

# Notes of the Industry

## Edward Flash Retires

Edward Flash, Jr., dean of the cottonseed oil and products brokerage business of New York, has recently retired after more than fifty years of activity in the brokerage and commission business. Mr. Flash entered business with his father in 1879, under the firm name of Edward Flash and Son. In 1887 he became associated with the Southern Cotton Oil Company upon its formation, having complete charge of their sales in New York and abroad. In 1892 he joined the force of the American Cotton Oil Company, leaving that company in 1897 to form the Williams and Flash Company, in partnership with George H. Williams. Upon retirement of Mr. Williams from this partnership in 1909 the business was continued until the present time under the name of The Edward Flash Company. The late William A. Storts was a partner in the business until his death in 1928, since which time it has been conducted by Mr. Flash alone. Mr. Flash will be greatly missed by the members of the trade throughout the country.

## Olive Oil Tariff Reduction

President Hoover has approved the report of the Tariff Commission under section 336 of the tariff act of 1930, recommending that the duty provided for in paragraph 53 of that act for olive oil, weighing, with the immediate containers less than 40 pounds be reduced from 9½ to 8 cents per pound on contents and container. The commission in its report makes no findings with respect to a change in the present rate of duty of 6½ cents per pound on bulk olive oil.

A report from Trade Commissioner Carlson at Oslo, states that the production of whale oil through March 27, amounted to about 3,500,000 barrels of which about 2,227,000 were for Norwegian companies.

There have been a number of rumors that Russia expects to ship a considerable amount of linseed during the next year, but the more conservative traders believe that the amount that Russia will put on the market during the next season will not be more than 30 per cent above her exports of last year.

## Palm Kernel Separator

A further development in the oil palm industry is exemplified in a new dry separating machine which has been introduced by a well-known British firm. This is claimed as the only machine which effectively separates palm kernels and palm nut shells, obtained by the mechanical cracking of palm nuts, without the use of either clay or brine baths, hitherto favored. The separation of kernels from shells has always presented a difficult problem in this industry, and as by this machine the kernels are delivered dry, no further treatment by washing after separation is required, as was the case by the two previously mentioned methods. In respect of both capital cost and operating charges, the new machine is better than the brine or clay bath installation of equal capacity. Five of these machines are working with complete success in Malaya, and it is expected that many will be installed in other oil palm districts. The separator is based on the fact that the kernels have a greater tendency to roll than the nut shells. The essential features of the machine are the two inclined endless metallic carpets, placed one above the other, onto the upper one of which the mixture of kernels and shells is fed in a thin stream by means of an automatic feeding hopper. The separated product contains no more than 3 per cent. of shell, a lower percentage being achieved under certain favorable conditions. It is not easy to exaggerate the importance of the advantages which should follow this development.

The following table shows exports of fish oils from the Bergen Consular district to the United States during the first quarter of 1931:

	1st Quar. 1930		1st Quar. 1931	
	Gallons	Value	Gallons	Value
Cod liver oil, medicinal . . . .	387,720	\$ 310,699	211,939	\$148,487
Cod liver oil, industrial . . . .	123,650	55,681	2,500	1,325
Whale oil . . . . .	6,512,820	2,720,613	1,101,299	679,503
Other fish oils . . . . .	16,500	13,202	—	—

*(Report from Consul Smith at Bergen, Norway.)*

Wesson Oil and Snowdrift Company, Inc., and subsidiaries report for nine months ended May 31: Net profit after depreciation, federal taxes and other charges, \$1,984,042, equal, after preferred dividends, to \$1.50 a share on the common stock, compared with \$2,237,531, or \$1.73 a share in the first three quarters of the preceding fiscal year.

Stocks of crude cottonseed oil on hand in United States as of April 30, 1931 totaled 43,048,435 lbs. as against 61,954,318 lbs. at the same point last year. Stocks of refined oil totaled 462,880,943 lbs. on April 30, 1931, as against 516,752,941 lbs. on the same date last year.

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Procter & Gamble Co. pays the announced quarterly dividend of \$1.25 per share on common stock, June 15, to holders of record May 25.

