

As my readers will notice, domestic cigarettes paid in 1950 approximately ₱24,000,000 over 1949, while imported cigarettes paid approximately ₱35,000,000 less in 1950 than in 1949.

This year, domestic cigarettes will pay from two to two-and-a-half times as much as during 1950. During the first three quarters of 1950 most local cigarettes were classified under the low selling-price bracket and paid ₱1.50 per 1000 cigarettes, and only a small proportion paid ₱3.00.

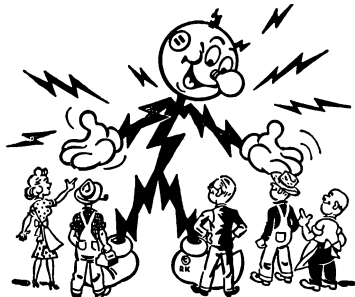
Last September, taxes on locally manufactured cigarettes of imported leaf were increased, in accordance with the retail selling price, to ₱6, ₱8 and ₱10 per 1000 cigarettes. The law was again amended early this year, and now all locally manufactured cigarettes of imported leaf pay ₱10 per 1000, regardless of selling price.

## Imports

By S. SCHMELKES  
Mercantile, Inc.

ALL figures are in kilos with the exception of those for foodstuffs which are given in package units.

| Commodities                           | March, 1951 | March, 1950 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Automotive (Total).....               | 653,802     | 1,713,399   |
| Automobiles.....                      | 194,196     | 48,612      |
| Auto Accessories.....                 | 2,883       | 535         |
| Auto Parts.....                       | 184,223     | 238,614     |
| Bicycles.....                         | 1,561       | 152         |
| Trucks.....                           | 7,261       | 73,845      |
| Truck Chassis.....                    | 119,642     | 425,787     |
| Truck Parts.....                      | 46,050      | 49,124      |
| Building Materials (Total).....       | 2,206,316   | 12,980,053  |
| Board, Fibre.....                     | —           | 575         |
| Cement.....                           | 52,218      | 8,306,976   |
| Glass, Window.....                    | 684,330     | 799,943     |
| Gypsum.....                           | 140,613     | 134,673     |
| Chemicals (Total).....                | 10,788,260  | 5,552,042   |
| Caustic Soda.....                     | 392,556     | 1,103,278   |
| Explosives (Total).....               | 176,807     | 60,200      |
| Firearms (Total).....                 | 7,677       | —           |
| Ammunition.....                       | 7,398       | —           |
| Hardware (Total).....                 | 4,029,054   | 6,191,480   |
| Household (Total).....                | 835,165     | 566,712     |
| Machinery (Total).....                | 1,646,746   | 2,213,805   |
| Metals (Total).....                   | 4,674,815   | 10,647,783  |
| Petroleum Products (Total).....       | 71,172,760  | 46,848,701  |
| Radios (Total).....                   | 7,706       | 26,998      |
| Rubber Goods (Total).....             | 918,850     | 1,106,400   |
| Beverages, Misc. Alcoholic.....       | 5,627       | 7,212       |
| Foodstuffs (Total Kilos).....         | 36,512,466  | 23,923,466  |
| Foodstuffs, Fresh (Total).....        | 77,561      | 89,873      |
| Apples.....                           | 12,556      | 16,899      |
| Oranges.....                          | 25,509      | 13,050      |
| Onions.....                           | 8,085       | 17,000      |
| Potatoes.....                         | 17,395      | 13,288      |
| Foodstuffs, Dry Packaged (Total)..... | 36,683      | 8,763       |
| Foodstuffs, Canned (Total).....       | 399,831     | 239,438     |
| Sardines.....                         | 118,092     | 2,100       |
| Milk, Evaporated.....                 | 89,051      | 147,710     |
| Milk, Condensed.....                  | 69,884      | 50,600      |
| Foodstuffs, Bulk (Total).....         | 627,353     | 550,550     |
| Rice.....                             | 102,070     | 794         |
| Wheat Flour.....                      | 476,791     | 489,676     |
| Foodstuffs, Preserved (Total).....    | 23          | 174         |
| Bottling, Misc. (Total).....          | 671,031     | 2,700,258   |
| Cleansing and Laundry (Total).....    | 35,982      | 925,349     |
| Entertainment Equipment (Total).....  | 3,580       | 1,479       |
| Livestock-bulbs-seeds (Total).....    | 2,349       | 2,600       |
| Medical (Total).....                  | 333,216     | 574,230     |
| Musical (Total).....                  | 26,886      | 12,075      |
| Office Equipment (Total).....         | 53,724      | 161,335     |
| Office Supplies (Total).....          | 49,570      | 53,287      |
| Paper (Total).....                    | 4,277,270   | 7,062,106   |
| Photographic (Total).....             | 42,490      | 90,596      |
| Raw Materials (Total).....            | 580,879     | 288,106     |
| Sporting Goods (Total).....           | 23,083      | 8,820       |
| Stationery (Total).....               | 215,274     | 306,955     |
| Tobacco (Total).....                  | 302,237     | 489,487     |



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HOUSE FURNISHINGS

GENERAL HARDWARE

PLUMBING

|  |           |         |
|--|-----------|---------|
| Chucheria (Total).....                   | 67,624    | 92,743  |
| Clothing and Apparel (Total).....        | 201,583   | 51,646  |
| Cosmetics (Total).....                   | 112,545   | 5,392   |
| Fabrics (Total).....                     | 1,257,628 | 546,917 |
| Jewelry (Total).....                     | —         | —       |
| Leather (Total).....                     | 118,872   | 290,511 |
| Textiles (Total).....                    | 1,617,999 | 738,539 |
| Twine (Total).....                       | 138,228   | 28,835  |
| Toys (Total).....                        | 2,557     | 1,042   |
| General Merchandise (Total).....         | 294,578   | 239,640 |
| Non-Commercial Shipments (Total).....    | 40,190    | 40,280  |
| Advertising Materials, Etc. (Total)..... | 20,354    | 17,638  |

## Food Products

By G. L. MAGEE  
Trading Division

Marsman &amp; Company, Inc.

WITH the Price Stabilization Corporation, as authorized by Executive Order No. 384, entertaining license applications for such essential food products as rice, wheat flour, canned fish, canned milk, canned meats, and coffee beans, April brought considerable activity to the local food-products market.

Early in the month, Prisco made its final purchase of wheat flour for the current crop-year, amounting to a little more than 100,000 50-lb. bags. This purchase takes up the year's entire balance of quota for the Philippines under IWA. Since American millers' quota under IWA was exhausted, this final purchase was made entirely from Canadian mills and called for "enriched" flour.

Next possible purchases of flour under IWA for the Philippines will be after the beginning of the next crop-year, starting August 1. Since the final shipments of flour bought by Prisco under IWA will have arrived in this market by the end of June or early July, and in all probability will have gone into consumption by the end of July, there will apparently be a period of 4 to 6 weeks, covering the month of August and the early part of September, when flour stocks in the Philippines will be short. To take care of this situation, Prisco is now receiving license applications from importers, flour dealers, and bakers for the importation of wheat flour at prices outside of IWA. Such purchases will be for June and July shipment, and will arrive in the market at a time when the Prisco supplies, bought at the subsidy prices, will be rapidly dwindling.

These purchases outside IWA are at prices ranging from \$0.50 to \$1.50 higher per 100 pounds than the prices which the Philippines has been paying for flour under the terms of the Wheat Agreement. This is a temporary situation, however, and importers have rightly shown some caution in the matter, since flour prices will revert to the IWA scale as soon as business can be placed after the beginning of the new crop-year.

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