GROSS SALES (TEN LEADING BUSINESS FIRMS) 1937-1949 Bureau of the Census and Statistics

(1937 - 100)

(100. = 100)										
	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
January	95.1	75.5	88.8	106.7	104.8		49.6	160.9	225.2	213.5*
February	102.5	71.6	80.3	99.8	95.9	_	34.6	228.9	228.3	241.3
March		85.2	87.1	104.3	107.2	_	61.1	218.8	257.5	289.6
April ,	107.5	81.4	79.8	100.3	105.6	_	75.1	155.3	254.0	231.2
May		76.9	80.1	97.5	113.0	1.6	117.5	216.0	273.8	261.3
June		76.6	107.7	103.5	117.0	5.4	85.3	249.4	308.7	278.9
July	105.7	72.0	90.8	98.8	110.0	8.4	89.7	240.4	313.2	238.2
August		75.2	90.8	98.3	109.8	10.4	118.9	202.8	272.2	
September	83.4	76.8	103.3	93.1	114.0	110.7	116.4	219.2	261.1	_
October	97.0	80.1	103.4	85.8	100.1	10.8	147.0	222.9	252.5	
November	100.4	104.2	110.1	105.6	.97.7	21.4	165.1	278.7	215.8	
December		88.6	119.4	119.1	64.8	27.9	184.4	291.8	253.4	_

[·] Revised figures for January, February, and March.

Each group is led by its own Chairman, who is empowered to call meetings of his group.



The purpose of the Board, as outlined in the original recommendations sent to President Quirino by the Safety Council a few weeks ago, is "to formulate and implement plans for the prevention and fighting of fires in the Philippines". The Executive Order defines these powers and purposes. It is hoped that the Board may be able to suggest and activate ways to lessen the destructive fires that are taking place almost daily in our towns and cities.

Names of the General Chairman and the Group Chairmen are as follows: General Chairman; Hon. Sotero Baluyut, Secretary of the Interior; Chairman Group One (Government), Hon. Nicanor Roxas, Undersecretary of the Interior; Chairman Group Two (Professional), Chief Cipriano Cruz, Manila Fire Department; Chairman Group Three (Safety), Executive Director Frank S. Tenny, Philippine Safety Council; Chairman Group Four (Fire Insurance), L. P. Ralph, Chairman of the Manila Fire Insurance Association; Chairman Group Five (Civil Organizations), Mr. Aurelio Periquet, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines.

The PSC Executive Director has contacted Secretary Baluyut and expressed the belief that meetings will be called in the very near future. The full cooperation of all members is expected, due to the importance of the subject matter. The full text of Executive Order No. 259 follows:

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 259 CREATING A FIRE PREVENTION BOARD

WHEREAS, destructive and dangerous fires occur frequently in some sections of the country, rendering neonle homeless and destitute: and

WHEREAS, the planning and study of efficient and modern methods of preventing and fighting fires are necessary to insure the safety of the people and the protection of their properties; NOW. THEREFORE, I ELPIDIO QUIRINO, President

of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby create a Fire Prevention Board composed of the following:

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CROTTE ONE COVERNMENTS

The Undersecretary of the Interior A representative of the Department of Public and Communications to be designated by the Secretery themos

Industry to be designated by the Secretary thereof ...

GROUP TWO (PROFESSIONAL)

The Chief of the Manila Fire Department ...

the Group Chairman . A fire marshal, civilian or military, to be designated by the Group Chairman

GROUP THREE (SAFETY)

The Executive Director, Philippine Safety Council .. Group Chairman The Chairman, Advisory Safety Council to the Secretary of Labor

The Chief of Safety Servcies, Philippine National

A representative of fire-fighting equipment distributors to be designated by the Group Chairman

GROUP FOUR (FIRE INSURANCE)

The Chairman, Manila Fire Insurance Association ... Group Chairman The Manager, American Foreign Insurance Association Member

Group Chairman

Member

Group Chairman

The President, Philippine Chamber of Commerce ... Group Chairman The President, Chinese Chamber of Commerce Member The President, American Chamber of Commerce of

the Philippines

A representative of a local fire-insurance firm to be designated by the Group Chairman The Manager, American International Underwriters

The President, National Federation of Women's Clubs of the Philippines

The Board which shall meet at the call of the General Chairman shall have the following duties:

GROUP FIVE (CIVIC)

- (a) To investigate the origin and causes of fires;
 - (b) To study ways and means of preventing fires;
 - (c) To study suitable fire-fighting plans and facilities; (d) To arouse the inhabitants of the Philippines to the
- necessity of combating and preventing fires by an-pealing to their sense of individual responsibility through the newspapers, radio, posters or other means of dissemination:
- (e) To cooperate with the authorities concerned in the adoption of such measures as may be necessary for the effective supervision and regulation of the manufacture, distribution, storage, and possession of pe-

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troleum, gas, acetylene, dynamite, gunpowder, explosives, blasting supplies, or ingredients thereof, and other highly combustible matter;

- (f) To cause the inspection of factory buildings and other structures which are considered fire hazards and recommend to the proper authorities their removal or remodelling so as to provide sufficient protection against fire:
- (g) To encourage the observance in every municipality and chartered city of Fire Prevention Week Pro-claimed in Proclamation No. 248 dated January 20, 1938; and
- (h) To submit from time to time to the President of the Philippines its recommendations on fire-fighting and prevention.

The General Chairman may also call the group chairmen to a meeting from time to time.

The groups shall meet at the call of their respective chairmen.

All officers and employees of the different departments. bureaus, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the National Government and those of the provinces, cities, municipalities, and other political subdivisions are hereby enjoined to cooperate with the Board in the performance of its functions and, with the approval of the corresponding Head of Department, shall, when necessary, render such service as the Board may assign to them.

Done in the City of Manila, this 30th day of August in the year of Our Lord, 1949, and of the Independence of the

Philippines, the fourth.

(SGD.) ELPIDIO QUIRINO President of the Philippines

By the President: (SGD.) TEODORO EVANGELISTA Executive Secretary

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United States Government Agencies in the Philippines

The U. S. Maritime Commission

HE U. S. MARITIME COMMISSION, the American Federal Agency entrusted under the Phil-ippine Rehabilitation Act of 1946 with restoring and improving Philippine inter-island commerce, has been quietly engaged for three years in rehabilitating the Philippine maritime industry and looking after the interests of Filipino seamen who served in American ships.

To carry out its portion of the Philippine Rehabilitation Program, the Agency started operations with a large staff in April, 1945. Today, with most of its work done, the staff consists only of two Americans: Capt. F. H. Byrne, Superintendent of Engineers, USMC, and Mr. R. R. Spence, Maritime Attache

of the American Embassy.

Perhaps the most important work of the Commission is the chartering on a "bareboat" basis of U. S. Maritime Commission-owned vessels to local steamship companies. The company that charters a boat on "bareboat" basis acquires the boat alone without supplies, furnishings, or crew; the company itself has to supply these. At present there are nine ships chartered; two to the Everet Oriental Lines, three to the Philippine Steam Navigation Company, three to the Compañia Maritima, and one to the Manila Steamship Company. These chartered ships, together