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WOOL-34

WORLD WOOL PROSPECTS

Prices

Trade and Consumption

Supply

Summary

Wool prices at Boston had a general downward tendency in December but made more important declines in January. Beliefs that mill stocks were becoming low, and the appearance of some buyers in the market who had not been active for several months created a somewhat optimistic attitude in December, despite the weakness in prices. The total volume of wool sold in December was small and confined largely to the finer grades. Prices for fine wools were resistant to declines. With the severe declines in fine wool prices at the opening of the London sales in January, the margins of domestic over foreign prices on some of these wools became the widest in several years.

The London sales for the 1931 season opened on January 20 with prices for most wools from 15 to 20 per cent below the December closing prices and the market remained very unsettled throughout the opening week. Prices also weakened at the January sales in Australia and New Zealand. The Bradford wool market was very quiet during January and prices of tops and yarn continued to decline while further declines have been reported in machinery activity in the spinning and weaving sections.

Business on the Continent has been greatly hampered by the declining market and prices of semi manufactures continue to fall. There is little change in the activity in wool industries and extensive restriction and short time operations continue everywhere.

Stocks of combing and clothing wool in the United States at this time appear to be considerably larger than they were a year ago. Stocks of wool

reported on April 1 were 29 million pounds less in 1930 than in 1929 and imports of combing and clothing wool from April 1 to November 30 were 9 million pounds less in 1930 than in 1929 but these decreases are more than offset by a decline of about 59 million pounds in the consumption by reporting mills from April 1 to November 30, 1930 compared with 1929 while domestic production including pulled wool was more than 20 million pounds larger in 1930 than in 1929.

Consumption of combing and clothing wool in the United States fell approximately 8.3 million pounds (grease basis) in November after having shown a more than seasonal increase in September and October. The total quantity consumed by reporting mills from January 1 - November 30, 1930 was about 80 million pounds less than that consumed in 1929.

Production in 15 principal wool producing countries in 1930 was about 1 per cent above 1929 but 1 per cent below the record clip of 1928. Large exports during the early months of the Southern Hemisphere marketing season reduced supplies and on December 1 the apparent supply of wool awaiting disposal in the 5 principal countries of the Southern Hemisphere, including carry-over wool, was about 1 per cent less than at the same time in 1929 and 3 per cent less than at the same time in 1928. Up to December 1 of the current season, however, exports of old and new clip wool from these countries were 18 per cent more than during the same period of 1929. These large exports from the Southern Hemisphere resulted in larger imports into the chief continental consuming countries during the fall of 1930 than in the same period in 1929. Since employment has been below normal in the United Kingdom and conditioning of wool, tops and yarn in continental countries remains below the previous year it is probable that large stocks of wool are held in foreign consuming countries.

Prices: Domestic

The appearance during December of some buyers that had not been in the market for wool for several months served to stimulate a mildly optimistic undertone. Optimism, however, had little foundation other than hope as mills that were active took only enough wool to cover immediate needs or to make tests on offerings for which they felt they might have some need in the future. The broader sampling of wool strongly suggested that an increase in the consumption of wool would take place at an early date and, in consequence, some wool houses took a firmer stand on prices and practically withdrew their wools from the market by refusing to accept the prices that were being offered.

The volume of business in wool during December was very limited. Demand was confined largely to 64s and finer, and 58s, 60s grades. Only an occasional call was received on 56s and 48s, 50s grades. Concessions were possible on most grades all through the month and at the close of December the prices on most grades were 1-3 cents, scoured basis, lower than at the close of November. During the latter part of the month, however, a resistance to the downward trend of prices was in evidence as some houses began to refuse bids being offered. This tended to create a better feeling in the market although prices were still soft and eased further before the close of the month. Year-end selling to lighten inventories may have had something to do with the weakness of wool prices late in December as the buying for delivery in January was the smallest in years owing to the keen desire to keep inventories low among manufacturers as well as dealers.

The general belief that mills would carry over very light stocks was one factor tending to create an optimistic attitude toward the near future of the market. Observations of members of the wool trade seemed to indicate to them that mills were running fairly well and were not likely to further curtail operations. In fact, they felt that an increase in operations would take place soon after the turn of the year. The persistent and somewhat broader inquiries from the mills tended to strengthen their arguments for a more optimistic view of the situation.

One of the most resistant grades of wool in the market during December was the 64s and finer quality Fleeces, especially of the Ohio Delaine type. A few lots of the latter moved at around 72-73 cents, scoured basis, but this was about the bottom price for any good Delaine wool. Some of the less attractive Strictly Combing 64s and finer Fleece wools sold as low as 70 cents. Supplies of Fine Fleeces were beginning to feel a pinch. A fairly steady demand has been received on these wools all during last Summer and Fall and inquiries continued quite persistent up to the end of the year.

The offerings of 58s, 60s Fleeces, especially of the better style wools, were comparatively scarce during December. Quotations, however, declined about 3 cents per pound on an estimated scoured basis, partly on account of the less attractive character of available supplies and partly in sympathy with a decline in prices of Territory 58s, 60s wools. Only a few sales of Fleeces of these grades were closed and the aggregate volume of sales was small.

Medium grade Fleeces, including 56s and 48s, 50s grades were dull. Practically the only interest shown in them was a few inquiries and the purchase of sample lots for testing purposes in anticipation of a demand for knitting yarns from the bathing suit trade. Fleeces of 46s and lower grades

were quiet with quotations slightly easier.

The market on Western grown wools was centered largely on 64s and finer and 58s,60s Territory wools, although an expanding outlet appeared to be developing on 56s and 48s,50s Territory wools. As in Fleece lines, 46s and lower Territory wools comprised an extremely small proportion of the total volume sold. Of the latter, only small quantities are available, but quotations declined moderately owing to easier prices on Foreign Crossbred wools of similar qualities.

A further slight easing was shown in 64s and finer Territory wools in spite of a fairly steady demand. Sales continued small to moderate in volume. The ease in prices were due largely to disappointment in the volume of sales and to easier prices of Fine Merino foreign wools. Graded Strictly Combing Territory 64s and finer wools declined from 72-75 cents to 69-72 cents, scoured basis, on a very small turnover. French Combing wools eased 2-3 cents, scoured basis. Original bag lines of 64s and finer Territory wools sold mostly in the range 65-68 cents, scoured basis for lines of bulk French Combing. Choice offerings containing a fair percentage of Strictly Combing staple realized as high as 70 cents, scoured basis, on occasional lines early in December, but later in the month only around 68 cents could be secured. The original bag lines containing mostly short French Combing and Clothing staple were fairly steady at around 62 cents, with some early sales a bit higher and later sales occasionally as low as 61 cents, scoured basis. These short wools resisted pressure rather better than the longer staple wools.

Territory wools of 58s,60s grades showed a declining tendency throughout the month, although the volume of sales increased somewhat as compared with the 64s and finer wools. A few sales of Strictly Combing wool of 58s,60s grades were closed at around 70 cents, but these sales comprised a relatively small portion of the total volume, and before the close of the month about 67 cents, scoured basis, was the maximum figure that could be obtained. The average Strictly Combing 58s,60s Territory wools sold mostly at 63-65 cents, scoured basis, while the French Combing offerings declined from about the same range of prices early in December to as low as 60-62 cents in the month.

Evidence of a revival of interest in the long neglected 56s and 48s-50s wools appeared during December. Sales were not large in volume; in fact, they were mostly of a sampling character, but even this slight activity aroused hopes of members of the trade and persistent rumors were circulating in the market to the effect that a few mills had produced a style of fabric, requiring wools of these grades, that was meeting with public favor. Quotations were lowered on both grades with the decline on 48s,50s somewhat greater than on 56s. Inquiries and the sales of 56s were more numerous than in the case of 48s,50s wools.

A few sales were closed on 46s Territory wools at around 45 cents, scoured basis, the quotations having dropped from the range 47-50 cents to 42-45 cents, scoured basis.

Foreign wools received a little more attention from American buyers but commitments were made very cautiously owing to irregular prices in

primary markets. Manufacturers bought some spot Australian wools during December. Prices on Super Warp 64-70s Australian wools were in the range 50-53 cents, scoured basis, in bond on early sales, but toward the end of the month offerings were available at slightly under 50 cents. All grades were quoted slightly lower at the close of December than at the close of the previous month. Spot Crossbred wools were somewhat slower than Merinos and quotations declined during the month. A few orders, mostly for mill accounts, were placed on both Merinos and Crossbreds for import.

