

The "LET YOUR HAIR DOWN" Column

THE National Economic Council does not seem to be able to keep its files of the *Journal* complete,—perhaps members carry issues away with them. At the request of the Council's librarian, we recently supplied quite a large number of back issues,—without charge, and received the following acknowledgement:

"I have the honor to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of copies of the following

issues of the *American Chamber of Commerce Journal*:

Vol. 22, 1945-1946, Nos. 1-4 and 6-8

Vol. 23, 1947, Nos. 2-7

Vol. 27, 1951, Nos. 1-2

Vol. 28, 1952, Nos. 1-2 and 4-12

"These copies are valuable additions to the National Economic Council Library.

"Very respectfully,

For the Acting Executive Secretary

(Sgd.) FRANCISCO P. MONGE

"Economic Research Coordinator
In-Charge."

Well, we do not know of any group in the Philippines, other than the members of the National Economic Council, unless it be the members of the Senate and the House, whom we would rather have read the *Journal*.

During the month the editor also received a letter which, according to the letter-head, was from the "Osmeña Estate", Cebu City. It read:

"I wish to thank you for the complimentary copies of the *American Chamber of Commerce Journal* which you send my father. I find your magazine highly informative and instructive. . .

"Sincerely yours,

"Edilberto Osmeña."

WE mentioned in this column some months ago that the U. S. Mutual Security Agency had asked permission to mimeograph, for distribution among its American staff members, the article on "Eastern and Western Psychology", published in the June issue of this *Journal*. Permission, of course, was readily granted. Last month, the same compliment was paid the *Journal* by the Guy F. Atkinson Company, a San Francisco firm of contractors and engineers, which won the bid for the tunneling and other work to be done for the National Power Corporation at Ambuklao. The firm will employ several thousand people to be recruited locally, but will also necessarily bring in a number of American technical men, and it was these that the Company's area manager, H. S. Booth, believed would benefit from a reading of the same article; so, with a covering letter, it was mimeographed as "Inter-Office Correspondence" and addressed to "All American employees,—Ambuklao Project." The *Journal* was given full credit, and Mr. Booth stated, "We believe that you will find this article very helpful in your efforts to understand the Filipino as well as seeing yourself as the Filipino sees you."

AN official of the U. S. Veterans Administration, who was kind enough to read an advance draft of this month's instalment of the "Short History. . .", wrote:

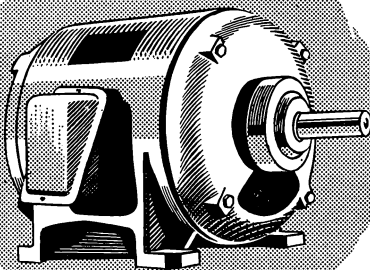
"I made two small changes. . . It's an excellent article. I should like to have several copies when available. . . Regards."

An official of the U. S. War Claims Commission wrote:

"This is the most informative article I have ever read on the activities of the organizations concerned. It contains a great amount of statistics, but is still easily readable and is most interesting. I have made a few small corrections. . . The total sums disbursed by the War Claims Commission to American prisoners-of-war and to American internees residing elsewhere than the Philippines is much greater than those I have given you, but I believe you were primarily

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interested in payments which actually benefited the Philippine economy and for that reason I gave you the breakdown I did. In regard to your question concerning the compensation paid religious organizations by the U. S. Philippine War Damage Commission, I can not answer with certainty. I presume these payments will be deducted from the payments made under our Act, but I have nothing to do with the adjudication of claims and know of no claim paid to date in which this question has arisen."

In response to a request for certain information with respect to the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company for a subsequent instalment of the "Short History..." Mr. J. T. Naylor, General Manager of the Company, wrote in a covering letter:

The United States
subscription rate to
the *Journal* sent by
ordinary mail for
one year, is \$5.00.

For \$15.00 a year
the *Journal* Office
will send monthly
any selected page-
clipping by air-mail
in addition to send-
ing the whole issue,
as usual, by ordinary
mail.

"Please accept our compliments for the splendid record which I have had the pleasure of following in the American Chamber of Commerce *Journal*."

With further reference to the "Short History..." the editor received the following letter from Mr. C. G. Herdman, of Marsman & Company, Inc.

"Just a line to let you know how much I have enjoyed your articles, 'Short History of Industry and Trade in the Philippines', which have been appearing in the American Chamber of Commerce *Journal*. I sincerely hope that these articles will be reprinted in book form and trust that due announcement will be made if they are, as I should like to place an order for several copies if and when available."

This is just a line to express the editor's appreciation of the foregoing letter. As for a re-print in book form, this would be an expensive undertaking and is still undecided upon. The safest thing would be for readers to preserve their copies of the *Journal*,—as they otherwise are likely to do anyway. We can still furnish some extra copies to those who want them.

"THE sweetest music ever heard!"
said the editor.

"What?"

He pointed to some lines in the February 16 issue of *Time*, heavily underscored:

"The Economy... The New Freedom...
By week's end the Administration has moved to:

"Take off ceilings on...

"Abolish all wage and salary controls...

"Dismiss 1,700 employees of the Wage Stabilization Committee, and eventually abolish the jobs of 6,000 other controllers."

"Whoopie! Whoopie!"

"Aren't you a bit sorry for so many persons losing their jobs, their means of livelihood?" we asked.

"I am not!" he said. "It is those controllers of all varieties, in every country, who have cost millions of men their jobs. Now let these supermen go out and make a living on their own in a healthy competitive world. Let's see what they can do other than ruining others with the greatest of ease! They and their little brief authority! And who gave it to them? That's what gets my goat! We did! Or we permitted it! We have fought for centuries to gain political liberty and then we threw away our economic liberty, which is basic to the other. Don't ask me to be sorry for a controllers losing their jobs! Whoopie! Whoopie! Yeow!"

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