

REVIEW OF THE EXCHANGE MARKET

By **RICHARD E. SHAW**
Manager, International Banking Corporation



The market has been stagnant but the U.S.\$ TT selling rate has been firmly maintained at the level of 1 1/8% premium because of the inability of the Banks to secure export exchange in any but limited amounts to cover their gold positions. Competition was keen for any bills offering at 1/4% premium for O/D and 1/8% discount for 60 d/s Credits.

Nearly all Banks were buyers of U.S.\$ TT at 3/4% ready and forward to the end of October.

The following purchases of telegraphic transfers have been made from the Insular Treasurer since last report:

Week ending—

July 27th.....	\$1,452,000
August 3rd.....	200,000
August 10th.....	400,000
August 17th.....	250,000

Sterling rates have shown practically no fluctuation, with sellers of TT at 2/- 7/16 and buyers at 2/- 9/16.

July closed with the New York London cross-rate quoted at 485 5/16. The highest point reached during August was 485 5/16 on the 2nd of that month. The rate gradually weakened until on August 30th and 31st it touched the low point for the month, 484 11/16.

On July 31st London Bar Silver quotations stood at 24 1/4 ready and 24 3/8 forward. Rates rose to a high of 24 1/8 ready and 24 1/8 forward on August 22nd and had dropped to 24 3/8 ready and 24 1/8 forward at the month end.

New York Bar Silver was quoted at 52 5/8 on July 31st, was high for August on the 22nd at 52 7/8, was low at 52 1/4 on the 7th, and closed at 52 5/8 on the last day of the month.

Telegraphic transfers on other points were quoted as follows on August 31st:

Paris, 12.40; Madrid, 151; Singapore, 114; Japan, 95; Shanghai, 84 5/8; Hongkong, 98 1/2; India, 136; Java, 122 1/2.

THE RICE INDUSTRY

By **PERCY A. HILL**
*of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija,
 Director, Rice Producers' Association*



Prices for both rice and palay are substantially the same as in last review with steady demand and with a higher tendency. Imports during the past month have been considerable, but prices of rice in overseas export countries promise to stiffen during the next three months. Palay prices per cavan at buying terminals are from

₱4.10 to ₱4.30 and rice at consuming centers from ₱9.15 to ₱10.30 according to grade which is some ₱2.00 more than for the same period last year.

The transplanting of the new crop has been delayed some three weeks, due to lack of timely rains, but is about finished. This late planting will have an adverse effect on the volume of the next crop. Due to the idea of domestic protection in rice-consuming countries the following import duties obtain in countries to which any surplus produced by the Philippines might be exported. Our own protective tariff is approximately ₱1.72 per sack of 57 1/2 kilos. Australia has a tariff of approximately ₱1.85 per sack; Japan, ₱1 per sack, and China expects to levy a certain tariff on rice imports in the near

future. As for exporting any rice to the United States this is out of the question; as she herself exports her surplus, she is no outlet for any possible surplus produced here.

In reference to any expansion of our rice area, this seems to have reached its limit at present writing except in Nueva Ecija, which has this year about 210,000 hectares under cultivation. Concentration must therefore lie squarely on the following factors: (a) Lowering of production costs including transplanting, threshing and transportation; (b) increase of yields by irrigation, fertilization and proper seed selection, as those lands yielding less than 35 cavans per hectare should be eliminated; (c) focus milling demands on specific varieties which give the greatest milling recovery and discard those of thick hulls, small grain and fancy tastes; (d) an accurate crop-estimate service is necessary for co-ordination.

Imports of rice into the islands for 1928 show that Cebu imports were almost double those shipped direct to Manila from overseas.

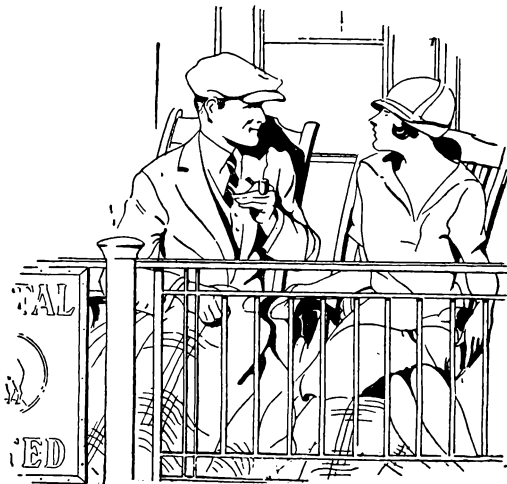
RAIL COMMODITY MOVEMENTS

By **L. ARCADIO**
*Acting Traffic Manager, Manila
 Railroad Company.*

The following commodities were received in Manila July 26, 1929, to August 25, 1929, both inclusive, via Manila Railroad:

	1929	
	July	August
Rice, cavans.....	121,937	131,562
Sugar, piculs.....	2,464	1,344
Tobacco, bales.....	36,120	34,140
Copra, piculs.....	221,100	291,500
Coconuts.....	3,226,300	870,100
Lumber, B. F.....	734,400	12,420
Dessiccated coconuts, cases.....	12,177	19,926

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