

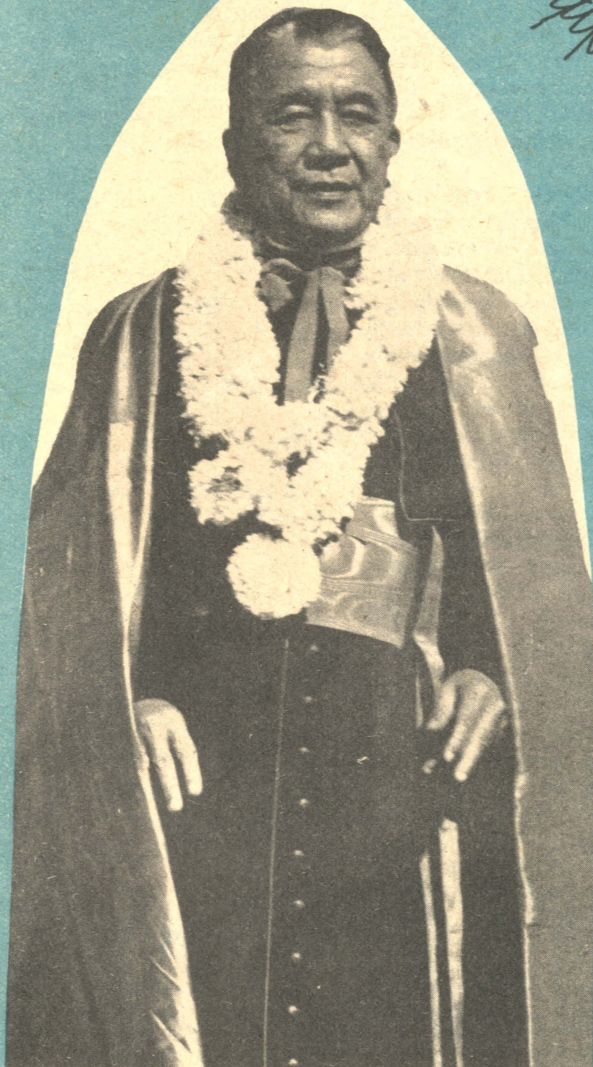
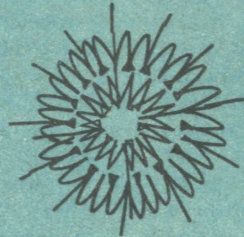
# PMM

## THE PHILIPPINE MAGAZINE

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VOLUME I — NUMBER 8

MAY 31, 1969



THE  
BARRIO  
CAPTAINS  
  
MEN  
ON THE  
MOVE

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Constitutional Amendments  
*A Safety Valve*

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JULIO CARDINAL ROSALES  
*More social action*

# HEALTH IN THE BARRIOS



**T**HE so-called brain drain is actually the annual exodus of trained Filipinos, primarily doctors, nurses, and others in the medical field, ostensibly for further training but really for the opportunity of earning much more and living abroad.

Unquestionably, the migration of these bright young men and women attests to the substantial number of medical graduates turned out every year. Yet the Philippines is notable for the very uneven dispersal of medical talent which is largely concentrated, if not abroad, in the urban areas.

Only a few years ago, 80 per cent of those who died in Mindanao were without medical attendance, and 90 per cent of all births in the same province were attended by inexperienced midwives, the *hilots*, each of whom had some 10 to 30 barrios to attend to. The mortality rate in the barrios was high: 25 per cent of them were below one year old, and 50 per cent, below three years old.

Since the institution of a more vigorous rural health program by the administration, the deaths have been reduced somewhat, roughly 50 per cent

or an improvement of about 30 per cent.

In 1965 there were some 46 "ghost hospitals" all over the country. These hospitals were built without the corresponding funds for their operation. The President was compelled to set aside funds to operate these hospitals.

There was also improvement in the per capita expenditure of the government for free medicine. In 1965 it was four centavos; today it is about 52 centavos.

The issue of health in the barrios is expressed by President Marcos in these terms: "There is no condition which reflects most accurately the impoverishment, the misery, the desperation of our people in the barrios than the condition of health. Health, like peace and order, is a prerequisite to development."

At the present time, the people who live in the barrios, constituting from 75 to 85 percent of the entire populace, are attended to by the government's program of rural health. This program is participated in by agencies such as the Department of Health rural health units, the National League of Puericulture Centers, the PACD, the civic action groups of the Department of National Defense, the PANAMIN, and other volunteer groups.

There are today about 1,329 rural health units, each of which is supposed to have a doctor, a nurse, a midwife, and a sanitary inspector. Only 330 of these are complete, and there are about 1,400 municipalities. One can therefore see the magnitude of the problem.

To complete all the rural health units, the government must put in about 312 more doctors, 674 more nurses, 707 more midwives, and 199 more sanitary inspectors. The rural health units are regarded as the work horses of the government for health in the barrios.

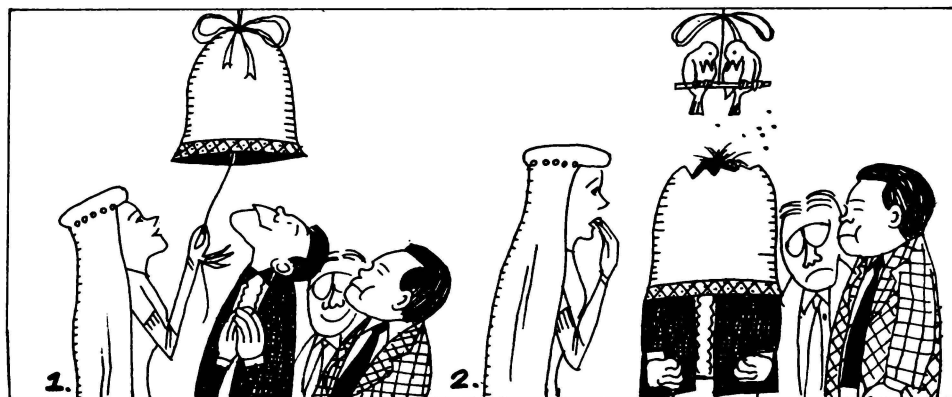
Health in the barrios is also affected by such projects as sanitary toilets, potable water, the beautification and cleaning of the premises, and of course the nutrition or food intake of the people.