Steadily declining prices marked the trade in woollen wools. Prices on Pulled wools again declined relatively further than on the shorn wools for the worsted trade. A fair weight of "B" and "C" grades of Pulled wools was taken out of the market, and toward the end of the month inquiries indicated a broadening interest in these grades and prices were a little steadier. Some business was done on the various finer grades. Prices declined less on the "A" wools than on Fine "A" and "A" Super wools as the supply of "AA" grades was more limited than in the case of the latter grades.

The nail market was unsettled during the entire month of December and prices tended lower. A moderate demand for 56s and 48s, 50s nails carried over from November into the first half of December, but this business diminished at the approach of the holiday season.

Very unsettling factors dominated the top market during December. A considerable weight of odd lots of tops undermined confidence in prices, and the regular topmakers found it impossible to book orders on quantities any larger than sufficient to cover immediate requirements. The small orders that were received were taken at steadily declining prices owing partly to the low figures quoted on odd lots and declining wool values. The choice Oil Combed 64s of the regular lines of the topmakers declined from 95 cents, or slightly above to 92-93 cents, and little business was attracted by the lower quotations. The Dry Combed 64s short staple tops sold at 88-90 cents. Oil Combed 60s were quoted toward the end of the month at 85-88 cents while 58s moved at 80 cents and slightly below. Orders were booked on 56s at 71-74 cents. Little business was transacted on 48s, 50s tops. Deliveries began to decline early in December and continued at a fairly light volume during the holiday weeks.

Wool: Price per pound at Boston on specified dates,
1929 - 1931

Grade	1929-30			1930-31		
	Nov. 16	Dec. 14	Jan. 18	Nov. 15	Dec. 13	Jan. 17
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
64s, 70s, 80s (fine)						
<u>Strictly combing</u>						
Ohio and similar						
grease	36-37	34-35	34-35	30-31	29-30	29-30
Fleece scoured basis	88-90	83-85	82-84	73-75	73-74	70-73
Territory " "	87-89	83-85	82-84	72-74	72-74	68-71
58s, 60s ($\frac{1}{2}$ blood)						
<u>Strictly combing</u>						
Ohio and similar						
grease	42-43	41	38-39	29-30	29-30	28-29
Fleece scoured basis	88-92	83-85	79-82	63-67	63-67	61-63
Territory " "	87-90	83-85	79-82	67-70	65-70	62-65
56s ($\frac{3}{8}$ blood)						
<u>Strictly combing</u>						
Ohio and similar						
grease	44-45	41-42	39-40	29-30	28-29	27-28
Fleece scoured basis	85-87	78-81	72-77	53-56	52-55	50-53
Territory " "	85-90	81-83	75-78	57-60	57-60	55-58
46s (low $\frac{1}{4}$ blood)						
<u>Strictly combing</u>						
Ohio and similar						
grease	38-39	38-39	35-36	26-27	25-26	24-25
Fleece scoured basis	63-65	63-65	57-60	43-45	42-45	40-42
Territory " "	65-70	65-68	60-62	47-50	43-47	42-45

Compiled from Weekly Market News Reports of the Boston Office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Prices: Foreign

Prices down as London wool sales open

The first series of London wool sales for 1931 opened on January 20 with prices of practically all wools 15 to 20 per cent below the December closing rates. Greasy merino wools were mostly 20 per cent below the December rates, and scoured merino wools 20 to 30 per cent lower, fine greasy crossbreds were 15 to 20 per cent lower and medium and low crossbreds 15 per cent lower; New Zealand scoured crossbreds were 20 per cent lower and slipped 10 to 15 per cent lower than the closing rates in December.

The quantity of wool available for this auction was reported to be about 171,500 bales of which 112,300 bales were Australian, 54,850 bales New Zealand, 1,800 bales Cape wool and 2,000 bales Punta Arenas.

United Kingdom: Prices at the London wool sales, reported on
basis of official standards of the United States
for grades of wool (scoured basis) specified
dates - 1929-1931

United States grades	1930						1931
	1st. series		5th. series		6th. series		1st. series
	Open : Jan. 21	Close : Feb. 6	Open : Sept. 16	Close : Oct. 7	Open : Nov. 25	Close : Dec. 13	Open : Jan. 20
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
70s	49.7	52.7	48.7	45.6	42.6	40.6	31.4
64s	46.7	49.7	44.6	40.6	38.5	36.5	28.4
60s	43.6	43.6	38.5	36.5	34.5	33.4	25.3
58s	40.6	41.6	36.5	32.4	29.4	28.4	24.3
56s	36.5	36.5	32.4	29.4	25.3	23.3	20.3
50s	31.4	30.4	25.3	23.3	20.3	19.3	17.2
48s	29.4	28.4	23.8	22.3	17.7	17.2	15.2
46s	28.4	27.4	23.3	21.3	17.2	17.2	14.7
44s	27.9	27.4	22.3	20.3	17.2	16.2	14.2
40s	27.9	26.4	22.3	19.3	16.2	16.2	13.2
36s	27.9	26.4	22.3	18.2	16.2	15.2	13.2

Compiled from reports of E. A. Foley, American Agricultural Attache at London.

New year's opening prices in Australia irregular

Sales reopened at Sydney on January 5 with prices somewhat irregular. The selection was an average one and there was fair competition from the Continent and from Japan. Prices were barely firm compared with the December closing prices. The best wools were maintained fairly steady with choicest combing 64s-70s, costing about 47 cents clean basis landed in bond at Boston; Superior 64s about 45 cents and 60-64s about 43 cents clean basis. Topmaking wools were generally down slightly from the previous close. The second week of the Sydney sales opened with the market dull with Japan the only important buyer but although prices were slightly easier there was no quotable change. Conditions improved as the week advanced, however, and at the close competition was good from all sections of the trade, except France. Prices were firm at the close and in some cases showed an advance of about 5 per cent over the weeks opening rates.

Sales were held in Tasmania on January 8 and 13. At the sale at Hobart on January 8 there was strong competition from Japanese buyers and from local mills. Compared with the closing prices at Geelong on December 18 rates for superior and good wools were slightly lower while prices of topmaking fleeces were unchanged. Prices were weaker owing to the limited continental demand. Prices were firm at the Launceston sale on January 13 at rates equal to those at the Hobart sale, Japanese and Bradford buyers and local mills were the chief operators. Competition was excellent for superfine merinos.

Prices eased somewhat at the opening sale at Melbourne on January 19 compared with the closing figures at the Tasmanian sale of the previous week. Spinners sorts were said to be at par or slightly lower while topmaking types were about 5 per cent lower. Bradford buyers were the principal operators with Americans doing a little purchasing. French buyers were practically out of the market.

New Zealand offerings below schedule

The New Zealand wool sales reopened in Wellington on January 7 but offerings were still far below the original plan. It is reported that only about 10,000 bales were offered instead of 30,000 and that 90 per cent of the offerings were sold. Competition was general but prices were on a slightly lower basis than the final 1930 prices. Bradford was the principal buyer with Germany operating moderately and France out of the market. Japan and America bought a few odd lots. Offerings at Napier on January 12 amounted to 17,000 bales or 10,000 bales less than originally planned. About 15,600 bales were sold. Bradford bought approximately 60 per cent of this total and Germany 25 per cent while the balance was taken by local and other buyers. Prices were practically as reported for the Wellington sale with only a slight easing of prices for ordinary topmaking sorts grading 46s and lower.

It is reported that a buyers committee has asked for a conference with wool sellers to discuss the advisability of curtailing the New Zealand selling season or otherwise reducing the needless expenses incurred by travelling from center to center for such small offerings.

Bradford market quiet

The Bradford wool market has been very quiet in recent weeks and prices of tops and yarn have weakened. Fluctuations in the Australian rate of exchange as well as uncertainty regarding the financial position of New Zealand and Argentina are reported to have contributed to the depression. Spinners and manufacturers are concerned over the increase in tariff in China and declines are reported in machinery activity in the spinning and weaving sections. Spring orders for piece goods have been small in spite of price reductions.