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Glycera Wax, a new synthetic wax, is now being produced in commercial quantities. It is a light tan colored wax melting at about 140° F. It is odorless, tasteless, and edible. Glycera Wax is more soluble than any of the natural waxes. Turpentine will dissolve more than 12% of its weight to give a permanently clear solution. It is somewhat soluble in alcohol. Glycera Wax is unique in that although it is insoluble in water, it can be dispersed in water very readily without any emulsifying agent. For example if 1 part of Glycera Wax is melted in 10 parts of water and stirred while cooking, it disperses and forms a beautiful white cream when cold. If a larger amount of water is used, a thin milky emulsion results. Both of these dispersions are exceedingly stable. Glycera Wax acts as a softener in rubber and under certain conditions as a plasticizer in lacquers. It blends readily with other waxes and resins.

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It has been reported in the London press that offers as high as \$70 a ton for substantial unsold quantities of whale oil have been refused by Norwegian whaling companies recently, although previously quantities of oil had sold as low as \$57 ton. This has led to the belief that unsold whale oil would be stored rather than being thrown on the market at unfavorable prices. The Bank of Norway has indicated that it may assist in arranging the necessary financial backing and it is thought that the whalers reached an agreement for storage at a recent meeting in Oslo. It is believed that such a development would bring prices as high as \$90 ton by the end of the year.

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E. A. Staley Mfg. Corp. has recently installed new machinery for the production of soy bean oil which they will use more extensively in manufacturing their products than heretofore.

The annual outing of the Oil Trades Association of New York was held June 16 at Briarcliff, N. Y. Despite unfavorable weather, the day being rainy, the attendance was large, about 200 members and guests, including a delegation from the Oil Trades Association of Philadelphia, being present. Two auto buses carried a large number of the picknickers, but many others made the trip in private cars.

A feature of the outing was a baseball game between the "Petroleum Terrors" and the "Awful Vegetoils," the former winning by a score of 12 to 9. The prizes for this event were silver-backed combs and brushes, the former fitting into the latter. Golf, tennis, swimming, and other sports were indulged in, and the day was voted to have been one of the most enjoyable in the history of the association.

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The production of olive oil in Liguria, Italy, during the year 1930-1931 is at present estimated to be little more than one quarter that of the preceding year. The olive crop for the year just finishing, according to preliminary figures which have just been issued, amounted to only approximately 36,038,200 pounds, as compared with 127,540,600 pounds for 1929-1930. Provisional figures for the total production of olive oil from the 1930-1931 yield of olives are given as about 705,165 gallons as compared with a production of 2,711,915 gallons the previous year. Relatively speaking, the Ligurian production is small and it is largely used for home consumption, whereas the olive oil exports are built upon the olive imports from Spain, Tunis, Tripoli, and other sources. (*Report from Vice Consul Huston at Genoa.*)

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Material increases in the rates of duty on imports of animal and vegetable oils and fats have been placed in effect by the Mexican government under the terms of a recent presidential decree.

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Emery Industries, Inc., Cincinnati, announces changes in the telephone numbers of its New York office, which now will be COrtland 7-1742 and 7-1743.

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Gold Dust Corp. has just completed retirement of \$15,000,000 of its funded debt. The liquidation took place over a period of eighteen months, during which working capital was not impaired. A saving of \$750,000 annually in interest charges will result.

## Margarine Regulations

(From Page 265)

The tax upon oleomargarine when it has a tint or shade containing more than one and six-tenths degrees of yellow, or of yellow and red collectively, but with an excess of yellow over red, measured in the terms of the Lovibond tintometer scale or its equivalent, is 10 cents per pound, and the tax upon oleomargarine having a tint or shade containing less than one and six-tenths degrees of yellow, or yellow and red collectively, but with an excess of yellow over red, measured in the terms of the Lovibond tintometer scale or its equivalent, is one-fourth cent per pound. Any fractional part of a pound in a package is taxable as a pound. The tax on oleomargarine accrues upon removal from the factory or place where it is made, or upon sale prior to such removal, and is to be paid by the manufacturer thereof by the affixing of stamps before removal. Oleomargarine may be removed from the place of manufacture without the payment of tax for export (Sec. 96) or for use of the United States upon compliance with the provisions of revised Regulations 73 and 34, respectively."

