

Notes of the Industry

Shortenings Tax Favored

By a vote of 245 to 74 the house passed the bill (H. R. 6) introduced by Representative Gilbert N. Haugen of Iowa to apply the oleomargarin taxes to so-called "cooking compounds" made in semblance of butter.

Despite the fact that both margarin manufacturers and dairy interests strongly supported the measure, the debate of nearly three days which preceded the vote was marked by attacks from many angles, particularly by those who oppose all margarin taxes, those who seek continuance of the tax-free status of the products under consideration, and those who desire higher taxes on all butter substitutes. Most of the debate dealt with the qualities of margarin and other compounds, the condition of the dairy industry, and the importation of coconut oil from the Philippine Islands.

According to figures reported to the United States Bureau of Internal Revenue by margarin manufacturers, production in December, 1929, compared with the output in December, 1928, as follows:—

	Pounds	
	1929	1928
Uncolored oleomargarin	31,226,440	27,324,690
Colored oleomargarin	1,656,465	1,574,703

Sharples Separator Co., West Chester, Pennsylvania, are now marketing their Super-centrifugal in a laboratory model, which is a miniature of the standard commercial size. The laboratory model is intended for use in accomplishing on a small scale the same class of separations and clarifications for which the industrial equipment has proven suitable. The company has been working with such products as fine oils, varnishes, liquid soaps, etc.

Clifford T. Weihman of Smith-Weihman Co., Inc., has been nominated for President of the Oil Trades Association of New York for the coming year.

Lower freight rates on solid and liquid lard substitutes in carloads from Memphis, Tenn., to destinations in Oklahoma are sought in a complaint filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission by the Southern Cotton Oil Company, New Orleans, La.

Wesson Trademark Sustained

Sustaining the opposition of the Southern Cotton Oil Company, Jersey City, N. J., the United States Patent Office has refused the Globe Grain & Milling Company, Los Angeles, registration of "Westola" as a trademark for a shortening compound.

The Southern Cotton Oil Company is owner of the trademark, "Wesson," also used as a shortening. The Globe company in vain protested that its product is solid, is sold in bulk to large users, and is distributed only on the Pacific Coast and in Hawaii, while "Wesson" is a liquid, is sold in small containers, and is distributed to household users.

Refining-in-transit rates on cottonseed oil from Texas points to Los Angeles and San Francisco are sought by the Interstate Cotton Oil Refining Company, Sherman, Texas, in a complaint filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Mechanical Manufacturing Co., Chicago, manufacturers of packing house and similar equipment, have been the recipients of a complaint from the Federal Trade Commission alleging the practice by the company of forced reciprocity in buying. The complaint alleges that the Mechanical company, said to be controlled by members of Swift and Company, has "induced and compelled" railways to purchase its "Durable" draft gear and other railway equipment by promises of great volume of tonnage from Swift and Company, or by threats that such freight will be diverted to other lines. The Mechanical Company has filed a general denial of the charges.

McCormick & Co., Baltimore, have declared the regular 4 per cent semi-annual dividend on their outstanding 8 per cent preferred stock. During the past year the company has turned down a number of offers to join large mergers. This policy, the company states, has been followed because practically all employes are stockholders in the corporation.

Oscar T. Quimby, chemist in the United States Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis., has taken a position in the research division of the Procter & Gamble Company, Cincinnati.

O'Keefe Heads Wesson Oil

J. D. O'Keefe was elected president of Wesson Oil & Snowdrift Co., at a recent meeting held in New Orleans. Whitney Bank was elected to the board of directors to succeed John E. Bouden, deceased.

Chickasha Cotton Oil Company reports for the six months ended December 31, 1929, a net profit of \$448,121 after charges, depreciation, and taxes, equal to \$1.76 a share on 255,000 shares of stock.

Wesson Oil & Snowdrift Company common stock totalling 1,000,000 shares, without par value, has been approved for listing by the New York Stock Exchange, on notice of issuance.

Imports of copra into the United States during the month of November, 1929, amounted to 39,444,551 lbs.; value \$1,512,681. Coconut oil imports totaled 24,727,953 lbs.; value \$1,641,203. The chief sources of supply were the Philippine Islands, French Oceania and British Malaya.

The United States has produced 1,329,979 tons of margarine in the last ten years, according to a bulletin issued by the Institute of Margarine Manufacturers.

"Between 1920 and 1929," says the bulletin, "the nation's margarine output has totaled 2,659,549,000 pounds and the industry has distributed approximately a billion dollars to American business through the purchase of ingredients, wages to workers employed in plants, supplies, transportation, and sale of the product. Peak of margarine production was reached in 1920 when 391,279,512 pounds were produced. The output in 1929 amounted to 333,070,000 pounds. Margarine is distinctly a domestic product. It depends on farms in the United States and its island possessions for the wholesome fats, oils, and milk used in its composition. Its manufacture is a valuable source of revenue to farmers and ranchmen. As an economical spread for bread and use in cooking, this wholesome product saves housewives of America millions of dollars annually on their grocery bills. Although it is a comparatively young food industry, margarine manufacturing is already a \$100,000,000 a year business. The economic importance of the margarine industry which combines many valuable food products into a palatable spread for bread is an important factor in promoting prosperity for the country."