Wool, tops and yarn: Price per pound at Bradford on
specified dates, 1930-1931

Date	64s <u>1/</u>			50s <u>1/</u>		
	Scoured wool	Tops	Worsted yarn :2-48s	Scoured wool	Tops	Worsted yarn :2-32s
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1930-						
Jan. 25	49.7	59.8	91.2	29.4	38.5	60.8
Feb. 25	48.7	58.8	91.2	29.4	36.5	57.8
Mar. 25	46.6	54.7	87.2	26.4	34.5	56.8
Apr. 25	47.7	57.8	89.2	27.4	35.5	56.8
May 24	52.7	60.8	92.3	30.4	37.5	58.8
June 25	50.7	57.8	91.2	29.4	36.5	56.8
July 25	48.7	56.8	89.2	28.4	34.5	55.8
Aug. 25	48.7	56.8	89.2	27.4	34.5	54.7
Sept. 26	46.6	54.7	85.2	24.3	32.4	53.7
Oct. 25	45.6	50.7	83.1	22.3	29.4	48.7
Nov. 26	40.6	50.7	81.1	19.3	27.4	47.7
Dec. 24	38.5	46.6	78.0	18.2	26.4	46.6
1931-						
Jan. 26	30.4	42.6	73.0	16.7	24.3	44.6

Compiled from cabled reports from E. A. Foley, Agricultural Attache at London.

1/ Official standards of the United States for wool and wool tops.

Continental Europe

Prices of wool and semi-manufactures continue to decline in France and Germany. The price of Australian merino 64s warp tops in France on January 15, 1931 had fallen to 52.7 cents per pound compared with 73.0 cents per pound on January 2, 1930, while crossbred 56s had fallen to 40.6 cents per pound compared with 58.8 cents on January 2, 1930. The decline in noil prices during the year 1930 amounted to more than 50 per cent in most cases. Australian merino noils were quoted at 28.8 cents per pound on January 15, 1931 compared with 62.2 cents per pound on January 2, 1930 while Australian crossbred noils were 20.0 cents per pound in January 1931 compared with 43.5 cents in January 1930.

The price of German A/AA scoured wool on January 1, 1931 was 54.0 cents per pound compared with 56.2 cents on December 1, 1930 but by January 15 the price had declined to 51.9 cents per pound. Cape wool in Germany on January 15 was 36.5 cents per pound. Prices of tops also declined during December and January and on January 15 Australian A/AA top, commercial fleeces were 52.7 cents per pound and Buenos Aires top, medium quality was 28.4 cents per pound.

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Tops, noils and yarn: Price per pound in France, specified dates, 1929-1931

Item	1929-30			1930-31		
	Nov. 1	Dec. 5	Jan. 2	Nov. 6	Dec. 18	Jan. 15
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Tops, Australian -						
Merino 64s warp	82.1	77.0	73.0	67-69	59.8	52.7
Crossbreds 56s	64.9	61.8	58.8	53.1	46.1	40.6
Tops, Argentine -						
Crossbreds 56s	60.8	57.8	-	49-51	43.8	38.5
Noils -						
Australian merino	71.1	69.3	62.2	42.6	29.2	28.8
Australian crossbred	49.8	48.0	43.5	26.7	20.4	20.0
Cape	76.4	74.6	67.5	40.9	33.7	33.1
Yarn -						
Merino	104.4	106.2	104.4	86.2	82.4	78.9
Cheviot	80.9	82.6	80.9	61.3	55.8	51.9

Compiled from reports of L. V. Steere, American Agricultural Attache at Berlin.

Trade and Consumption: Domestic

Boston receipts for 1930 established record.

Receipts of domestic wool at Boston in 1930 were higher than those of any previous year. From January to December, 246,888,000 pounds of wool were received at this market compared with 205,860,000 pounds in 1929, 210,521,000 pounds in 1928 and 219,190,000 pounds in 1927. Receipts for 1930 were higher than for the previous years by 20 per cent, 15 per cent and 13 per cent respectively. The increase in receipts over the three previous years came entirely during June, July and August as total receipts for the other nine months of the year were lower than during the same months of the three preceding years. The large receipts of June, July and August resulted from a change in wool marketing organization. That the wool went into strong hands is indicated by the fact that domestic prices held so stable despite the weak demand situation.

Wool, domestic: Receipts at Boston, by months, 1927-1930

Month	1927	1928	1929	1930	1/
	: 1,000 pounds	: 1,000 pounds	: 1,000 pounds	: 1,000 pounds	
Jan	6,081	8,044	4,532	7,660	
Feb	6,577	6,399	1,836	5,001	
Mar.	8,600	6,497	5,738	4,548	
Apr	9,522	8,138	6,442	7,774	
May	17,938	25,843	16,108	20,742	
June	46,106	50,083	40,094	53,517	
July	55,877	51,346	56,870	70,693	
Aug	29,891	25,802	32,377	50,649	
Sept.	11,799	7,156	16,233	3,292	
Oct.	9,033	4,598	9,171	11,415	
Nov.	8,972	9,322	8,202	4,460	
Dec.	8,794	7,293	8,257	7,137	
Total	:	:	:	:	
Jan. 1 -	:	:	:	:	
Dec. 31	219,190	210,521	205,860	246,888	

Compiled from weekly reports of the Boston Wool Office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

1/ Preliminary.

Imports into United States in 1930 lowest since 1913

Imports of combing and clothing wool into the United States in 1930 were smaller than for any year since 1913 while imports of carpet wool were the smallest since 1920. Total imports during 1930 were approximately 162 million pounds which is the smallest total since 1913 when 152 million pounds were imported and is 41.5 per cent below the 1929 imports which amounted to 277 million pounds. Approximately 69 million pounds of the total for 1930 were combing and clothing wool, a decrease of 32 per cent compared with the 1929 imports while imports of carpet wool were only 93 million pounds compared with 175 million in 1929, a decrease of 47 per cent.

Imports of combing and clothing wool in December 1930 amounted to 2,849,000 pounds or slightly more than the November imports but less than the imports in December 1929. Carpet wool imports in December were 8,006,000 pounds, an increase over the November imports but below those of December 1929. Since the bulk of United States imports of combing and clothing wool is received during the first quarter of the year some seasonal increase in imports will probably occur within the next few months. The present relationship between domestic and foreign prices is such that fine wools, especially, could be imported readily. For the past year, however, domestic prices have responded to declines abroad before large imports were attracted.

Wool: Imports into the United States, specified periods,
1929 and 1930

Wool	1929		1930		
	: Jan.1-Dec.30:	Dec.	: Jan.1-Dec.30:	Nov.	: Dec.
	: 1,000 pounds:	: 1,000 pounds:	: 1,000 pounds:	: 1,000 pounds:	: 1,000 pounds
Combing	: 83,710	: 3,443	: 54,363	: 2,182	: 2,702
Clothing	: 18,487	: 1,066	: 14,699	: 291	: 147
Total	: 102,197	: 4,509	: 69,062	: 2,473	: 2,849
Carpet	: 175,007	: 15,738	: 93,198	: 6,060	: 8,006
Total all:					
wools	: 277,204	: 20,247	: 162,260	: 8,533	: 10,855

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

United States consumption declines sharply

Reported consumption of all classes of wool by manufacturers in the United States declined in November. The decline in the consumption of combing and clothing wool was much greater than the normal seasonal decline for November and the total United States consumption for the month was probably lower than for any month since June 1924 and the lowest for November since 1920. Consumption has been low during all of 1930 and for the eleven months ended November 30, 1930, the total consumption of combing and clothing wool reported was only 271 million pounds compared with 336 million pounds reported for the same months of 1929, a decline of 19 per cent. The consumption of carpet wool during the first eleven months of 1930 was 45 per cent below that of 1929.

All grades of wool shared in the decline in consumption during November, the decline in wool grading 64s, 70s, 80s being almost 4 million pounds. The total quantity of wool entering into manufacture as reported by 431 manufacturers in November, reduced to a grease equivalent, was 31,237,000 pounds as compared with 40,975,000 pounds reported by 432 manufacturers for October 1930, and 46,694,000 pounds reported by 463 manufacturers for November 1929.

Of the total quantity used by manufacturers in November 1930, 16,616,000 pounds or 60.9 per cent was domestic wool and 10,667,000 pounds or 39.1 per cent was foreign wool. Combing and clothing wool formed 76.3 per cent of the total consumed in November while 23.7 per cent was carpet wool.