Section 43 is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 43. Method to be used in determining the degrees of color in oleomargarine.—The sample of oleomargarine to be tested should be spread to a smooth surface in a glazed porcelain tray having an inside depth of 3/16 of an inch. Irregularities on the surface of the oleomargarine should be avoided because they cause the formation of dark shadows. Excessive working of the product should also be avoided because any melted fat on the surface will increase the tint of the oleomargarine. The temperature at which the test is made depends to some extent upon the composition of the oleomargarine but it (temperature) should be high enough to permit the spreading of the oleomargarine in the tray and low enough to prevent melting on the surface. A temperature of 60° F. has been found satisfactory.

"The tray containing the oleomargarine should be placed on a sheet of white filter paper just below the cell end of a monocular tilting type Lovibond tintometer. Fine precipitated calcium sulphate worked to a smooth surface should be put in a similar tray alongside the tray containing the oleomargarine. By tilting the rear of the instrument to an approximate angle of 30° the light from both trays is reflected through the instrument. Standard color glass slides should be placed in slots provided for this purpose until the tint of the calcium sulphate appears to be the same as the tint or shade of the oleomargarine. The numerical color value of the glass slides used is the tint or shade of the oleomargarine.

"The cell end of the tintometer is placed in an 18 inch cubical skeleton frame constructed from one-half inch square wooden material, five sides being covered with sheets of white filter paper, the sixth side being left open for the tintometer. Light from a north window is preferable in taking readings. The use of filtered light through this device makes the color more distinct and also cuts off the possibility of shadows from the outside.

"The adaptability of the eye to perceive variations in color varies considerably with time of observation. It is imperative, therefore, to limit the observation to a fixed time, for which five seconds will be found convenient.

"The porcelain trays used in this test must be of the type generally used with the Lovibond tintometer for matching colors of powders."

Section 82 is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 82. Packages without stamps or marks to be seized for forfeiture.—All packages of oleomargarine subject to tax found without stamps or marks provided by law and these regulations are liable to seizure for forfeiture; likewise any yellow oleomargarine within the meaning of that term as provided in section 8 of the Act of August 2, 1886, amended, as amended by section 2 of the Act of March 4, 1931, found on the market in packages bearing tax-paid stamps at the rate of one-fourth of 1 cent per pound."

The provisions of this Treasury Decision took effect June 3, 1931, and all rulings in so far as they may be inconsistent therewith were revoked as of that date.

A complete copy of the amendments to Regulations No. 9, as promulgated by the Bureau, may be obtained by anyone concerned upon application to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue for a copy of Treasury Decision No. 4313.

The Archer-Daniels-Midland Company plans to erect one of the largest terminal grain elevators in the northwest, according to a statement of Shreve M. Archer, president, who declared that the company believed more terminal space will be needed to warehouse northwest crops in the future. The proposed new elevator will have a capacity of 7,000,000 bushels and will occupy an entire city block, two small obsolete buildings being razed. Work will start at once and it is expected to be completed September 1.

The New York State Public Service Commission has approved for the Staten Island Rapid Transit Railroad reduced freight rates on cottonseed oil and cottonseed oil foots in bulk (barrels or tank cars) carloads (minimum 30,000 pounds), from Port Ivory to New York Central stations, as follows:—Buffalo, 26½ cents per 100 lbs.; Rochester 26½ cents; Syracuse 25 cents. The new rates became effective June 29.

It is reported in London that Unilever will send its own whaling fleet to the Antarctic next season in spite of decision of the greater part of the industry to give up production for the 1931-1932 season. The reason for Unilever's proposed action is said to be the necessity of getting 50,000 tons of fresh oil for edible purposes. It is also believed that Unilever plans to increase its own production to be more independent of other suppliers.