Iodine Value of Mixed Oils

The Editor
Oil & Fat Industries,
New York
Sir:

The following formula for the determination of the respective percentages of two oils in a mixture consisting of only two oils, when the iodine numbers of the oils and that of the mixture are known, may be of interest to your readers.

Let N = Iodine number of the less saturated oil

N^1 = Iodine number of the more saturated oil

N^2 = Iodine number of the mixture

Also let x = amount in the mixture of the less saturated oil

y = amount in the mixture of the more saturated oil.

Then, assuming the entire mixture as unity,

$$x + y = 1, y = 1 - x$$

The iodine value relationship may be expressed as:

$$N^2 - N^1$$

$$x = \frac{N - N^1}{N^2 - N^1}$$

$$N - N^1$$

$$y = 1 - \frac{N - N^1}{N^2 - N^1}$$

$$N - N^1$$

For example, the iodine number of a mixture of olive and coconut oils in a certain sample of soap was ascertained by experiment to be 49 percent. Assuming average iodine numbers of olive and coconut oils to be 84 and 14 percent respectively, we have the following values for use in our equation: $N=84$, $N^1=14$, $N^2=$

$$49 - 14 \quad 35$$

49. Then $x = \frac{84 - 14}{84 - 14} = 50$ percent, and

$y = 1 - x = 50\%$. The mixture used by the soap-maker is thus revealed as consisting of equal parts of olive and coconut oils.

POWHATAN ROBERTSON.

Cottonseed Crushers to Meet in New Orleans

The Annual Meeting of the National Cottonseed Products Association will be held at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, May 12th, 13th and 14th. The Rules Committee of the Association will meet at the same place on Friday and Saturday, May 9th and 10th. A record-breaking attendance is expected, as the meeting this year will mark the completion of the first season of operation under the auspices of the new enlarged association.

Travel Influences Tastes

WHAT Uncle Sam spreads on his bread is due in large measure to the influence of American tourists who travel abroad and bring back with them a liking for European eating habits, according to a bulletin issued here by the American Research Foundation.

"In the case of both butter and margarine the influence of foreign travelers is apparent," says the bulletin. "The demand for a light-colored, milk-flavored spread for bread, the sort that trans-Atlantic travelers are served in Europe, has caused manufacturers to adopt this type in America. Years ago a high-flavored high-colored spread was most in demand in this country. With the change from farm to creamery manufacture and the necessity of shipping the product long distances and keeping it for long periods, the preference shifted from a high to a mild flavor. Today most markets call for milk flavor in salted spreads. Milk gives modern margarine its palatable flavor and forms a large part of the composition of this wholesome product.

"Similarly there has been a shift from a high color to a straw color in the spreads for our bread. This is attributed by many authorities to the influence of European margarine on American tourists. The tourist cultivates a taste for this type and calls for it on returning to America. The widespread use of margarine in Europe is having a profound effect in promoting the popularity of this toothsome product in America. The American traveler abroad finds margarine on the table in the most fashionable cafes and restaurants of the Continent. He acquires a liking for margarine and naturally asks for it when he gets back home. With hundreds of thousands of Americans traveling abroad every year, the effect of their gustatory experiences in Europe is being felt in the whole range of America's cuisine."

Van Camp Expands

The Van Camp Packing Company has organized a new subsidiary company to handle the manufacture and marketing of Van Camp salad oil, shortening and other edible oil products. The new company, which will be known as the Van Camp Oil Co., will operate plants at Louisville, Kentucky and Baltimore, Maryland and will maintain a sales organization in New York. The Louisville plant is the one formerly owned by the Van Camp Company,

while the Baltimore plant will be established in the property formerly occupied by The Pompeian Corporation. The officers of the new corporation are: President, William D. Campbell; Vice-president, George Sirota; Secretary, J. E. Gavin; Treasurer, R. G. Bruenig; Directors, Nathan Musher, H. W. Grindall and William Scarborough.

New Booklet on Extraction

The C. O. Bartlett & Snow Company, of 6202 Harvard Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, have issued a new brochure, their Bulletin No. 64, entitled "Solvent Extraction of Oils and Greases." This attractively designed and well printed booklet gives a historical outline of the development of Bartlett & Snow percolation and agitation extraction and fully describes the modern equipment being produced for these purposes by the company at the present time. The publication is well illustrated with views of Bartlett and Snow Agitator and Percolator Extractors, and with photographs of various extraction plants in which the equipment is installed. Copies of the bulletin will be mailed upon request to all who are interested.