

Notes of the Industry

Meat Packers Convention

THE American Institute of Meat Packers held its twenty-fourth annual convention, at Chicago, October 18-23. The sessions were held at the Drake Hotel, under the Chairmanship of F. S. Snyder, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Institute. The major interest of the members attending was directed toward the adoption of a code of trade practices, which was the culmination of months of effort on the part of members of the Institute to set up a code of business conduct in line with recommendations made at the 1928 convention.

Other subjects discussed included the new quick-freezing process which gives promise of revolutionizing the methods of meat distribution; the education of the cattle raiser in methods of raising better meat animals; the relation of the chain store to the meat packer and the manner in which such relations affect retail distribution of the packer's products; the improvement of production and merchandising of lard and its standardization; and the education of the consuming public in the proper appreciation of the value of meat in the diet.

The officers and directors elected for the coming year were as follows: Chairman of the Board—F. S. Snyder, Boston, Mass., President—William Whitfield Woods, Chicago, Vice-Chairmen—E. A. Cudahy, Jr., Chicago, D. C. Dickinson, Philadelphia, Jay C. Hormel, Austin, Minnesota, Chester Newcomb, Cleveland, Ohio, A. T. Rohe, New York; Treasurer—Henry Neuhoff, Nashville, Tennessee.

The Vegetable Oil Corporation is erecting a large copra crushing mill at Wilmington, California. It is planned to augment the plant at a later date with machinery for handling cottonseed, sesame seed and other products. The company is preparing to introduce two new shortenings as additions to its present lines of refined coconut oil and margarines.

Experiments by the British government in the growing of tung trees in Ceylon have not been satisfactory. Plantings at Hakgala, Peradeniya and Heneratgoda have made poor showings. Somewhat better results have been obtained at Etvawalla.

In an opinion handed down by Judge Brown of the United States Customs Court, the protests of a Philadelphia importer claiming stearic acid dutiable at 1¼c per pound, were overruled. Stearic acid is classified as dutiable at 25% ad valorem under paragraph one of the Tariff Act of 1922.

Much of the Tunis olive oil producing area was dry during July, siroccos being prevalent and causing considerable damage. Throughout three of the major producing regions, high temperatures and the occurrence of hail storms were responsible for fruit dropping from the trees. On the whole, however, and taking into account the two remaining regions, the crop appears to promise a good volume of fruit. In one region in particular, despite damage from hailstones, the crop was pronounced excellent. *Consular Report.*

M. F. Austin, Manager of the Vegetable Oil Department of W. R. Grace and Co., New York, is now traveling in Japan. He is expected to return to New York early in December.

Bids are being sought for the construction and equipment of a proposed margarine factory at Colombo, Ceylon. The proponents of the project have announced that they propose to install American equipment and adopt American methods of manufacture. British India is regarded as a promising outlet for the margarine produced at this plant, in view of its proximity and the much reduced cost of manufacture as compared with the European product.

The Annual Meeting of the American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists will be held at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia on December 6th and 7th. On Friday, December 6th, the executive council will meet in the afternoon, followed by an open meeting the same evening. All day Saturday, December 7th, will be devoted to the business of the Association and the reading of technical papers related to the industries in which the members are interested, particularly the textile industry. The meeting will close with the Annual Banquet on Saturday evening.