

# Notes of the Industry

## Salad Dressings in Louisville

Salad dressings were generally profitable to the 25 retail grocers carrying them whose operations were intensively analyzed by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, in connection with its Louisville Grocery Survey. Only 3 stores out of the 25 failed to make a profit on salad dressings, the average net profit being 9.4 per cent of sales. Net profit in the sense used here refers to pure earnings over and above all expenses, including proprietor's salary, rent, and 6 per cent on investment, whether or not these items of expense are actually paid out in cash. Salad dressings represented 0.5 per cent of total sales, and about 1.7 per cent of sales exclusive of perishables. The average gross margin for salad dressings was 26 per cent as against 26.4 per cent for all commodities, but in operating expenses salad dressings showed an advantage of 1.5 per cent below the average cost for all commodities. Salad dressings show an average of one more stock turn a year than other groceries except perishables, 8.5 times against 7.5 times, the average turn for perishables being 76.4 times annually. A wide range was noted in the number of turns of salad dressings per store. The store with the highest turn, 21.1, showed a net profit of 15 per cent on this item. The three stores reporting a net loss on salad dressings turned their stock of this commodity 6.1, 6.1, and 3.5 times, respectively, but the store which stood second lowest, with but 5 turns per year, showed a net profit of 8.4 per cent. Copies of Selling Salad Dressings through Retail Stores, like the earlier similar reports on coffees and cereals, are available without charge from any District Office of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce.

## New Procter Plant

The new plant of the Procter & Gamble Company, at Long Beach, California, on which work is progressing rapidly, will occupy a 15-acre site on West Seventh Street in the Harbor District, immediately adjoining the site of the Pacific Southwest Exposition of 1928. The plant will comprise complete units for the manufacture of the company's well-known brands of edible products and soaps.

## Study Vegetable Oil Tariff

Vegetable oil production costs will be studied by the United States Tariff Commission in compliance with recent Senate resolutions. A resolution sponsored by Senator Morris Sheppard of Texas directs the commission to submit to congress a detailed study of the costs of production and transportation to principal consuming markets in the United States of coconut oil and copra from the Philippine Islands, and from other principal producing regions and also palm, palm-kernel, whale, rapeseed, perilla and sesame oils. The principal uses of these oils in the United States and of the kinds and amounts of domestic oils and fats replaced in domestic industry by these imports is to be stated. As these oils are not produced in the United States, the commission could not make such an investigation under the flexible provision of the tariff act, and this investigation will be conducted under its general investigating powers. The report will not be the basis for duty changes except by congress.

## Archer-Daniels Enters Food Field

The Commander-Larabee Corporation, third largest milling company in the United States, has passed to the control of interests, associated with the Archer-Daniels-Midland Company and Guy A. Thomas, Minneapolis. This control has been acquired through the purchase of the Continental Baking Company's holdings in the milling company. Mr. Thomas will become chairman of the board of the Commander-Larabee Corporation and S. M. Archer of the Archer-Daniels-Midland Company will be made president. The milling company will be operated under the management of the newly organized National Foods Corporation, a Delaware concern, of which Messrs. Thomas and Archer are directors in addition to Samuel Mairs, L. M. Leffingwell of the Archer-Daniels-Midland Company, C. T. Jaffray, president of the Soo Line, and A. M. Washburn of the First National Bank of Minneapolis.

## Indian Peanut and Linseed Crops

The final forecast for the whole of India estimates a yield this year of 2,475,000 tons of unshelled peanuts and 374,000 tons of linseed as against 2,248,000 tons and 322,000 tons respectively in 1929.

## Java Trade in June Quarter

The exports of copra, copra cake and coconut oil for the June quarter of 1930 from Java and Madura are as follows:—

	Copra and Copra Cake Metric tons	Coconut Oil Metric tons
Holland .....	4,801	2,330
Germany .....	3,102	192
Great Britain .....	995	770
Belgium .....	3,547	—
United States .....	—	898
Other countries .....	1,622	—
Totals .....	14,067	4,190

Following are tables showing exports of copra, copra cake and coconut oil for the June quarter 1930, as reported separately from the Javanese ports of Batavia (Tandjong Priok), Surabaya and Tjilatap:—

	Copra and Copra Cake Metric tons	Coconut Oil Metric tons
Batavia .....	3,159	—
Surabaya .....	4,806	2,722
Tjilatap .....	3,557	1,980
Semarang .....	88	—
Totals .....	11,610	4,702

The arrival on the market of coconuts is comparatively scant. The nuts on the trees are being somewhat neglected by the natives since they cannot secure good prices for them in the markets. The present crop and the outlook for harvests in the near future are poor. Early and continued droughts are partly responsible. During the June quarter of 1930, prices for copra in lots of 220 pounds ranged for export from \$6.67 to \$8.44; prices for home consumption, \$8.44 to \$8.84.

Coconut oil prices during the same period, per 220 pounds, for export, ranged from \$12.06 to \$13.87 and for home consumption, from \$13.87 to \$14.67. Owing to the lesser price obtainable in exporting, the leading local exporter states that only existing export contracts are being sold at higher prices for local consumption.—*Report from Vice Consul Lanctot at Surabaya.*

The following table shows the exports of certain oleaginous products from China to the United States during the seven months of 1930 ending July:

Bean cake meal.....	\$793,000
Sesame seed .....	936,000
Wood oil .....	8,742,000
Vegetable tallow .....	553,000
Peanut oil .....	2,341,000
Soya bean oil .....	515,000

## American Whaling Revival

For the first time in several decades a whaling vessel bearing the American flag will be seen in the whaling waters of the Antarctic Ocean this season when the steamship Frango of the newly-organized American Whaling Company, New York, arrives. The Frango is a 6,000 ton oil-burning vessel, equipped with every modern device for whaling and is regarded as a pioneer in the renaissance of American whaling.

## Herring Oil from Iceland

Considerable economic importance is attached to a new herring oil factory which is ready for operation at Siglufjord, Iceland, and which the government will presently open. The plant will be the largest in the country, is located in the heart of the herring fishing industry, and will be operated by a co-operative association, although government owned. It will be fully able to handle the large herring catch of the country. Heretofore it has been necessary to throw away thousands of hectoliters of herring because of the limited factory capacity.

## Argentine Linseed Crop

The Ministry of Agriculture of Argentina has estimated the acreage sown to linseed during 1930 to be 7,536,550 acres as compared with the forecast of 7,089,299 acres for 1929 issued on October 8th of last year. Early growth is said to be proceeding under good conditions. In the province of Santa Fe some fields were adversely affected by frosts, but this was not of importance. Further rain will favor those late-sown fields where the plant has not yet sprouted and the growth of others where there has not been progress recently.

Freight rates on palm oil from Straits Settlement ports to Conference basis ports in Europe have been reduced to \$14.29 per scale ton, in cases and the freight on palm kernels has been reduced to \$7.20 per scale ton for the same journeys.

The feeding value of soybean meal will be the subject of a pamphlet being prepared for general distribution by the National Soybean Oil Manufacturers' Association.

Harry E. Smith has resigned his position with Devoe & Raynolds to take a position in the research laboratory of Foster Dee Snell, Consulting Chemist.