

It is expected that by the time of the next report, conditions may have become more normal. More equipment may be available. Traders will have made their decisions to replace short stocks as well as to dispose of holdings held because of the anticipated rise in price of some of our export commodities.

Mining

By HENRY A. BRIMO
President

Philippine Gold Producers Association, Inc.

ACTING with dispatch, President Magsaysay, during February, in the short period of sixteen days, appointed two committees to endeavor to find a solution to the problems confronting the gold producers. On February 4, a committee of five, namely Messrs. Salvador Araneta (Chairman), Governor Miguel Cuaderno, Alfonso Calalang, Eduardo Romualdez, and L. S. Virata, was appointed and it held a single abortive meeting without reaching an agreement. At this meeting, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank Dr. Castillo represented Governor Cuaderno, while Mr. Virata, being abroad, was absent.

Subsequently, on February 20, the President appointed a second committee composed of ten members, namely, Messrs. Salvador Araneta (Chairman), Governor Cuaderno, Alfonso Calalang, Charles B. Foster (Lepanto's General Superintendent), Judge Hausermann, Sixto Orosa Jr., Servillano Aquino (a mining engineer), Antonio D. Garcia of Baguio, Luis I. Lardizabal, Baguio attorney, and Benjamin Gozon, Director of Mines.

On February 23, the first meeting of this second committee was held at the office of Secretary Salvador Araneta, attended by all members, at which the undersigned was present upon invitation of Chairman Araneta.

At this first meeting, the members were unanimously in favor of, additional, positive, and immediate help to the gold producers. They discarded the Gold Certificate Plan because of Governor Cuaderno's opposition and because it was not possible to put it in action without legislation. There remained only some sort of subsidy

plan on which a general agreement might be reached, and hence it was decided to endeavor to reach a common understanding on the type and extent of aid the industry required and the costs of which the Government could afford.

At this point, Governor Cuaderno read a prepared memorandum (written October 8, 1953) on a plan which he and Prof. Bernstein of the International Monetary Board believed was the most feasible type of aid possible under the circumstances. It envisaged a type of aid similar to that now in effect in Canada, which aid would be limited and dependent on individual mines' production costs. Governor Cuaderno offered to make immediate arrangements for bringing into the country two Canadian experts to supervise the plan, and the Committee requested him to do so.

In order to expedite action, Secretary Araneta appointed two subcommittees, as follows: (1) a committee headed by Servillano Aquino, and composed additionally of Mrs. Garcia (representing Governor Cuaderno), and Messrs. Gozon, Foster, Lardizabal, and the undersigned, to study the type and amount of help that the Government should give to the gold producers; (2) a committee headed by Mr. Calalang, and composed additionally of Mrs. Garcia and Messrs. Sixto Orosa Jr., Antonio Garcia, Amado R. Briñas (of the office of the Secretary of Finance), Jose Quema, of the Bureau of Mines, and the undersigned. This second committee was charged with the duty of estimating the amount of revenue which the Government derives from the gold-producing industry.

