

President Quezon Approves Cooperative Plan

IN BEHALF of the Philippine Government, President Manuel L. Quezon has given his approval in principle to a plan laid before him for a more active and effective participation of Filipinos in the United States and Hawaii in the post-war reconstruction of the Philippines.

The plan, sponsored by Mr. Manuel Adeva, Nationals Division Assistant to the Philippine Resident Commissioner, was warmly received and unanimously approved by the delegates attending the Fifth Annual Convention of the Filipino Inter-Community Organization of the Western States, which was held in Stockton, California, from July

1st to July 4th. The plan was also presented after the convention to the Filipinos in Vallejo, Fresno, Reedley, and Oxnard where it was likewise enthusiastically approved.

According to this plan, the Philippine Government in Washington will receive for safekeeping United States War Bonds owned by Filipinos who voluntarily agree to deposit these with the Philippine government for the duration. Cash deposits will be converted into U. S. War Bonds in the name of the depositor. These bonds may not

(Continued on the next page)

"I call upon you, the heroic people of the Philippines, to stand firm in your faith—to stand firm against the false promises of the Japanese, just as your fighting men and our fighting men stood firm together against their barbaric attacks.

"The great day of your liberation will come, as surely as there is a God in heaven.

"The United States and the Philippines have learned the principles of honest cooperation, of mutual respect, in peace and in war.

"For those principles we have fought—and by those principles we shall live."

President Quezon assured our countrymen in the Islands that they "will soon learn of heavy action in the Pacific theater—action which will mark the beginning of the defeat of Japan." He urged them to "take courage" and to bear in mind that "Japan is not invincible."

His address, delivered on August 19, his 65th birthday, follows in full:

"MY BELOVED COUNTRYMEN:

"For the second time since the Japanese invasion of our Islands, I observe my birthday anniversary far away from you. Today, even more than any other day, I wish that I could be with you to share your hardships and your tribulations. But even while on Corregidor I had to make the hard decision that I knew would keep me away from the Motherland until I could return with the forces of liberation and independence. The months have been long since the day of my departure but, as they have passed, it has become more and more clear that the time of redemption is not far off.

"Today every effort is being made by Japan to convince you that she will grant you independence. Perhaps she will. Perhaps, as she has declared Burma independent, she will declare the Philippines independent too.

"To those of you who, in good faith, may take such independence seriously if it is granted, I offer a reminder of the fate of the people of Korea and of Manchuria and the other occupied provinces of China. They know full well how unreal that independence is and how lacking in liberty.

"To those of you who may believe that Japan is invincible, I say, take courage. Japan is not invincible. The truth is that she is on the decline. Month after month, her

troops are meeting defeats on the battlefields of the South Pacific. Her fleet is being decimated.

"The military picture today is most encouraging. On the Russian front the German allies of Japan have suffered a series of defeats from which they cannot recover. In Southern Europe the indomitable troops of the United States, Canada and Great Britain have occupied most of Sicily, and Italy lies faltering at their feet. The Italian leader who not so long ago was boasting of the invincibility of his Fascist regime has resigned, and his party is crumbling under the wrath of his own people. Italy is no longer of any consequence in this war.

"Closer to our own land, the brave men under General MacArthur are continuing their offensive against the Japanese. The strategically important air base of Munda has fallen into our hands. More victories are planned, and I can assure you that you will soon learn of heavy action in the Pacific theatre—action which will mark the beginning of the defeat of Japan.

"The President of the United States himself, in his broadcast to you on Occupation Day, the 13th of this month, said: 'The great day of your liberation will come as surely as there is a God in Heaven.' President Roosevelt makes no promises lightly. He spoke with the power and might of the strongest nation on earth standing behind every word he said.

"The President also renewed his pledge made on December 28, 1941, that the freedom of the Philippines will be redeemed and their independence established and protected. And he confirmed what I reported to you on the occasion of the first anniversary of my departure from Corregidor, namely, that the United States, in practice, regards the Government of the Philippines as having the same status as the governments of other independent nations, and that the only thing lacking is the formal establishment of the Philippine Republic. He assured us that this will be done the moment the power of Japan is destroyed, and that we will be assisted in the full repair of the ravages caused by the war.