Wool: Consumption in the United States, by grades, for specified periods, 1929, 1930 1/

Official standards of the United States for grades of wool	1929		1930		
	Jan.1-Nov.30	Nov.	Jan.1-Nov.30	Oct	Nov.
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Combing and clothing wool					
64s, 70s and 80s.....	133,102	11,373	123,947	13,002	9,035
58s and 60s	59,702	5,128	50,826	5,224	4,192
56s	61,540	4,684	39,831	3,936	3,725
48s and 50s	54,072	4,728	37,367	3,884	2,806
36s, 40s, 44s and 46s...	27,277	1,988	18,994	1,854	1,069
Total combing and clothing wools.....	335,693	27,901	270,965	27,900	20,827
Carpet wools	147,021	13,558	80,495	7,944	6,456
Total all wools	482,714	41,459	351,460	35,844	27,283

Compiled from data in the "Wool Consumption Reports" issued by the Bureau of the Census.

1/ These are the totals of grease, scoured, and pulled wool as published by the Bureau of the Census and have not been reduced to a grease basis.

Wool: Consumption in the United States by classes, January - November, 1929, 1930 1/

Year, month or period	Domestic and foreign					
	Domestic	Foreign	Combing	Clothing	Carpet	Total
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
1930						
Jan.	21,280	17,410	21,933	5,558	11,199	38,690
Feb.	18,738	15,034	20,104	4,882	8,786	33,772
Mar.	17,695	15,035	19,036	4,694	9,000	32,730
Apr.	16,938	15,339	17,970	4,718	9,588	32,376
May.	17,001	11,356	17,439	4,806	6,113	28,358
June	19,370	9,484	19,152	4,395	5,307	28,854
July	21,359	9,262	21,389	4,081	5,151	30,621
Aug.	21,372	8,449	21,157	3,819	4,845	29,821
Sept.	22,756	10,456	22,814	4,292	6,106	33,212
Oct.	22,786	13,058	23,316	4,584	7,944	35,844
Nov.	16,616	10,667	17,124	3,703	6,456	27,283
Total Jan.1 - Nov.30, 1930	215,911	135,549	221,433	49,532	80,495	351,460
Total Jan.1 - Nov.30, 1929	264,650	218,064	265,357	70,336	147,021	482,714

Compiled from monthly reports of the Bureau of the Census.

1/ These are totals of grease, scoured and pulled wools, as published by the Bureau of the Census and have not been reduced to a grease basis.

Foreign wool stocks at Boston increase slightly but are still low

Stocks of foreign wool in bonded warehouses at Boston on December 31, 1930 amounted to 11,635,000 pounds compared with 10,031,000 pounds on November 30 and 18,889,000 pounds on December 31, 1929. The stocks on December 31 consisted of 5.3 million pounds of combing and clothing wool and 6.3 million pounds of carpet wool. On December 31, 1929 stocks consisted of 16.9 million pounds of combing and clothing wool and 2.0 million pounds of carpet wool.

Machinery activity at low level

Machinery activity declined during November in all branches of the wool industry and is far below the level of last November. The position of the industry during 1930 as judged by the relation of active hours to the number of possible hours (maximum single shift capacity) in the wide and narrow looms section was worse than at any time since the first half of 1921, having averaged less than 50 per cent of capacity. Woollen and worsted spindles were active for a total of 464 million hours during November 1930 compared with 597 million hours in October and 653 million hours in November 1929. Looms were active 6.4 million hours in November compared with 7.5 million hours in October and 9.7 million hours in November 1929.

Wool machinery activity in the United States during November
1929 and October and November 1930

Wool machinery	Total number of hours machines were active			Percentage of to- tal machinery ac- tive at some time during the month			Percentage of maximum single-shift capacity		
	1929 Nov.	1930 Oct.	1930 Nov.	1929 Nov.	1930 Oct.	1930 Nov.	1929 Nov.	1930 Oct.	1930 Nov.
	1,000 hours	1,000 hours	1,000 hours	Per- cent	Per- cent	Per- cent	Per- cent	Per- cent	Per- cent
Cards.....	1,023	795	651	69.5	56.0	53.7	73.5	53.9	50.3
Combs	439	430	326	67.4	61.9	57.5	81.7	74.1	65.4
Spindles:									
Woolen.....	321,690	266,200	226,600	65.8	55.1	53.7	69.3	53.3	52.0
Worsted.....	330,850	330,356	237,416	64.1	57.0	52.7	65.4	61.5	52.1
Looms:									
Wide <u>1/</u>	6,580	5,491	4,757	53.9	41.5	42.2	58.5	46.8	47.0
Narrow <u>2/</u>	1,746	1,170	861	63.7	46.3	41.7	64.9	43.7	36.9
Carpet and rug.....	1,375	816	763	65.9	46.5	46.3	64.6	37.7	38.0

Compiled from the Reports of Active and Idle Wool Machinery, issued monthly by the Department of Commerce.

1/ Wider than 50-inch reed space. 2/ 50-inch reed space or less.

British exports decline

Exports of wool and wool manufactures from the United Kingdom in December 1930 were below those of October and November and were considerable smaller than the exports of December 1929. During December only 7,524,000 sq. yds. of woollen and worsted tissues were exported compared with 8,270,000 sq. yds. in November and 11,410,000 sq. yds. in December 1929. All other wool manufactures were exported in smaller quantities in December except woollen rags which showed an increase.

Imports of wool and wool manufactures were greater in December than in November and imports of tops, yarns and tissues were greater than those of December 1929.

United Kingdom: Trade in wool and wool manufactures for
stated months 1929 and 1930

Exports and imports	Unit	1929		1930	
		Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
		Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Exports -					
Wool	pound	3,300	4,400	3,600	2,800
Tops	"	1,900	3,000	2,500	2,300
Yarns, woollen	"	480	522	532	365
Yarns, worsted	"	2,910	3,048	3,259	2,459
Tissues, woollen	sq.yd.	7,840	6,175	5,245	4,921
Tissues, worsted	" "	3,570	2,536	3,025	2,603
Flannels and delaines ...	" "	340	268	256	249
Carpets and rugs	" "	480	396	293	219
Noils	pound	1,100	1,000	1,200	1,000
Waste	"	900	1,100	1,200	700
Woollen rags	"	1,570	1,120	780	1,460
Imports -					
Wool	"	77,800	29,200	40,200	75,100
Tops	"	100	100	200	300
Waste and noils	"	400	300	200	500
Yarns	"	2,060	1,900	1,527	2,174
Tissues, woollen	Sq.yd.	1,830	4,013	2,170	2,064
Tissues, worsted	" "	590	409	279	432
Carpets and rugs	" "	790	867	694	744
Woollen rags	pound	4,480	3,580	3,360	3,580

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom and cabled reports from Agricultural Attache Foley at London.

Wool: Imports into Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Italy,
Japan, Poland, United Kingdom and United States,
stated months 1929 and 1930

Country and item	1929			1930		
	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000	: 1,000
	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds
Belgium -						
Wool, greasy	10,866	7,049	8,462	6,981	4,744	6,784
Wool, scoured	246	241	371	304	318	338
Total	11,112	7,290	8,833	7,285	5,062	7,122
Czechoslovakia -	2,976	1,649	1,056	2,707	2,652	2,008
France, raw and on skins	26,602	25,282	33,718	34,021	30,127	35,368
Germany -						
Wool, merino, greasy and Washed	6,153	4,700	8,271	9,233	13,364	9,639
Wool, merino, scoured	1,057	1,209	776	1,184	1,622	1,383
Wool, crossbred, greasy and washed	4,351	5,025	2,244	6,271	7,886	3,006
Wool, crossbred, scoured	778	1,215	801	817	614	679
Total	12,836	12,149	12,092	17,505	23,486	14,707
Italy -						
Wool, greasy	3,607	3,322	1,978	6,388	3,538	1/
Wool, washed	882	1,254	1,232	851	1,049	1/
Total	4,489	4,576	3,210	7,239	4,587	
Japan -	736	2,851	4,475	5,809	1/	1/
Poland -	2,200	2,116	2,125	2,056	2,489	1,457
United Kingdom -	18,125	21,997	48,724	25,500	29,200	40,200
United States -						
Wool, greasy and washed	13,049	14,214	14,089	6,113	5,468	6,032
Wool, scoured	5,042	5,041	5,234	2,648	3,490	2,501
Total	18,091	19,255	19,323	8,761	8,958	8,533

Compiled from reports cabled by the Agricultural Attaches at Berlin and
London and reports from the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome.
1/ Not reported.

