

Inter-Island Shipping

By G. F. VANDER HOOGT

Everett Steamship Corporation

PHILIPPINE shipping interests have recently shown much concern due to the expiration on February 29, 1948, of the authority under which the U. S. Maritime Commission was allowed to sell war-built vessels to foreign nations or their citizens. The United States Congress did, however, authorize the chartering of such vessels to foreign nationals for a further limited period.

For this reason a meeting was recently called by the Philippine Shipping Commission to which all local shipping firms were invited to send a representative. At this meeting a resolution was adopted to request the Philippine Government to make representations to the United States Government with a view to obtaining relief from these restrictions in so far as they concern Philippine citizens. Most local shipping companies sustained heavy losses during the war, claims for which have in many cases not yet been settled. It is indicated that some of these firms will desire to purchase war-built vessels from the U. S. Maritime Commission when their claims are finally paid. Such vessels are desired for inter-island service, many of the vessels now used in this service being presently chartered from the U. S. Maritime Commission.

Prior to the expiration of the authority mentioned, the Everett Steamship Corporation was successful in purchasing from the U. S. Maritime Commission four C1-MAV-1 type coastal freighters. It is believed these are the only war-built vessels purchased from the U. S. Maritime Commission by a Philippine company to-date. Many

smaller vessels of the FS type, etc., have been received by the Philippine Government as surplus from the United States Government, and have been disposed of to local shipping companies by the Philippine Shipping Commission. Many such vessels are now being operated in the inter-island service.

It is to be hoped that the Philippine Government will see fit to approach the United States Government in the interests of Philippine shipowners, and that such efforts will be successful toward extending the time within which Philippine companies and citizens may purchase further war-built vessels from the United States.

Air Transportation

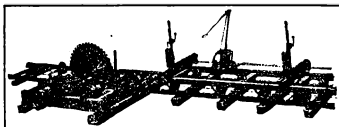
By V. A. BRUSSOLO

Vice-President, Philippine Air Lines

IMPORTANT steps have been taken by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) at its second meeting held in Sydney, Australia, toward the establishment of uniform operations by all affiliated airlines around the world.

Among several points taken up and decided during the convention, was the agreement by all airlines to standardize rates, subject of course, to approval by the various governments concerned. If the United States and Philippine governments approve these rates agreed upon at the conference, fares in the Pacific area will be automatically reduced.

Another change effected by IATA in existing airline arrangements, is the present policy on plane stop-overs. A passenger under the new agreement will be allowed an



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