

both beef types and dairy types can be fixed here. Recent introduction of grasses far more succulent than those that have grown heretofore in the islands holds out much hope both for breeders and dairymen. Two such grasses were shown at the carnival. Both grow well here and ought to be spread by every means the government can lend the cattlemen and they can exert on their own account.

How to get cattle to Manila from southern Mindanao pastures, where they are loaded in sleek condition for market, is a problem for more remote solution. But cattlemen will certainly welcome the relief from the exorbitant branding tax they expect from the present administration and the next legislature. This too is a license tax, like the city slaughterhouse fee. Youngberg cites against the fee the principle of law that a license tax is legally one that slightly more than covers the cost of the public service rendered in connection with it. Now the cattle registration fee, designed to accompany branding and facilitate a census of cattle, is ₱1 and therefore much higher than the cost of the service rendered. It is in fact so high that it is not commonly paid at all until cattle are sold or slaughtered: instead of being a nominal license fee it is an important revenue tax imposed upon breeders developing in the islands a basic domestic industry in a necessary food supply. It ought to be cut to about 20 centavos and we hope the government will do so.

COMMERCIAL FOOTNOTE

The Philippines sell overseas about 4 portions out of 5 of all they produce, about 3.2 portions out of the 4 are sold in the United States. Their overseas sales last year came to ₱191,000,000. Taking away the trade privileges they enjoy in the United States, a tariff advantage alone of ₱109,000,000, they would have had from their overseas trade last year ₱63,000,000; they would have had 30% of what they actually got out of this trade.

FACING THE QUOTA

The Philippines count greatly on getting their 1933-1934 sugar sold in the United States before a quota applies. The crop will be around 1,500,000 short tons, there will be some 1,300,000 short tons for sale in the United States. This sugar is being shipped and sold all the time. The milling season, also the shipping season, is more than half over and the market is still unlimited (February 13). The sugar market is rising slightly. The local equivalent of the season's average New York price may be around ₱107.50 a short ton, about 14-1/3 piculs. This would be ₱139,750,000 for the 1,300,000 short tons to be sold. The tariff advantage in this sum, the Cuban-crop duty of 4 centavos a pound not paid by the Philippines, is ₱104,000,000. The actual local equivalent of what the Philippines get for their sugar this year in the United States (if no quota applies), above the tariff, will be about ₱35,000,000. The quota basis for sugar in the American market that President Roosevelt seems to favor would exclude 300,000 short tons of this season's crop; caught by the quota, this sugar will have to be warehoused.

Attempts to limit Philippine production of sugar have failed. The independence bill that would have limited duty-free sugar to 850,000 long tons was not accepted. In face of such circumstances, and the obvious disaster that would overtake the industry if American duties or limitation were drastically applied—as at any time they may be—Governor General Frank Murphy is assuming the responsibility of assisting the industry in reaching agreement on voluntary limitation. It is observable in President Roosevelt's quota plan that both beet and cane sugar of domestic production are to be limited. This can hardly mean less than that the Philippines too must limit, and much will be gained by showing goodwill about it. To this end Governor Murphy has certainly appointed a competent committee: His Excellency, chairman; Jorge B. Vargas, Miguel J. Elizalde, Wenceslao Trinidad, E. S. Heyward, Amando Avanceña, Eduardo A. Barretto, Julio Ledesma, Dr. Virgilio Gonzales, Ramon Torres and Joseph E. Mills, members.

Philippine Overseas Trade—December, 1933

Summary of official statistics on Philippine exports and imports furnished to the American Trade Commissioner, Manila, by the Bureau of Customs. Prepared by E. D. Hester, American Trade Commissioner, 410 Heacock Building, Manila.

The value of exports in December, exclusive of gold, was ₱22,669,705, compared with ₱22,869,022 in December, 1932. Imports were ₱12,301,891 as against ₱10,917,902. The resulting visible balance was nearly a million and a half pesos below the figure for last year, ₱10,367,814 as compared with ₱11,951,120.

Trade with principal countries was:

	1933	1932
United States:(a)		
Exports to	₱19,076,597	₱20,707,641
Imports from	6,777,387	7,021,525
Balance	+ ₱12,299,210	+ ₱13,686,116
Japan:		
Exports to	₱ 768,667	₱ 564,350
Imports from	2,134,671	1,056,614
Balance	- ₱ 1,366,004	- ₱ 492,264
China:		
Exports to	₱ 237,156	₱ 75,770
Imports from	750,399	727,660
Balance	- ₱ 513,743	- ₱ 651,890
Great Britain:		
Exports to	₱ 392,112	₱ 198,571
Imports from	425,942	327,735
Balance	- ₱ 33,830	- ₱ 129,164

As is customarily the case, the substantial gains in trade with the United States wiped off the losses from Oriental markets, especially with Japan and China, and left a heavy reserve in favor of the Philippine Islands. The loss in trade with Japan was more than two and a half times the loss for December, 1932.

The value, in pesos, of the principal imports for December and the cumulative comparison for twelve months:(b)

(a) Includes Hawaii, Guam and Puerto Rico.
(b) Twelve months' figures for 1933 are subject to revision in the Bureau of Customs annual report.

	Dec. 1933	Dec. 1932	Total for twelve months	
			1933	1932
Iron and steel and mfrs.	1,425,642	1,299,744	17,891,500	19,977,574
Cotton cloth	1,260,702	1,375,222	18,897,390	20,860,713
Cotton mfrs., except cloth	846,026	1,027,717	12,260,261	12,662,530
Meat and dairy products	746,482	606,529	7,322,467	8,128,254
Automobiles and parts	264,823	306,108	3,446,804	6,623,903
Wheat flour	485,265	445,935	4,770,990	4,903,878
Paper and products	350,180	351,347	4,860,537	5,526,332
Leather and mfrs.	137,518	114,757	1,793,447	1,818,559
Others	6,785,248	5,430,543	76,229,095	78,285,366
Total	12,301,801	10,917,902	149,472,360	158,790,170

The value, in pesos, of the principal exports for December and the cumulative comparison for twelve months:(b)

	Dec. 1933	Dec. 1932	Total for twelve months	
			1933	1932
Abaca	1,422,078	732,178	13,747,719	10,031,204
Sugar	13,939,811	17,085,775	128,567,931	119,603,769
Coconut oil	1,946,862	1,308,251	18,339,646	15,302,287
Copra	2,092,434	761,347	17,912,057	10,266,454
Copra cake	213,659	219,317	2,114,027	2,107,333
Cigars	573,700	435,025	6,315,911	6,462,436
Leaf tobacco	561,191	643,590	3,685,105	5,644,466
Others	1,919,070	1,683,539	20,850,710	21,258,212
Total	22,669,705	22,869,022	211,542,105	190,676,161

Detailed imports of automotive goods for December, 1933:

	Number	Pesos
Passenger cars:		
United States	75	75,993
Germany	15	8,888
Italy	15	9,956
Total	105	94,837
Trucks:		
United States and total	52	58,607
Motorcycles, none		
Parts:		Pesos
United States		105,784
Great Britain		1,975
France		4
Germany		1,362
Italy		152
China		59
Japan		1,794
Canada		178
Dutch East Indies		16
Total		111,324