GOLD AND SILVER PRODUCTION IN THE PHILIPPINES Calendar Year 1953

NAME OF COMPANY	Quantity	Value In Pesos	
		At ₱70.00 Per Ounce	At ₱135.25 Per Ounce
TOTALS			
Atok-Big Wedge.....	Au 24,190 Oz.	₱ 1,693,302	₱ 2,500,037
	Ag 19,349 "	27,274	27,274
	M.O. 127,790 S.T.	1,720,576	2,527,311
	Au 20,003 "	2,086,088	3,080,037
Baguio Gold.....	Ag 15,807 "	25,289	25,289
	M.O. 125,042 S.T.	2,111,378	3,105,326
	Au 88,454 "	6,205,735	9,162,391
Belatoc Mining.....	Ag 73,146 "	118,984	118,984
	M.O. 499,122 S.T.	6,324,719	9,281,375
	Au 101,199 Oz.	7,747,602	10,552,965
Benguet Consolidated...	Ag 84,010 "	136,638	136,638
	M.O. 518,959 S.T.	7,284,240	10,589,603
	Au 40,546 Oz.	2,838,020	4,150,429
Itoгон Mining.....	Ag 14,570 "	21,407	21,407
	M.O. 182,264 S.T.	2,859,427	4,211,836
	Ag 46,139 Oz.	3,229,653	4,768,466
Lepanto Consolidated...	Ag 179,370 "	264,871	264,871
	M.O. 369,991 S.T.	3,494,524	5,033,337
	Ag 9,135 Oz.	14,616	14,616
Looc Lead-Silver Mines.	M.O. 596 S.T.	14,616	14,616
	Au 25,577 Oz.	1,813,752	2,643,372
	Ag 39,511 "	59,756	59,756
Mindanao Mother Lode	M.O. 89,400 S.T.	1,873,598	2,703,128
	Au 55,894 Oz.	3,971,588	5,776,645
	Ag 68,521 "	109,523	109,523
San Mauricio Mining.....	M.O. 112,381 S.T.	4,022,720	5,886,777
	Au 51,641 Oz.	3,650,160	5,359,834
	Ag 6,514 "	6,950,553	1,005,553
Surigao Consolidated...	M.O. 165,746 S.T.	3,370,713	4,860,387
	Au 7,000 Oz.	490,009	723,450
	Ag 57,953 "	12,905	12,905
United Paracale.....	M.O. 18,800 S.T.	502,014	735,455
	Ag 6,290 Oz.	440,380	650,072
	Ag 1,954 "	1,369	1,369
Coco Grove.....	Cu.Yd 1,612,345	441,669	651,441
	Au 1,464 Oz.	102,482	151,304
	Ag 1,113 "	1,113	1,113
Nor-Min Ventures.....	Cu.Yd 226,761	102,895	151,717
Surigao Placer.....	Au 1,099 Oz.	76,922	113,582
	Cu.Yd 257,950	76,922	113,582
	Au 480,625 Oz.	₱3,666,614	₱9,677,584
	Ag 572,607 "	892,807	892,807
	M.O. 2,210,191 S.T.	₱34,559,421	₱50,565,391
	Cu.Yd 2,096,156))

b—The estimated average market price of gold from January 1 to December 31, 1953 is ₱135.35 per ounce.

Taysan Gold Mining Corp. shut down in April, 1950.
Tambio Gold Dredging Co., Inc. shut down in October, 1951.
United Paracale Mining Co. shut down in May, 1953.
Pan Philippine Corp. shut down in October, 1952.
Atok-Big Wedge Mining Co. shut down in December, 1953.
Mindanao Mother Lode Mines shut down in September, 1953.

SUMMARY OF MINERAL PRODUCTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

Calendar Year 1953
BUREAU OF MINES

Minerals	Quantity	Value in Pesos	Totals
METALLIC:			
Gold.....	480,625 oz.	₱49,672,584*	
Silver.....	572,046 "	892,807	₱50,565,391
Lead (metal).....	2,434 m.t.	₱ 1,369,487	
Zinc.....	747 "	410,973	
Copper (metal).....	12,715 "	14,901,911	
Manganese Ore.....	21,508 "	1,415,063	
CHROMITE ORE:			
Refractory.....	468,549 "	14,056,470	
Metallurgical.....	88,541 "	5,771,053	
Iron Ore.....	1,217,864 "	23,242,677	₱61,167,674
NON-METALLIC:			
Cement.....	1,741,185 bbls.	₱22,050,754	
Gypsum.....	None	None	
Coal.....	154,905 m.t.	3,558,625	
Rock Asphalt.....	9,950 "	218,000	
Sand, gravel, salt and all other non-metallics.....		8,272,949	₱34,100,328
Grand Total.....			₱145,833,393

NOTE: *—The estimated average market price of gold from January 1 to December 31, 1953, is ₱135.35 per ounce.

—Compiled in the Mining and Metallurgical Division from the reports of mining companies and/or other producers. Prepared by Massimo P. Garcia, Mining Engineer, January 30, 1954.