There are still many barrios and many islands in the country that are not touched or seen by any doctor or nurse or sanitary inspector. What the present administration is trying to do is to make up for the programs that were neglected or abandoned in past administrations. The Department of Labor itself has begun to take measures to encourage doctors and nurses to stay for the job is really here at home — particularly in the barrios. President Marcos appealed to the Philippine Medical Association at their convention held recently in Baguio to send more of their members to the rural areas.

There is cause for some optimism. Quite apart from the efforts of the national government, we have the growing number of volunteers working in the barrios supporting the rural health units.

"Operations Kasama" of the University of Santo Tomas, assisted by the Department of Health and the PACD, is one example of a volunteer program. The Integrated Total Health Program in Bay, Laguna of the U.P. College of Medicine is an example of a community health project. The Presidential Assistant on National Minorities (PANAMIN) specializes in giving help to Filipinos in the hinterlands. The student volunteers of the civic action group of the National Defense Department are also in the vanguard of the rural health program. There are also floating clinics, one in Basilan and any other in Sulu. All these are evidence of government and private efforts to improve health in the barrios.

Ultimately it will be the leaders and the people themselves in the rural communities, properly guided and supported who will bring about better health in the barrios. **PM**



**Y**ES, Jocelyn, politics is in the air. No one could say exactly how or when it started to appear in our scene. Or why it had to come so early in the year since there is a Tañada-Singson law that bans electioneering a full hundred and fifty days before an election. It would seem that, to our people, politics, like a cold, is inevitable and must come naturally to all. No wonder many, including myself, think politics is a kind of industry. And if industry is for profit, you can realize what politics as an industry means.



**YES, JOCELYN, POLITICS IS IN THE AIR**

It is in our midst, exposed in full dimension and in varying hues for all to see. And from what one sees, one discerns that the head of politics is ugly, legions pay blind obeisance before its graven image, offering themselves as sacrificial lambs. For what? For the opportunity of serving as servants to the people in some public office or trust. Nothing wrong with that, really. Except that the smart ones make use of one office or another for personal ends. The dumb ones stir their own little mud-puddles. The country? Aye, the rub is there!

But let me not unduly destroy your ideal as a young one born of this generation. You must learn to live with politics and distinguish politics from politicians. You must learn to embrace good politics and support good politicians. Politics is made up of principles, postulates, promises. These covenants last. Politicians are men. They come and go; the mediocre politicians soon fade away and the corrupt ones are banished from the firmament (or something like that, anyway).

Politics can be ennobling, can be an institution for good. Most of our present-day leaders are creations of politics. Surely, we had heroic leadership at the turn of the century when the people had to fight for a place under the sun and in their own country. But since then, except during the last war, we had produced a bumper crop of po-

litical leaders. Many say that what our country needs today is another kind of leadership. They say we need an economic leader. What is an economic leader? I think what we need is a political leader with a great capacity to understand the wants and needs of the nation and to build the foundations for national growth. If you ask me whether President Marcos is building permanent foundations for the country's growth with his infrastructure, food production and school building programs, my answer is yes.

Anyway, what bothers me at the moment is the hazy picture of the future that lies ahead of you. I say hazy because there are voices filling the air with new promises and new postulates and, as the coffee crowd would boast, you can never tell what will come next. For example, what will your community be when you reach voting age? (By the way, is the voting age eighteen or twenty-one?) Right now, there are communities in Luzon where the people feel they are oppressed or depressed and, therefore, are restive. There are also other parts in the country that have become virtual pockets of disorder.

Here lies the crux of this whole piece. These things affect your future. And politics, for all its garish forms, seems to offer an answer. In this sense: that we who are your elders, endowed at the moment with the inalienable right to choose the leaders of the government that we want, should exercise that right with an eye on what the future must be, not for ourselves, but for those who are just about to become adults.

*S. P. Bigay*  
**S. P. BIGAY**

**MR. MANALO'S CURIOUS HUMOR**

Your writer Mr. Fred D. Manalo has a very curious sense of humor. Frankly, I think his article on "The Boo Society" is a myth, except that it resembles very much the events of the recent weeks involving "booing" sessions at a sports coliseum and at a political surveying party. Anyway, this type of article helps cleanse our weekend of gloomy reading materials carried in other media and we congratulate you for encouraging it. However, I dare your Mr. Manalo to write in a similar vein about the political scene today.

**BIEN SALVADOR**

Baliuag, Bulacan

**NO INTERNATIONAL SCENE?**

Your magazine so far has carried no report on the international scene. How come? Surely, we in the province would also want to know what is happening elsewhere in the world. Your style of reporting if applied to international events might help us understand world happenings more easily.

**JULIO SAN PEDRO**

Tacloban City

**PM IS WRONG**

Your article on "Land Reform Now or Revolution Tomorrow" seemed to have lumped the restiveness of the people on land reform alone. You are wrong. Otherwise President Marcos need concentrate only on this problem and relegate to secondary role his infrastructure, schools, food production, export promotion and industrialization programs, to make a success of his administration. Your magazine's policy of positive reporting over-simplifies things. And that's not too good either.

