

National Weekly

D. L. FRANCISCO
Editor

R. M. MALPID
General Manager

MARTY V. CHAVES

INOCENCIO TAN

A. DE LEON

Advertising

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BLOODBATH?

God, pity the Philippines if the general apprehension felt by the public during the coming November elections should come to pass. Apart from the fear that the Huks would enter Manila and create here a tumultuous affray, a dress rehearsal of what is bound to happen has already taken place in many localities of the islands. ALP and NP inspectors being forcibly and at the point of guns being told to register new voters by partisan police, or thrown out of polling places. In some places truckloads of new registrants were reported kept away from election precincts.

The three major parties, each desperately fighting to win, are mutually accusing each other of preparing the country in a bloodbath which may plunge this country into a revolution, or something like it. Eulogio Rodriguez, general campaign manager of the Nacionalista Party, has expressed his fear of what to expect in November, with the manner the Liberal Party, Quirino Wing, has been carrying on in many places, with the police and the constabulary being utilized to cow the electorate

Speaker Eugenio Perez, general campaign manager of the Liberal Party, has thrown back the NP charge, stating that it should be the minority group who should be held responsible for any untoward incident, adding that NP Candidate Jose P. Laurel's speeches in the past have incited the people to "revolution."

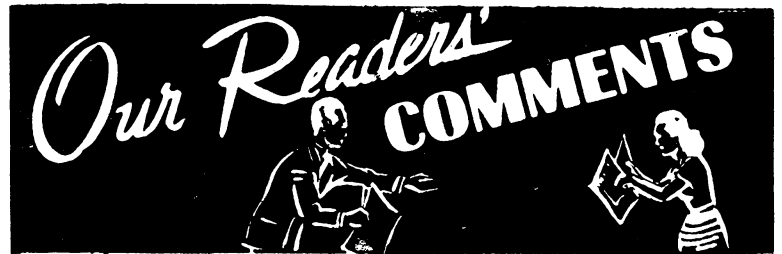
Should the situation go beyond mutual accusations and recriminations, the people, the Filipino people should hold the guilty responsible and let them suffer the consequences, whatever they might be.

"ZONA"

The police early Sunday morning swooped down on the Palomar district of Tondo, in an encircling operation reminiscent of the days of the Japanese occupation. It is an unpleasant thought.

The police justified the operation with the rounding up of 60 Huk suspects, the seizure of two unlicensed firearms and the arrest of their possessors

Justified or not, we still want to think and believe that this is a democratic country. Or have we already become a dictatorship overnight?



POLITICAL STANDINGS — and continuous service to our people. The NATIONAL WEEKLY is also growing thicker and as such, many more articles of interest are being accommodated. I pray for its success. More power to you.—Manuel M. Pastores. Gattaran, Cagayan.

Finding out that your paper has a general circulation in the province of Capiz, Capicenos away from their home provinces will be very much pleased to know the political movements in their beloved province thru the pages of your magazine. — Eugenio C. Salcedo, San Juan, Rizal.

(Ed's note: We have been studying such a project and have already taken steps to make a general canvas of provinces. At any rate it is still too early to start that. Perhaps one month before the elections will be more appropriate.)

PHILIPPINE OPERA — Mr. Raymundo Banas' article which appeared in your Sept. 10 issue of the NATIONAL WEEKLY is an eye-opener for the opera-loving people of the Philippines. Opera should really be revived here. I remember the old Teatro de Bilibid Mr. Banas spoke about, and I do miss them. This is one form of entertainment that will improve proper cultural tastes for our youth.—(Mrs.) Josefina L. Castro, Cebu City.

NENITAS AGAIN:.....I am glad Mr. Martelino who is doing a series of articles on Col. Valeriano's "Skuli" commandos has pictured the rough sides too. I was afraid at first that the serial would be partial to the commandos; But last week's "The Huks Strike Back;" showed that the author is giving us the right low down on the Huk campaigns:—V. Reyes, Ermita Manila.

NATIONAL WEEKLY PRESS —I congratulate you for the acquisition of your own printing press which is an evidence of assured

TERRIFIC SURPRISE You cannot imagine my astonishment when the new NATIONAL WEEKLY hit the stands last week. This is actually now the only Philippine magazine that uses book paper comparable to American magazines such as Colliers, Liberty and Saturday Evening Post. Congratulations and I hope you'll keep up this new standard.—Manuel Navarro, San Juan, Rizal.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE.... The article by Miss Lakambini S. Garcia which appeared in the Sept. 24 issue of the NATIONAL WEEKLY is commendable. It is rarely one finds a woman who is frank enough to come out and admit their shortcomings. Women should avoid trying to do men's work and confine themselves in a very important factor in the future of the country. For is it not the women who mold the kind of men who will run our government? And if they fail in this duty, what kind of men will we have?—Rustico Ortiz, Capiz.

PARTIDA MAYOR:..... D.L. Francisco's expose on "Partida Mayor" last week was most revealing: Here in the provinces stories like that are read greedily as our local politicians are most careful in seeing to it that none of such scandals reach the majority of the public. It is really very demoralizing to have men like those mentioned in the article who pretend to be angels but in fact have dirty faces. I am looking forward to reading more of the anomalies in our government: — Mauro Malvar, Agoo, La Union: