

# Elections

**O**FF AND on, elections come and go. With the beginning of this quarter came the end of the term of office of the incumbent Student Council. Where a hole is, we need something to plug it with. A question—to answer. And an outgoing Student Council—to fill up. That's all there is to it.

**POLITICAL PARTIES.** It was surprising that 5 political parties of 20 aspirants each (1 for president; 1 for vice-president; 18 for representative) entered the race out of a school population of no more than 300 students. That just goes to show what a high-aspiring, ambitious group of students we have. And simple mathematics will reveal how many of the 300 were voters and how many were to be voted upon.

The parties, presidential and vice-presidential candidates:

1. Democratic Youth Party: Short, curly-haired orator, Pangasinan born Gaalberto Q. Lambino, vice-president of the S.C., first term; Amando Mangesay, his province-mate.

2. Liberal Youth Party: The "Midland Courier's" News Editor, two-termer S. C. Prexy Benjamin Rillera; also curly-haired Aureljo de Peralta.

3. Nationalista Party; Be-spectacled, God-fearing Alexander Brillantes, out-going vice-president and the Municipal Court's Clerk Federico Cabato.

4. Student's Party. Baguiotes and Baguio City High School alumni Jose S. Florendo and tously-haired Bobby San Pedro.

5. An un-baptized party led by the College of Law's lanky, silver-tongued Marcos Estacio, plus running-mate Carlos Bareng, debater.

**CAMPAIGNS.** Characteristic of every pre-election set-up, the race got under way with G. Q. Lambino starting the fireworks one week after

the quarter began. His sympathizers launched a house-to-house persuasion tour that got results. No other opposing party followed suit.

They were much too busy with other things than just making promises that, pessimistically, would not come into fulfillment anyway. Except for whispering campaigns and mud-slinging of some sort which followers of the less enthusiastic parties indulged in, that was no check against the very active DYP machine. But of course, as a vote-getting measure, every aspirant metamorphosed into a smiling, sociable, likeable chap overnight. A smile here and a handshake there would get votes. So each one thought. It was so easy to smile or pat somebody's back. That was all there was to it. Until...

**ELECTION DAY.** Momentum gained, things looked like a national election in minjature. Voting was by secret ballot although it was not so secret. A student-voter had to run the gauntlet of the DYP's scores of staunch followers through all the colleges' three flights of stairs. To name a few, P. Tangalin, C. de la Rosa, V. Aquino, R. Mitra, Jr., O. Rimando, M. Zaragoza, E. Picart, etc. All the other party's vote-getting efforts combined into one, could not meet the DYP's halfway. Without his personal attention, Rillera's LYP looked quite dead beside the DYP's. He had been absent from classes for a week. Only a handful of his LYP faithfuls worked: A. de Peralta, P. Cariño, R. Manuel, Jr., Ignacio Navarro. Brillantes' NP looked as dead. C. Fallarme, H. Cruz, B. Rosal, A. Estilore were heart and soul for the NP; but to no avail. Florendo's SP was deader. Three 11th hour supporters couldn't pit their wares against the DYP onslaught. M. Picart's smiles nor D. Pelacan and C. Tiglao's could not get votes. And M. Estacio and C. Bareng left their fate to the four winds...These were all there were to it.

RESULTS. True, he who sows, reaps. For all his DYP's efforts, Lambino unsaddled two-termer Rillera by a flimsy lead of two votes. A. de Peralta easily romped away with the job of "second fiddler" to the prexy as vice-president. The new representatives of the S. C. are:

- B. Rosal—*Secretary*
- V. Aquino—*Treasurer*
- C. de la Rosa—*Sub-treasurer*
- E. Picart—*Business Manager*
- L. Cabato—*Auditor*
- O. Rimado—*PRO*
- A. Blancas—*Sgt. -at-arms*
- P. Carino—*Sgt. -at-arms*

## REPRESENTATIVES

- R. A. Paraan
- V. Paraan
- M. Arnotit
- R. S. Florendo
- A. A. Cosalan
- R. Mitra, Jr.
- V. Lagasea
- L. Mitra
- C. Fallarme
- A. Callao

They are all that compose it.

**PROTEST.** Goaded by his followers and bothered by a technicality, outgoing prexy Rillera went near to filing a protest: re the invalidating of votes. Being a good loser, too, as he is a good winner, he let the idea fizzle out. After all, the new prexy is fit for the job... may be... (It is expected that the new S. C. can sponsor something more than just a string of dances like last year).

**CONSOLATION.** May be so. For, after the induction ceremonies of the student cabinet, Pres. Salvosa paid him (Lambino) a glowing tribute:

Pres. to Lambino—"Although often times you come to the office embittered against this world... you have the makings of a great man. Your victory is a victory over

yourself. You are great... you are greater in the sense... etc., etc..."

And to the vanquished aspirants for student leadership, to add something sweet and sugary to the bitter pill they had to swallow, the President was not unthoughtful; he said to:

Brillantes—"You look so serious and snobbish. Smile once in a while. It will get you votes."

Estacio—"I hope you will still be the assistant manager of the PRRA (Baguio Branch) next quarter... and include the teachers, too, when you speak about PRRA help..."

Rillera—"Despite your handicaps, you have helped the college and the students a lot during your two terms. As a token of gratitude, I hereby grant you a scholarship this quarter."

Florendo—"Look at the girls. How many sweethearts do you have—only one? Next election time, if you do not have five, better stick to writing."

To all concerned, that's all there was to it. Or is it? And now, tomorrow...

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## Back Yard Cleaning

Hardly had the smoke of the Student Council elections dissipated than the Women's Club, Baguio Colleges Chapter, decided to clean its own backyard. That was the natural thing to do: uproot the weeds; replace the worn-out fences and put in better and newer ones. Result: election of officers for the next two quarters.

**ELECTION PRELIMINARIES.** Lengthy delineation on many phases of things women should know, should and should not do by Mrs. Leonora P. San Agustin, the likeable Dean of Women. The primaries immediately followed suit. No campaign speeches, no mudslinging. It was utterly devoid of the fire and