**LIBERATO SANCHEZ**

Cagayan de Oro, City

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**T**HE barrio is the soul of Philippine society. In its structure lies the frailty or strength of our national life. Our efforts at development must necessarily include, if not begin with, the development of this basic social and government unit.

We love to profess that the strength of democracy lies in the grassroots. The barrio is precisely the grassroots. Here are born the first intimations of nationhood, citizenship and government. Attitudes towards government and the other facets of the national enterprise are shaped and given tentative substance here.

The neglected community spawns a breed of indifferent and calloused people. This is true with barrios as it is true with decaying slum areas. The attitude developed in such abandoned communities is one of apathy instead of commitment.

There is a crucial note to the need for urgent development of our barrios. The greater majority of our barrios are isolated communities, separated from the national mainstream by distance and time, brought about by lack of communications and adequate transportation. Basic services are wanting; the essential comforts of life are missed. Years of neglect have tended many barrios to drift from the center of society instead of integrating themselves into the national community.

There are extremes to this reaction. One is of self-decay, the other is more forceful and violent. The second consequence should compel our leaders to reexamine their attitude towards the barrio.

For years, national leaders of varying colors have declared their concern for the barrio. They plan grandiose designs and execute masterful blueprints for the development of the nation. Aside from a few feeder roads and artesian wells, there were little evidence of these passionate declarations. Many barrios remained stagnant and sterile as before.

There have been historic development of late. One was the passage of the Decentralization Act of 1966 which provided greater autonomy for local governments. The other is the enactment of the Barrio Development Fund under which each barrio is entitled to a financial assistance of ₱2,000.

The Barrio Development Fund is not a hand-out, not a form of patronage from the government. It is a contribution to the barrio for a much-needed project. The concept behind the development program is precisely to instill and encourage the concept of self-help among the barrio folk. Under the program, the government provides the sum plus general supervision. The choice

# The Barrio Captains

## Men on the Move



By FRED D. MANALO

of the project, its completion, must come from the efforts and resources of the barrio people.

It is a fact that under the barrio charter, barrios receive not funds from the national government. In taxes, the barrio collects only 10 per cent of the real estate collected within the barrio, which is less than ₱100 in most places. Lucky is the barrio which is the recipient of pork barrel allocations from an expansive congressman, which may go to the construction of a feeder road or schoolhouse. Beyond this, nothing.

The Barrio Development Program came on the initiative of the new breed of barrio captains who have recognized their plight and, having no means to initiate vital projects in their communities, have sought the help of President Marcos. This dialogue has been going on for quite a time now and which was the basis for the inclusion in the appropriations act of the barrio development fund.

Under the program, it is the captain del barrio, together with the barrio council, who chooses the project where the ₱2,000. will be invested. The con-

trol and supervision will also come from them. With this assistance, they are now in a better position to expand their leadership in community-building.

This leadership is most crucial and vital. The citizen's first encounter with the process of government lies in the realm of the barrio council. The quality of the barrio council, as steered by the *capitan del barrio*, shapes the citizen's image of his government and society.

The quality of community life is also the responsibility of the *capitanes del barrio* and the barrio councilmen. It is their leadership and influence that greatly dictate the social—if not the economic—climate in their environment.

This means that the barrio leaders are obliged to be the exemplars in upholding values, to exercise the ethic and disciplines of the useful life. Through osmosis, such leadership tends to spread like a ripple, touching and influencing the lives of others, goading them to match the purposiveness and dedication of their leaders.

This purposiveness is most evident in the rising generation of *capitanes del barrio*. Responding to the President's call for New Filipinos, they are breaking new grounds for pioneering programs and are leading their barrio folk in the movement to break away from the self-defeating attitudes and habits of the past. Their vision is aimed at enriching the process of rebirth and self-renewal which celebrates the individual's capacity to overcome his environment and the accident of his birth, to shape his own destiny through his labors.

The cynics who perceive nothing but darkness in our future should see this growing, glowing spark in our barrio communities. The new concern of the government for the plight of our countrymen in the far-flung regions finds a heartening duplication in the revitalized leadership in the local governments. Its message is one of hope, its meaning is one of tremendous significance in the over-all development of the nation.

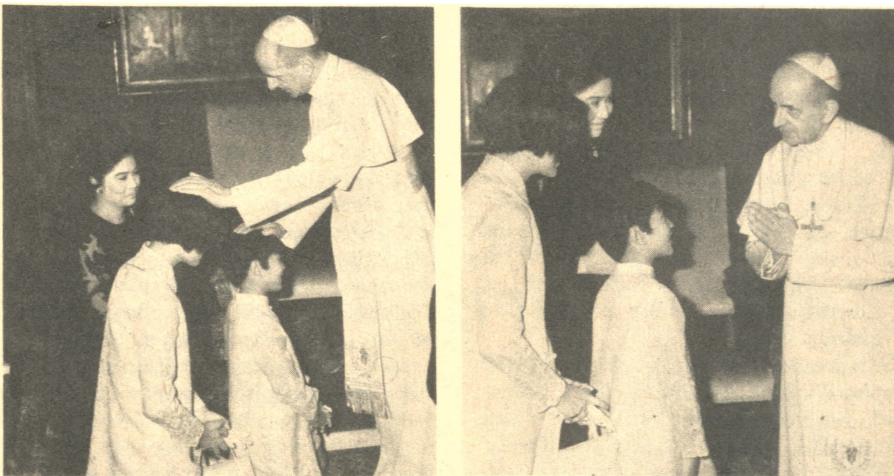
Says President Marcos:

"It is quite important to notice, because without our knowing it there is a revolution going on in our midst, not only in the national government but all the way down to the roots of our political society, to the base of our political pyramid. Barrio leaders and barrio presidents from all over the country have become conscious of their duties to their people. If in the past you saw them complacent, inactive, today they are not so. They are on the move, they are aware they constitute the first line of leadership in our country." **FM**



