

SUGAR PLANTATIONS

SUGAR CONTINUES TO MOVE AWAY IN RECORD SHIPMENTS

Movements For First Third of This Month Will Be At Last Month's Phenomenal Speed

DIFFICULTY NOW IS TO FILL CARGO SPACE

Steamers Loading Will in Many Instances Take Cargoes of Pines As Well As Sugar

By September 10, it is expected, there will remain only about 90,000 tons of the 1918 Hawaiian sugar crop to be shipped. Up to the first of this month the shipments had been 441,600 tons and it is estimated that by September 10 or 11 there will have been moved about 33,000 tons more. This estimate is conservative and takes into consideration the fact that a number of the vessels now in port are taking part canned pineapples and part sugar.

Never has sugar moved from the Islands so rapidly as in the past five or six weeks. August made a record for sugar departures never before approached and the first third of this month will be at practically the same rate. In August the departures were 102,167 tons of which the Sugar Factors shipped 95,529 and other shippers 6,637.

It is estimated that total shipments for this year will be about 563,000 tons and the estimate for departures up to and including September 10 is 475,000 tons which would leave 88,000 tons for later shipment.

On the first of the month, according to the figures furnished by the plantation agencies to the representative of the shipping board there was 86,000 tons of sugar awaiting shipment but of this there was comparatively little in storage at loading points. Taking these figures in connection with the shipment figures the total production to that date was 527,000 tons besides what has been ground and refined for local consumption by the Honolulu Plantation. This would leave only about 35,000 tons at that date as the further and late production.

It has now become something of a problem to keep the sugar moving to loading points fast enough to meet the steamers that are ready to carry it away. A large part of the 86,000 tons reported as waiting shipment the first of the month was on Kauai and the Inter-Island company is moving that to Honolulu as rapidly as its vessels will permit. The balance is in storehouses at various plantations to a great extent and the rest in transit. This amount at the shipping points is comparatively negligible. At Hilo for instance there is little and it is estimated that the plantations shipping from there have only about 10,000 tons still to go. In Honolulu there is almost none in storehouses and the same condition is reported from Kahului.

September exceeded past records by about 15,000 tons and the movements are now progressing at the rate of 100,000 tons a month. The amount on hand indicates that this cannot long continue and that the end of the shipping year is at hand.

Of the 102,000 tons sent last month about 50,000 tons was diverted from west to east. This sugar was laden on steamers that had been chartered for one trip to the Coast but arrangements were made to send them through the canal to Atlantic ports. It was promised after July 1 that there would be shipped about 95,000 tons to Atlantic ports so it is evident that there still will have to be a considerable amount to go to the East.

In this respect the planters have been fortunate for earlier indications were that what went East would have to go from the Pacific Coast overland, thus adding largely to the cost of shipments. Eastern shipments are more costly to the planters and the returns correspondingly reduced but to get the shipments through all water makes the arrangement far more satisfactory than it could otherwise be.

Just at present, and more so from now on, the canned pines that wait shipping are making the situation easier to meet for the planters for it is impossible under present labor conditions to speed up production. The canners have been clamoring for shipping space as did the sugar planters and the shipping board, rising to the occasion, is giving the Islands more freight communication between here and the mainland than was ever before enjoyed.

PLENTY OF NURSES FOR VAST ARMY NOW ASSURED

WASHINGTON, September 5.—(Official)—There is no longer danger that there will not be enough nurses to care for the sick and wounded in the American army of 5,000,000 men next year, it is announced by the committee of national defense.

Popularity of Tractor Gains Steadily Saving Labor, Time and Cost

Unless there shall be a change in conditions and in the policy of the Government the plantations of the Islands that are planting or do place orders for tractors will have them filled in this season. In this respect conditions are as different than in the automobile industry. The Government recognizes the tractor as a great labor saving device in essential agricultural industries, it also recognizes the fact that there is a shortage of labor which must be met and the tractor is largely the answer. Hence the government will permit and encourage the manufacture of tractors insofar as it does not seriously hamper the filling of government war needs.

On Maui he found that Pua was the leader in the use of the tractor with others following the lead closely, however. Pioneer has four machines and has found that it is letting down cars alone there is a saving of from ten to thirty five percent. One year's break-down saved enough in car repairs and repairs saved enough to buy a tractor.

On Hilo, Plantation on Kauai one forty-five horse power tractor will draw three plows and will save the use of twenty-four head of stock and two men.

