

Homage Paid To Nation's War Dead

President Laurel Urges Understanding In Memorial Day Speech

The deep sense of veneration and gratitude in which the Filipino nation holds its war dead found voice in the simple but stirring words of President Jose P. Laurel at the ceremonies held Thursday morning at Malacañan in memory of the Filipino heroes who gave their lives in this and past wars. The President paid high tribute to them and reminded the Filipino people of the imperative need for a pervasive understanding among themselves because no foreigner can love the Filipinos better than the Filipinos themselves.

The solemn ceremonies held at Malacañan which was attended by President Laurel, members of his cabinet and their families, and other ranking officials of the Republic, began with a Mass in the Palace Chapel with Mons. Cesar Ma. Guerrero officiating. An outstanding feature of the event was the distribution of cash gifts and clothing to many veterans, war widows and orphans or their representatives. In connection with

30,000 Needy Families Aided

Deserving needy families all over the twelve districts of Manila, numbering around 30,000, received gifts consisting of clothing materials, dried fish and coconuts from the government on the occasion of the celebration of the first anniversary of the Republic of the Philippines last October 14, 1944.

As in the distribution of confiscated rice to indigents, Bagumbay and Bagumpanahon districts had the most recipients. In this special distribution of gifts, charitable institutions had their share.

In clothing materials alone, some 37,341 yards have been distributed by Mrs. G. T. Pesson in the name of President and Mrs. Jose P. Laurel to such charitable institutions as colleges, convents and homes for the aged and infirm. This is aside from dried fish and other gifts given directly by Malacañan to the poor.

The Women's Bureau of the KALIBAPI handled the distribution in the different districts of the city, assisted by the district chiefs and representatives of the Bureau of Investigation and the Philippine Constabulary.

Laurel Affords Youth Best Opportunity For Leadership

Believing that the country's future will in a great measure depend upon the capacity, sturdiness and vigor of today's young men, President Jose P. Laurel declared last week, when he administered the oath of office to Teodoro Evangelista, new vice-minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, that the sooner the affairs of our government are placed in young hands, the better for our people.

"We know," the President said, "that we are not going to live very long, especially during these crucial days. When we die, we shall leave behind us men of the younger generation who have understood our purposes and the objectives of the government and our people; and when we shall have gone and perhaps been forgotten, they shall carry over the work we had left

New Rice Harvest Seen As Only Relief To Crisis

Minister Sabido Says There's Only Enough For Limited Needs

"There's enough rice in the hands of the government, held in various provinces to take care of the government's direct and moral obligations," declared Minister of Economic Affairs Pedro Sabido when interviewed by the *Republic* about the rice and other foodstuffs situation in Manila.

"The difficulty lies in transportation, particularly fuel," he added, "and this is what is being attended to with all possible diligence, so that nobody need say we are crossing our hands in the face of an acute situation."

By direct obligation, Minister Sabido meant the hospitals, government welfare institutions, the constabulary, and prisons and by moral obligations, the Community Kitchens and charitable establishments. It was explained that the government holds enough rice in Manila for its direct obligations but not for its moral obligations. Just how soon enough rice will be available for the community kitchens and other charitable organizations, however, nobody knows, for the matter depends entirely upon the availability of fuel.

Thus it is evident that the situation in Manila as to food supply will remain much the same as it is today until the new crop of rice is available and this again will depend upon what the new Joint Government and Army Committee will be able to do to bring it to the city. Minister Sabido is, however, very optimistic that this new body will be able to insure an adequate supply to Manila. It may start functioning sometime this month.

This tangible manifestation of the Government's recognition of the heroic services of Filipino war dead, the President took occasion to announce that, aside from the amount of ₱430,000 already distributed by the Republic among war widows and orphans and their families, he will make another amount available for their assistance and relief.

The ceremonies at Malacañan highlighted the nation-wide observance of Memorial Day in the Philippines. All churches and religious institutions celebrated masses at seven o'clock in the morning for the peaceful and eternal repose of the Filipino officers and men buried in the national cemetery at O'Donnell, Capas, Tarlac. During these rites one-minute silent prayers were observed for the war dead.

MANILA'S FOOD SITUATION BARED; MAYOR SAYS HE'S DOING BEST BUT . . .

Manila, you have to wait "for a while," for nothing can be done—nor is being done—just now about your food supply to give you relief.

That is the clear impression one gets at City Hall.

Manila, you must wait for the new harvest normally in December and when—if you get that, City Hall believes that the new rice will fix everything else up for you, for the government, for everybody; that is, it will bring down the price of your *bangus* and *bagoong*, your *kangkong* and *kamote*, your vegetable and vinegar, your *pinakbet* and *pa-pai*. So City Hall says and you ought to take it from them there. But meanwhile, don't fail to tighten your belt and to pray for the best.

Yes, Manila, you must be patient and forbearing. There's nothing the City Hall is doing now, matters,—about your rice for instance,—being left entirely to the Joint Committee of the National Government and the Imperial Japanese Army, but just the same it is said the best is being done under the circumstances. So, to your patience and forbearing, you must add understanding also.