"The speech of President Roosevelt is the best gift that you and I can receive on this anniversary of my birthday, and my last word to you today is to keep your faith in President Roosevelt and in the American people.

"God bless you all."

“A FIGHTING NAME FOR A FIGHTING SHIP”

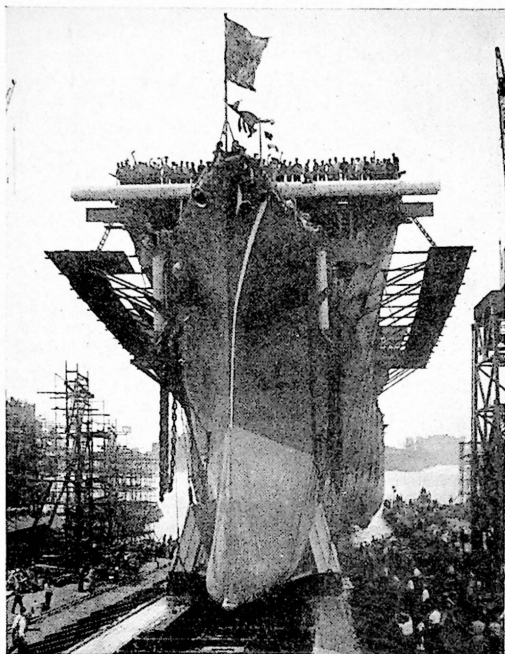
THIS IS the *U. S. S. Bataan*, one of the newest aircraft carriers to be launched by the Navy, and the first to be named in honor of an American campaign of the present war. “A fighting name for a fighting ship,” the *Bataan* is, in the words of President Quezon, “a symbol of the inevitable defeat of Japan”.

Aside from justly immortalizing the gallant stand of Filipinos and Americans in Bataan, the naming of the ship *Bataan* points to the great pride the United States bears for the heroism displayed by Americans and Filipinos in the Battle of the Philippines.

“No ship bears a more illustrious name,” said the Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox in his message to President Quezon informing him of the new warship’s launching at the yards of the New York Shipbuilding Corporation in Camden, New Jersey. “The *U. S. S. Bataan* commemorates a campaign that has become a symbol of the fortitude and endurance of free men in the face of overwhelming odds. It has a rendezvous with destiny that shall not be denied. I know that you and your brave people will join with all Americans in wishing the *Bataan* and the men who will sail in her Godspeed and good hunting.”

At the time of the launching, on the afternoon of August 1st, President Quezon was resting in a vacation resort in the Adirondacks. Although unable to attend the ceremonies, his reply to Secretary Knox was released simultaneously with the launching. He wrote:

“I am delighted to learn of the launching of the United States aircraft carrier *Bataan*. The valor of the American and Filipino fighting men who battled through the long months on Bataan will serve as an inspiration to the men of this fine new ship. To the people of the Philippines, who live only for the day of victory and liberation, the *Bataan* will be a symbol of the inevitable defeat of Japan. Our fighting comradeship was sealed in the foxholes of Bataan, and hallowed forever in the shallow graves of that blood-stained bit of land. Today our hearts go with the men who built this ship, with the sailors who will man her, and with the aviators who will take off from her flight



deck. In the name of the Filipino people, I extend to all of them my most fervent wishes for good fortune and speedy victory.”

Owing to wartime restrictions, the ceremony of the launching of the aircraft carrier was witnessed by a small group of Navy officers and shipyard officials in addition to the honor guests, Vice-President Sergio Osmeña and Colonel Manuel Nieto, military aide to President Quezon, and Miss Maria Osmeña, the Vice-President’s daughter. The sponsor was Mrs. George D. Murray, wife of the rear admiral commanding the Naval Air Training Center at Pensacola, Florida.

be cashed by the depositor for the duration, except in extreme cases of emergency.

