

Mout Banay-Banay, rose the strains of *Break the News to Mother, The Blue and the Gray, and The Girl I Left in Sunny Tennessee*. B—requesting it, I played these songs over and over again, while the jaded wanderer beat time with a quivering finger. Midnight came and passed. I was still blowing, with sore lips, on that wheezy mouth-organ. The impromptu concert seemed to soothe him with thoughts of other times and the homeland. His boy and our guides and carriers had long since gone to sleep, leaving the situation to us alone. Suddenly the wanderer sat erect, interrupting a repeated rendition of *Break the News to Mother*. He stretched his arms before him, his face lighted up with a wonderful recognition.

"Oh, Mother! Poor Mother!" he whispered. For a moment he appeared to listen to a voice. "Wait, Mother! I am coming!" he repeated, two or three times, and with these words and a glorified smile on his ashen lips he sank back dead.

Dead. Dead in the jungle of Nueva Ecija. We had known there was no hope, but the end had come quickly, just like that. Maybe his vision of heaven was realized.

Quien sabe?

Whoever he was, he took the secret with him; nothing in his effects told any story of his past. We composed the poor body as well as we could, and kept it company by the fitful fire until the gray dawn streaked the bosom of the Pacific. When the sun flashed into splendor once more, and the woods crickets began their interminable drone, we dug a grave and buried him, placing only a bungled cross at his head. Under this, no doubt, he lies as quietly as if his passing had been marked by an admiring and mourning nation. He had found peace in a land where there were no doctrinal quarrels. A short distance from his grave in the jungle, surges rolling in from the Pacific chant a common requiem for all, and him as well, who sleep within their sound. It is an anthem that has never ceased since the world began.

"And they who husbanded the golden grain, And they who flung it to the winds like rain, Alike to no such aureate earth are turned, As, buried once, men want dug up again."

Since this incident occurred, Nueva Ecija has become the islands' leading rice-producing province, through immigration of many thrifty Ilokans from the north, and will have become a successful rice planters' colony on the industry in the Philippines and a writer of quaint tales for which the demand extends from Manila to New York.—Ed.

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Dr. Youngberg's 1926 Agricultural Report

Bureau of Agriculture

Comparatively speaking the year under review was a successful one but less profitable: for while there was an increase of 2% of the total area planted to the leading crops their total value declined .3%, because of the great reduction in sugar cane production, the area planted thereto and the prices commanded.

Weather conditions in 1926 were better than in 1925. There were periods of heavy rains and floods alternating with dry periods, but the losses from this source were only 5% of the total area planted in 1926 against 2% in 1925. Plant pests and diseases decreased too, during 1926, the damage done to the crops having been only 1% of the total area planted in 1926 as against 2% the year before.

Palay again broke the record this year. The largest crop ever raised before was that for 1925, which was 45,652,600 cavans. The area planted during 1926 was 1,756,960 hectares and the production

Rough Rice 47,780,000 cavans, valued at P204,051,110. The corresponding figures for 1925 were 1,725,500 hectares, 45,652,600 cavans and P192,179,270, or an increase of 2.5 and 6% respectively. This increase was partly because of a larger area planted and partly because of better weather conditions, the selection of better seeds and in general better methods of farming. Average yield per hectare—27.19 cavans; average price per cavan—P4.30 for 1926, against 26.46 cavans and P4.20, respectively, for 1925.

Adverse weather conditions reduced this crop 3% in area, 23% in the production of sugar, 1% in that of panochas and 28% in the value

Sugar Cane of all sugar cane products, as compared with the preceding year. Area planted for 1926—231,840 hectares; yield—8,195,370 piculs of sugar, 516,020 piculs of panocha, 4,298,790 liters of basi and 5,935,540 liters of molasses, with a total value of P81,137,140.

The coconut crop is steadily increasing every year and in 1926 there were 2,770,930 new trees planted, bringing the total number planted to 20,908,700.

Coconuts of 2%. Of this number over 59 per cent or 54,650,400 are in bearing as against 53,165,880 in 1925. The average yield of nuts per tree during 1926 was 30, the same as in 1925, but the many new trees that came into bearing increased the crop of nuts 3%, making a total of 1,627,379,000. The yield of tuba was greater during the year by 13% not only because tuba was collected

from more trees but also because there was more of the crop, the production being 99,001,800 liters in 1926 as against 87,250,100 in 1925.

Of fresh nuts 34% were sold, the increase being principally on account of the comparatively new industry of making desiccated coconut. Fresh nuts sold during the year for both the desiccated coconut industry and home consumption—148,759,000 against 110,678,000 in 1925. Increase in copra—1% or 5,780,700 piculs as against 5,726,800 piculs in 1925. The local manufacture of coconut oil, however, was reduced by 10% or 1,787,810 in 1926 as compared with 1,993,450 in 1925.

All five coconut products as well as the nuts commanded higher prices in 1926 than the year before; nuts—P4.00 per 100, copra—P11.28 per picul, coconut oil—P4.77 per liter, and tuba—P.09 per liter during 1926, as against P3.00, P10.47, P4.3 and P.08 respectively during 1925. Aggregate value of all products of the coconut P81,369,370 in 1926 as against P71,847,980 in 1925, an increase of 13%. Iloos Norte, Isabela, Rizal and Tarlac, the provinces which formerly had the smallest number of trees planted are the ones that registered the highest increase—from 16 to 32%.