Continental Europe

Business in continental Europe was greatly hampered during December and the first half of January by the declining market and the holiday season. Trade in washed wool and noils was especially slow as a result of the continued unsatisfactory situation faced by the great majority of woolen spinners and hatmakers. A somewhat better buying interest was apparent in the tops market and worsted spinning and weaving generally was better than the woolen industry. Activity in the wool industries remains restricted and short time operations are reported everywhere, including the French woolen section. Industries and the trade in general are still pessimistic but it is thought that a general economic improvement and low retail prices would improve the general level of activity through increases in consumption.

Conditioning houses in Bradford and on the Continent report a decline in the amount of wool, top and yarn conditioned in December. Stocks of tops held in continental commission combing establishments on January 1, 1931 were greater than those held on December 1, 1930 and except in Italy, were also greater than the stocks on January 1, 1930.

Wool, tops and yarn: Amount passing through conditioning houses at Bradford, Roubaix, Tourcoing and Verviers, October-December 1929 and 1930.....

Location and class	1929			1930		
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Bradford -						
Wool	878	553	563	663	647	557
Tops	4,337	3,763	3,238	4,338	3,394	2,864
Yarn	180	274	236	160	130	111
Roubaix -						
Wool	234	276	203	357	304	262
Tops	6,722	5,765	3,404	5,520	4,687	3,922
Yarn	1,583	1,453	1,446	1,354	1,108	1,321
Tourcoing-						
Wool	2,994	2,700	2,496	3,466	2,762	2,198
Tops	8,699	8,571	5,797	7,520	6,843	5,461
Yarn	2,438	2,015	1,202	2,158	1,634	1,594
Verviers-						
Wool	3,513	2,886	2,251	1,843	1,664	1,453
Tops	406	522	203	495	505	139
Yarn	820	769	873	602	569	553

Compiled from cabled reports from Agricultural Attache Steers at Berlin and Consul Edwards at Bradford.

Tops: Stocks held by continental commission combing establishments
specified dates 1929-1931

Location of establish- ment and description of wool	1929-30			1930-31		
	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	Jan. 1	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	Jan. 1
	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds	: pounds
Belgium						
Merino.....	2,573	1,914	1,980	2,837	2,571	2,687
Crossbred.....	4,178	3,966	3,937	3,272	3,488	3,825
Total.....	6,751	5,880	5,917	6,109	6,059	6,512
Germany						
Merino.....	6,377	4,747	4,339	5,137	4,802	6,440
Crossbred.....	10,229	9,469	7,039	5,895	5,721	5,844
Total.....	16,606	14,216	11,378	11,032	10,523	12,284
France						
Merino.....	13,483	12,348	13,470	12,886	13,726	16,131
Crossbred.....	18,042	16,413	16,916	12,650	13,437	14,793
Total.....	31,525	28,761	30,386	25,536	27,163	30,924
Italy						
Merino.....	1,058	785	946	1,345	761	891
Crossbred.....	2,823	2,249	2,114	2,059	1,894	1,845
Total.....	3,881	3,034	3,060	3,404	2,655	2,736

Compiled from cabled reports from Agricultural Attache Steere at Berlin.

World wool supply situation

As the 1931 wool clip of the United States will come on the market before the close of the Southern Hemisphere 1930-31 marketing season, developments in those markets are of particular interest to the United States producer. The production and marketings of those countries influence world prices to a considerable extent. Wool supplies in Southern Hemisphere countries at the present time do not appear to be unduly heavy as on December 1 it is estimated that the apparent supply of wool awaiting disposal in the five 1/ principal countries including carry-over wool was approximately 1 per cent less than at the same time last year and 3 per cent less than at the same date of 1928. Up to December 1 of the current season the total quantity of old and new season's wool exported from those countries is estimated to be 18 per cent above the corresponding period of 1929-30. Production in Southern Hemisphere countries in 1931 is not expected to be much less than the 1,936,000,000 pounds produced in 1930, considering present sheep and weather conditions. In view of present prices, however, a reduction is to be expected during the next few years. These five Southern Hemisphere countries supply about three-fifths of the world's production excluding Russia and China.

Wool production in fifteen countries 2/ which furnish about four-fifths of the total world supply, excluding Russia and China, is estimated at 2,642,000,000 pounds for 1930, an increase of about 1 per cent over 1929 and about the same per cent below 1928, the year of record production. Since 1928 production in Australia, the most important wool producing country, has been decreasing, falling from 968,000,000 pounds that year to 910,000,000 pounds in 1929 and to 875,000,000 pounds in 1930. A still further decrease is indicated for 1931 as a result of reported sheep losses in New South Wales in 1930. However, the season is now very favorable with lambing returns reported as very satisfactory. Production in New Zealand reached the high figure of 242,000,000 in 1929 declining to 237,000,000 in 1930. The Argentine clip shows an increase over 1929 but is below the high point reached in 1926, while Uruguay and the Union of South Africa reached a new high level in 1930.

Production in the United States has been increasing since 1922 and in 1930 reached 328,000,000 pounds of shorn wool, an increase of 6 per cent over 1929. A preliminary unofficial estimate based on the increase in sheep and lamb slaughter for the year 1930 places the production of pulled wool at about 65,000,000 pounds. Canadian wool production for 1930 is now officially estimated at 21,016,000 pounds valued at \$2,522,000 according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics against a revised estimate of 20,283,000 pounds valued at \$4,057,000 in 1929. The number of adult sheep reported in 1930 was 2,015,000, an increase of 7 per cent over 1929. Lambs on the other hand showed a decrease of 4 per cent to 1,681,000.

1/ Australia, New Zealand, Uruguay, Argentine and Union of South Africa.

2/ Australia, New Zealand, Argentine, Uruguay, Union of South Africa, United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, Norway, Hungary, Rumania, Estonia, and Tunis.

Production in most of the important European producing countries has tended to decrease since 1927 or 1928 but in 1930 the clip in the United Kingdom remained about the same as in 1929. Production in Russia is reported to have increased from 315,000,000 pounds in 1925 to 390,000,000 pounds in 1929. The 1930 figures when available will undoubtedly show a substantial decrease due to the heavy slaughter of sheep by peasants which reduced the number of sheep in 1930 to only 89,900,000 head compared with 132,800,000 in 1929.

Wool production in the 1/ United Kingdom, the most important European producing country, as far as international trade is concerned, is now estimated at 117,872,000 pounds compared with 117,869,000 in 1929. According to the estimate of the Yorkshire Observer, in 1928 production reached 119,690,000 pounds which was the largest clip produced since 1918. For the five years immediately preceding the war production averaged 136,000,000 pounds. Sheep numbers reached approximately 28,100,000 in 1930 compared with only 27,700,000 in 1929. The number of breeding ewes held in Great Britain and Northern Ireland in June, 1930 was 10,430,000, an increase of 1.4 per cent over 1929.

A recent official report places wool production in Spain for 1930 at 75,000,000 pounds according to acting Commercial Attache Julian C. Greenup. The estimate is based on the census for 1929 which places production at 73,184,000 pounds compared with estimates of 88,184,000 pounds for 1927 and 98,730,000 pounds as unofficially estimated by El Progreso Agrícola y Pecuário. According to the new census the total quantity was composed of 13,343,000 pounds of fine grade wool, 83 per cent of which was white wool and the remainder black; 39,398,000 pounds of medium grade with 83 per cent reported as white wool; and 20,443,000 pounds of poor grade with 81 per cent reported as white and the remainder black. Sheep numbers as of May 1929 had declined to 19,370,000 head compared with the latest estimate of 20,529,000 in 1926, a decrease of 6 per cent but an increase of 5 per cent over the 1924 census figures. Breeding ewes were estimated at 12,229,000 head in 1929, which was an increase of 13 per cent compared with the 1924 census figures.

Receipts, disposals, and stocks of wool in primary markets

On December 1 2/ apparent supplies of wool in five 3/ principal countries of the Southern Hemisphere amounted to approximately 1,590,000,000 pounds or about 1 per cent less than at the same date of 1929. Increased shipments from these countries during the first part of the current season has taken care of the fairly heavy carry-over from the preceding season. These shipments amounted to 569,000,000 pounds up to December 1 of the current season, an increase of 18 per cent more than during the corresponding period of 1929-30.

1/ Including Irish Free State.

