

ECONOMIC AND TRADE NOTES

Shanghai
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IMPORTS OF RADIO AND RADIO EQUIPMENT INTO
SHANGHAI DURING FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1931

544.0

According to figures obtained from the Chinese Maritime Customs, imports of radios and radio supplies into Shanghai during the first three quarters of 1931, by country of origin, were as follows:

	<u>1st Quarter</u> <u>Hk. Taels.</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u> <u>Hk. Taels.</u>	<u>3rd Quarter</u> <u>Hk. Taels.</u>	<u>Total</u>
U. S. A.....	69,789	88,282	111,628	269,699
Gt. Britain.....	1,110	18,736	9,030	28,876
Netherlands.....	8,644	17,231	51,120	76,995
Japan.....	360	13,682	21,216	35,258
Hong Kong.....	4,273	12,801	11,215	88,289
Germany.....	10,504	16,108	261,836	288,448
Others.....	2,642	1,152	5,413	9,207
TOTAL.....	97,322	167,992	471,458	736,772

Note: One Haikwan Tael equals \$0.33 1/3 U.S. currency, average rate of exchange during 1931.

On the basis of the above figures it will be noted that approximately 39% of the total value of radio imports during this period came from Germany as compared with approximately 36% from the United States and 10% from the Netherlands. The substantial increase in imports from Germany during the third quarter is attributed to arrivals of supplies for the government broadcasting station at Nanking, the contract for which was placed in Germany. On the other hand, the fairly even distribution of imports from the United States during the respective quarters, unaccompanied by heavy arrivals for special projects, is indicative of a fairly constant demand for

American radio equipment in this market. American amateur receiving sets and radio tubes, for example, are easily the most popular in the local market. Imports of radio apparatus from the Netherlands are largely due to the activities of one large Dutch organization which is reported as placing stocks in the hands of dealers on a consignment basis. Transmitting tubes made in Holland are now selling for approximately 30% less than F.A.S. New York prices. In general, the market for radio apparatus in this territory has been hampered by the lack of broadcasting facilities and the attitude of government authorities who place numerous obstacles in the way of free and uninterrupted importation of radio equipment. A more enlightened policy on the part of the government in connection with the licensing of broadcasting stations will do much toward stimulating interest in radio in this market.

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Approved for Transmission:

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