

they can easily do that at substantially under Conference rates.

WE have persistently stated that anything can happen in copra and coconut oil markets, and usually it is the unexpected which comes up. Two months ago, everything pointed to lower copra and oil prices during the remainder of the year. Today the picture is changed and it may be that we have seen our low prices for the year in July, and that the markets may hold steady for the rest of 1949. Undeniably, there is a great deal of speculation going on, and so many false reports and rumors are current that there is no real certainty of anything. At the same time, signs do point to a steadier situation during the coming months than had been thought possible. This does not preclude drops in price, which are to be expected, nor does it rule out an entire change in the overall picture at any time due to government action or to foreseeable circumstances. But it does indicate that the practically unanimous opinion of the trade of a few months ago, has once again been upset and that, for the moment at least, copra and coconut oil prices are likely to maintain higher levels than anyone had expected. The unjustified spread between coconut oil and domestic fats and oils remains unchanged, however, and as long as this persists, coconut oil will be used only where essential and in minimum quantities. This invites eventual adjustment, possibly later this year, when the "pipelines" are again full, and production and consumption are more nearly stabilized.

## Dessicated Coconut

HOWARD R. HICK

President and General Manager  
Peter Paul Philippine Corporation

THIS report covers the period July 15 to August 15, 1949.

Generally the industry continued at reduced capacity. The Peter Paul Philippine Corporation was shut down due to high inventory in the United States and Blue Bar remained shut down in Luzon.

The copra market firmed up during this period but generally the desiccators were able to bring coconuts down to lower than copra-value due to less activity in the Luzon area. At the close of the period the desiccators experienced a little difficulty getting nuts due to the fact that while they were shut down, nut supplies had been diverted to copra and to bring nuts back to the desiccators it was necessary to campaign and even pay a little more than the copra-equivalent to re-establish connections again.

Philippine copra and nut prices have well reflected world-values, and after four months of such a trend it can be said that copra and nut prices are normal and no longer so easily affected by local conditions as up until four months ago.

Labor-management problems were at a minimum and generally labor seemed to be settled as far as management was concerned. The Franklin Baker Company labor problem is an inter-union problem at bottom and does not directly affect the management.

The shipping statistics for the month of July are as follows:

Shippers	Pounds
Franklin Baker Company	4,409,340
Blue Bar Coconut Co.	584,130
Peter Paul Philippine Corporation	0
Red V Coconut Products, Ltd.	2,167,300
Sun-Ripe Coconut Products, Inc.	883,000
Standard Coconut Corporation	396,500
Co-operative Coconut Products	252,000
Tabacalera	642,000
Coconut Products, Inc.	543,850
Luzon Desiccated Coconut Corp.	227,200
Universal Trading Company	0
	10,105,320 pounds

## Sugar

By S. JAMIESON

Alternate Secretary-Treasurer  
Philippine Sugar Association

THIS review covers the period July 16 to August 15. Following the very severe decline recorded in our last report, markets generally steadied, closing distinctly firm.

Before the end of July, it became apparent that production for the month would be materially smaller than for the previous month, and exporters withdrew their offers on the New York market or only offered very sparingly. This policy steadied consuming markets, and buyers who had watched the decline came in only to find that there was little available. Prices recovered sharply with a minimum amount of business being recorded.

In the Philippines, the market developed a firm tendency as soon as the improvement in consuming markets began, and at present local dealers are holding off expecting higher prices.

Philippine provincial quotations, August 15:

	Per Picul Basis Loose
Davao I . . . . .	P55.00 — Up P2.50 per picul since July 15.
Davao J . . . . .	54.00 — Up 2.50 " " " " "
Davao G . . . . .	47.50 — Up 3.00 " " " " "
Non-Davao I . . . . .	50.00 — Up 3.00 " " " " "
Non-Davao G . . . . .	36.00 — Up 1.00 " " " " "
Non-Davao K . . . . .	24.00 — Unchanged.

New York quotations, August 15:

	Per Lb. c.i.f. New York
Davao I . . . . .	26 1/4¢ — Up 1¢ per lb. since July 15.
Davao J . . . . .	25 1/4 — Up 3/4 " " " " "
Davao G . . . . .	23% — Up 1 1/4 " " " " "
Non-Davao I . . . . .	24 1/4 — Up 3/4 " " " " "
Non-Davao G . . . . .	18 — Down 3/4¢ " " " " "
Non-Davao K . . . . .	14% — Up 1/2¢ " " " " "

Production for July, 1949, was only 35,625 bales — a decrease of 10,222 bales from June, 1949. Non-Davao balings totaled 19,203 bales — down 5,364 bales from June. Davao balings were 16,422 bales — down 4,858 bales from June. Exports for July amounted to 29,816 bales. Production for the first