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Meanwhile, efforts are being made to reconcile differences between labor and management and to standardize wages on a mutually satisfactory basis as a prelude to the insertion of a "non-strike" clause or agreement, possibly to be incorporated in the projected Subsidy Bill itself. If successful, this clause alone would do much for the gold mines because industrial peace is an absolute requisite to efficient operation.

No attempt will be made here to predict the outcome of these efforts other than to express confidence that ultimately the mining industry will be aided. Whether the type and amount will represent a mere "transfusion" to prolong the life of the patient, or whether it will be substantial enough actually save the patient, is the alternative which the Presidential Commission, and ultimately Congress, will determine.

Preliminarily, it appears that the subsidy may be sufficient merely to keep existing mines going, but insufficient to attract other gold producers into the production stage. To put it briefly, the proposed subsidy of ₱110.00 per ounce for refined gold (approximately ₱109.00 for bullion) will barely keep going the mines in operation, while (in my opinion) nothing below ₱120.00 per ounce will attract new capital to the gold industry, even in mines already developed and needing only a little more capital to definitely get into production.

BASE METAL PRODUCTION IN THE PHILIPPINES Calendar Year 1953

Name of Company	TOTALS	
	Quantity in M.T.	Value in Pesos
Consolidated Mines (a)	468,549	₱14,056,470
Acoje Mining (b)	75,200	4,910,970
Dinagat Mines (b)	697	57,349
Luzon Stev. Chromite (b)	7,258	471,620
Zambales Chromite (b)	3,188	146,522
Mayon Mining (b)	2,198	184,632
Lepanto Consolidated (c)	12,233	14,270,092
Mindanao Mother Lode (d)	218	280,967
San Mauricio (e)	163	202,073
United Paracale (f)	11	13,337
Hixbr Gold Mining (g)	90	135,802
Looc Lead-Silver Mines (b)	3	1,503
San Mauricio (e)	827	489,730
Surigao Consolidated (i)	1,591	871,117
United Paracale (f)	13	7,137
San Mauricio (e)	406	216,404
Surigao Consolidated (i)	341	194,569
Philippine Iron Mines (j)	724,983	14,516,809
Samar Mining (j)	286,869	5,094,932
Marinduque Iron Mines (j)	206,012	3,630,936
Baybay Manganese (k)	1,723	142,664
Cia Minera de Filipinas (k)	802	67,360
General Base Metals (k)	13,281	744,705
Luzon Base Metals (k)	1,591	28,127
Luzon Stev. Manganese (k)	935	76,568
Misamis Or. Manganese (k)	233	10,599
Palawan Manganese Mines (k)	2,000	185,100
Palawan Mining Corp. (k)	1,680	139,232
Olga Freight Service (k)	524	20,908
T Ref. Chromite Ore	468,549	₱14,056,470
O Met. Chromite Ore	88,541	5,771,093
T Copper Metal	12,715	14,901,911
A Lead Metal	2,434	1,369,487
L Zinc Metal	747	410,973
S Iron Ore	1,217,864	23,242,677
Manganese Ore	21,508	1,415,063
Gran. Totals		₱61,167,674

NOTE: (a) Chromite mine with refractory grade of ore.
(b) Chromite mine with metallurgical grade of ore.
(c) Copper mine with gold and silver as by-products.
(d) Gold mine with silver and copper as by-products but shut down in September, 1953.
(e) Gold mine with silver, copper, lead, and zinc as by-products.
(f) Gold mine with silver, copper, and lead as by-products, but shut down in May, 1953.
(g) Copper mine exporting copper ore.
(h) Lead-silver mine exporting lead concentrate with silver as by-product.
(i) Gold mine with silver, lead, and zinc as by-products.
(j) Iron mine exporting iron ore.
(k) Manganese mine exporting manganese ore.

—Compiled by the Mining and Metallurgical Division from the reports of mining companies and/or other producers. Prepared by Maximo P. Garcia, Mining Engineer, January 30, 1954.

