayana</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinus palustris</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinus pinaster</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus ponderosa</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7,800</td>
<td>3,700</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus radiata</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1,737</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinus strobus</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>818</td>
<td>9,500</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thuya plicata</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>64,500</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Number of separate sowings of seed.
(2) Aggregate number of lbs. of seed.
(3) Signifies actual trees planted out after nursery operations completed.

In all cases seed was sown in the same year as collected or imported.
### Variations in the Yield of Forest Tree Seed Per Pound.

Compiled from various sources.—by A. C. FORBES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Wakely (1)</th>
<th>Toumey &amp; Stevens (2)</th>
<th>Cox (3)</th>
<th>Yale (4)</th>
<th>Schenck (5)</th>
<th>Rafn (6)</th>
<th>S.F.S. (7)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cryptomeria japonica</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cupressus lawsoniana</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cupressus macrocarpa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larix decidua</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus caribaea</td>
<td>13,470</td>
<td>19,660</td>
<td>15,500</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,700</td>
<td>15,300</td>
<td>109,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinus echinata</td>
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<td>84,960</td>
<td>69,200</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>15,700</td>
<td>15,300</td>
<td>9,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinus excelsa</td>
<td>9,700</td>
<td>10,300</td>
<td>10,100</td>
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<td>12,700</td>
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<td>Pinus laricio</td>
<td>23,300</td>
<td>32,600</td>
<td>29,200</td>
<td>109,600</td>
<td>120,000</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus palustris</td>
<td>4,010</td>
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<td>5,200</td>
<td>4,700</td>
<td>8,100</td>
<td>6,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pinus patula</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
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<td>Pinus pinaster</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Pinus ponderosa</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus radiata</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus strobus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinus taeda</td>
<td>17,240</td>
<td>29,260</td>
<td>21,300</td>
<td>16,400</td>
<td>27,400</td>
<td>23,800</td>
<td>26,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pseudotsuga taxifolia</td>
<td>31,000</td>
<td>66,700</td>
<td>48,900</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>43,000</td>
<td>41,900</td>
<td>43,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sequoia sempervirens</td>
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<td>141,000</td>
<td>115,700</td>
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<td>400,000</td>
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<td>Thuja plicata</td>
<td>275,400</td>
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<td>324,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>409,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References:
5. Art of Second Growth—C. A. Schenck, 1912.