

ECONOMIC AND TRADE NOTES

Shanghai, China, November 13, 1931.
 (City) (Country) (Date)

Submitted by: John J. Ehrhardt, Trade Commissioner.
 (Name) (Title)

GPO 11-8651

Galvanized Iron Industry to Start in Shanghai.

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A new Chinese corporation known as the Chun Hwa Steel Company was recently formed in Shanghai with a capital of Mex.\$300,000. for producing galvanized iron sheets. Machinery to the value of £1500 has been purchased from England and a British engineer is to be employed to supervise the erection and start of operations for six months. The equipment purchased includes necessary machinery for galvanizing and also a corrugating plant. Additional machinery to the value of £500 will be manufactured locally. The plant will have a capacity for galvanizing from 30,000 to 40,000 tons of sheets per annum.

Imports of galvanized sheets into China for 1929 and 1930 were as follows:

Imports of Galvanized, Corrugated and Plain, Sheets into China.

| | 1929 | | 1930 | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| | Piculs | Hk.Tls. | Piculs | Hk.Tls. |
| Hong Kong | 22,758 | 207,290 | 30,421 | 286,009 |
| Great Britain | 109,219 | 875,319 | 67,057 | 692,539 |
| Belgo-Lux. E.F. | 18,825 | 130,615 | 19,060 | 167,168 |
| Russia P. Ports | 50,356 | 474,804 | 28,036 | 264,555 |
| Japan (Incl. Formosa and Korea)... | 342,934 | 3,050,213 | 337,512 | 3,655,317 |
| U.S.A. | 50,601 | 464,796 | 35,626 | 445,423 |
| Others | 6,442 | 40,921 | 6,908 | 57,647 |
| Total | <u>601,135</u> | <u>5,223,958</u> | <u>524,620</u> | <u>5,568,658</u> |

1 Picul equals 133-1/3 pounds.
 1 Hk.Tl. " \$0.64 U.S. currency in 1929.
 1 Hk.Tl. " \$0.46 " " " 1930.

From the above it will be noted that Japan furnishes more than 65% of the galvanized sheets imported. The quality of sheets to be manufactured by this new Chinese company will conform to the specifications of the Japanese sheets as this is the large bulk of the business.

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Later the company proposes to put in equipment for making galvanized wire and other commodities which rightly belong with a galvanizing plant. On account of cheap labor in China the equipment purchased is the most elementary kind and excludes all ordinary labor saving devices such as conveyers and elevators and auxilliary motors.

John J. Ehrhardt,
Trade Commissioner.

Approved for Transmission:

H. D. Robison,
Trade Commissioner.

JJE:DK.