2/ Carry-over from preceding season and production minus exports.

3/ Australia, New Zealand, Argentine, Uruguay, Union of South Africa.

Stocks of wool on hand at selling centers in Australia on December 1, 1930 were reported at 324,800,000 pounds or 17 per cent lower than at the same date of 1929 and 16 per cent below that date of 1928 but above the same date of 1927 by 14 per cent. Receipts so far, estimated at 604,500,000 pounds were lower than for the four preceding years. Disposals of current clip wool up to December 1 reached 279,800,000 pounds or 16 per cent above 1929 but below the three years preceding.

New Zealand shows considerably heavier exports for the first five months of the 1930-31 season than for the same period of 1929-30. It is probable, however, that stocks in that country are above last year's quantity as the carry-over was heavy and shipments of new clip wool have not been large as yet.

Shipments from Argentina and Uruguay from October 1 to December 25 exceeded the same period last year by 29 per cent amounting to 65,635,000 pounds. Receipts of wool into store in both countries has also been larger so far this season while stocks at selling centers are lower.

Unofficial reports from the Union of South Africa showed shipments from July 1 to November 29, 1930 as considerably below a year earlier with stocks at ports somewhat larger.

Wool: Estimated production, in the grease, in specified countries, average 1909-1913, annual 1925-1930

Country	Average : 1909- : 1913 1/	: 1925	: 1926	: 1927	: 1928	: 1929	: 1930 pre- : liminary
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE:							
Australia.....	727.7:	833.7:	924.4:	888.1:	968.2:	910.0:	2/875.0
New Zealand 3/.....	179.9:	200.2:	202.4:	229.0:	239.0:	242.0:	4/237.0
Argentina 5/.....	332.3:	319.0:	363.0:	344.0:	352.0:	324.0:	6/333.0
Uruguay 5/.....	133.1:	116.0:	129.0:	131.0:	139.0:	2/150.0:	2/154.0
Union of S. Africa :	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
5/ 7/.....	157.7:	235.1:	249.2:	273.0:	283.0:	307.0:	337.0
Total S. Hemis. coun:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
pre-war to 1930....	1,530.7:	1,704.0:	1,868.0:	1,865.1:	1,981.2:	1,933.0:	1,936.0
NORTHERN HEMISPHERE:							
United States - :	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Shorn.....	272.2:	245.6:	261.0:	281.9:	303.7:	308.9:	328.0
Pulled.....	41.4:	40.8:	49.6:	50.1:	51.9:	54.5:	8/ 65.0
Total.....	313.6:	292.4:	310.6:	332.0:	355.6:	363.4:	393.0
Canada.....	13.2:	15.6:	18.0:	18.7:	19.6:	20.3 :	21.0
United Kingdom 9/..:	136.0:	109.9:	114.6:	118.5:	119.7:	117.9:	117.9
France.....	74.8:	45.0:	46.5:	47.6:	47.2:10/	47.0:	- -
Spain.....	78.0:	90.8:	93.7:	88.2:	80.0:	73.0:	75.0
Germany.....	43.9:	50.2:	41.8:	35.9:	33.6:	31.9:10/	30.6
Norway.....	5.2:	5.9:	6.2:	6.2:	5.4:	5.6:10/	5.8
Hungary.....	16.8:	13.2:	13.2:	11.8:	11.5:	6.2:10/	5.7
Rumania.....	45.6:	54.9:	53.1:	53.7:	53.1:	52.5:10/	50.9
Estonia.....	1.4:	2.2:	2.1:	2.1:	2.0:	1.5:10/	1.5
Tunis.....	2.4:	4.7:	5.7:	2.8:	3.2:	3.8:10/	4.3
Total 10 N. Hemis	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
coun. reporting all:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
periods.....	656.1:	639.8:	664.0:	671.9:	683.7:	676.1:	705.7
Total 15 N. & S.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Hemis. coun. rept.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
all periods.....	2,186.8:	2,343.8:	2,532.0:	2,537.0:	2,664.9:	2,609.1:	2,641.7
Est. world total :	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
excl. Russia and	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
China.....11/.....	2,754.0:	2,903.0:	3,089.0:	3,096.0:	3,232.0:	3,180.1:	
Russia.....12/.....	330.3:	315.0:	351.0:	369.0:	381.0:	390.0:	13/
China 14/.....	37.3:	56.8:	27.8:	48.0:	64.8:	50.0:	

Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Includes wool shorn in the spring in the Northern Hemisphere and that shorn in the last few months of the same calendar year in the Southern Hemisphere. Includes small quantities of pulled wool in certain countries. For Table showing all countries up to 1929 see World Wool Situation, March 28, 1930 and for complete references to sources see World Wool Prospects, January 3, 1931.

1/ Average for 5 years whenever available, otherwise for any year or years within this period for which estimates are available.

2/ Estimate furnished by cable from the International Institute of Agriculture.

3/ Estimates of Dalgety and Company.

Wool: Estimated production, in the grease, in specified countries,
average 1909-1913, annual 1925-1930-Continued

- 4/ Estimate of total production based on an estimated decrease of 2 per cent in wool shorn on farms, only, as furnished by the International Institute of Agriculture. In addition to the wool shorn on farms there is the wool pulled from slaughtered sheep to be considered as well as that exported on skins.
- 5/ Estimates based on exports, stocks and domestic consumption.
- 6/ Estimate of Buenos Aires Branch of the First National Bank of Boston.
- 7/ Includes some wool imported from neighboring colonies.
- 8/ Unofficial estimate based on increase in sheep slaughter in 1930 compared with 1929.
- 9/ Estimates of the Yorkshire Observer. These figures have been used instead of official estimates as comparable figures are available up to 1930.
- 10/ Estimate based on sheep numbers at the date nearest shearing time.
- 11/ Totals subject to revision. Few countries published official wool production estimates. In the absence of official figures for most countries, various estimates have been used. Some have been supplied by Government representatives abroad; others by multiplying official sheep numbers by an average weight per fleece. For some principal exporting countries, exports alone, or exports, stocks and domestic consumption have been used as representing production. In the case of some Asiatic countries, rough commercial estimates have been used while the figures of the United States Department of Commerce or the National Association of Wool Manufacturers have been used for some other countries.
- 12/ Year 1916.
- 13/ There will probably be quite a reduction in wool production this year. Sheep numbers are estimated at only 89,860,000 compared with 132,759,000 in 1929 due to their wholesale destruction by rich peasants during 1929.
- 14/ Exports.

Receipts, disposals and stocks, 1930-31 and 1929-30 clips in primary markets, with comparisons

Country, item and period		Quantity
		Million pounds
<u>1930-31 clip</u>		
<u>Australia: Season July 1-June 30</u>		
Receipts: <u>1/</u>	July 1, 1930 to Dec. 1, 1930	<u>2/</u> 604.5
	Same period 1929	634.2
Disposals: <u>1/</u>	July 1, 1930 to Dec. 1, 1930	<u>2/</u> 279.7
	Same period 1929	241.5
Shipments:	July 1, 1930 to Dec. 1, 1930	<u>2/</u> 542.7
	Same period 1929	256.1
Stocks at selling centers: <u>1/</u>		
	Dec. 1, 1930	<u>2/</u> 324.8
	Dec. 1, 1929	392.7
<u>New Zealand: Season July 1-June 30</u>		
Shipments:	July 1, 1930 to Dec. 1, 1930	32.8
	Same period 1929	23.0
Stocks:	Old season's wool still on hand Oct. 15, 1930	39.2
	Same date 1929	--
<u>Argentina: Season Oct. 1-Sept. 30</u>		
Receipts:	At Central Produce Market <u>3/</u>	
	July 1, 1930 to Dec. 3, 1930	40.0
	Same period 1929	27.1
Shipments:	Oct. 1, to Dec. 4, 1930	26.0
	Same period 1929	19.1
Stocks:	At Central Produce Market <u>3/</u>	
	Dec. 3, 1930	<u>4/</u> 12.7
	Same date 1929	<u>4/</u> 12.7
<u>Uruguay: Season Oct. 1-Sept. 30</u>		
Receipts:	At Montevideo	
	Month of October 1930	17.7
	1929	10.9
Shipments:	Oct. 1, 1930 to Dec. 3, 1930	9.1
	Same period 1929	4.0
Sales:	At Montevideo	
	Oct. 1, to Nov. 27, 1930	19.0
	Same period 1929	6.0
Stocks:	At Montevideo	
	Nov. 27, 1930	14.9
	Same date 1929	22.8
<u>Union of South Africa: Season July 1-June 30</u>		
Shipments:	From July 1, 1930 to Nov. 29, 1930	76.5
	Same period 1929	110.5
Stocks:	At Ports	
	Total - Nov. 29, 1930	30.9
	Same date 1929	27.2
<u>1929-30 clip</u>		
<u>Australia: Season July 1-June 30</u>		
Receipts: <u>1/</u>	Season July 1, 1929 - June 30, 1930	<u>2/</u> 782.7
	Same period 1928-29	334.1
Disposals: <u>1/</u>	Season July 1, 1929 - June 30, 1930	749.9
	Same period 1928-29	820.3