It is clear that the Philippine government aims, through this plan, to enable Filipinos to invest their savings in the new Philippine Republic. After the war, great opportunities for agricultural and industrial development will be open to all, especially to those who had taken advantage of these days of high wages and profitable labor, and had invested their savings in war bonds, deposited with the Philippine Government. The Filipinos here and in Hawaii can well use to advantage their experience and training in profitable investments in the Philippines and with the encouragement and cooperation of the Philippine government, the needed capital for such future investments is assured.

The plan is very timely and fills a vital need in Filipino communities. Filipinos are now receiving high wages. Through this plan the Philippine Government takes upon itself the responsibility of guiding them in conserving their earnings.

The plan not only affords the Filipinos the opportunity of helping the United States in the successful prosecution of the war by buying U. S. War Bonds, but also encourages them to lay the foundation of their economic security in the Philippines after the war.

Details of the plan are being arranged with Philippine Government authorities in Washington, and it is expected that the plan will be in full operation sometime in September this year.

(Continued on page 6)

Filipino Convention Passes Resolutions



President of the Filipino Community of Stockton & Vicinity, Inc., who played host to the officials and delegates attending the Fifth Annual Inter-Community Convention at Stockton, California.

TEOFILO S. SUAREZ

SUBSEQUENT reports on the Fifth Annual Inter-Community Convention which ended on July 4th after a four-day conference indicates that a number of important resolutions were approved, which, if carried into effect, would prove to be forward steps toward the accomplishment of the principal aim of the convention—a more active and effective participation of free Filipinos in the allied war effort and in the building of a new Philippines.

One resolution made it of record that the delegates to the Convention wished it to be known "to our people in the Philippines that they are in our thoughts day and night and that we are all doing our level best in helping all the efforts of the United Nations for their eventual liberation, the expulsion of the Japanese from our soil."

This message was broadcast four times to the people of the Philippines—in English on July 23rd, and on July 24th in English, in Tagalog and Samar-Leyte Visayan, according to the chief of the Philippine Section, Office of War Information, Overseas Branch in San Francisco.

In another resolution, the Filipino Inter-Community Organization of the Western States petitions the Philippine Government in exile that a government survey of Filipino business enterprises be made to determine the scope of their financial and technological need. Government guidance is sought particularly for such Filipinos who on ac-



President of the Filipino Inter-Community Organization of the Western States, who was re-elected for a second term, at the close of the Convention on July 4th.

ANTONIO A. GONZALEZ

count of age, are no longer "able to do hard, manual labor but who are desirous of investing their savings in some worthwhile business enterprises." The resolution assumes that "with government support and guidance Filipino investors will readily put up their money in business."

Scoring unwarranted attacks on high ranking Philippine government officials in Washington by certain sections of the Philippine press in the West Coast, one resolution describes such "subversive" publications, "designed to undermine the faith and loyalty of our people in our government-in-exile, thus making it harder for us to continue our fight for freedom." These particular times, the resolution emphasizes, calls for unity not disunity, understanding, not dissension.

Citing the establishment of a Philippine Center in New York City, the Convention has resolved to petition the Philippine government to establish a similar office in Seattle to take care of Filipino affairs in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska in coordination with the Office of the Philippine Resident Commissioner, Western Division, in San Francisco.

Other resolutions sought further assistance in securing favorable court decisions on California's Anti-Alien Land Law and the repeal of laws discriminatory to Filipinos in California, Washington, and other states.

(Continued from page 3)

Highlights of the speech embodying the plan, as delivered by Mr. Adeva before the convention at Stockton, California, follow:

I am sure that no one would dispute my statement that every Filipino outside of our unhappy land, is thinking of the homeland and of his part in its reconstruction after the Japanese invaders have been driven out. I am sure every one of us feels deep down in his heart that he has—or must have—a definite part in the rebuilding of our country after the war. The Filipinos in the armed forces of the United States have already been assigned a definite and hazardous part. It is their job to free our country by force of arms from the savage conquerors. They lead the way and clear the path. It is our job—we soldiers of the home front—

to follow them and rebuild over the ruins a richer Philippines—a Philippines where we and our children could enjoy the four freedoms enunciated by President Roosevelt, namely freedom of speech and expression, freedom of religion, freedom from want, and freedom from fear.

