

The world "spot" market price on April 30 was 5.90¢ as compared with 5.50¢ on March 30.

Local Market. (a) Domestic Sugar: Keen competition among dealers for the remainder of stocks held by mills and planters forced prices up and fairly large parcels were traded. We give below the Bureau of Commerce quotations as of April 25:

Centrifugal 97'.....	₱14.50—₱14.70	per picul
98'.....	15.00—15.50	" "
99'.....	16.30—16.50	" "

(b) Export Sugar: During the first half of the month the local market was dull in keeping with the trend of the New York market, buyers quoting from ₱12.80 to ₱13.05 ex mill warehouse. With the subsequent improvement in the New York market there was more activity, and quite large quantities were traded on the basis of ₱13.20 per picul ex mill warehouse. Brisk trading has continued at steadily advancing prices, and at the close there are buyers at ₱13.70 per picul.

General—1950-51 Crop. Seventeen of the 27 operating mills have already finished milling. In general their out-turns ran below estimates, and it looks as though the final crop out-turn would be approximately 3% less than the estimated 14,200,000 piculs (883,964.98 long tons). This is attributed to a prolonged spell of dry weather throughout the cane growing districts.

1950-51 Sugar Shipments. It is estimated that approximately 400,000 long tons will have been shipped to the United States up to the end of April, and that about 100,000 tons more are already booked for shipment in May. The total quantity available for export against our United States quota is estimated at 640,000 long tons, or about 210,000 long tons short of the total United States quota of 850,000 long tons.

Freight. A request by the Shippers' Committee to the Sugar Freight Committee of the Associated Steamship Lines for a reduction in the present Philippines/U. S. Atlantic Coast freight rate of \$21.00 was not granted. The present outlook is that there will be no difficulty in securing space at the current rate for the unbooked balance of 1950-51 export sugar.

Tobacco

By LUIS A. PUJALTE

Secretary-Treasurer

Manila Tobacco Association, Inc.

THE tobacco harvest is almost over and there isn't much to add over last month's report except to say that the second and third primings in La Union province are coming out fairly well.

I FEEL certain that my readers will be highly interested in a comparative statement on the specific taxes paid on cigarettes, domestic and imported, during 1949 and 1950. The statement follows:

Months	SPECIFIC TAXES PAID ON CIGARETTES			
	Domestic 1949	1950	Imported 1949	1950
January.....	₱ 364,913.02	₱ 611,449.56	₱ 5,839,687.05	₱ 2,771,098.13
February.....	337,281.70	749,200.00	4,421,219.68	2,694,266.77
March.....	365,871.49	928,566.50	5,037,161.94	1,737,130.50
April.....	298,755.80	1,164,525.61	5,664,184.48	3,233,211.84
May.....	454,635.00	2,375,931.38	5,115,531.00	1,077,126.26
June.....	472,719.00	1,502,264.66	5,275,142.19	1,335,501.85
July.....	261,468.45	1,096,857.00	4,308,780.92	845,301.33
August.....	280,821.40	3,623,755.05	4,694,552.62	833,304.00
September.....	280,184.00	3,946,027.48	4,734,333.04	1,300,952.28
October.....	338,149.23	4,147,221.19	3,437,479.38	1,551,158.12
November.....	325,707.35	3,080,428.16	5,583,627.88	1,788,203.13
December.....	386,428.00	3,878,683.68	4,236,085.80	3,395,682.97
TOTAL.....	₱ 4,166,954.46	₱28,324,910.52	₱58,044,676.18	₱22,563,337.18

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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	90,569
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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