Where the fields are small the opinion prevails that the forty-five horse power is preferable to the seventy-five, these being the models put out by the Holt company. Where the field is larger the seventy-five horsepower is preferred for there is a difference in cost of only \$1000 and in operation of only \$2.50 daily while the large machine will do about twice the work of the small one.

All of the plantations that are using tractors are well pleased with the results and are using them for many purposes. They are time savers as well as labor savers and in such their use is constantly expanding.

PROFESSOR WALKER HAS YEAR'S LEAVE

College of Hawaii Announces It Expects Him To Return At Close of Sabbatical Year

The board of regents of the College of Hawaii has announced that at a meeting held this week it granted a sabbatical leave of absence for the second semester of the present college year to Professor Herbert W. Walker, for the past six years professor of sugar technology. It also gave him leave of absence without pay for the last part of the last semester beginning with the close of the special short course in sugar laboratory practice.

In making this announcement the board emphasized the fact that Professor Walker is not to leave until after the completion of the special short course and that he is to return to the college next September to resume direction of the regular courses in sugar technology.

Professor Walker plans to spend his leave of absence in the active practice of his profession, having been appointed superintendent of the Pioneer Mill at Lahaina, Maui.

The appointments with the sugar plantations run from crop to crop and this means that Professor Walker will be in charge of the Pioneer Mill for the grinding of the 1919 crop which will have been disposed of before the opening of the 1919-20 college year.

SUGAR SAVING RECORD

According to a recent Food Administration announcement, the cafeteria in the Food Administration Building at Washington has demonstrated the reasonableness of the new sugar ration of two pounds per person monthly by making 30 pounds of sugar do for the serving of 6,000 meals. This covered the use of sugar for all purposes, it is stated. It was done by using honey, maple syrup and other substitutes in most of the desserts and confining the use of white sugar almost exclusively to serving with tea and coffee.

INCREASES PLANNED

NEW ORLEANS, La., Aug. 12.—It is reported here that the Kaula Sugar Refining Company, Inc., has signed a contract with Lewis Colwell, of Chicago, engineer and expert in bone black refining machinery, for the installation of bone black equipment at its Braithwaite factory.

TRACTORS play great parts in sugar plantation economies saving on time, labor, use of stock and in many other ways. In the upper picture is shown a Holt forty-five horse-power drawing a plow and a harrow while in the lower picture a tractor of the same type is drawing a train of loaded cane cars. Indications are that with labor shortage during the war the tractor will play a still larger part in sugar plantation affairs than it has in the past.



JAVA'S CROP MAY HELP SHORTAGE

Report Current That Arrangement Has Been Made To Import Fifty Thousand Tons

WASHINGTON, August 16.—If the informal modus vivendi effected by the war trade board with the Netherlands government through Charge d'Affaires de Beaufort goes through it is quite possible that a considerable tonnage of Java sugar may be moved to the United States before the end of the year.

According to the announcement made by the war trade board, Dutch tonnage sufficient to move from 50,000 to 100,000 tons of sugar and also much needed quantities of tin and quinine to United States ports, is to be placed at the disposal of the American government through this agreement.

The announcement stated that forty idle Dutch ships would be put into this trade, but it is not believed in shipping circles that quite that number are now idle in the Far East. As, however, there are large quantities of goods awaiting shipment to Java and other Dutch possessions, including much needed machinery and equipment for the Java sugar mills, it is thought possible that enough vessels could be diverted from other trade runs, in addition to boats now idle there, to bring the fleet to be used to carry sugar, tin and quinine close to the number named.

FINAL FIGURES FOR PORTO RICO ARE TOLD

NEW YORK, August 17.—Final figures of the Porto Rican crop of 1917-18, as given out this week by John Farr, secretary of the Porto Rico Producers' Association, show a total production of 462,819 tons, or 40,262 tons less than the crop of 1916-17, and 62,000 tons less than the estimate made for this crop at the beginning of the season.

SUGAR CONSUMPTION DURING SECOND QUARTER INCREASED

The international sugar committee gave out this week its statistical report covering consumption for the second quarter of this year, namely, April 1 to June 30. As indicated by these figures, the consumption rate for this period approximates twenty-five pounds per capita, or an increase of five pounds over that recorded for the first quarter, which was rated at about twenty pounds per capita.

The combined figures show the consumption rate for the first six months of 1918 to have been forty-five pounds per capita, which if it were possible to maintain for the last half of the year would bring the yearly consumption rate up to 90 pounds, or seven pounds higher than the 1917 yearly rate of 83 pounds. Under the present restrictions effective August 1 the attainment of any such rate is impossible. Furthermore, any estimate as to the consumption rate for the balance of the year would be a speculative one, as the amount of sugar the public will save by conservation after August 1 can only be determined when the end of the year is reached.

