

Stocks on Hand in Manila and Cebu—

Tees
 Beginning of Month 4,290
 End of Month 10,460

DESICATED COCONUT: The desiccated market was good during May. Prices ranged at 7-1/2 cents or better c. f. New York and owing to seasonal summer requirements, demand was brisk. Toward the end of the month, however, the market commenced to ease off, with the likelihood of slightly lower prices in the future. Local mills were operating at fair capacity. Shipments for the month totalled 2,008 metric tons.

GENERAL: Anyone who would try to accurately predict the future of copra and coconut oil today would be a very brave person. One thing is certain—the excise tax is effective and will remain effective—at least until the next session of congress in 1935, and probably to a limited extent at least beyond that time. It is generally felt that with the heavy copra months of the year coming on, the reduced demand for coconut oil in the United States will be unable to take care of the arrivals and will result in a considerable selling pressure at slightly lower prices than those pertaining today. The anticipated strength shown in the European market recently, however, may, if continued, absorb a good deal of Philippine copra and help maintain prices. More particularly will this be so if freight rates to Europe are reduced as seems entirely possible. Producers cannot stand copra prices much lower than those pertaining. Therefore, whatever drop there will be in the market will not be a very heavy one. On the other hand, prospects for any improvement appear to be very remote and will depend largely on a world-wide rise in all staple commodities.

LUMBER REVIEW

By **ARTHUR F. FISCHER**
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During February, there was steady demand of Philippine lumber and timber, particularly abroad. The total lumber and timber exports during the month under review was 6,596,592 board feet with customs-declared value of P292,021 as against 3,099,016 board feet with customs-declared value of P78,007 for the corresponding

month last year, or an increase of 113%. Shipments to Japan declined slightly as compared with February of last year, there being only 2,516,864 board feet exported to that country during the month under review as against 2,233,648 board feet for the corresponding period in 1933. However, Japan still maintained its place as the largest consumer of Philippine timber. Demand in the United States continued active. There were 2,233,312 board feet shipped to this market during February, 1934, as against only 106,632 board feet for the same month in 1933, or an increase of 1258%. The above shipment for February is about the maximum amount that can be shipped each month to the United States under the National Recovery Act, the lumber quota allotted to the Philippines under the said Act being only twelve to fourteen million board feet for six months, beginning next June 1st.

As may be seen from the comparative tables below, the Philippine lumber trade with the other countries also registers a steady improvement. China's consumption of Philippine lumber and timber during February increased 3251% as compared with the corresponding period last year, Great Britain 162%, Australia 121% and Hawaii 55%. Lumber shipments to Netherlands, Hongkong, Portuguese Africa, British Africa and Portuguese China during February under review aggregated 315,456 board feet while for the corresponding period in 1933 no lumber exportation to these countries were registered. Demands in new

markets are, of course, particularly encouraging at this time when the limitations of lumber and timber exportation to the United States under the National Recovery Act is about to take effect. But it must be stated here that the exportation of lumber is especially handicapped by present freight rates. When the value of the pound sterling was low in terms of the United States dollar, the freight rates to Europe and South Africa from the Philippines were reduced so as to offset the loss due to the unfavorable exchange. However, when the dollar depreciated the rates were never readjusted so that at present the freight almost equals the price of the lumber in some cases. At existing rates, it is cheaper to ship lumber to Europe via the Panama Canal than by way of the Suez, although the former route is longer.

Mill production increased 62% as compared with February of last year, but despite this increase lumber inventories practically remained the same, evidencing increased movement of stocks. Prices, however, showed practically no improvement from the previous month. The following statements show the lumber and timber exports, by countries, and the mill production and lumber inventories for the month of February, 1934, as compared with the corresponding month of the previous year.

Lumber and Timber Exports for February

Destination	1934	
	Board Feet	Customs-Declared Value
Japan	2,516,864	P 47,472
United States	2,233,312	147,092
China	582,376	29,290
Australia	467,972	17,215
Great Britain	437,568	34,546
Netherlands	100,064	1,753
Hongkong	94,552	3,611
Portuguese Africa	67,840	4,979
British Africa	49,184	3,565
Hawaii	13,144	2,193
Portuguese China	3,816	329
Italy		
TOTAL	6,596,592	P292,021

Destination	1933	
	Board Feet	Customs-Declared Value
Japan	2,523,648	P 41,435
United States	166,632	11,509
China	17,384	1,661
Australia	211,152	8,606
Great Britain	167,056	13,095
Netherlands		
Hongkong		
Portuguese Africa		
British Africa		
Hawaii	8,480	1,329
Portuguese China		
Italy	4,464	372
TOTAL	3,099,016	P 78,007

NOTE:—This represents mostly solid log scale, that is, 424 board feet to a cubic meter.

Based on 40 Mills for the Month of February

Month	Lumber Deliveries from Mills	
	1934	1933
February	15,137,531	9,545,974
Month	Lumber Inventory	
	1934	1933
February	25,272,293	25,207,257
Month	Mill Production	
	1934	1933
February	15,119,963	9,336,263

NOTE: Board feet should be used.

TOBACCO REVIEW

By **P. A. MEYER**

Alhambra Cigar and Cigarettes Mfg. Co.



RAW LEAF: Too much rain during the month under review interfered with the proper curing of such tobacco as had not been put under shed in time. This will probably reduce somewhat the quantity of merchantable leaf that may reach the market later. The Spanish Tobacco Monopoly advertised

for bid calling for 8 million kilos of Philippine tobacco. Trading in local and export grades was quiet. Export during May was as follows:

Country	Kilos	
	Raw Leaf	Stripped
Australia	1,270	
China	15,086	
Czechoslovakia	384	
Germany	27	
Gibraltar	9,720	
Hongkong	15,655	
Japan	3,120	
Java	840	
Manchukuo	30	
North Africa	8,570	
North Atlantic (Europe)	176,103	
Strait Settlements	266	
United States	29,791	
		261,174

April	1,063,002
March	177,621

NOTE: Comparative figures for shipments to the United States are:
 May, 1934 15,970,001
 April, 1934 10,608,451
 March, 1934 17,549,132

Why He Couldn't Pay

A collecting agent in Manila received the following:

"Sir:
 "I acknowledge receipt of your letter reminding me of my account in the Pharmacia San Fernando, of the total amount of P16.94 plus interest.

"Without any further comment, I accepted the balance due as an obligation to my part. I have the honor to inform that often that I have given ample time enough to provide me and to make a recovery upon my will and life so as to overcome the great hardship that crush me down with unlimited pressure of insufficiency during the past period.

"However, I had long expected to remit even a simple cash payment for that obligation and to settle the matter, even if your notice did not come for inquiry. Incidentally I was almost tempted by misfortune whenever I tried to accomplish my rate because of the present government as a rascal. And with nothing else to listen for its fatal effect it is therefore an unavoidable estate, and my destitute family ascribes that romance in the atmosphere of drought."

There is a little more, but isn't it enough to say, Aren't we all?