What can we who are left behind to follow the soldiers contribute to this tremendous job of reconstruction?

The answer, my beloved countrymen, is OUR SAVINGS.

Our country will need money with which to rebuild her basic industries. Our country will need capital not only to rebuild but to develop and put into full use our vast natural resources.

Our soldier heroes can give no more; they already stand ready to sacrifice their lives for our country's redemption.

(Continued on page 8)

Cooperative Plan . . . (Continued from page 6)

Our people back home can contribute only a small amount towards this noble task. They are poor now and will be poorer after the Japanese shall have accomplished their purpose of looting our country.

Clearly then it remains for us—you and me—who enjoy the freedom to work and are paid good wages in this country to contribute our savings towards this worthy and vitally necessary task. You and I must do our share in the rehabilitation of the Philippines. We can not and should not escape that responsibility.

We are fighting, my beloved countrymen, for our freedom. From the valiant Lapulapu to our heroes on Bataan, Corregidor, and other battlefields, we have distinguished ourselves as fighters for liberty, and will continue to do so until the end of time. But have we stopped to consider that he who controls a nation's economy also controls its political destinies?

We who are working here and making good money will have the great opportunity of controlling our country's economy by saving our money and investing it in the Philippines after the war is over. That is our glorious task. How are we to accomplish this?

Your Government will cooperate with you in a gigantic business enterprise—the rebuilding of the Philippines. Your Government will agree to act as a depository or trustee for your savings—the savings which you have agreed to use as your investment in the rebuilding of certain basic industries or in the development of our agricultural industry. Briefly, here is the plan which I propose you consider seriously.

You, as an investor in this cooperative enterprise, will send your savings in the form of War Bonds to the Philippine Commonwealth Government in Washington. Cash deposits will be converted into War Bonds in the name of the depositor. Your Government will send you receipt for every dollar you send. You may not draw these voluntary savings for the duration, and even after, for it is agreed that your savings which you have deposited with the Philippine Government in Washington is intended for

one purpose only—as investment in the rebuilding of our country.

After the war, your Government will help you organize a corporation in the Philippines whose object is to take over and rebuild or develop certain industries, say, the abaca industry, lumbering, deep sea fishing, or engage in land resettlement projects. By that time you will be entitled to shares of stock in this corporation corresponding to the total amount which has been accumulated in your account including interest. That is your Capital investment in the reconstruction of our country.

It is important, I think, that I must point out in this connection that not one penny of the money you send to Washington will be used to pay anybody who may be employed to put this project into being. All expenses will be borne by your Government.

I must point out also that by participating in this great undertaking, you will be doing three things, all of which are of equal importance. First, you will be actually helping in the war effort of the United Nations of which your country is a fully recognized member; second, you will have been encouraged to appreciate the value of saving; third, your money will be used in the most important task of rebuilding our country. You will thus have laid down the foundation of your economic security.

The above is only an outline of this plan. I am returning to Washington and when I come back, I will bring with me the complete machinery for putting this plan into effect. As you no doubt will understand, this whole program will have to be studied and approved by our Cabinet. But approval is very likely because your Government is vitally interested in your welfare. In his report to the Filipino people on February 20, 1943, President Quezon said: "We shall secure for every Filipino the satisfaction of the basic human needs which are the rights of all men—food, clothing and shelter, and economic opportunity. With the help of the United States, we shall rebuild our ravaged land, and make of it a prosperous member of the family of free nations."

PHILIPPINES is published by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. Filipinos who desire to receive it regularly are requested to notify: The Editor, PHILIPPINES
1617 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.,
Washington 6, D. C.

Sec. 562, P.L.&R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
WASHINGTON, D. C.
PERMIT No. 5045

POSTMASTER—If undeliverable FOR ANY REASON, notify sender, stating reason, on FORM 3547, postage for which is guaranteed.

Prof. Joseph R. Hayden
520 Onondaga
Ann Arbor, Michigan