

## JAPANESE TRADE AND INDUSTRY

## PRESENT AND FUTURE

by

MITSUBISHI ECONOMIC RESEARCH BUREAU

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## CHAPTER XXIX

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY COMMODITIES1. Export Trade

## (1) General Survey.

The development of industry in a country is well reflected not only in the quantitative advance of its foreign trade, but also in the qualitative changes of its constitution. When examining the rise and fall in the exports of various commodities, an indication is found of the past progress and the future prospects of the various Japanese industries. Some commodities that once were on the list of principal export articles have dwindled to a mere trifle, while others have risen in the space of a few years and now rank among the country's most important exports. Instances are not far to seek, for the export trade of Japan, especially since the reimposition of the gold embargo, is full of such examples.

A list of articles whose export value amounted to over 15 million yen in 1931, the leanest year, and which maintained the same level in 1935, includes cotton tissues, raw silk, rayon tissues, silk tissues, canned and bottled food-stuffs, knitted goods, pottery and porcelain, footwear and paper. Seven out of these nine articles, raw silk and paper



being exceptions, showed an increase in value in 1935 over 1929, the peak year before the reimposition of the gold embargo. On account of the sharp decline of raw silk value, however, the total export value of these nine articles showed a decrease compared with 1929, in spite of the general recovery of foreign trade after the reintroduction of the gold embargo. Excluding raw silk, the total value shows an increase of 27.7% over that of 1929, disclosing the fact that the advance of the remaining eight articles still constituted the centre in the recent general development of the Japanese export trade. However, the ratio of the above nine articles to the total value of exports shows a sharp decline from 69.1% in 1929 to 51.4% in 1935. This fact indicates the extraordinary advance made by various articles which, formerly, were not prominent in export statistics. Articles, which in 1931 had an export value of less than 15 million yen, but which advanced beyond this figure in 1935, were sixteen in number--iron, machinery, vehicles, ironware, cotton yarn, toys, wheat flour, woollen tissues, vegetable oils, glass and glassware, wood and timber, rayon, aquatic products, refined sugar, lamps and accessories, and hats and caps. The exports of these articles, refined sugar, aquatic products and hats and caps excepted, are far more active than in 1929, the total value showing the extraordinary increase of 120.9%.

The total export value of the twenty five articles referred to above, accounted for more than 70% of the total value of all exports. As in the case of the first group, there is a decline in ratio to total export trade in the articles of the second group. This reflects a forging ahead of other new exports and the wide spread of the recovery during the past few years in the Japanese export trade.



辯護團文書七一五(一九)

昭和十一年(一九三六)

支那經濟調查部調

現在並に將來に於ける日本の貿易と産業

一九三七年

輸出入商品

一 輸出貿易

一) 概要

一國の産業の發達は只にその國の對外貿易の量的増進の上のみならずその構成品の質的變化の上にも能く反映せらる。各種商品の輸出の消長を檢する時その國の各種産業の過去の進歩と將來の展望とを就この指標の發見せらる。尙ほ主要輸出品の品目表に掲げられしもの或る種の商品と今は凋落して僅かにその姿を止めしもの或る種の商品と今は僅かに數年間に抬頭して今はその國の最重要輸出品の仲間入りしてゐる。日本の輸出貿易に就いて觀るに此の種の例は遠きに溯らざるも殊に金輸出再禁止以來枚擧げに遑がない。

日取も不況の年であつた一九三一年に於いて輸出金額千五百萬を以て以上を達してゐた品目と一九三五年に同じ水準と

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保つてある商品は綿織物、生糸、人造絹糸織物、絹織物、毛織物又は粗詰食料、メリヤス類、陶磁器、靴、下駄、紙が含まれてゐる。此の九種の品目の内生糸と紙を除いた七種の一九三五年に於ける金額は、金輸出再禁止前の最高額であつた一九二九年よりも増加を示してゐる。併しなほ、生糸の價格が著しく下落した為に、金輸出再禁止後に於ける外國貿易の一般的回復傾向にも拘らず、之等九品目の輸出總金額は、一九二九年に比して減額を示してゐる。生糸を除いた此の總額は、一九二九年の總額に比して二七・七%の増加を示してゐる。

(以下次頁)



之は即ち他の八品目が尚依然として最近に於ける日本の輸出入貿易の一般的發達の中心を構成してゐる事實を現はしてゐる。併しながら前記九品目の輸出總額の比率は一九二九年に於ける六九・一%から一九三五年に於ける五一・四%の著しい減額を示してゐる。此の事實は實つては輸出入貿易統計表に現著であつた諸種の品目の異い層中を進出を示すものである。一九三一年に輸出總額千五百萬円以下であつて一九三五年に此の數字を突破した物品は十六種で、鐵、機械、車輛、鐵製品、綿糸、玩具、小麦粉、毛織物、植物油、玻璃及玻璃器具、木材及製材、人造絹糸、水産物、精製糖、ランプ及其附屬品、帽子及キャップがこれである。是等の輸出品は精製糖、水産物、コットン及キャップを除くは一九二九年に於けるよりも一層活潑な動きを見せ、その總額額は三〇・九%の異の増大を示してゐる。

前記二十五種の品目の輸出總額は凡この品目の輸出入合計額の七〇%以上と計算されたる。此一群品目の場合に於けるが如く亦二群品目に於ても亦その總輸出貿易高の比率は低下してゐる。之は他の新規輸出品の増進と日本輸出入貿易の過去數年間に於ける廣範な回復を反映するものである。

(五〇五—五〇七頁より抜粋)