

## Inter-Island Shipping

By G. F. VANDER HOOFT

Manager, Everett Steamship Corporation

IT has been repeatedly mentioned in previous articles in this column that there was an urgent need for carrying out certain improvements in the North Harbor in order to build up facilities much needed in inter-island shipping. It may now be stated that coastwise operators are viewing with satisfaction the fact that some of their recommendations are being heeded.

Financed by both the Philippine Government and the U.S. Public Roads Administration, is the work now being done of asphaltting the roadways running across all the North Harbor piers, as well as the roads in front of Piers 4 and 8. It is regrettable, however, that the presence of some houses on Asuncion Street is retarding the completion of this project, the removal of which would enable connection of Asuncion Street with the new road leading straight to Pier 4 and to the road across all the North Harbor piers.

For about two weeks now the dredge *Barth* of the Bureau of Public Works has been dredging the North Harbor bay and dock areas. When dredging is completed, vessels will be able to come in and sail fully loaded at any time of the day, irrespective of the tide. This will be a great improvement over the present condition of the North harbor, and one which operators of larger vessels have been anxiously awaiting.

It is hoped that the various other recommendations will be carried out for the best interests of the public and the inter-island services.

During the past month and a half, considerably more tonnage was moved from Manila to the various ports in

the provinces, than formerly. This may be attributed principally to the opening of the school season, and to the passage of legislation increasing taxes on luxury items, which have been sold in advance of the effective date for the new taxes.

## Air Transportation

By V. A. BRUSSOLO

Vice-President, Philippine Air Lines

THE month of June, 1948, has become memorable in the history of the aviation industry in the Philippines. Legislations have been passed by the Philippine Congress and Senate and finally signed by the Chief Executive affecting aviation. Foremost in significance and scope is a Bill creating the National Airports Corporation, whereby all government-owned airfields in the Philippines, with the exception of military fields, are taken over by the newly-created Corporation headed by Jesus A. Villamor as General Manager. Another Bill concerning the Civil Aeronautics Administration and its airways and communications divisions, is pending the President's signature.

By far the most important "aviation" event is the inauguration of the new terminal building at the Manila International Airport. Formerly known as Nichols Field, this airport was turned over to the Philippine Government on January 6, 1948, in the wake of typhoon "Jean" which left the old terminal building as well as 80% of the other buildings and installations in ruin.

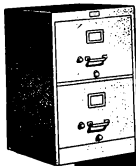
Six months after the turnover date, Nichols Field has assumed all the aspects of a commercial airport with facilities equal to the best in the United States and better than

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