

Notes of the Industry

Brazilian Lard Exporting

It is reported that the Sociedade de Banha Sul Rio Grandense of Porto Alegre, Brazil, which is the commercial department of the Lard Syndicate of Rio Grande do Sul, intends to change the manner of packing refined lard which is exported to European markets. The present practice is to pack the product in tin containers of different sizes. The Society now intends to chill the lard in standard export blocks, each weighing 28 pounds, wrapped separately in wax paper.

It is also reported that the refined lard which is destined to the various European markets will be exported to Liverpool where a central distributing warehouse, under the direction of a British expert specially contracted by the Lard Society will dispatch the product for sale in England and on the Continent.

American Chemical Society

The eighty-second annual meeting of the American Chemical Society will be held at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, New York, during the week of August 31. The opening event of the meeting will be a symposium on "New Research Tools," in which twelve important new adjuncts to research will be discussed.

The B. S. Pearsall Butter Company, manufacturers of butter, cheese and oleomargarine, have announced entry into the manufacture of tinned soups, tomato juice and tomato juice cocktail. The new products will be manufactured at Plainville, Indiana and also at the company's main plant at Elgin, Illinois.

A temporary injunction to prohibit the enforcement of the lard substitute (shortening) tax in South Dakota, has been granted to the Wesson Oil and Snowdrift Sales Company by the Circuit Court at Pierce, South Dakota. The new law, which would tax lard substitutes (vegetable shortenings) at 5c per pound, became effective July 1. The injunction was granted on the contention of the Wesson company that the measure is unconstitutional.

The Buckeye Cotton Oil Co. has recently started crushing soybeans at Louisville, now producing soybean oil as well as cottonseed oil and offering both types of meal and cake.

New Laboratory Scale

A laboratory scale, designed to permit close reading without the use of extended beam equipment, has recently been perfected by the Toledo Scale Company, Toledo, Ohio. The chart on this scale has a capacity of 500 grams, with a mark and figure for each gram. It also shows the avoirdupois equivalents. Additional capacity up to 5 kilograms may be secured by the use of weights.

This scale is so designed that the oscillation ordinarily found in extended beam type scales is eliminated. The chart housing may be set at any convenient angle, and the scale comes equipped with either a pan, platter or scoop as the purchaser desires. It is finished in grey baked enamel which is easily kept free from dust and dirt. This scale is for use, primarily, in industrial research laboratories. It will be a great aid to research engineers as it enables them to weigh ingredients accurately, to the gram, in approximately one quarter the time consumed with balance equipment.

The Federal Trade Commission resumed its hearings in investigation of the cottonseed industry in Shreveport, Louisiana, on Wednesday, July 29th, in the Chamber of Commerce Building. In compliance with two Senate resolutions the Commission has held hearings in various southern cities in the last year, in an investigation of the cottonseed situation. Volumes of testimony have been adduced at these hearings, but arrival at definite conclusion seems remote.

General Foods Corporation, Best Foods, Inc., and Kraft-Phenix Cheese Corporation have renewed their memberships in the Mayonnaise Manufacturers Association.

At a recent general conference of all interests affected, the simplification program on glass containers for mayonnaise, salad dressing and sandwich spread was approved for recommendation to the mayonnaise industry.

The conference voted to reduce the number of sizes of glass containers from 25 to 5, and to standardize on liquid measure as the gauge of contents. The five sizes recommended by the conference are the 3 fluid ounce, the half-pint, pint, quart and gallon. It is noteworthy that this simplification program will not affect the distinctive shapes of containers in use by different manufacturers.

Record Earnings for Procter

The annual report recently issued by the Procter and Gamble Company for the twelve months ended June 30 showed net earnings of \$22,658,018, which was compared with earnings of \$22,450,000 for the previous fiscal year.

The increase in net earnings was achieved despite a falling off in gross sales, which were \$190,523,237, as compared with \$203,305,610 for the previous year. It was pointed out in the report that the decrease in gross sales did not result from a lower volume of business measured in tonnage, but from the steady decline in sales prices during the period. Total assets of the company show an increase of \$13,149,073, being reported this year as \$169,027,631, as compared with \$155,878,554 in 1930.

A cable communication from Trade Commissioner Ehrhardt at Mukden, Manchuria, states that June and July shipments of Manchurian soybeans show large increase southward to Dairen with corresponding falling off of shipments to Vladivostock reported due to shortage of coolie labor at Vladivostock and withdrawal of several shipping companies from that port.

Margarine Tax Amendments

Amendments to the margarine tax regulations to conform with the new definition of margarine which includes so-called cooking compounds have been issued by the Bureau of Internal Revenue. The regulations are under the Haugen law, approved July 10, 1930, to take effect twelve months later. The law amends the legal definition of margarine to include within the tax a number of preparations sold as cooking compounds but alleged to be used as butter substitutes and which were the cause of much litigation in attempts to escape the tax.

The regulations are drawn in detail to include all products which might be used as butter substitutes but to exempt puff pastry shortenings, salad dressings, liquid emulsions, pharmaceutical preparations, oil meals, liquid preservatives, illuminating oils, cleansing compounds, and flavoring compounds. In case of doubt, collectors are to forward samples to Washington for analysis.

According to a recent ruling of the Treasury Department, the use of hydrogenated whale oil is now permitted in margarines made and sold in the United States.

English Seed and Oil Values

At the end of June, the average index of oilseeds stood at one point better than in January, being 76% of the pre-war average taken as 100. There was a slight gain during February, but this was not held although a rally in June brought the average back seven points from the low of the year, or 69% pre-war average. Soybeans reflected a net loss of one point for this six months period, while undecorticated peanuts registered a gain of 18 points. Plate linseed in June went to about 7 points above the January average.

The average for oils and fats in June was two points under the January average. A notable loss was that of Danish butter, the index value of which fell from 110 in January to 90 points in June. Coconut oil lost 11 points and African soft palm oil 7 points. Most of the other items showed gains. Oil cake showed a net loss, averaging a lower index of two points for the six months period, the chief losses being on 9% linseed down 13 points while Egyptian cottonseed cake was up 4 points. Soybean meal climbed 3 points.

Largest Whaler Completed

From the shipyard of Workman, Clark & Co., Belfast, Ireland, the 34,000 ton "*Kosmos II*" was launched on July 7. The ship is designed for the Antarctic whaling trade and is the largest whaling vessel now afloat on the high seas. The boat is larger than many of the ocean greyhounds and is equipped with the latest devices for whaling, and reduction of the carcasses. It is a combined factory and tanker and with thirty-three large tanks holding a total of 25,000 tons of whale oil. The new machinery will be able to handle the carcasses and extract oil up to 2,500 barrels daily. She has accommodations for 300 men aboard, including the crews of seven killer boats which will make up her fleet. As originally laid down and planned the *Kosmos II* was to enter the Antarctic whaling trade this fall, but owing to the agreement to keep the whalers tied up at their ports in Europe, she will proceed to Norway and lie idle for a year, leaving for the Antarctic in July, 1932.

Evans A. Sigworth, of Industrial Chemical Sales Company's New York office, was married on June 24th to Miss Mary A. Bigely at Spruce Street, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Sigworth will make their residence in New York City.