Continued

Receipts, disposals and stocks, 1929-31 and 1929-30 clips in primary markets, with comparisons (continued)

Country, item and period	Quantity
	Million pounds
<u>1929-30 clip, continued</u>	
<u>Australia:</u>	<u>Season July 1-June 30</u>
Shipments: Season July 1, 1929 - June 30, 1930	744.1
Same period 1928-29	810.5
Stocks on hand at selling centers: 1/	
End of season June 30, 1930	32.8
June 30, 1929	13.7
<u>New Zealand:</u>	<u>Season July 1 - June 30</u>
Offerings: Season July 1, 1929 - June 30, 1930	171.0
Same period 1928-29	209.0
Sales: Season July 1, 1929 - June 30, 1930	143.0
Same period 1928-29	196.0
Shipments: Season July 1, 1929 - June 30, 1930	187.0
Same period 1928-29	244.1
Stocks: June 30, 1930	5/ 81.5
June 30, 1929	5/ 27.5
<u>Argentina:</u>	<u>Season October 1 - September 30</u>
Receipts: Central Produce Market 3/	
Season July 1, 1929-June 25, 1930	80.3
Same period 1928-29	99.6
Shipments: October 1, 1929 - September 30, 1930	297.9
Same period 1928-29	317.4
Stocks: Total	
End of season September 30, 1930	20.4
Same date 1929	25.0
<u>Uruguay:</u>	<u>Season October 1-September 30</u>
Shipments: October 1, 1929 - September 30, 1930	141.9
Same period 1928-29	118.6
Stocks: At Montevideo	
May 8, 1930	12.9
May 8, 1929	10.9
<u>Union of South Africa:</u>	<u>July 1 - June 30</u>
Receipts: Season July 1, 1929 - June 30, 1930	--
Same period 1928-29	288.7
Sales: Season July 1, 1929 - June 30, 1930	--
Same period 1928-29	277.7
Shipments: Season July 1, 1929 - June 30, 1930	306.0
Same period 1928-29	283.0
Stocks: At principal ports	
Unsold wool - end of season June 30, 1930 ...	4.6
June 30, 1929 ...	9.1
Sold wool - end of season June 30, 1930 ...	1.9
June 30, 1929 ...	0.8

Compiled in the Division of Statistical and Historical Research. In this Table the object has been to give information for all countries at a given date. If later estimates are received for some countries the figures appear in the text. Australia, Season 1929-30, Country Life and Stock and Station Journal, July 25, 1930; season 1930-31 Yorkshire Observer, Dec. 10, 1930. Argentina, receipts, shipments, stocks at Central Produce Market, Review of River Plate, total stocks in Argentina, Buenos Aires Branch First National Bank of Boston; Uruguay, season 1929-30, shipments, review of the River Plate; receipts, December Review 1930, Bank of London and South America, Ltd.

Continued.

Receipts, disposals and stocks, 1930-31 and 1929-30 clips in primary markets, with comparisons (continued)

Sales and Stocks, Wool Record and Textile World, May 9, 1929, May 8, 1930, November 27, 1930. Union of South Africa, 1929-30 receipts, Consul C. E. Macy, February 3, 1930, stocks, Monthly Bulletin of Union Statistics; exports, Trade of Union of South Africa 1930-31 Shipments and stocks cable from Messrs. Anselme Dewavrin Sons and Co. to Wool Record and Textile World November 27, 1930. New Zealand, Shipments, stocks, Monthly Abstract of New Zealand Statistics, July and December. Stocks, same publication August.

1/ These figures concern only the clip of the season designated. In addition 3,931,000 pounds of 1929-30 clip wool was on hand on November 1, 1930 as against 3,281,000 pounds of 1928-29 clip on hand on October 31, 1929.

2/ Conversion to pounds from bales made by using average weight of bales as estimated by the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers.

3/ Season for this market given as from July 1 to June 30, although shearing season does not begin until about September 15. During recent years about one-third of the national Argentine clip has been disposed of at this market.

4/ May include some wool from preceding season.

5/ Expressed in terms of grease.

Australia: Receipts and disposals July 1 to December 1 seasons
1924-25 to 1930-31 and stocks on hand December 1 1/

Season	:Receipts from :July 1-Dec. 1	:Disposals July :1 - Dec. 1	: Stocks : Dec. 1
	: Million : <u>pounds</u>	; Million : <u>pounds</u>	: Million : <u>pounds</u>
1924	: 480.5	: 219.9	: 260.6
1925	: 546.3	: 222.2	: 324.1
1926	: 647.9	: 317.5	: 330.4
1927	: 609.4	: 324.0	: <u>2/</u> 285.4
1928	: 687.4	: 300.1	: <u>3/</u> 387.3
1929	: 634.2	: 241.5	: 392.7
1930	: 604.5	: 279.7	: 324.8

Source: Estimate of Australian National Council of Wool Selling Brokers, Country Life and Stock and Station Journal, Sydney and Yorkshire Observer, December 10, 1930.

1/ Clip of season designated only, greasy and scoured added.

2/ In addition 155,000 pounds still in store from preceding season.

3/ In addition 1,364,000 pounds still in store from preceding season.

Argentina: Receipts and stocks of wool at Central Produce Market,
Buenos Aires, December 1 season 1922-23 to
1930-31 1/

Season	: Receipts July 1 : to Dec. 1 <u>2/</u>	: Stocks : Dec. 1 <u>3/</u>
	: <u>1,000 pounds</u>	: <u>1,000 pounds</u>
1922	: 44,692	: 14,963
1923	: 27,571	: 9,039
1924	: 33,232	: 12,359
1925	: 38,506	: 17,498
1926	: 40,825	: 14,676
1927	: 34,610	: 9,061
1928	: 37,489	: 11,442
1929	: 20,948	: 9,612
1930	: 38,999	: 12,670

Compiled from weekly reports published in the Review of the River Plate.

1/ Season for this market reported as opening on July 1 although shearing season does not begin until about September 15. During recent years about one-third of Argentine clip is reported to have been disposed of at this market.

2/ From July 1 to date nearest end of month for which weekly report is furnished.

3/ Stocks at date nearest end of month.

World sheep situation

Sheep numbers in most important wool producing countries reached a high level in 1930, the numbers in most countries exceeding the pre-war level and in some countries reaching a record. It seems improbable that there will be a substantial decrease in numbers reported at the beginning of 1931 although there are indications to the effect that the peak has been reached and that by 1932, unless conditions improve materially, decreases may be expected. The low wool prices prevailing for some months have stimulated heavy slaughter of sheep and lambs in the Southern Hemisphere countries as well as in the United States the increase in slaughter in the United States however, being in lambs. Exports of lamb and mutton from Southern Hemisphere countries to the British markets have been unusually heavy and these, together with the general depression have caused a recession in the world price. At present world prices for mutton and lamb are not much more encouraging than for wool. Imports of frozen mutton and lamb into Great Britain for the first eleven months of 1930 reached 660,000,000 pounds, an increase of 11 per cent over the same period of 1929. However generally favorable weather conditions in most countries of the Southern Hemisphere have resulted in good lambing percentages in 1930, with the probable exception of some parts of the Union of South Africa.