### SECOND FILIPINO CARDINAL

*The Philippines got its second cardinal last May 1 when Julio Cardinal Rosales of Cebu received from Pope Paul VI his symbolic red skullcap and beretta, along with 32 other new appointees. The elevation to the cardinalate of Rosales came as a timely gesture, considering that the local Catholic laity is racked by a number of grave problems. The new Cardinal vowed more social action.*



*The First Lady, Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, was the "ninang" at the investiture of Cardinal Rosales. Mrs. Marcos and daughters Imee and Irene were received in audience by the Pope.*

## A Safety Valve



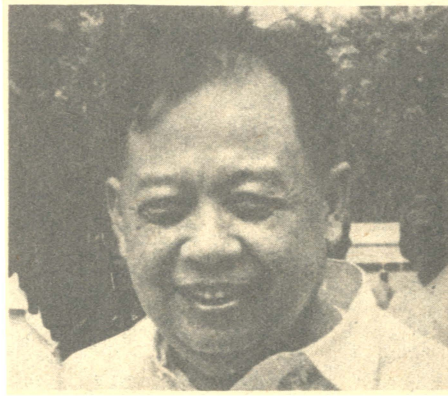
**PRESIDENT MARCOS**  
*A second term?*

**T**HERE is so much talk about a possible revolution in the Philippines that a number of people are indeed scared about the future. We know several Filipinos who have migrated to Canada or the United States in search of a more stable climate for their talents. "We don't want to be around when the revolution comes," says a doctor and his pretty wife who had just graduated from nursing school.

In the last several years, the subject of a revolution has been so loosely talked about as though it really were around the corner. And yet in the face of seemingly hopeless conditions, Filipinos are not about to launch a proletarian revolution. They did once, in protest to the despotic rule of Spain. But things are not that hopeless today and there is no foreign power to seek independence from.

Acting as a safety valve to our pent-up emotions are a number of factors, not the least of which is the very democratic framework of our government. The Philippine Constitution, drafted by great minds such as the late Don Claro Recto has amply provided avenues by which dissatisfied citizens may seek change without resort to violence. Citizens have fallen back on the Constitution a number of times in our history.

Unimpressed by the performance of Presidents Quirino, Garcia and Macapagal, the people repudiated them when they sought a second term. Today President Marcos is hoping for a favorable judgment from the people. Will he become the first Chief Executive to win reelection, or will he go the way of past presidents? The voters, exercising the supreme power of the ballot,



**CLARO M. RECTO**  
*Where did they fail?*

will have the final say, thanks to the Philippine Constitution.

And yet, it seems time to change the very same Constitution that allows the people the civil liberties and the privileges that they enjoy today under a democratic system. Like everything else, the Constitution suffers from defects that must be corrected.

It is no reflection on the framers of our Constitution that the people today are clamoring for constitutional amendments, and which they will get in 1971 when a Constitutional Convention is held to draft these changes. The Fathers of the Constitution all distinguished citizens of their time — never meant the Document, born on a particular period of our history, to be imposed on the citizens for all time. Hence, the provision for altering it, or even suspending it in times of great national emergency.

The writers of our Constitution, visionaries as they were, could not have foreseen all the problems an emerging nation would face in a rapidly shrinking world. These same framers today would be among the staunchest advocates of Constitutional change — to amend the charter where it has not worked as well as they had hoped.

Senator Arturo M. Tolentino, an acknowledged authority on the workings of government, says rightly that the Philippine Constitution was drawn at a time when the Filipinos were still tied to colonial moorings. Now that the Philippines has attained political and economic independence it becomes only fitting to draw a completely new document that would express in more decisive terms the sovereign aspirations of an independent people.

Are we to retain the presidential system or adopt the parliamentary system? Are we to discard colonial economic alliances and seek new economic partners? Do we want a President elected for four years with reelection, or six years without reelection? These and other momentous questions will be resolved in 1971 by delegates to the Constitutional Convention.



**REP. ANTONIO CUENCO**  
*His remedy: change it.*

Whatever system we will finally adopt, it seems clear at this time that it should be a system that will generate less politics and more government for the people without impairing existing individual liberties.

It is well that the people have decided, through a plebiscite held in conjunction with the 1967 elections, to separate political candidates from candidates for the Constitutional Convention. They have voted a resounding No to a question whether they would like incumbent officials to run for the Convention. All those planning to run for the Convention must first give up their office.

To allow politicians to dominate the Convention would be to provide a bad beginning to basically good ends.

"It is not entirely accurate to say the situation is hopeless that it needs a man on a horseback to remedy it," says LP Congressman Antonio Cuenco who had initiated the calling of a Constitutional Convention. "We have our Constitution and if we don't like this Constitution, well, we can always change it."

Come 1971, distinguished Filipinos, elected by hopeful masses, will convene to change this Constitution. **FM**

# S. F. SAMSON

## COMMERCIAL

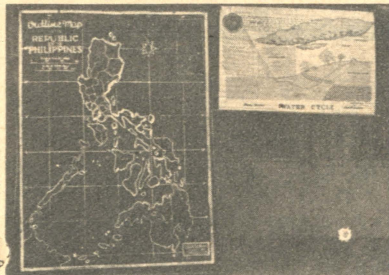
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**SAMUEL (Sammy) SAMSON**  
 General Manager

20 Dunwoody Street  
 U.E. Subdivision, Caloocan City

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**D**EMOS are out; marches are in. It is no longer fashionable just to wave a placard. The demonstrator must also prove his endurance in hiking. Mark time, march!

I met such a march yesterday. They were a motley group, composed of students, peasants, professionals, workers and expelled Liberals. Having nothing to do, I joined the group and started asking why they were in the mark.