Soon, December will come, only a matter of just one month, and the new harvest will come and with it you are assured of other things. It's only one month more, indeed, and not too far off, if you can hold off your hunger and your thirst with faith and confidence and trust in the City Hall. "The best is being done for you under the circumstances." That's City Hall's assurance.

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Appointments Up To Ministers City Police Under Mayor

Feeling the need for a more simplified and expeditious procedure in the matter of appointments and promotions in the Philippine Civil Service, President Jose P. Laurel last week issued Executive Order No. 97 which vests the power to take final action on appointments in the Minister of State concerned and authorizes the District Commissioners to act for the respective ministers in matters of appointments.

The text of Executive Order No. 97 reads as follows:

Whereas, there is need in view of the existing emergency for a more simplified and expeditious procedure in the matter of appointments and promotions in the Philippine Civil Service, I, Jose P. Laurel, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby promulgate the following rules and regulations amending the present procedure in the appointment and promotion of officers and employees in the Philippine Civil Service:

"1. Appointments of subordinate officers and employees, including those of ranking officials as defined in Executive Order No. 14 of the

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Laurel To Speak On GEA Charter

President Jose P. Laurel is scheduled to address the Filipino people in a nationwide remote control broadcast from Malacañan at eight o'clock tonight, on the occasion of the first anniversary of the adoption of the Joint Declaration of Greater East Asiatic Nations.

The President's speech will highlight the participation of the Republic in the anniversary celebration held today throughout Greater East Asia.

In another speech, the President will speak to the world on the significance of the Greater East Asia Charter which was formulated a year ago at a conference in which he took active part as head of the Republic of the Philippines.

Placed under the immediate control and supervision of the Mayor of Manila was the Metropolitan Constabulary, by virtue of Executive Order No. 98 which was issued by President Jose P. Laurel early last week. The President issued the order in view of the promulgation of martial law and the appointment of the Mayor as Military Governor.

Under Executive Order No. 98, the officers and men of the present Metropolitan Constabulary and such number of the former Secret Service Division of the Manila Police taken over by the Bureau of Investigation upon its organization as may be determined by agreement between the Military Governor for Manila and the director of the Bureau of Investigation with the approval of the Minister of Home Affairs are placed under the Military Governor without necessity of new appointments.

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Republic's Heart Responds To Wails Of Poor And Needy

It is raining heavily outside. The winds are howling to the heavens, blowing amidst the anxiety of a long line of lean, emaciated men, women, and children in tattered rags and equally tattered shoes. The hour is nearly 11 o'clock, and soon the steaming kettles of rice "lugao" or a mixture of rice and camote, or corn and camote, plus a few pans of dried fish or *bagoong*, will be lined up on the long table. The welfare workers, tirdy despite the coarseness of white linen, smiling even in the face of disaster, are making everything ready for the daily rationing.

For it is about distribution time at one of the more than 100 community kitchens operated by the Bureau of Public Welfare, the Philippine Red Cross, and the City of

Revision Of House Rentals Authorized

Executive Order No. 99 Permits Increase Of Monthly Rentals

A revision of the amount of house rentals in Manila was authorized the other day by President Jose P. Laurel when he promulgated Executive Order No. 99 amending various sections of an executive order issued by the Chairman of the former Executive Commission regulating house rentals in the city.

The new executive order permits owners of houses or buildings for commercial and/or industrial purposes to collect a monthly rental not to exceed 200 per cent of the highest monthly rental charged for the three months immediately preceding December 8, 1941.

It also authorizes owners of houses or buildings for residential purposes to collect a monthly rental which shall not exceed 100 per cent of the highest monthly rental charged for the three months immediately preceding December 8, 1941, unless the tenant is an indigent or needy person or head of an indigent or needy family, in which case the monthly rental shall not exceed 75 per cent of the highest monthly rental charged for the three months immediately preceding December 8, 1941.

In the case of houses or buildings, the several parts of which are used for commercial, industrial and/or residential purposes.

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Real Estate Tax Doubled

Increased by 100 per cent was the real estate tax of the city of Manila last week, when President Jose P. Laurel promulgated Ordinance No. 42. The increase was made in order to provide the city with more funds for public relief and for other purposes required by the existing emergency.

Date of effectivity of the new ordinance is October 1, 1944, the additional tax to be computed and collected on the basis of three months from October 1 to December 31, 1944. The additional tax is not subject to any penalty if paid on or before October 31, 1944. For next year the new tax shall accrue on the first of January and shall be collected at the same time

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Laurel Affords Youth Best Opportunity For Leadership

Manila, all under the supervisory control of the Central Community Kitchens Committee headed by Vice-Minister Ramon Macasac of the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Public Welfare. And the indigents, who are the beneficiaries of these kitchens, are all there, lined up with their plates or cups, "bao" or coconut shell.

As his number is called, each indigent produces his plate, cup, or coconut shell and gets his share of the bounty that comes straight from the heart of a government that means well, and is determined to mean well by the people, specially by the most unfortunate members of the community.

To be at one of these community (Continued on page 3)

