

PHILIPPINE PROVINCES, SALES TO NOVEMBER 30

	CARS		TRUCKS		TOTAL	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Ford	224	22.09	670	30.79	894	28.02
Mercury	91	8.97			91	2.85
Lincoln	8	7.9			8	2.5
Chevrolet	376	37.08	836	38.43	1,212	38.08
Buick	51	5.02			51	1.60
Cadillac	5	4.9			5	1.16
Pontiac	55	5.42			55	1.72
Oldsmobile	21	2.07			21	.66
GMC			19	.87	19	.58
Chrysler	3	.29			3	.09
DeSoto	13	1.28	6	.27	19	.58
Plymouth	12	1.18			12	.38
Dodge	24	2.37	36	1.65	60	1.88
Fargo			27	1.24	27	.84
Hudson	3	.29			3	.09
International			558	25.64	558	17.48
Nash	10	1.00			10	.31
Packard	10	1.00			10	.31
Studebaker	10	1.00	8	.37	18	.56
Willys	97	9.56	11	.50	108	3.38
Reo			3	.14	3	.09
Others	1	.10	2	.10	3	.09
Total	1,014		2,176		3,190	

MANILA, METROPOLITAN AREA, SALES TO NOVEMBER 30

	CARS		TRUCKS		TOTAL	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Ford	456	15.44	982	38.13	1,438	26.02
Mercury	212	7.18			212	3.83
Lincoln	61	2.07			61	1.11
Prefect	2	.07			2	.03
Chevrolet	710	24.03	723	28.08	1,433	25.92
Buick	108	3.65			108	1.95
Cadillac	18	.61			18	.33
Pontiac	157	5.31			157	2.84
Oldsmobile	220	7.45			220	3.98
GMC			50	1.95	50	.91
Chrysler	21	.71			21	.38
DeSoto	164	5.55	54	2.10	218	3.94
Plymouth	122	4.13			122	2.21
Dodge	217	7.34	86	3.34	303	5.48
Fargo			58	2.26	58	1.05
International	52	1.76	493	19.14	545	9.94
Nash	91	3.08			91	1.64
Packard	73	2.47			73	1.33
Studebaker	74	2.50	17	.66	94	1.70
Willys	173	5.85	46	1.78	219	3.96
Reo			45	1.75	45	.82
Austin	16	.54			16	.29
Others	7	.23	21	.81	28	.51
Total	2,954		2,575		5,529	

Textiles

By L. W. WIRTH

General Manager, Neuss, Hesslein Co., Inc.

THE old import control (under Executive Order No. 231), promulgated on June 28, 1949, provided for a 50% cut in imports of fabrics costing P1.20 c.i.f.

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per yard or more, and was based on the average yearly imports during 1946, 1947, and 1948. The new import control (under Executive Order No. 295), promulgated on November 29 and effective December 1, 1949, placed all textile fabrics under control, irrespective of price, with percentage cuts of from 75% to 95%, based on imports during 1948 only.

It is acknowledged that some control measure was needed to help close the gap between imports and exports and thus conserve the U.S. dollar reserve of the Philippines. It is, however, not true that, as has been reported, there are now sufficient textiles in the Philippines to cover requirements for two years, and this false belief probably led to the drastic cuts imposed by Executive Order No. 295.

It is, in fact, inconceivable that such large stocks of textiles could exist in the Philippines. The following are the figures for the pre-war and post-war importations of cotton piece goods and rayon piece goods:

PRE-WAR IMPORTATIONS FROM ALL COUNTRIES (From Government Statistics)

	Cotton Piece Goods		Rayon Piece Goods		Total
	Sq. Meters	Sq. Meters	Sq. Meters	Sq. Meters	
1938.....	130,879,000	17,307,000	148,204,000		
1939.....	129,008,000	8,854,000	137,862,000		
1940.....	97,563,000	12,630,000	110,293,000		
Total 3 Years.....	357,568,000	38,791,000	396,359,000		
Average.....	119,189,300	12,930,300	132,119,600		
		Sq. Yards	Sq. Yards	Sq. Yards	
Average in Sq. Yards.....		142,548,931	15,464,479	158,013,410	

POST-WAR ARRIVALS

	Cotton Piece Goods		Rayon Piece Goods		Total
	pkgs. ¹	sq. yds. ²	pkgs.	sq. yds.	
1946..	67,024 pkgs. ¹	13,603 pkgs.	80,627 pkgs.		
	70,295,826 sq. yds. ²	6,402,441 sq. yds.	76,698,267 sq. yds.		
1947..	92,978 pkgs. ¹	43,761 pkgs.	136,739 pkgs.		
	103,544,381 sq. yds. ²	51,323,686 sq. yds.	154,868,067 sq. yds.		
1948..	68,283 pkgs. ¹	50,385 pkgs.	118,668 pkgs.		
	78,025,694 sq. yds. ²	66,759,015 sq. yds.	144,784,709 sq. yds.		
1949..	81,111 pkgs. ¹	59,441 pkgs.	140,552 pkgs.		
	89,222,100 sq. yds. ²	68,957,150 sq. yds.	158,179,250 sq. yds.		