"I am a jogger," said a balding man with the bay-window of a B-57 flung open. "I missed three days practice and I am making up."

Finally there was one who had a better explanation for the march. "Demos are no longer camp, man," the bearded youth told me. "To really jazz things up, you've got to march!"

But what was the march for? He could not tell.

Someone volunteered: "We are going to present demands to the President and to Congress. We will ask them to declare the American military bases, Forbes Park, Magallanes Village as reform areas. We will ask them to expropriate all golf courses in the country and sell them to the people!"

# Time Marches On

By BAYANI SANTOS



"This is my chance to tour the country," said a young man. "We started from Cagayan and I have covered more grounds in six days than I have seen in my entire life. Tour the country for free, that's what this march is for me."

I turned to another man. "I lost my bus fare," he mumbled sadly, "and this is my only chance to get to Manila "without my plight being known."

There was a woman in the group. "I am following my husband," she said. "He claims he is joining the demonstration in Congress but I know better." She was holding a walkie-talkie and was soon making contact with the other line.

One of them was wearing a tie and carrying an attache case. "I am a salesman," he beamed, "and I am promoting these new rubber shoes. They're good for hikes and marches. Wanna try a pair?" I said, no, thanks.

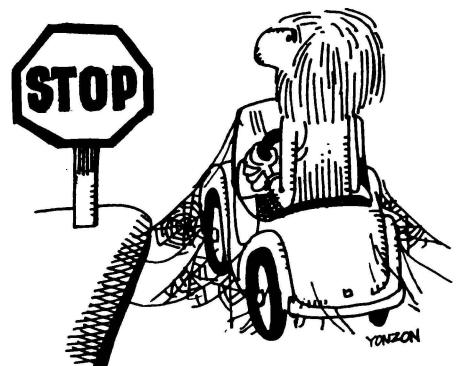
The other one had a bigger line of products. "I sell cures for corns and blisters, and liniments, and pills. And business is great," he crowed.

There was a melancholy-looking man. "I haven't visited my relatives for a long long time," he told me. "Now I have the chance to see them one by one."

But why go all the way to Manila to present these demands?

"Who's going all the way? The President will meet us and will study our demands. He likes to meet problems head-on, you know."

Suddenly he glowered at me. "Why do you keep asking those stupid questions anyway? Who are you?" Before I could answer his stupid question, I heard shouts of "Infiltrator! Infiltrator!" and soon the march was making a U-turn as the whole stampede chased me back to the provincial boundary. **PM**



# Credit for the Barrios

THE development of the rural areas where 80 percent of the people live depends to a large extent on the amount of capital that is available for production.

With the administration's focus this year on the barrio, there seems to be a deliberate campaign on the part of government agencies to make credit available to farmers. The barrio development fund, administered by the PACD but personally supervised by the President, does not exactly perform the role of financier. The ₱2,000 that go to every barrio wishing to develop itself may be regarded as an initial boost to what the barrio people want, like an artesian well or a community project.

The government by itself obviously cannot correct what has always been regarded as the root of economic inequality — the concentration of financial resources and economic power in the urban centers or in the hands of the wealthy few of the country.

President Marcos himself has called for the decentralization of economic power through a system whereby the masses can avail themselves of the means to production, namely, capital. To be sure the President is not referring to the system of usury that has

long endured in the countryside and has for so long worked so iniquitously against the broadening of economic opportunities. He has in mind actually the rural banking system that is spreading throughout the land, providing the needed capital to enhance agricultural production.

Today there are some 40 rural banks all over the country. It is acknowledged that without the participation of the rural banks the people and the government through the Agricultural Productivity Commission would not have achieved the objective of rice sufficiency. Other areas of agricultural production — such as corn, fish, poultry, and livestock — are affected in a very positive way by the presence of rural banks in the vicinity.

More rural banks are needed all over the country. The President has asked the Central Bank, the Development Bank of the Philippines and all the financing institutions to extend all available assistance to enable rural banks to increase their resources and facilities.

More credit for the rural areas will indeed accelerate national development which is very much talked about these days. **PM**

## tips for the homemaker

### THE PERFECT HOSTESS

Home and hospitality should be simple to be genuine. Entertain as a matter of course. No ostentation, no undue work.

\* \* \*

*The hostess should make it a point to receive her guests without them looking around for her. She should make sure that each guest knows at least someone in the room, or is introduced to other guests, so as to make him feel at ease and comfortable.*

\* \* \*

Don't grunt and snort and strip your gears over problems in marketing and planning. This makes your guests uncomfortable.

\* \* \*

*Mix your guests as you would your menu, mixing the introverts with the extroverts, thus providing listeners for the extroverts and life to the silent and sedate.*

If you want friends to enjoy coming to your house, don't press them to spend the night when it is obvious they are yearning to go home.

\* \* \*

*A smart hostess makes it a point to listen, as well as talk. She draws her guests out on interesting conversation instead of chattering constantly herself. Avoid talking about three things: diseases, domestics and descendants.*

\* \* \*

Prepare good food for your guests. Don't leave the matter to your servants, unless you know they are thoroughly competent.

\* \* \*

*If you don't have a maid, by all means don't invite more than you can handle. And don't apologize for the shortage of servants, beers or canapes either.*

\* \* \*

A comfortable place to sit and relax is one of the first requirements for a pleasant party. Provide for these.

\* \* \*

*Start serving cocktails or appetizers as soon as the first guest arrives.*

\* \* \*

As long as you are thoughtful and considerate you have nothing to worry about. If your guests are comfortable, all will be well.

# GROWING



# TOWNS

In not more than 250 words, write about the growth of your town, emphasizing efforts at self-help, developing local resources, creating jobs and income opportunities for the community.

