

2,529,945 bales, representing a drop of 77,950 bales from 1926. To offset the production restriction there is the movement of spinning mill to increase capacity in preparation for the effective date of the Night Work Law which will prohibit the employment of women and children over the midnight hour. This is to go into force on July 1, 1929. The following table shows the growth of the spinning industry for the last ten years:

Year	Firms	Mills	Spindles Yarn	
			Installed (1,000)	Produced (1,000) (bales)
1903	51	76	1,381	801
1907	42	118	1,540	933
1913	44	152	2,414	1,517
1914	42	157	2,557	1,666
1920	56	198	3,813	1,816
1921	16	217	4,476	1,911
1924	69	217	5,125	2,072
1925	61	248	6,147	2,476
1926	65	347	6,132	2,531
1927	63	247	6,132	2,531

Figures on the import raw cotton and the export cotton yarn and cloth are necessary in connection with the country's cotton industry. Cotton yarn exported for 1927 dropped. The continued war disturbances in China which is the largest client accounted for this. Export figures for 1927 compared with the preceding two years were:

Yangtze Valley;	(In bales of 350 pound)		
	1927	1926	1925
Shanghai	10,886	3,922	47,593 1/2
Hankow	368	2,818 1/2	7,999 1/2
Total	11,254	3,910 1/2	55,593
North China and Manchuria:			
Tientsin	9,034	16,179	29,191
Tsingtao	1,033 1/2	4,201 1/2	13,979 1/2
Newchwang	—	191	1,822 1/2
Dairen	3,050	3,698	6,152 1/2
Manchuria via Antung	7,201 1/2	12,971 1/2	28,207 1/2
Other parts of China	119	—	—
Total	20,488	37,244	78,753
Hongkong	12,970 1/2	29,414	54,843 1/2
Philippines	1,826	3,033 1/2	2,535
India	52,917	72,533 1/2	80,410
Egypt	4,191 1/2	5,363 1/2	5,154
South Seas, Singapore	4,915	8,573	8,477
U. S. A.	1,500	7,191 1/2	—
Other countries	1,076	6,597 1/2	8,143
Grand total	107,434 1/2	202,938	233,903 1/2

Japan exported during 1927 about 976,832,000 yards of cotton textiles valued at ¥225,548,000. Compared with 1926, yardage gained 34,228,000 yards, or 3.6 per cent, and value dropped 7.4 per cent. British India and China were the largest consumers and Manchuria came next. The amount of yarn shipped to these countries for last year, compared with the preceding two years, follow:

To	(In 000 yards)		
	1927	1926	1925
China	132,165	193,392	213,980
Manchuria	145,963	173,942	164,480
British India	285,126	100,269	175,667

Exports of cloth were divided by qualities as follows during 1927:

	In 1,000 yards	In ¥1,000
Drill	13,755	41,421
Jeans	173,601	42,148
Gray shirting	314,439	64,786
Gray sheeting	167,081	40,944
White shirting	71,336	13,179
T cloth	50,877	13,179
Imitation nankeen	56,743	6,905
Total	976,832	¥225,549

Japan imports Indian raw cotton to the largest amount. Next is American cotton but the amount is nearly the same. Chinese cotton comes next. Imports for last year, compared with the preceding year, follow:

	(Unit: Bale of 400 pounds)	
	1927	1926
Indian	1,633,538	1,893,979
American	1,617,435	1,148,007
Chinese	620,978	529,971
Egyptian	44,779	46,182
Other	58,485	10,538
Total	3,965,45	3,639,277

Japan's Cotton Consumption

Consumption of ginned cotton in all Japan during the latter half of 1927 totaled 68,617,708 kwan, representing a drop of 5,459,030 kwan from the corresponding period of the preceding year, according to a report of the Japan Spinning Association. The amount of consumption is important because of the fact that raw cotton forms the premier import for Japan.

The amount specified according to the kinds follows:

Kinds	2nd h. '27 1st h. '27 2nd h. '26		
	(000 kwan omitted)		
Indian	31,807	34,381	3,747
American	32,056	35,394	29,517
Chinese	1,789	511	1,367
Egyptian	1,702	2,034	1,991
African	633	359	833
Annamese and Saigon	229	125	57
Korean	364	807	723

While Indian cotton fell off rapidly during a year and a half, American cotton saw no large decrease in the amount of consumption, though the latter gained during the first half of 1927. The fact that the Japanese Spinning mills enforced a production restriction to counteract the business depression is assigned as a cause for the drop in consumption.

Vigorous demand for American cotton was due to the cheap prices prevailing since 1916, following the bumper crop. It is noteworthy the consumption of Chinese cotton during the latter half of last year gained about three times that for the preceding half. This was ascribed to the fact that China's war disturbances interfered with the shipment for Japan during 1926 but things gradually returned to normalcy last year.

Japan's Wheat Flour Milling

Exports Attract World's Attention

Total daily productive capacity of all Japanese wheat flour mills at the beginning of 1928 was 46,625 bbls., of which 44,600 bbls. went to seven mills belonging to the Japan Flour Mill Association and 2,025 bbls. to 20 minor mills other than the association. This is a gain of 7,655 bbls. over the capacity at the beginning of 1927. This means an advance of 8,200 bbls. for the association mills out a decline of 545 bbls. for the outside mills, compared

with the year before. The main cause for increase in the capacity was in the gain of the Nisshin Seifun Kaisha capacity by 4,500 bbls. and also that of the Nippon Seifun Kaisha by 3,600 bbls. over the corresponding period of last year. The gain of capacity for the former was ascribed to the extension of equipment at its largest plant at Tsurumi by 4,500 bbls. to 7,000 bbls. The Nippon Seifun in competition with the Nisshin Seifun increased