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BALINGS—JANUARY/JULY INCLUSIVE					
	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Davao.....	281,193	302,629	316,719	298,682	200,611
Albay / Camarines'					
Sorsogon.....	71,011	122,532	100,408	168,289	99,917
Leyte/Samar.....	74,115	64,815	78,846	108,273	66,461
All others.....	50,136	58,915	50,250	63,091	46,019
Total.....	476,455	548,891	546,223	638,335	413,008

EXPORTS—JANUARY/JULY INCLUSIVE					
	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
United States and Canada.....	108,063	195,783	202,187	395,171	194,575
Continent of Eu- rope.....	108,146	114,592	96,726	103,450	71,213
United Kingdom...	74,040	68,333	55,835	111,240	44,599
Japan.....	108,239	137,224	76,582	72,333	55,105
South Africa.....	5,370	5,820	6,350	11,243	3,675
China.....	2,695	1,445	5,038	2,845	8,491
India.....	4,791	4,940	3,300	4,032	3,930
Korea.....	17,290	1,580	—	—	3,100
Australia and New Zealand.....	6,264	1,900	950	1,300	625
Others.....	4,492	570	160	—	—
Total.....	439,390	532,187	447,128	701,614	385,313

Tobacco

By RICARDO PADILLA SATRUSTEGUI

Cia. Tabacalera

NATIVE Tobacco. Buyers of native tobacco were very active during the month of August, due especially to the small harvest this year, seedlings and young plants having suffered heavy damage from floods and typhoons.

About the middle of the month, it was possible to make a closer estimate of this year's crop, the smallest since Liberation,—only 293,000 quintals, distributed by region as follows:

Cagayan Valley.....	126,000 qls.
Igorot Region comprising La Union, Pangasi- nan, and Ilocos.....	107,000 "
Visayas.....	60,000 "

Prices were the highest since the war because of alarming rumors of a great demand. Prices skyrocketed to ₱42 in Cabagan and ₱46 in San Mariano. Due to the fact that tobacco from the Cagayan is cheaper than that from Isabela, and some buyers cannot pay the high prices of the latter, all the Cagayan stocks were depleted within 4 days, which is a record difficult to beat. Sales in the province of Isabela were the highest. In Margartungut ₱55 was paid per quintal; the average price paid in Isabela, however, was ₱43. Prices in La Union, Pangasinan, and Ilocos were as follows:

(Clases.....	₱ 40
La Union.....	(4.a a 6.a..... 35
	(Llovido..... 30
	("Largo"..... 33
Pangasinan.....	("Mediano"..... 26
	("Corto"..... 23
Ilocos.....	("Largo"..... 25
	("Corto"..... 20

In the Visayan region: From ₱18 to ₱22 per quintal.

Virginia Tobacco. The new law limiting the importation of Virginia tobacco will favor to a big extent the cultivation of local Virginia, which is calculated to yield about 5,000,000 pounds a year. Secretary of Agriculture Salvador Araneta spoke, in a lecture a few days ago, of the necessity of increasing the area devoted to the cultivation of Virginia type tobacco by at least 30,000 hectares in order to meet the demands of the local market. The theory is that the Philippines should not use its dollar reserves to buy imported Virginia from the United States when something similar can be grown here. However, local experts in the La Union region hope that Virginia will be planted far away from the native tobacco plantations

as pollen from the Virginia plants produces a more yellowish color in the native tobacco. La Union tobacco especially is very much appreciated abroad, and with a mixture of Virginia, it might lose some of its burning qualities.

One of the principal difficulties in cultivating Virginia tobacco is obtaining genuine seed. Most Virginia-growing States in America prohibit the exportation of their seed. Local seed tends to affect the native tobacco for the reason stated.

Prices of local Virginia were rated at ₱1.80 to ₱2.60 per kilo for the highest quality, and from ₱1.60 to ₱2.00 per kilo for the lower quality. Local manufacturers claim that some of the local Virginia is good, but that not enough time is given to maturing it. In the United States it is considered that the ideal time between planting and manufacturing is three years, while in the Philippines, tobacco of this year's crop will be used immediately by the factories.

Cigar and Cigarette Factories. Local factories are very much alarmed over the increase in "colorum" (illegal) cigarettes which are sold in many provinces without internal revenue stamps, making for a stiff competition for legal factories which pay all the taxes. In several provinces, even those near to Manila, such as Batangas, "colorum" cigarettes are being sold without any apparent interference by the proper authorities. Some factories are called "50/50 colorum", that is, they sell some of their products with stamps in the city of Manila (where there is a certain vigilance) and the "colorum" in the provinces. The estimated loss to the Government is figured at about ₱28,000,000 annually.

Rice

By CHARLES O. HOUSTON, JR.

Director, Graduate School, University of Manila

THE month of August opened with characteristic vigorous action by President Magsaysay when he ordered the Philippine Constabulary to be used in a campaign against rice profiteers and hoarders. At the same time he requested legal advice as to whether or not he could fix and enforce low prices for this commodity. This move was prompted by the quite evident failure of the NARIC and the PRISCO to halt the rapidly rising prices throughout the nation noted during July (see this column in the July issue of the *Journal*). A day following, the President castigated Juan O. Chioco, manager of NARIC, for the situation in connection with the so-called "rotten rice" purchase (which was hinted at in our column for July), in which some 32,000 tons of edible rice, classified as "rotten", had been sold by the NARIC to the Farm Implements and Machinery Co., at a great financial loss to the Government. The *Bulletin* in its editorial for August 5, entitled "A National Conspiracy", echoing this column's observation, in July, stated that mis-management and hoarding is practiced by a large number of people including "men of substance and influence". This observer, as well as journalists who have become increasingly concerned over the situation, have been reluctant to pinpoint responsibility and it was only on September 7, that what many have believed might be the case appeared in the local press (see *Manila Times* article, col. 3) which reported the indignation of the President "over the alleged attempts of certain members of the NARIC board of directors to sabotage his efforts. . ." and "who have deliberately abetted rice profiteers and speculators. . . by delaying action. . ." The press also stated that it was reported that the President was ready to dismiss "particularly those NARIC board members who are large landowners' and have been known also as big rice producers".

Replying to criticism, several officials, as reported in the *Bulletin* (August 6 article, col. 4), attempted to shift the blame to the Budget Commissioner for refusing

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