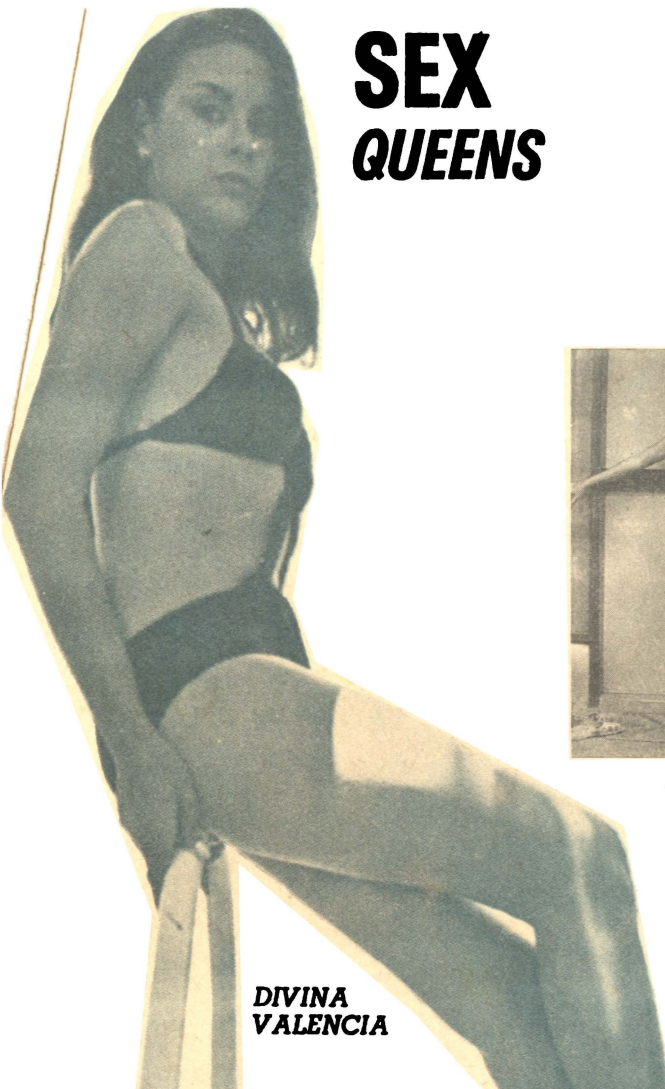
Send pictures, too.

We will pay for the most exciting articles and published them with the author's byline and photograph.

**THINK POSITIVE!**



# SEX QUEENS



**DIVINA VALENCIA**

**P**ERMISSIVE is the latest word for Filipino cinema and the new spirit of liberation finds its greatest expression in the sex content of the current movies. No longer do stars exchanged faked kisses or women flaunt their sexiness by walking around with a shoulder strap flung aside. The new permissiveness calls for the characters to indulge in inordinate kissing and for the girls to celebrate their sex with the minimum of clothing.

In the old days, Rosa Rosal or Zeny Zabala could make the males pant by slinking across the screen in their sheer chemise. The old maids swooned when Pol Salcedo and Rosa del Rosario did each other faked lip service. The breakup of the Big Four and the proliferation of the independent producers was to usher in a highly competitive battle in the industry and to place a higher premium in the box office returns. How to make the cash register ring, and ring with loud pecuniary peals? Sex, man, and we were soon to have our fill of it.

The unveiling of sex was, to be sure, a welcome event. The Filipino cinema—long stifled in conventions—was decaying not only in content but in form. The stories had little variation and the production values were equally wanting. It had to rise from the doldrums, and sex was to take care of that. The sexual revolution also represents a breakthrough in morals, a gust of fresh air in the narrow corridor, a triumph of liberalism and creativity.

In the beginning were Stella Suarez and Divina Valencia. They were to inspire a popular street ditty that was a compliment to their daring and style. They brought a fresh and uninhibited approach to sex, clean sex. So overpowering was their influence and impact that later, even the so-called “nice” actresses were willing to osculate and undress to perform offbeat roles and otherwise add new dimensions to their stereotype characterizations.