1/

The number of sheep in 14 countries which have in the neighborhood of half of the estimated world total reached 286,000,000 in 1930 or 4 per cent above 1929. The 1930 numbers exceeded the numbers in those countries in any post-war year and exceeded the pre-war average by 19 per cent. Two important sheep producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere are excluded from these totals on account of the lack of annual estimates, i.e. Argentina and Uruguay. These countries however both report increases in 1930 compared with estimates made shortly after the war. In Argentina sheep numbers in July 1930 reached 44,413,000 according to final census figures compared with only 36,209,000 in December 1922 and 43,225,000 in June 1914. Sheep numbers in Uruguay are also believed to have increased in 1930 as lambing during both 1929 and 1930 was reported as very good. As the slaughter of sheep and lambs, however, was unusually heavy it seems probable that the present number of sheep does not greatly exceed the 19,358,000 reported in 1929. In 1924 the number was reported at 14,445,000 whereas in 1908 there were 26,286,000 in that country.

1/ Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, United States, Canada, England and Wales, Scotland, North Ireland, Irish Free State, Germany, Norway, Hungary, Rumania and Estonia.

Several important sheep countries in addition to Russia are also excluded from the Northern Hemisphere totals. They are France, Spain and Italy for which no estimates are as yet available for 1930. Russia, which has not been included in any of the above totals reported a heavy falling off in 1930, the number now being estimated at only 89,860,000 compared with 132,759,000 in 1929. This large decrease was caused principally by the deliberate wholesale killing of livestock by the more well-to-do peasants. The slaughter of certain classes of animals has recently been prohibited until December 31, 1931 by a decree of the Central Executive Committee of the Peoples Commissaries. The decree as concerns sheep includes all registered pure bred animals, ewes below 18 months, ewes in lamb and rams that may be used for breeding purposes. Heavy fines are provided in the event of violation of the decree.

The number of sheep imported into France from Algeria during the first ten months of 1930 amounted to 1,090,890 head. This large number which almost reaches that of 1916 is indicative of a grave situation in that country, especially in South Algeria states the *Journal d'Agriculture Pratique* of France. The combined effect of crickets and drought has caused a grave situation, similar to, if not worse than conditions in 1920 and in 1926. There will be scarcely any autumn lambing and still less in the spring and a heavy mortality of adult sheep is expected. This explains why Algerian breeders shipped as many of their sheep as they could to France. The figures for the corresponding ten months of preceding years was in the neighborhood of 600,000.

Sheep: Numbers in important wool producing countries,
averages 1909-13, 1921-25, annual 1927-1930

Country	Month of estimate	Average 1909-1913 1/	Average 1921-1925 1/	1927	1928	1929	1930
		Mil-lions	Mil-lions	Mil-lions	Mil-lions	Mil-lions	Mil-lions
<u>Southern Hemisphere</u>							
Australia	Dec. 2/	90.7:	85.6:	104.3:	100.8:	103.4:	106.1
New Zealand	Apr.	24.0:	23.4:	25.6:	27.1:	29.1:	30.8
Argentina	Dec. 2/	3/ 43.2:	4/ 36.2:				3/ 44.4
Uruguay		5/ 26.3:	6/ 14.4:		7/ 19.4:		
Union of South Africa...	Aug.	30.7:	32.6:	40.3:	42.7:	8/ 45.2:	9/ 49.2
	June 30:	--:	--:	39.6:	40.7:	43.1:	47.1
Total 5 So. Hemis. coun. reporting all periods 10/		145.4:	141.6:	170.2:	170.6:	177.7:	186.1
<u>Northern Hemisphere</u>							
United States	Jan.	43.2:	37.2:	41.9:	44.8:	47.5:	48.9
Canada	June	2.2:	3.2:	3.3:	3.4:	5.6:	3.7
England and Wales	June	18.3:	14.4:	17.1:	16.4:	16.1:	16.3
Scotland	June	7.0:	6.8:	7.5:	7.6:	7.5:	7.6
Northern Ireland	June	0.4:	0.5:	0.6:	0.6:	0.7:	0.7
Irish Free State	June	3.4:	2.8:	3.1:	3.3:	3.4:	3.5
France	Dec. 2/	16.2:	9.8:	10.8:	10.7:	10.4:	
Spain		15.8:	19.2:	20.5:	--: 11/ 20.0:	--	--
Italy		11.6:	12.0:	7/ 12.5:	--:	--:	--
Germany	Dec. 2/	5.0:	5.9:	4.1:	3.8:	3.6:	3.5
Norway	June	1.4:	1.4:	1.6:	1.7:	1.5:	1.6
Hungary	Apr.	2.4:	1.7:	1.6:	1.6:	1.6:	1.5
Rumania	Dec. 2/	11.1:	11.7:	13.6:	12.9:	12.8:	12.4
Estonia	July	0.5:	0.7:	0.7:	0.7:	0.5:	0.5
Russia	Summer	111.1:	93.6:	126.8:	133.6:	132.8:	89.9
Total 14 S. and N. Hemis. countries excl. Russia 12/		94.9:	86.3:	95.1:	96.8:	98.8:	100.2
Total 14 N.E. coun. reporting, excl. Russia 12/		240.3:	227.9:	265.3:	267.4:	276.5:	286.3
Total 15 S.&N. Hemis. coun. reporting all periods incl. Russia 13/		351.4:	321.5:	392.1:	401.0:	409.3:	376.2
Estimated world total including Russia		692.2:	647.1:				

Compiled in Division of Statistical and Historical Research from official sources unless otherwise indicated,

Continued.

Sheep: Numbers in important wool producing countries, averages
1909-13, 1921-25; Annual: 1927-1930. (continued)

- 1/ Average for five year period if available. Figures for European countries, estimates for present boundaries.
- 2/ Estimates for countries reporting in December have been considered as of January 1 of the following year.
- 3/ Censuses June 1914 and 1930.
- 4/ Census December 1922.
- 5/ Census 1908.
- 6/ Census 1924.
- 7/ Unofficial.
- 8/ Number in towns assumed to be same as in 1927, i.e. 162,000 and added for purposes of comparison with preceding years.
- 9/ Estimate based on official report of increase in sheep as of June 1930 over same date of 1929.
- 10/ Argentina and Uruguay not included in totals due to lack of estimates for all years listed.
- 11/ Census 1929.
- 12/ France, Spain and Italy not included in totals due to lack of estimates for all years listed.
- 13/ Argentina, Uruguay, France, Spain, and Italy not included due to lack of estimates for all periods listed.

Breeding ewes: Trend in numbers in specified countries, 1924-1930

Country	Date	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
		Thou- sands	Thou- sands	Thou- sands	Thou- sands	Thou- sands	Thou- sands	Thou- sands
United States <u>1/</u>		--:25,769	:26,459	:27,704	:29,591	:31,530	:32,602	
New South Wales <u>1/</u> ...:June	30:	21,670	23,040	25,920	27,770	26,262	25,076	
South Australia <u>2/</u> ...:Jan	:	3,179	3,389	3,605	3,699			
Western Australia <u>2/</u> :Jan	:	3,516	3,377	3,529	3,800	4,309	4,567	
New Zealand:Apr.	30:	13,076	13,715	13,948	14,832	15,534	16,602	17,564
England and Wales ...:June	:	5,994	6,397	6,755	6,962	6,847	6,717	6,806
Isle of Man:June	:	34	36	39	40	40	41	
Scotland:June	:	2,992	3,056	3,115	3,239	3,275	3,281	3,314
North Ireland:June	:	226	216	234	264	277	289	310
Irish Free State ...:June	:	1,236	1,224	1,284	1,344	1,392	1,423	
France <u>1/</u> <u>2/</u>:Jan	:	6,115	6,256	6,496	6,035	6,610	6,473	
Germany <u>1/2/</u>:Jan	:			2,907	2,542	2,379	2,262	2,185
Hungary <u>1/</u>:April	:	995	1,084	1,037	963	925	919	880
Rumania <u>2/</u>:Jan	:	9,273	9,894	9,461	10,019	9,780	9,764	
Spain <u>2/</u>:Jan	:		10,813			12,229		
Yugoslavia:Jan	:	4,356	5,080	5,032	5,094	5,196		
Argentina -	:							
Prov. of Buenos	:							
Aires <u>3/</u>:June	:	10,170	9,082	9,510	9,023	9,080		
Algeria <u>4/</u>:	:		3,570	3,939	2,984			
Japan <u>4/</u>:June	:	11	12	13	13	14		

Compiled from official sources and the International Institute of Agriculture.

1/ Estimated number of breeding ewes 1 year and over. 2/ Estimates for countries reporting as of December have been considered as of January of the following year. 3/ Ewes and tegs. 4/ Ewes and ewe lambs. 5/ Census May 1929.