NON-METALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTION

Calendar Year 1953

Product	Quantity	Value—₱
Clay Products: (pieces)		
Pottery (jars, pots, stoves, etc.)	1,124,292	₱ 172,910
Bricks	265,200	34,024
Tiles	1,360,000	272,500
Paints (white clay, ochre, etc.) M.T.	603	34,494
Building Stones (adobe, coral blocks, limestone blocks, etc.) pcs.	223,215	146,156
Marble Products ^a		
Finished Products (Sq.M.)	1,516	
Unfinished Products (Cu.M.)	432	162,467
Limestone Products (M.T.)		
Cement manufacture (lime and limestone rocks) ^b	282,385	461,061
Agricultural lime (fertilizer) ^c	907	13,596
Industrial lime (glassware, rubber products, sugar, mining, etc.) ^d	9,390	657,247
Building construction lime (slaked lime, quick lime) ^d	2,486	124,278
Other uses of lime ^d	6,800	287,614
Lime from shells (M.T.)	1,045	45,713
Guano (M.T.)	640	27,583
Sulfur (M.T.)	1,976	92,836
Salt from sea water (cavanes) ^e	954,753	1,909,506
Rock salt	1,236	4,945
Sand and gravel (cu.m.)	1,013,729	3,302,141
Crushed rock (cu.m.)	41,830	221,304
Silica sand (M.T.)	24,451	302,574
Total		₱8,272,949

a—Figures taken from Cebu Portland Cement Co. and Marble Corp. of the Philippines.

b—Figures taken from Cebu Portland Cement Co. and Rizal Cement Co.

c—Figures taken from Ipo Lime and Marble Corp. of the Philippines.

d—Figures taken from lime manufacturing companies.

e—0 cavanes equivalent to one metric ton.

—Compiled in the Mining and Metallurgical Division from the reports of Municipal Treasurers of the Philippines and/or other producers. Prepared by Consorcio G. Roa, Mining Engineer, February 3, 1954.

Lumber

BY PACIFICO DE OCAMPO
Secretary-Treasurer

Philippine Lumber Producers' Association, Inc.

DURING the month under review, January, 1954, the Philippines exported 44,951,793 bd. ft. of logs and lumber, 5,024,784 bd. ft. less than the preceding month. This big decrease was mainly due to the decline in the shipment of logs to Japan, from 41,834,287 bd. ft. in December, 1953, to 37,521,182 bd. ft. in January, 1954, or a decrease of 4,313,105 bd. ft. The exports to the United States decreased by 198,428 bd. ft., from 5,575,345 bd. ft. in December, 1953, to 5,376,917 bd. ft. in January, 1954. Exports to all other countries decreased by 480,160 bd. ft., from 2,533,854 bd. ft. in December, 1953, to 2,053,694 bd. ft. in January, 1954.

The following are the quantities of logs and lumber in bd. ft. inspected for export during December, 1953, as released by the Bureau of Forestry.

Shipper	Destination	Volume in Board Feet	
		Lumber	Logs
Aguinaldo Development Co.	Japan		999,991
Agusan Timber Corp.	Japan		1,300,000
American Rubber Co.	Japan		600,007
Anakan	U. S. A.		250,000
Lumber Co.	Japan		2,820,000
Basilan	U. S. A.	549,371	389,318
Lumber	Hongkong	44,671	
Co.	Japan		2,599,635
Bislig Bay Lumber Co., Inc.	Japan		5,579,964
Brigido R. Valencia	Japan		687,727
Cipriano Luna Lumber Enterprises	Japan		599,550
Dee Cho Lumber Co.	U. S. A.	28,000	
East Mindanao Lumber Co.	Japan		350,000
Edward L. Kincaid.	U. S. A.	100,290	
Extensive Enterprises Corp.	Japan		1,451,665
F. E. Zuellig, Inc.	U. S. A.	82,665	
Findlay Millar	Okinawa	320,000	
Timber Co.	Japan		2,462,638