Boom went the bust and soon dames Suarez and Valencia had to



**JOSEPHINE ESTRADA**



**REBECCA**



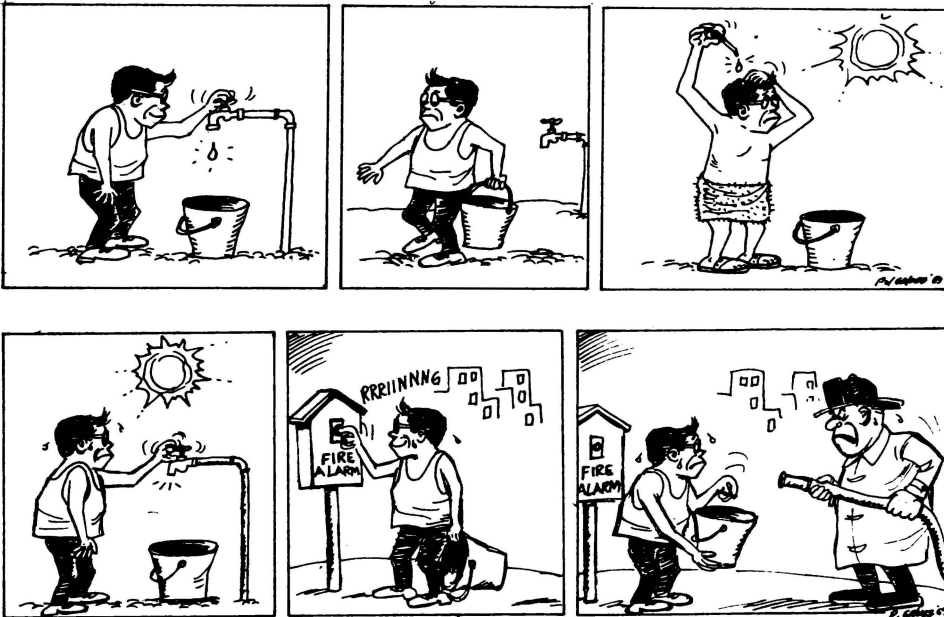
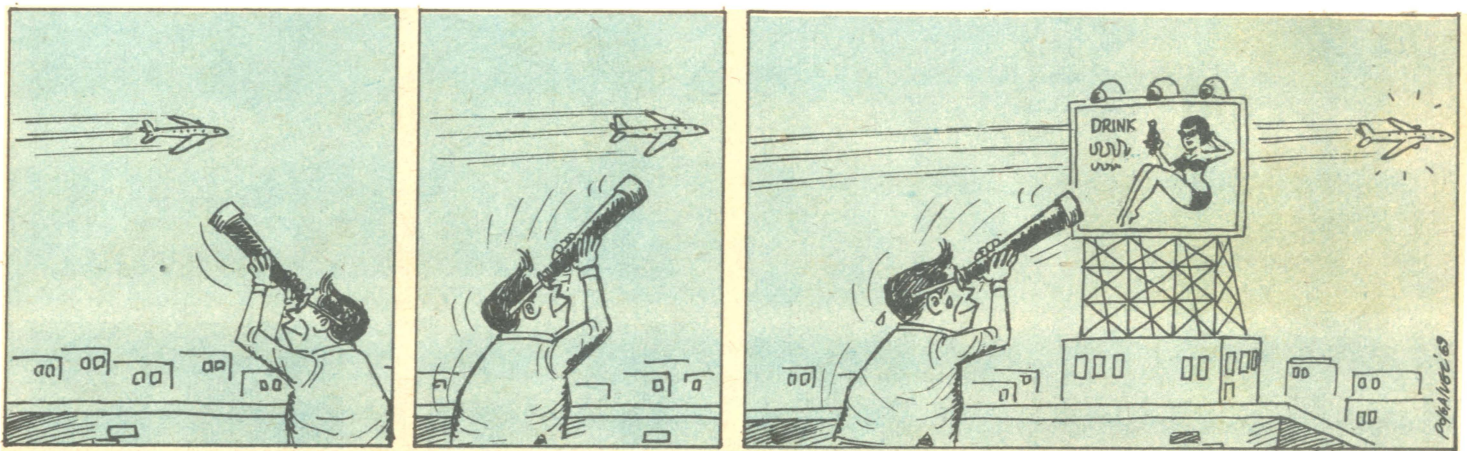
**ANA LEDESMA**



**HELEN THOMPSON**

face a formidable horde of competitors. Ruby Regala came and left. Marissa Delgado posed for *Playboy*. Charito Solis gamboled in *le minimum* in *Igorota*. Verna Gaston signed up with the fiery legion. Anna Gonzales, an earth-goddess with a magnificent body, scorched the screen in a number of films.

No one knows where this permissiveness will lead to. Greater realism as in the reported delivery scene of Miss Solis is her latest film? Total nudity? Explicit sex? No matter. We shall celebrate their coming, leaving the teeth-gnashing to the moral watchdogs, the censors and the self-appointed moralists. We only hope the Filipino cinema would care to express more truth, honesty and integrity, and view itself less as a merchandise and more as a creative endeavor, a mirror to life, a forceful medium of expression. Sex is joyless and meaningless unless expressed in the proper context. To have sex for sex's sake is to perpetuate the old curse in the native film. **PM**



## Cartoons and Characters

# POL GALVEZ



**P**OL, PM is pleased to run your work in its pages as part of our **Cartoons and Characters** series. Do you have any formal schooling in commercial art?

"Well, I studied cartooning at UP and then I took up fine arts at UST." When did you go into the cartooning business?

"In 1960. I joined the **Manila Daily Bulletin** as editorial cartoonist."

You're the only cartoonist in the paper?

"Yes. Incidentally, I am the first Filipino cartoonist to join the **Bulletin** since 1900."

What kind of artwork do you do for your paper?

"In addition to the editorial cartoon, I also do **Sanoy**, a daily comic strip, plus a caricature column for VIPs. I also do layout work and illustrations for **Panorama** magazine."

**Sanoy** strikes me as a lost soul who seems to be in a perpetual state of bewilderment. Did you conceive him that way?

"Well, yes. **Sanoy** is actually an evocation of Chaplin the tramp, although my character as you have noticed is not a hobo. But **Sanoy** is essentially poor, not only materially but in his perception and attitudes. He tries hard to do well but somehow always fails. This makes for a funny if sympathetic character."

And believable, too. We have many **Sanoy**s around us.

"I agree. There is a **Sanoy** somehow in many of us."

What has **Sanoy** given you in addition to the distinction of being its creator?

"Well, it gave me first prize in cartooning at the 4th **SPIC-NPC** art competition."

Incidentally, what other awards have you won?

"Let's see. I won first prize in the caricature contest during the 6th **SPIC-NPC** art contest, second prize in editorial cartoon on the same competition, and fourth prize in the editorial cartoon contest of the **Manila Overseas Press Club**."

Are you currently an officer of the Society of Philippine Illustrators and Cartoonists?

"Yes. I am the second vice president. I was director of **SPIC** last year."

I must say that your caricatures capture not only the features but also the personality of your subjects.

"Thank you. I always strive to get the inner man in my subjects. I'm lucky if I am able to capture their temperament."

For my last question, what in your opinion is the role of the editorial cartoonist in journalism?

