

values of oils and fats as they are today, and as they are expected to be during the year. The picture is not bright, and the uncertainty is not conducive to what used to be considered legitimate trading.

Desiccated Coconut

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THIS report covers the period from December 15 to January 15. In the last half of December, copra remained firm and sellers were even thinking in terms of a rise in the market in January and were reluctant to sell. As workers on the plantations stopped work for the Christmas season, even a delivery premium failed to induce sellers to sell. As the first half of January opened there was a sudden drop in copra from ₱47 per 100 kilos of reseca to a low of ₱31, which is almost unprecedented in the history of the business.

This sudden collapse of the copra market was followed by a similar collapse of the raw nut market and although this was seriously damaging to sellers, it was a healthy thing for the business. For a long time coconut oil was far out of line with other oils and many times in the past year copra value was in excess of oil value. These factors presented a very unreal copra and nut market and could not sustain healthy business conditions.

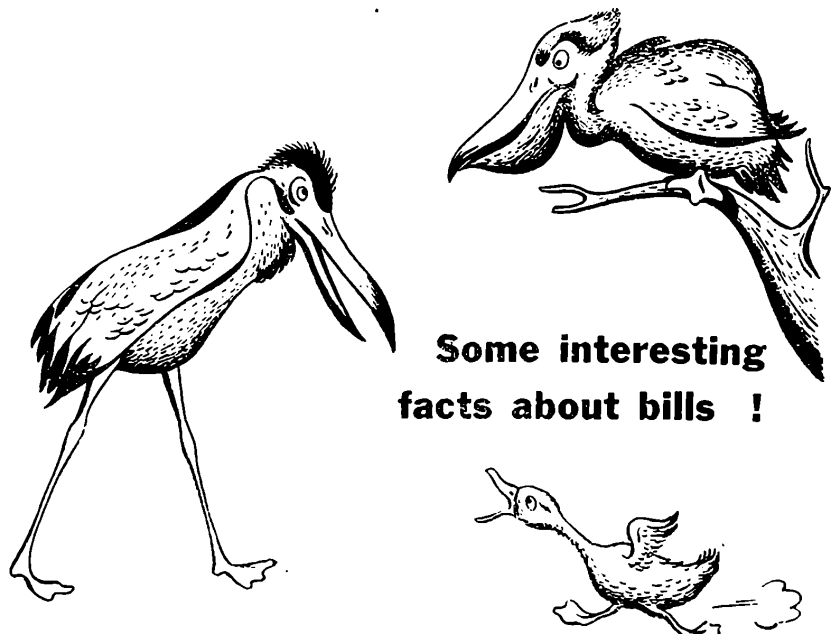
Today's prices are in keeping with influencing factors and it may be presumed that copra has come back to earth, let us hope, to stay. Any rise or fall in the market will likely reflect a more accurate world and domestic picture than we have had for the last 18 months.

The nut supply during January has been abundant and promises to continue that way until February.

Labor problems remain unchanged, but the Huk-balahap trouble has subsided, practically all of the areas now being open, and procurement of nuts has eased up considerably because of this factor.

The following are the shipping statistics for the month of December and the year 1948:

	December	Total for 1948
Franklin Baker Co. of the Philippines	4,134,800	42,976,816
Blue Bar Coconut Co.	1,842,450	17,379,490
Peter Paul Philippine Corp.	3,313,900	27,009,000
Red V Coconut Products, Ltd.	2,050,100	15,575,100
Sun-Ripe Coconut Products, Inc.	451,000	7,266,100
Standard Coconut Corp.	236,000	2,096,800
Isabelo S. Hilario Cooperative Coconut Products, Inc.	—	1,273,500
Tabacalera	493,960	2,082,640
Luzon Desiccated Coconut Corp.	376,860	3,344,230
	<u>12,899,070</u>	<u>120,557,266</u>



Some interesting facts about bills !

The bills of these birds never change. The peculiar bird's bill at the left is long and thin. The duck's bill is always sort of flat. The pelican's bill always has a pouch attached. Each species retains the same distinctive bill — year after year.

It's a far different story with consumers' electric bills. It is only by constant care and turning off all lights and appliances when not required that you can keep your electric bill at a minimum.

In these days of power shortage we ask you to be very careful.

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