



**Aquino Appeals . . .**

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National Assembly passed Act No. 12 designating December 4th of every year as KALIBAPI DAY. With the approval of this Act the Assembly has consecrated in a definitive and indisputable manner the importance and national significance of this institution.

To comply with the purposes and objectives of the KALIBAPI, there could be nothing more appropriate than to present on this occasion to the people of the Philippines the problem of our national survival in its racial, social, political, and economic aspects, granting that the latter three—the social, political, and economic phases—are mere corollaries of the first, that is, of racial survival, because the extinction or the reduction to insignificance of our race makes unnecessary and futile to speak of social, political, and economic institutions that support or exalt it. The great capacity, influence, and power of a race depend upon the degree of its development in quantity and quality; on its preparation for patriotic nationhood and its national discipline; on its indomitable courage to realize individual and collective aspirations; on its faith and absolute confidence in its own powers. It is imperative that every one should feel proud of his race. Peoples devoid of racial consciousness or pride can never reach the full plenitude of their power or national glory, because they are doomed to slavery.

By its geographical position, the Philippines now finds itself in the very centre of the mealstrom that now disturbs the great Pacific. Three years ago, when hostilities began between the United States of America, Great Britain, and Holland on the one hand and the Empire of Japan on the other, the latter country spread its overwhelming hosts upon the whole sphere of Greater East Asia. Being as we were under American sovereignty, we made common cause with her and the generous blood of our youth was copiously shed in all the battlefronts. The merciless war followed its implacable course which recognizes no end but victory. It crushed lives; burnt into ashes countless public and private properties; destroyed buildings, roads, and all kinds of structures, and practically pulverized all obstacles placed in its way, and the former sovereignty was driven away from these Oriental lands. Now America once again is attempting the reconquest of the Philippines because she needs these islands to come nearer to her enemy and to have extensive and strategic bases for military operations; and once more our fields are being converted into the theater of a more sanguinary war which brings again in its wake widespread desolation and death. During the entire period of our Calvary we have always been propitiously victims of the Apocalyptic evils, for, as I have said on another occasion, when the interests of the powerful nations are at stake the existence of weaker people receives from them a merely relative consideration; and the clash of arms of the combatants, developing as it develops upon our soil, we have, necessarily, to suffer, perhaps more than they, their long sequel of misery, hunger and epidemics of all kinds; and the most trivial ailments may develop into serious cases for lack of adequate medicines; and because of our continuous fears and anxieties and the high cost of foodstuffs our physical resistance has become lower and weaker.

But the worst of all remains to be stated: the horrible spectacle which we daily witness—bloodshed and murder among ourselves, between brothers of the same blood and race, in which, by reason of egoistic motives or for hardly explainable causes, those who are best prepared for a determined activity, or for some kind of leadership, perish tragically in the hands of the perverse or the misguided. I have tried to fathom the depths of the passions that agitate our proletarian masses, and at the bottom I have seen only the cynical egotism of certain conscienceless demagogues who flee from the light and from peaceful and legal methods, because they know that their dissolute doctrines only acquire virulence in the ignorance and in the uncontrolled passion of the masses. The result of all this, after the war, would be the complete decimation of our population, specially of the members best gifted and best prepared.

Could we allow such a quantitative and qualitative retrogression to occur without raising our voices in alarm? Would we not be guilty of a criminal neglect if through indifference, carelessness, or cowardice, we were to keep silent and unconcerned at the imminence of this danger? At all times when we appeal to the people to make the greatest sacrifices, or when we exhort our government employees and the masses in general to comply strictly with their civic duties, we invoke the patriotism and the glorious deeds of our national heroes and point out their acts or standards of conduct worthy of imitation. At this moment, however, I realize that it is more practical to expose the ailing patient upon the steps of the temple so that all might comprehend the extent and the seriousness of the evil that must be remedied. May God grant that my appeal, completely devoid of fanaticism, awake the heart of every Filipino, and that everyone might take full cognizance of the imminent dangers which now threaten us, the remedy for which can be found exclusively in our hands and in our determination to save at all cost the future of our race.

