

Company, Time Taxis, and other companies. Complete eye tests were recently given all drivers of the Coca Cola plant, the San Miguel Brewery, the Harbor Police; with others scheduled to follow soon. Other types of safety programs are in progress in Elizalde & Company, Puyat & Sons, and the Manila Electric Company.

As part of its participation in the recently organized Committee of Civic Organizations, the Safety Council is preparing a modern and complete set of traffic regulations for use in the Philippines. Louis P. Croft is acting as chairman of the group engaged in this work. The improved regulations will be based upon those introduced by Frank S. Tenny during his incumbency as Director of Traffic for Manila.

The San Miguel Brewery, including its numerous allied companies, continues to set the pace in incorporating industrial safety measures into its operations. The Company Safety Program is designed to protect employees from accidents, to promote operational efficiency, and to further the national safety movement in general.

A driver training program was begun during the latter part of last year. All drivers of San Miguel were given lectures, tests, etc. which has resulted in bettering their already good traffic records. The Coca Cola drivers, in particular, attained the highest marks on their written driver tests in Safety Council experience. Recently all drivers underwent a professional drivers eye-test and the program is continuing from time to time. Of special note is the industrial safety program recently begun. The plan is divided into phases of Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting, Lighting Efficiency, Prevention of Industrial Accidents, and Security Systems. Each plant will be treated according to its individual needs and in accordance with the most modern and accepted international safety standards. Teams are scheduled to finish the initial surveys at the main brewery by August 1. Employee safety committees will be formed to obtain their suggestions and to aid in furthering the program among all the workers.

Philippine Parcel Post

A RECENT exchange of letters between the Director of Posts and this Chamber is of interest. It concerns the fact that while there is no limitation on the number of parcels, regardless of contents, which may be sent from the United States to an office or an official of the Philippine Government, private persons and entities may receive only one such parcel a week with the exception of parcels containing books, on which there is no limitation.

The Chamber asked the reason for this in the following letter:

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The Director of Posts
Bureau of Posts
Plaza Lawton, Manila

July 13, 1948

Dear Sir:

We note an entry in the American Import and Export *Bulletin*, New York, for April, 1948, page 298, under the heading, "International Mail", which runs as follows:

"PHILIPPINES—There is no limitation on the number of parcels regardless of contents, addressed to an office or official of the Philippine Government which may be accepted for mailing at one time. Also, there is no limitation on the number of parcels containing books and other printed matter that may be sent at one time to any address in the Philippines. With the exceptions noted above, only one parcel post package per week may be sent by or on behalf of the same sender in this country for the same address in the Philippines."

We assume that the words, "this country", refer to the United States.

We should like to inquire whether this entry is correct, and, if so, who made the ruling and the reasons therefor; and we should also like to have information as to how long the ruling is likely to remain in effect.

Very respectfully,
AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE
PHILIPPINES, INC.

The answer was:

July 19, 1948

The American Chamber of Commerce
of the Philippines, Inc.
Manila

Gentlemen:

With reference to your letter of July 13, 1948, quoting an entry in the American Import and Export *Bulletin*, New York, for April, 1948, regarding the limitation in the number of parcels which may be mailed from the United States to the Philippines, I wish to inform you that the information therein contained is correct.

As to the origin of said limitation and the reasons therefor, it may be stated that in his letter of June 9, 1945, the Executive Officer, Civilian Affairs Section, United States Army Forces in the Far East, informed the Secretary of Public Works and Communications that the United States postal authorities were ready to resume parcel-post service to Luzon, Samar, and Mindoro. One of the conditions of this service was that one parcel a week would be allowed from the same sender to the same addressee. In October, 1946, this limitation was lifted in the case of packages containing books, magazines, and newspapers from the United States, in response to the request of local importers who are receiving big demands for printed matter because of the destruction of many libraries during the war.

In the early part of this year, arrangement was again made with the United States Post Office Department whereby the limitation was further lifted partially, so as to allow the mailing of more than one parcel a week from the same sender to any office or officer of the Philippine Government or from the latter to the same addressee in the United States, in order to enable the Government to send or receive through the mail much needed materials for its program of reconstruction and rehabilitation.

The limitation could not be lifted entirely because of lack of personnel and suitable quarters for handling large volume of packages from the United States and other countries. The Bureau of Posts Building and many of the post office quarters in the provinces have not yet been completely reconstructed. As soon as this Service is in a position to handle more packages with security and safety than it can at present, steps will be taken to remove entirely the limitation in the frequency of mailing thereof.

Very respectfully,

JUAN RUIZ
Director of Posts

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