Both the area planted to abaca and the production increased, but prices were lower. At the end of the year 1926, there were 492,050

A b a c a hectares planted to abaca which yielded 3,036,150 piculs as against 477,110 hectares and 2,853,570 piculs in 1925, an increase of 3 and 6% respectively. Price per picul—P21.93 in 1926 and P22.53 for 1925. But while production in 1925 was seven piculs the average for 1926 was eight piculs, thus increasing the total value 3%.

Davao, Misamis and Lanao had the largest increase in total area planted, 10 to 13%—while for Cavite, Marinduque and Tayabas the area decreased from 22 to 30%.

Hectares 533,570 were planted to corn yielding 7,899,730 cavans which sold for P37,370,300. In 1925 there were 422,380 hectares yielding 7,606,110 cavans and P30,767,250, or

C o r n 2.4 and 21%, respectively. The considerable increase in the value of this production was due to a substantial rise in the average price which was P4 per cavan in 1925 and P4.70 in 1926. Bataanes, Sulu, Zamboales, Tarlac, Palawan, Rizal, Catubato and Albay had decreases in the area planted of from 16 to 47%. White Davao, Samarines Norte, Nueva Vizcaya, Agusan and Ma-

rinduque had similar increases as compared with 1925. Cebu, Oriental Negros, Leyte, Isabela and Cagayan also registered increases during 1926, their combined area planted being 4% more than in the preceding year.

This crop also recorded increases both in the area planted and in the production which were 4 and 8%, respectively, though its total value was a trifle less than that for the preceding year because of a drop of nearly P1.00 per quintal. Area planted in 1926—74,790 hectares; yield—988,110 quintals; value—P11,943,460, as against 71,630 hectares, 910,810 quintals and 11,801,590 for 1925. Average price—P12.09 per quintal in 1926, and P13.05 for 1926. Average yield per hectare was the same in both years.

The production of this fiber decreased 6% in 1926 as compared with 1925, and in the value of the whole crop 5%, only 427,850 piculs being harvested in 1926, against 456,000 piculs the year before. Value—P5,682,530. The area planted is steadily increasing every year, however, that for 1926 being 33,350 hectares as against 31,100 in 1925, or an increase of 7%. Average price during 1926—P12.64; for 1925—P12.46 per picul.

These two minor crops also increased in area planted but production of cacao decreased 3%. At the end of the agricultural year 1926, there were 2,029,600 cacao trees

Coffee and Cacao and 2,515,600 coffee as against Cacao 2,000,300 and 2,335,600 respectively in 1925. Production of cacao—1,082,700 kilos in 1926 and 1,111,900 in 1925 and of coffee 1,207,300 kilos in 1926 and 1,178,200 kilos in 1925. Values—P11,119,400 for cacao and P836,700 for coffee during 1926 as against P1,189,100 and P836,300 respectively during 1925. Prices during 1925 and 1926 were P1.07 and P1.03 per kilo of cacao and P.71 and P.69 per kilo of coffee respectively.

Because of the impossibility of completing the compilation of the data for the year 1926 in the short period elapsing between the end of

the year and the date fixed for presenting this report, the figures for animals given here are for the year ending December 31, 1925. Increases in number were registered for all animals during the year 1926 in spite of the fact that for some kinds there were decreases in the rate of birth and for others increases in the rate of mortality. The birth rate for carabao, hogs, goats and sheep increased 2.1%, 3.5, 3.6 and 1.3 respectively, while that for cattle and horses fell 2.6 and 3.9 respectively.

With the exception of hogs and goats there was an improvement as to diseases, the rate of mortality declining .5% for carabao, 3% for cattle, 6% for horses and 3% for sheep, but it increased by .3% for hogs and .8% for goats. Meat consumption increased by 1.2% for carabao and decreased for cattle 1.7%, for horses 1%, for hogs .2%, for goats .4% and for sheep .5%.

The total expenditures for 1926 were P1,397,659.41 as against P1,394,164.72 for the previous year, an increase of P3,494.69. The total

income was P274,251.46 as against P386,771.47, a decrease of P112,520.01. The total net cost of running the Bureau during the year 1926 was P1,123,407.95 as against P1,007,393.25 or an increase of P116,014.70. The total expenditure per capita was P.1154 while of the preceding year it was P.1176. The total net expenditure per capita, that is, deducting the income, was P.09277. For 1925 it was P.085.



Clearing a Philippine Plantation

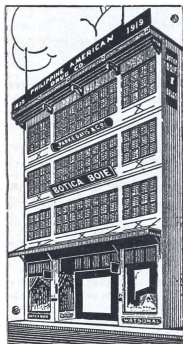
THE EFFECT OF GOLD MOVEMENTS

So long as gold was continuing to flow to our shores and our fund of credit was being constantly replenished in this way, the expansion in bank credit could go on without taxing the market's

resources. Recently, however, the gold movement has been against us by a substantial amount. On May 12 the Federal reserve banks reported the earmarking of a large sum of gold for a foreign correspondent, generally understood to be the Bank of France. This sum, though unannounced officially, was indicated in Treasury figures to be approximately \$90,000,000. Later, during the week of June 22, a

decrease from \$62,233,000 to \$40,333,000 shown in the Federal reserve statement in the item "gold held abroad" indicated the further disposal of approximately \$22,000,000 additional gold, presumably also to the Bank of France. Both of these movements, involving in all about \$112,000,000, though conducted in such a way as to avoid disturbance in the money market here, are equivalent to gold exports and indicate that the tide of the gold movement has recently been against us.

—National City Bank: Current Report.



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