

★ **The Bicol Star** ★

ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MAIL MATTER AT THE
POST OFFICE, CITY OF NAGA, PHILIPPINES
ON MAY 20, 1933.
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

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CIRCULATION & SUBSCRIPTION

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: P4.00 PER YEAR; P2.50 6 MONTHS
P. O. BOX 123, CITY OF NAGA, PHILIPPINES

MANILA BUREAU, 1963 DAPITAN, SAMPALOC—TEL. 60-66-55
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BSP officials visit Jamboree site

Boy Scout officials all over the country who attended the kick-off ceremonies for the BSP Membership Campaign at Malacanang recently visited the site of the 4th National Jamboree of the Boy Scouts of the Philippines in Palayan City. The Key-3 officials council presidents, commissioners and scout executives representing 69 local councils in the Philippines were accompanied by several members of the national executive board of the BSP and members of the national staff. They were warmly welcomed by officials of Nueva Ecija led by Jose P. Dizon, president of the Nueva Ecija Boy Scout council.

The 4th National Jamboree, with an expected attendance of 9,000 Scouts and Scouters all over the country and from overseas, will be held on May 10-18 in Palayan City.

The visitors were impressed by the progress of the work being done to build the Jamboree City. They were surprised to see at once lonely spot slowly being transformed into a big community with complete facilities. The task of building the Jamboree city was laid squarely on the Physical Arrangements Committee of the Jamboree headed by Undersecretary of Public Works and Communications Manuel B. Syquico. The action group of this Committee is dubbed Task Force 69 whose officer in charge is General Eduardo Garcia, Commanding General of the First Tabak Division at Fort Magsaysay.

General Garcia briefed the visitors on the work being done to build the Jamboree City. He said that the road network was completed and that buildings that would house the offices of the various Jamboree services were nearing completion. Garcia assured the delegates that the Jamboree will have lots of water and such facilities as light, communication system, post-telegraph services, trading posts, central mess, radio-TV center, ecumenical chapel, medical clinics and hospital, motor pool and many other services. Garcia said that the Jamboree City will be completed by the end of March.

General Garcia and Provincial Commander Jose B. Gutierrez allayed fears on the peace and order situation by saying that Nueva Ecija is a peaceful place and that all-out efforts will be exerted by military and police agencies to keep the Jamboree City safe and secure. The full implementation of the security plan laid out by the authorities will insure peace and order in the Jamboree City.

The Scout officials toured the entire Jamboree site and made an ocular inspection of their respective sub-camps where they designated the contingent campsites. Earlier in the day, they visited Fort Magsaysay where they were greeted by General Garcia who showed them around the area and explained the various projects being undertaken in the fort.

He edited the Philippine Farmer's Digest and the Golden Harvest Newsletter. He is at present editor of the Alumni Newsletter, a quarterly publication of the Araneta Alumni Association of which he is the executive secretary.

A Bicolano, Deborde was born in San Isidro, Pamplona, Camarines Sur. He is married to the former Luisa Intac of Cuenca, Batangas, with whom he has three children.

Gene E. Balfertoso

FROM THE HILLTOP



Listen and Learn Diplomacy

THE NIXON WAY - As a former business executive — the incumbent President of the United States has been referred to as one of the most travelled Americans and as Chief Executive of the most powerful super-power, President Richard Nixon will have a chance to get restive and oftener will have the opportunity to visit every ally of the 'free world' thru his 'listen-and-learn' tours. Completing his western European visit recently, he is out sounding his allies about his projected summer itinerary to Soviet Russia for a face-to-face dialogue with the Kremlin leaders.

As a two-termer vice-president under the Eisenhower administration Mr. Nixon nevertheless covered almost all countries in South America, Europe and Asia with the exception of course of Red China. In South America as a goodwill representative of Pres. Eisenhower - Mr. Nixon on several occasions had been spilled at and thrown with tomatoes and eggs. And at a Moscow agricultural and industrial exposition while visiting the American fair he is remembered for his famous 'kitchen debate' with the former Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

With the above experiences - we can very well foresee that the Nixonian theory of 'learn-and-listen diplomacy' will give the American leader on-the-spot observations to understand world problems and to effect factual remedies with a view to ease world tensions and to avoid the dangers of a growing menace of nuclear confrontation.

ABRIDGEMENT OF PRESS FREEDOM

LET THE FLOWERS BLOOM - At the least this writer would like to congratulate that segment of our youth activists whose propensity it is to advocate for reforms against the backlash of alleged malpractices among local columnists, newswriters and radio commentators. The 'protest' indeed I should consider as deserving more than just a 'grain of salt'.

