



Vol. XI
No. 10

October
1931

SERIOUS, MR. LOOMIS?

We quote A. M. Loomis, the hard-working secretary of the *National Dairy Union*:

The plight of the dairy industry, seeking to preserve itself by producing butter at a cost of from 25 to 45 cents per pound for butterfat, when faced with alleged substitutes for butter—a frank imitation of butter—made from Philippine coconut oil, duty free, and costing laid down here 6 to 7 cents a pound, is only an incident in this sound policy. The dairy industry started this proposal to grant Philippine independence partly for self protection, partly because every principle of good government and fair treatment calls for the redemption of the pledges given in the past to grant such independence.

Can Mr. Loomis be serious? Butter substitutes can be made from other products than coconut oil, and they could be made from coconut oil just as cheaply in the United States after independence were granted as now, for the copra for the oil would continue going into the United States free of duty, unless the dairy union was able to high-jack the country and stick it up for duties making the butter industry a monopoly. The union is interested in both milk and butter, and its members actually sell more milk here than the butter substitute amounts to. And if not here, then to factory employes manufacturing for this market. Mr. Loomis's zeal has overstepped itself. The Philippines are America's largest export customer for dairy products.

THREE WEEKS

Secretary of War Patrick Jay Hurley and Mrs. Hurley arrived in Manila September 1 and left Manila September 26, having, after their arrival here and Secretary Hurley's scurry through the Bisayas and Mindanao, extended their visit nine days in order to get more out of it and take the homeward voyage on the new *President Hoover*. Secretary Hurley's visit was official, in behalf of his department and of President Hoover, and in preparation for possible Philippine legislation. Everywhere he went in the islands he was ceremoniously and cordially received, it was three weeks of shower bouquets, receptions, conferences, petitions and parades. Hurley took home with him enough memorials to sink the sister-ship of the *Mr. Shasta* and save the face of the army air corps, or to relieve unemployment by hiring a regiment of carpenters to make pigeonholes to file the stuff. Major General Francis Lejau Parker, chief of the insular-affairs bureau, completed his inspection of the Philippines, far more extensive than Hurley's, and accompanied the Hurleys back to Washington. Both economic and political adjustments are spoken of as likely to take place.

The outstanding good of Hurley's visit here will be the new supreme court. New members will be appointed, a few old members retired; the court will be larger, but perhaps not a court (which would be extravagance of a dangerous sort) of the fifteen members authorized by last year's legislation. It is believed Secretary Hurley will recommend men qualified by a knowledge of Spanish to sit on the new court, 80% of the court's business being in that language.

Another matter of importance growing out of Hurley's visit here is that Governor Davis consents to take leave of absence instead of resigning. He leaves the islands for Wash-

ington soon after the close of the legislature, November 9, with the best wishes of all elements of the community because of his able and unselfish administration.

OUR HARDWOODS

Considerable space in this issue of the *JOURNAL* is devoted to our hardwoods. It includes advertisements of hardwood lumber mills and the Philippines Hardwood Lumber Association. Secretaries of chambers of commerce in the United States will do us a courtesy in inviting the attention of business men who may be interested to this information. Philippine woods were used in finishing the *President Hoover*. The effect is beautiful—illustrating the fact that our woods can not be surpassed among woods for interiors, in price, appearance, or durability.

Promoting the reputation of these woods might well be a personal concern of all of us. Here is a product, hardwood, not in competition with American lumber. The industry is well organized and carefully administered in every department. Export shipments are carefully graded; you buy Philippine hardwoods by description and get what you buy. Prices were never more inviting, the product never better. Who should know this? The furniture manufacturer, the contractor and builder, the municipal architect of the city, the railway-coach builder: someone you know, or at least know of, hence someone with whom you could do some practical missionary work by writing them or sending them a marked copy of the *JOURNAL*. Our hardwoods are a source of just pride, as much so as oranges to Californians. Let us not *boost* them obnoxiously, it doesn't pay; but let us not fail of putting in a word for them where it will be appreciated.

THE NEW PUBLICITY

The purpose of much of the material published in this issue of the *JOURNAL* and to be published in succeeding numbers is to bring to the attention of old and new readers in America the advantages of their commerce with the Philippines. Americans, we feel, are being subjected to a misleading propaganda about this commerce. Lobbyists of special interests want to lead Americans astray about us, a truth particularly applicable to the Cuban-sugar lobby; it is active and resourceful, albeit not altogether candid. But others are like it, doing their level best to induce the United States to make the mistake of applying duties to Philippine goods and allowing the Philippines to put duties on her goods sold in the islands. An article published elsewhere in this issue discusses this question forthrightly. The tariff advocates reason like Simple Simon—

Said Simple Simon to the pieman,
"Let me taste your ware;"
Said the pieman to Simple Simon,
"Show me first your penny;"
Said Simple Simon to the pieman,
"Indeed, I have not any."

Indeed, the tariff advocates are somewhat more lugubriously irrational than Simple Simon: getting Philippine products is an American necessity, not a passing whim. When America buys them now, she has the penny to pay for them—we have given it to her for the manufactures she has sold us. She even needs our sugar, in order that we may have pennies for her automobiles, gasoline, oil, machinery, silks, cottons, canned foods, flour, and a 1000 wares besides. "Simple Simon went to see if figs grew on a thistle. He pricked his fingers very much." Of course, men do not gather figs from thorns.—*W. R.*