It will be noted that, pre-war, the yearly average was roughly 160,000,000 square yards, whereas, post-war, the yearly average was only about 134,000,000 square yards or about 26,000,000 square yards less than the pre-war yearly average. On this basis there can hardly be a two years' supply of textiles in the Philippines considering there are now around 19,000,000 people, as compared to 16,000,000 pre-war, in addition to which it must be considered that there were no importations during the war years of 1942, 1943, 1944, and 1945.

¹ Arrivals by Packages (cases and/or bales) according to ships' manifests.
² Importations by Square Yards according to Philippine Government statistics.
³ Estimated—On average of 1946, 1947, 1948.

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In the light of these statistics, it appears necessary to re-study and re-appraise the percentage cuts imposed on textiles in Executive Order No. 295.

The sudden imposition of these drastic cuts, particularly on low-priced textiles, needed by the masses, which previously were not subject to control, came as a shock to textile manufacturers and exporters in the United States.

The Textile Industry Committee on Foreign Trade, representing the American Cotton Manufacturer's Institute, the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers, the Association of Cotton Textile Merchants, and the Textile Exporters Association of the United States, sent various cables to the Philippine authorities seeking a period of grace for shipment of orders booked prior to December 1, especially of goods which previously were unrestricted, on which basis existing contracts had been made and against which contracts they had goods in process for the Philippines, in most instances, not easily salable elsewhere.

They also respectfully suggested the following modifications in Executive Order No. 295:

1. An increase of quotas permitting 50% of 1946, 1947, and 1948 imports;

2. That quotas be based on 1946, 1947, and 1948 imports, since it was during that period that special-efforts were made by the United States industry to supply goods to the Philippines. This was a period of dire world-wide shortages and these extra efforts then did much to put an end to black-market conditions then prevailing in the trade in the Philippines.

3. That all goods en route or on order which may exceed present and or future quotas assignable to the importers, be licensed and permitted entry.

It has been suggested that the establishment of one year only as a base period cannot possibly be indicative of performance over any considerable period of time. By using the average annual importation during 1946, 1947, and 1948, there would be greater equity and justice for all concerned, as it may well be that importers who have been doing business in the Philippines for a period of from 20 to 30 years or more may have imported very little or nothing during 1948, which would thus practically put such old established firms out of business.

It will be recalled that in February, 1948, there was a crash in the grain market in the United States which, in turn, greatly affected other trade markets to the extent that prices generally weakened and many old established importers, anticipating a further decline in prices, imported very few goods during 1948 in order to protect their business.

The following figures have been obtained from the Bureau of Census and Statistics:

	1946 Pesos	1947 Pesos	1948 Pesos
Cotton and Manufactures			
Total.....	94,476,363	153,442,326	137,363,424
Rayon and Other Synthetic			
Textiles.....	29,649,242	90,584,900	105,019,904
Combined.....	124,125,605	244,027,226	242,383,328

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	Total 3 Years Pesos	Yearly Average Pesos
Cotton and Manufactures		
Total	385,282,113	128,427,371
Rayon and Other Synthetic Textiles		
Total	224,254,046	74,751,349
Combined	609,536,159	203,178,720

On this basis, the suggested 50% cut of the Textile Industry Committee would mean roughly only ₱102,000,000 worth of textiles for importation into the Philippines during 1950. Dividing this by 19,000,000 (the population), this means less than ₱5.50 per year for each man, woman, and child, which clearly indicates the essentiality of the textile imports to the Filipino people, not only from an economic view-point, but also in consideration of health and well-being among the lower income groups if they are to be properly clothed with essential replacements.

This we consider a reasonable figure compared to the present percentage cuts, which, on a basis of 75% of 1948, would mean only about a ₱60,000,000 importation during 1950, or only about ₱3.00 per person for replacement.

Legislation, Executive Orders, and Court Decisions

By EWALD E. SELPH

Ross, Selph, Carrascoso & Janda

LAST month the Court of Industrial Relations rendered a decision (Central Sawmill Co. case No. 267-V Dec. 2, 1949), which appears to reaffirm several points of principle on labor relations which were established by the Court shortly after the inauguration of the Republic, and also sets forth the views of the Court on what constitutes a fair return on investment.

There were ten demands and a brief summary of the action taken is as follows:

1. 100% general increase in pay—
Denied, but the Court fixed a minimum of ₱4.75 for common laborers. The Court went into considerable detail as to the basis for fixing wages which will be referred to later.
2. 50% additional for overtime and holiday work—
(a) Overtime — the Court found that the company's financial condition was such that not more than 25% additional for overtime was warranted.
(b) Holidays — the Court stated that the law required at least 25% additional for holiday work and ordered 25% additional for holiday work.
3. 50% additional for night work—
The Court ordered 25% additional for night work, stating financial condition of company could not excuse it from additional pay for night work.

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