

INTRODUCTION.

The coconut industry is daily becoming one of vital importance, the principal reason for this being the present great demand for vegetable oils. Since the war the production of animal fat has decreased considerably owing to a decrease of live stock in the Old and New World. Taking into consideration the increase of population in the United States in the last few years, one must naturally expect her to cease to be the great exporter of animal fat she used to be in pre-war days. The question of oil therefore became one of importance, and ultimately coconut oil was found to be a valuable substitute. At present only 30% of the coconuts from the tropics reach the European markets and 70% is utilised in the East, 20% as oil and the remaining 50% in other forms. Since more oil is being used in the East, naturally there is a greater demand for it in European markets, and the question of obtaining more and better oil has arisen.