Insofar as the motives are concerned - responded is a matter of dire necessity among members of the fourth estate. Let alone that our budding newsmen are 'on the level' so to say - the challenge is an encouragement that should be developed without a whimper if to attain the perspective of a newsmen 'on the beat' is a YARDSTICK for self-analysis and improvement.

ACCELERATED APPROACHES - I was able to listen by remote control coverage at my hilltop hideaway to a sizable portion of the student (press week) rally at Naga City Quezon Square. For obvious reasons known only to the student activists - I could not discern a formal presentation of an 'accelerated guideline' intended to improve the performance of a 'misfit' columnist, a newsmen or the radio commentator. By reading a glossary of names will not make the name any better. Nick Joaquin of the Free Press is a mere high school graduate yet his short stories and other writings are superb. So then what is the index of a good writer? Is it because he is a lawyer or a doctor of philosophy degree holder?

I knew of someone who during his freshmen days in college would excel in composition writing. A number of his writings were selected by the English professor and read before the different English composition classes for sheer mastery of simplicity, beauty and thought. I understand the professor is now the dean of graduate studies of a leading university, an acknowledged international short story writer and a novelist of standing in the country today.

I would delight to the encouragement that the professor gave to the freshman: "Your writings can be compared to the best ten in the U. P."

LET FREEDOM RING - Congressman Ramon H. Felipe in a subsequent CSPA press and radio interview - March 2 in relevance to the (press week) student rally at Quezon Square intimated that he should be for complete and unabridged freedom for the members of the press and radio commentators. He said any imposition on thought control is muzzling press freedom and the mass media which is fundamental to our maturing democracy.

It is to be inferred that members of the fourth estate and mass media have a way for articulating varied styles and idiosyncracies and as a composite group their affinities also are varied as the complexities of ordinary humdrum life. For it can be pointed out that although what they think or say are faultless or flawless to respond to sophisticated criticisms - yet it can likewise be inferred that the role played by the newsmen and commentators are dimensional in the categorical stand of fiscalizing the thoughts and actions of our leaders who enjoy the glammers and pleasures of private and public life.

In our 'troubled' democracy - the columnists, the newsmen, the commentators who keep the beat going altho disregarding ethics yet theirs are the toil to keep the ramparts of freedom shielded by their criticisms day in and day out - intended to preserve our democracy against the inroads of insurmountable 'evils' attendant in our times.

Editorial

Presidential Case Needs People's Judicious Thinking

President Ferdinand E. Marcos is definitely coming to Camarines Sur to inaugurate the beautiful landmark which he lovingly dedicated to the welfare and happiness of our citizens. The beautiful landmark which we mean is the now terminated Public School Interscholastic Athletic Field which cost our government P1,200,000. It stands as one of the big public projects which was terminated at the exact cost estimated for its construction. No taxpayer of this province lost a peso through red tape, rone and padded payroll which Senator Osmeña bravely charged as attributes of the present Nacionalista administration.

No taxpayer of this province has also known of any tong and kickback to have benefitted anybody from the appropriation of P6,000,000 given by President Marcos to this province for the construction of the now almost completed huge Irrigation System at Iriga which will supply water to all the rice fields of Rinconada towns.

The concern of President Marcos for the welfare of our province is shown by deeds because it is in the many school buildings allocated to us. It is in the cemented and asphalted roads and in the continuing work of cementing and asphalted roads and highways.

It is in the several Irrigation Projects already concluded. It is in his ceaseless efforts to increase farm production. It is in his endless desire to help us and to serve us.

It is therefore, paradoxical that the big Liberal leaders would come now and then for no other purpose than to criticize, traduce, vilify and ridicule the very person who is doing his very best to help us, the Bicolanos. For the sake of justice, the Liberals should exercise prudence specially because they themselves know they did nothing beneficial for Camarines Sur during the 4 year period of their Macapagal administration. -A. G. Diez.

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'Farm & Food Tips' Column To Start Next Week

Beginning next issue, the Bicol Star starts a new column, "Farm and Food Tips" by Juan S. Deborde, press relations officer of the Araneta University Foundation in Malabon, Rizal.

The column will entertain questions and other solutions that may be sent in by the reader - especially the Bicol farmers and housewives.

Deborde started young as a writer. He was a staffer of the

"Blue and Gold" of the Ateneo de Naga where he graduated from the secondary honors course in 1959. In college he became news editor, associate editor and editor-in-chief of the FURROWS, student newsmagazine of Araneta University where he finished his B.A. course in 1963.

An agricultural writer, he has contributed popular articles in the Philippine Farms and Garden and the Weekly Graphic.