

THE PRESIDENT AND SENATORIAL ROBOTS

In the election for seats in the Philippine Senate next November, 1967, each of the two major political parties — The Nacionalista and the Liberal — has 8 candidates. The writer of the following paragraphs is a senatorial candidate of the Liberal Party. In answering the arguments of President Marcos, he has drawn a clear picture of the party and its candidates which is worthy of notice and study at this period of Philippine political history when election issues, party affiliations, and the personal qualifications of candidates have become seriously confused.

"Each of the 16 candidates of the two major parties in this election constitutes an issue. Each is an individual leader, a responsible official. They are bound by certain party ties, but they are not

robots. They share certain views of government, but each view is so colored by a host of other considerations, out of principle or personal interest, that it would be presumptuous for anyone to judge them solely on the basis of party label.

"If these were all they are — loyal and obedient party men — then there would be no need at all to look into their qualifications. One would simply have to write the party name during the election. There would be no need for any discussion of issue. There would be no need for issues.

"But the fact is that each candidate is an issue in himself. And when he presents himself to the electorate, the individual voter must look at the candidate's record and his qualifications.

"But President Marcos insists there is but one issue in this senatorial election -- his record as President of the country these last two years.

"This is an indecent and dangerous presumption. It ignores the constitutional declaration that Congress is

an independent and co-equal body with the office of the President.

"What he really wants are eight robots who will jump at his command." — *By Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. Extracts from Manila Times, September 16, 1967.*

BAR HAZARD

People who spend too much time in bars can go blind, a Brazilian ophthalmologist warned.

Dr. Hilton Rochan called on police to ban the murky lighting of modern bars and night clubs which he termed "black light."

In recommending it outlawed, Rochan noted the same type of light is used by police for ballistic tests, and detection of counterfeit money.

"It can bring blindness to those who spend too much time in bars," he said. — *Belo Horizonte.*