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UNITED STATES STEEL EXPORT CORP.



STEEL PRODUCTS
HOUSE FURNISHINGS
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Desiccated Coconut

By Howard H. Curran
Peter Paul Philippine Corporation

THIS report covers the period from September 15 to October 15 during which time copra and coconuts started a climb upward toward the latter part of the period.

Desiccated coconut factory production remained much the same as during the previous period, with a slight increase

in shipments.

The following shipping statistics are for the month of September.

Shippers	Pounds
Franklin Baker Company	5,255,526
Blue Bar Coconut Company	986,150
Peter Paul Philippine Corp.	1,730,000
Red V Coconut Products, Ltd	3,436,100
Sun Ripe Coconut Products, Inc.	1,008,100
Cooperative Coconut Products, Inc.	402,700
Total Shipments	12,818,576

Sugar

By J. H. D'AUTHREAU

Philippine Sugar Association

New York Market. After the uninterrupted price decline over July, August, and September, the market finally steadied at the end of September chiefly on sentiment. It was felt that the Department of Agriculture could hardly allow prices to go lower as the mainland harvest period was about to begin and as pressure on the Department was mounting for some constructive action, possibly a token quota-reduction.

These feelings were finally justified in full when on October 7 Under-Secretary Morse of the Department of Agriculture addressed a very reasonable statement to the industry, expressing the Department's concern at prevailing prices. However no quota cut was thought necessary, he stated, for the following reasons:

(a) All quota supplies will be needed to meet distribution and year-end stock requirements. Although distribution for the year through September 25 was approximately 263,000 tons below that for the corresponding period last year, the total quota this year of 8,200,000 is 282,000 tons less than distribution in 1953.

(b) As against last year no importation of over-quota

sugar for refining will be permitted in 1954.

(c) Current prices for old crop and new crop having drawn together, permits refiners to purchase now for distribution in 1955 without loss. This has brought strength to the market and should not induce refiners to deplete their stocks as the year-end approaches, as was the case last year.

(d) Remaining quota supplies, especially foreign, are small, and invisible inventories are probably at a record low.

(e) The Department is keeping the situation under close scrutiny and will not hesitate to act if action is warranted.

These observations had no immediate market effect, but eventually were accepted as a promise of things to come; as a welcome admission that prices were too low; and as basis for expectation of a conservative initial quota for 1955. The November quota hearings set for November 9, rather earlier than usual, should be anything but perfunctory.

Shortly after Under-Secretary Morse's statement, it was seen that Eastern Seaboard refiners were showing some concern for their November and December melting