"He plays a tremendous role for his commentaries could be as effective and searing as hard-hitting editorials. He, too, is moulder of population opinion, and thus must exercise a great deal of responsibility in his craft. The works of **Izon**, **Gat** and **Malang**, for example, are highly respected and followed by thousands of Filipino readers."

What about the works of **Pol Galvez**?

"I don't know. What do you think?" **PM**

# NEWS FRONT

## AID TO FISHERMEN

The government is constructing 17 ice and cold storage plants in strategic fishing ports of the country, according to Vice President and Secretary of Agriculture Fernando Lopez. With the establishment of these plants, some ₱50 million worth of spoiled fish is expected to be saved for the fishing industry each year.



## SSS DRIVE

The Social Security System plans to undertake a massive drive to ferret out employers who have been deliberately withholding premium payments to the SSS. Reports said that out of some two million SSS members in the labor force only about one million are paying their premium payments. The SSS management says that most employers are not remitting to the System the premiums which they deduct from the salaries of their employees.

## SPECIAL SESSION

The Congress is scheduled to go into another special session next week as the opposition succeeded in sidetracking vital measures, including the national budget. Senator Dominador Aytona, chairman of the Senate committee on finance and sponsor of the budget, deplored what he called the Liberals' "filibustering" that prevented the passage of the budget and thereby forced the calling of an extra meet. Aytona also said that this would mean an additional expenditure of ₱1.5 million and "the Liberal senators should be made accountable to the people for this wasteful expenditure."



## FARM DEVELOPMENT

A new twist in farm development—the supervised credit—is being pursued by the government, according to Vice

President and Agriculture Secretary Fernando Lopez. For this purpose, he said, the Development Bank of the Philippines has programmed ₱240 million. The measure is initiated by the Rice and Corn Production Coordinating Council and is being undertaken with the cooperation of government and rural banks.

## CAR FACTORY IN ILIGAN

The Fiat automobile manufacturing concern of Italy is planning to put up an automobile plant in Iligan City, together with a big Philippine company. It is believed that such an ambitious project to manufacture cars locally instead of importing knocked-down units and assembling them would have far reaching effects on the Philippine industrialization program.

## LP CANDIDATES

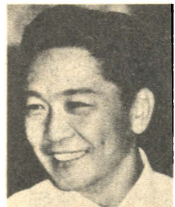
Senator Genaro Magsaysay has announced his bid for the LP nomination as presidential candidate last May 21 barely three days after he bolted the Nacionalista Party to join the Liberals. Magsaysay's announcement has finally put an end to speculations on his political plans in the coming elections. The senator had earlier said that he was joining the Liberal Party "with no strings attached."

## DOLLARS FOR RP

The so-called Marcos dollar remittance program has netted some \$5 million as of the week ending May 25. The dollars remitted through the Philippine National Bank represented the dollar equivalent of peso requirements of the American government in procuring supplies and equipment in the country. PNB officials estimate that the rate of dollar income from this specific source would be at the level of \$5 million every two weeks.

## LAND REFORM

President Marcos has declared 64 municipalities in Central Luzon including all towns in Tarlac as land reform areas. The inclusion of the entire province of Tarlac is an answer to the demand of the farmers of the province who threatened to march to Malacañang sometime ago. The President has simultaneously directed the budget commission to release ₱30 million to buy up the lands for distribution to the farmers.



## ELECTRICITY FOR BARRIOS

A bill filed by Senator Emmanuel Pelaez and fully endorsed by President Marcos plans to provide electric power to the barrios all over the country through the cooperative way. The bill seeks to declare it a national policy that total electrification be given the highest priority in implementation and that it should be given "continued support" by the government.



## BOI APPROVES MORE PROJECTS

As of April 30, the cut-off date for the first IPP, a total of 191 applications were received by the Board of Investments, 167 of which have been approved for registration. Of the remaining 84 applications, 25 were either withdrawn or abandoned by proponents while the rest are in various stages of evaluation by the BOI technical staff. The projects of the following firms were approved in April: Philite Industrial Parts, Inc., Philex Mining Corporation, Matalin Coconut Co., Inc., Fil-Eastern Wood Industries, Inc., and the Misamis Lumber Co., Inc.

## PUYAT PREDICTS NP WIN

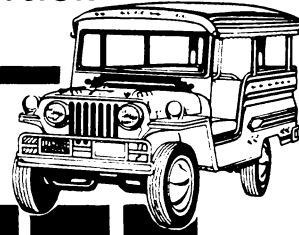
Senate President Gil J. Puyat predicted that President Marcos and the Nacionalista Party would win the national elections in November. Speaking on his arrival in Hongkong this weekend, Puyat said that his party (Nacionalista) is "predominantly in control," with 17 senators out of 24 and 36 governors out of 56. Judging from average reactions, he said, the administration of President Marcos is doing quite well.

## BILL FOR NEW VOTERS

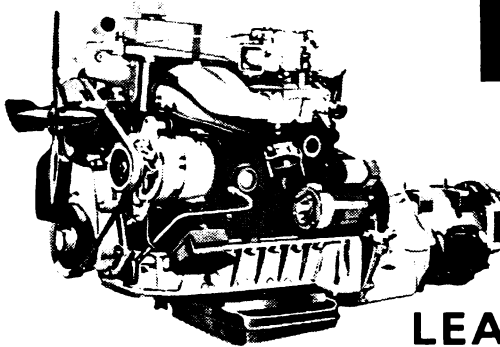
Senator Arturo Tolentino filed a bill in Congress that seeks to remove the time limit on the period of registration for new voters. The bill will eliminate the disqualification of new voters from voting as a result of their failure to register within 60 days after reaching the age of 21. According to Comelec Chairman Manuel Arranz the approval of the bill will open the door for the registration of every qualified 21-year old citizen for the coming November elections.



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