The fact that so large a per capita consumption is recorded both for the first six months and for the second quarter, in view of the fact that many of the manufacturers have been restricted during this period and most largely so in the second quarter, indicates that a much larger supply of sugar has reached the householder than was generally believed to be the case. In this respect it indicates that to some extent an invisible supply exists in the household larders.

The quarter's figures passing into consumption came from the following sources:

	Long Tons
Cane sugar refiners	998,729
Beet sugar manufacturers	117,488
Direct consumption raw and washed sugar	10,691
Total supply (1,226,908 ards.)	

but it is not thought improbable that some of the sugars will come to Eastern ports, where return cargoes can be most easily obtained.

So far as can be learned, this program for moving the Java sugars has not as yet been definitely settled, nor has the sugar equalization board made any purchases of them as yet, but it is safe to say that there is every reason to believe it will go through.

CHILD LABOR IS MERELY MAKESHIFT

If They Remain Two Weeks Longer Out of School Need Would Still Prevail

Vessels coming in from the Orient are bringing very few Filipino laborers indicating that the labor question for the plantations is still far from solution. In the Philippines there are large numbers of labor recruits but they are in the Philippines and that does not help plant and cultivate and harvest sugar in Hawaii.

At the Planter's Association labor bureau matters appear to remain status quo and not in status quo ante bellum by any means. Just at present the chief effort appears to be to hold school children workers on for two weeks more work, to finish planting and help with the close of the harvest. This demand or request has come chiefly from Kauai where the use of child labor appears to have been most prevalent. It seems odd that the plantations of the Islands should be forced to utilize child labor as do the cotton mills of the southern states which custom brought about the passage of the child labor law that was decided to be unconstitutional.

Among the people of the Islands generally there was no objection to the use of larger and stronger school children if they were properly cared for, too great a strain not put upon them, and surroundings made satisfactory. For the employment of scholars when the schools have opened there is a different sentiment which is represented by the superintendent of public instruction who has steadfastly stood against delaying school opening.

Still seeking to utilize such labor for the month of September a counter proposition has been made to the superintendent of public instruction, to keep the older children, those over fourteen years of age, out of school for two weeks. Mr. Kinney appears not to favor this his ground, evidently being that more than 2000 scholars will be handicapped by starting two weeks late and the work correspondingly delayed for the others by the backwardness of that number of students.

One of the published arguments for continuing the child laborers until the end of the month was "that they might secure their bonus by working more than twenty days in the month." At an agency which has employed a number of school children during the summer it was denied that if the scholars returned to school when the schools opened they would "lose their bonus."

It was said that if they went back when the schools opened that would be exactly what was expected when they were put to work and would make no difference whatever with the arrangements made when they started work which were different from those made only temporary.

School children, in any event, a temporary makeshift for when the young workers get back to school work the plantations will be left short and will continue so, unless a real solution is found, until another school year is ended and the scholars could go to work again, seven or eight months later. Meantime the plantations are left without labor to do the best they may.

BLACK FACE CALLED BADGE OF LOYALTY

ST. LOUIS, September 5.—(Official)—Ten thousand negroes, representatives of hundreds of thousands of others, opened a convention here today, pledging their loyalty and support to the Nation in the conduct of the war and adopting the slogan "A Black Face is a Badge of Loyalty."

SALARIES RAISED

TOKYO, September 5.—(Special to Nippon Jiji)—The Japanese government has decided to increase the salaries of the officials of the various departments. The cause assigned for the increase of salary was that of high cost of living.

DRY ZONES VOTED

WASHINGTON, September 5.—(Associated Press)—The senate without roll call adopted Senator Kellogg's resolution authorizing the president to establish "dry" zones about mines, ship yards, munition plants and other war plants. The measure now goes to the house.

CHEAP CLOTHES PRICES ARE NEVER TO RETURN

LONDON, September 1.—(Associated Press)—Gour, never to return, are the cheap prices of clothes. That is the view of an expert writing in a British trade publication, and he predicts another rise soon.

HUSSEY SET FREE

Alexander Hussey, a Hawaiian arrested for alleged disloyal utterances last Saturday night, was dismissed with a warning yesterday by District Attorney Huber. Hussey has five sons in the service of Uncle Sam and has purchased Liberty Bonds liberally. An overindulgence in swipes caused the remarks that Hussey is alleged to have made, he told Mr. Huber yesterday.