



**PART OF THE Jose de la Rosa family at dinner in Manila. Miss Ruley, in the center of the group, was adopted into the family during her stay in the Philippines. Oldest de la Rosa son, Francisco, is now a student at the University of Arizona.**

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child rearing practices human relations and community functions are stressed.

## Nata

There was Nata who teaches in the pre-school in Iloilo and who uses her creative ability to a great extent. She is handicapped due to the high cost of paper, paints, brushes, clays and other art media.

The result is that instead of purchasing her materials, she finds that she learns to make paints from plant roots, brushes from bamboo and then stresses active cooperation by helping her children dig for and clean the natural clay.

## Shirley

Then my favorite, Shirley, who works in a "barrio," a rural community of largely agricultural people. She finds that she must teach that the best way to launder clothes is the river with homemade soap (which she has also taught them to improve). The foods work is centered around a type of native stove which is either of stone or pottery. Water must be carried on the head from the village well to the kitchen and the food is usually eaten out of a common bowl by the entire family.

Care of the home (kapi hut) is quite limited, as the bamboo floors are slanted so that one doesn't have to sweep but rather just sort of kick the dirt onto the ground below. This home economist finds that she helps with the sanitation problem more than any other one problem.

The constant energetic improving of materials, the lack of textbooks, the hunger for new educational ideas marked all these women's work. They copy, by hand, entire chapters from books they are able to borrow. They also seem vitally inter-

ested in the progress of education in the United States and follow, as well as copy, the trends here.

Descriptions like the foregoing must inevitably remind the old-timers of early day home economists in Arizona. They, too, taught women how to make "starter" and dry yeast cakes, better ways to make soap, how to dry and can food, and so on. These Philippine home economics pioneers follow the traditions of the profession.

## Does Quality Govern Alfalfa Hay Prices?

**Robert C. Angus**

Alfalfa hay is widely grown, frequently bought and sold, yet exact measurements of quality seldom are applied to the price.

The product itself is extremely variable in quality, resulting from differences in soil, cutting time, management, care in harvesting, amount of foreign material and other factors. Trying to learn if there was a relationship between price and quality, we took samples of hay which had been sold by producers, then interviewed the producers, getting information about prices and other conditions of sale.

### Hay Was Officially Graded

The samples were sent to the U. S. Department of Agriculture hay grading of-

This research is reported in "Hay Price-Quality Differentials in the Western Region," M. V. Wasanen, Washington State University, C. H. Seufferle, University of Nevada, and R. C. Angus, University of Arizona. Unpublished research report, December, 1961. Dr. Angus is an Assistant Agricultural Economist.

fice in Portland, Oregon, which issued official inspection reports on each sample. Prices were not found to be significantly different between grades.

In general, prices paid for U. S. Number 1 hay averaged higher than for the lower grades, U. S. Number 2, U. S. Number 3, and Sample. However, these differences were not as great as the quality differentials, represented by grades, would indicate they should be.

### Doesn't Reflect Quality

It is believed that hay buyers and sellers may consider single grade factors such as color or per cent leaves in judging hay quality, since these are important measures of quality. However, upon examination, no positive relationships were found either between the per cent color and price or between the per cent leaves and price. It is possible that the relationship between price and per cent of leaves was not apparent because the standards used by the trade differed from the standards set forth in federal grades. However, wide variations in price occurred for any given per cent of leafiness.

Lack of association between price and the characteristics described, indicate that other factors must determine alfalfa price variability in Arizona. Information then was gathered on dates of sale, type of buyer, means of transportation, and cutting numbers. Apparently the first and last cuttings of the season sold for relatively higher prices than summer hay. Seasonal price movements for alfalfa hay appear well defined in Arizona.

### Complex Market Setup

Arizona hay sales were divided more or less evenly between local dealers, dealers in the feeder area, brokers and direct sales to feeders. Marketing cooperatives were fairly important while truckers were least important. Almost 45 per cent of the hay was sold baled in the field while an equal proportion was sold loaded at the farm. Approximately 85 per cent of the sale tonnage was transported by hired trucks or by dealers' trucks.

The number of cuttings per year of alfalfa in Arizona varied from three to 10. Cutting number is less meaningful than cutting date, because of the alternatives of pasture, alfalfa meal, and seed production. Six cuttings of hay were reported by one-third of the farmers while one-fourth made five cuttings.

Evidence obtained in this study suggests shortcomings in the system of marketing hay. In a state where almost half of the sales exceed 100 tons, it would seem that both buyers and sellers would be interested in the purchase and sale of the product on the basis of its actual quality.