

of Agriculture and Forestry intended to enforce the system after obtaining understanding of the American silk authorities. For this object, the Ministry dispatched Mr. Keinosuke Kashiwa, formerly in charge of the silk section, in the Ministry to the United States last winter. Mr. Kashiwa called on every international member of the Silk Association of America to get their opinions on this question and asked for their understanding. In course of a dinner held in his honor at the Manhattan Club toward the latter part of March by the American silkmen, Mr. Kashiwa fully dwelt upon the circumstances leading to the decision of the system. The American silkmen recognized that the new system will enhance the reputation of Japanese silk and hoped the enforcement of the transaction on conditioned weight. At the recent directors' meeting of the Silk Association of America, it was resolved that in case Japan enforces the silk transaction on conditioned weight on and after July 1 the association persuades the members to accept the transaction. No revision has been made yet regarding the raw silk transaction of the Silk Association of America but it is a fact that by this resolution the member who are going to adopt the silk transaction on conditioned weight are increasing. The Regulations concerning the Silk Conditioning House and testing, issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, are as follows:

Article 1. Anyone intending to ask for the testing to ask for the testing of raw silk in the Japanese Government Silk Conditioning House shall present to the House goods attended with the letters of applications.

Article 2. The quantity of goods to be presented in conformity with the foregoing article is as follows:

1. Ordinary Testing.
 - a. Conditioned weight.
 - b. Net weight.
 - c. Boiling-off.
 - d. Quantity testing.
2. Special Testing.
 - a. Moisture test.
 - b. Net weight.
 - c. Boil-off.
 - d. Quantity testing.

Article 3. Ordinary testing is to be done by the following methods:

1. Conditioned weight.
 - a. Testing for lot.

The conditioned weight is done on the same method as is fixed in Clause 1, Article 6 of the Regulations concerning the execution of the export raw silk testing law.

- b. Testing for Bale or Box.

Testing for bale or box is done after the tare and

moisture are deducted.

2. Testing of Net Weight.

The shirt weight of bale or box is sought and then the tare is deducted, thereby fixing the net weight.

3. Boiling Off.

In this test, the absolute weight, the absolute weight after boil-off and loss in boil-off are tested and then the percentage of loss in boil-off is obtained.

4. Quantity Testing.

The testing includes winding with 100 revolutions for minute for an hour; the average size calculated on the total weight; evenness and cleanness examined in 2500 meters; and tenacity elongation.

Article 4. The special testing includes moisture, net weight, boiling off and quantity testing based on the foregoing methods mentioned in the ordinary testing.

Article 5. Anyone wishing for the testing of applications, machine and others necessary for raw silk testing shall prevent the articles together with the application.

Article 6. The date of testing is fixed by the Director of the Silk Conditioning House.

Article 7. When deemed necessary, the Director shall appoint the duly authorized representatives to do testing.

Article 8. When the testing is not considered necessary, such application may be rejected.

Article 9. When the House receives the articles for testing it delivers a note of custody.

Article 10. When deemed necessary, the Director of the Silk Conditioning House orders the applicant to repack the goods.

Article 11. The House does not return silk offered for testing to the applicant.

Article 12. When the House completes the testing, the fixed certificate shall be delivered to the applicant.

Article 13. When applicant was notified of non-acceptance of his testing application by the Silk Conditioning House, he must quickly take delivery of the goods offered.

Article 14. Applicant of testing can claim copies of the certificate.

Article 15. Detailed regulations necessary for the overhaul of apparatus, machinery and others in connection with raw silk testing are fixed by the Director of the Silk Conditioning House.

Article 16. The present regulations are not applicable to the condition whicht testing provided in Clause 1, Article 1, of the Export Law Silk Testing Law.

Rayon Industry Promises Prosperity

Domestic Production Steadily Gains

Rayon industry of Japan is still young but is promised to make rapid headway and development among other modern industries. The output is increasing while imports are falling. Rayon production here for 1927 was 10,500,000 pounds. Demand was 12,000,000 pounds and the balance of 1,500,000 pounds was made good with the balance brought forward from 1926 and imports amounting to 800,000 pounds. This is the most active business since the inauguration of this industry. Production gained 5,500,000 pounds and demand also 4,400,000 pounds over 1926. This rapid increase was caused by a pronounced extension of the sphere of demand. In leading weaving centers such as Kiryu, Ashikaga and Fukui rayon is in

strong demand at present.

This year's estimates for demand may reach 17,000,000 pounds. There is a possibility for rayon will be used more widely in the future especially at weaving centers. Though the Japanese rayon industry has reached a prosperous stage, yet there are still no exports. In 1926 Japan imported 3,300,000 pounds. Imports dropped to 700,000 pounds last year due to the increased production at home. A shortage of 3,000,000 pounds is expected this year with output of 15,000,000 pounds against estimated demand of about 18,000,000 pounds. Last year's lowest price was less than ¥200 but in October it ¥217 and toward the latter part of December reached ¥240. The future price may