To comprehend the present situation, at a glance, it is only necessary to look out of a window and contemplate on one side the inexhaustible legion of lean and haggard scarecrows who wander listlessly along the streets clamoring for a tin handful of rice to appease their hunger; or the long line of old and young scavengers, digging with their trembling hands into garbage piles for impure remnants that may not perish from inanition, or gathering fragments of dirty rags to cover their skinny bodies. If we should cast our look upon another side, we would notice the miserable spectacle of a great many victims of despair who with vague and lacklustre eyes seek the most fleeting solace for their moral sufferings. Amongst them are the neuroathetic and the hysterical who shake with fear and shock at the least noise they hear around them, constantly tortured by the memory of loved ones who had been victims of misundertstanding, or of vengeance, or of fatality. Homes which at one time had been havens of happiness are now either destroyed or deserted, because the shadow of Cain has fallen upon their roofs. What miseries, what horrors, what sufferings! Why should we not think primarily of ourselves, of our salvation from the perils that now assail us, of our own survival, so that, God granting, after this bloody war, which cannot be endless, we might recover what we have lost and reconstruct what has been destroyed and that we might build upon the ruins of a past adulterated by most variegated and exotic tastes our own Oriental personality solidly based upon the pride of a veritable race which will have known how to emerge triumphant from the bloody ordeal because it is predestined to write a beautiful and admirable chapter on the scroll of the world's history which shall perpetuate and attest its contribution to the progress and the civilization of humanity?

Our glorious forebears, with the patient labor of the ant, in the course of the centuries had been consolidating the firm foundations of the ancient home whose magnificent structure we are now contemplating, to keep in it as in a sanctuary the relics of our history, and to serve at the same time as a temple, a pilgrims' shrine, and a fountain of inspiration for all future generations. We, the present generation, have the imperative obligation to preserve the finished structure, to bequeath it, intact and secure, to the next generation. Every generation should, unstintedly, fulfill the part allotted to it for the consummation of this great enterprise. Already from this moment, to me, the vision has begun to unfold itself of the day that shall come in which the centuries shall behold in such a structure the most lofty, the most imposing, and the most marvelous monument to the genius and the potentiality of our race.

Every one is aware that we who have been designated by destiny to be in the government of the Republic, I have always advocated the free enjoyment of all those liberties that make a man proud and conscious of his personality and of his inalienable right: freedom of speech, of worship, of association, of abode, and so forth; and for this reason, it would be most illogical and inconsistent on our part to require that our fellow-countrymen

should stultify their souls and think and act solely in the manner in which we think and act. I make this explanatory statement to avoid twisted or mistaken interpretations of a request that I now make to the nation that we have a short truce in the bitter controversies which at present separate us in this sad period of our national existence, for, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, and to soothe the sorrow-stricken are precepts of charity which pre-emptorily should be put into practice to the extent of every man's capacity. And the easy and expeditious means would be, that in the meantime, we should dedicate ourselves individually or collectively to tasks and activities that tend to assure and consolidate our common survival, trying at all times, to have tolerance, peace and tranquility, and the greatest abundance in the production of food. In the past we took pride in manifesting to the whole world our capacity to carve our own destiny, and it is a fact that we have done so. Have we, by any chance, lost our confidence in ourselves, in our capacity to suffer and overcome the bitterest and hardest vicissitudes, and in our recuperative power to resist and to triumph? Our political aspiration, in the meantime, may be concretely stated as the implantation in our country of a government of Filipinos, by Filipinos, and for Filipinos. It is possible that a longer period of preparation is required in order that the real and positive splendor of our Republic may be clearly appreciated, but if the administration of our domestic affairs, at least, were already shorn of extraneous influences, it would be timely to fathom the will of the people on social and political principles and doctrines which must be availed of and implanted as norms of action for all public officials. If our capricious fancy for innovation could not still be satisfied with the classic and the conservative, we shall invent new theories and procedures to experiment upon. Our laws shall be formulated in accordance with our traditional idiosyncrasies, our characteristic virtues and vices, because, after all, all these qualities, good and bad, are the traits that shall afford us our cherished satisfaction and happiness. To these laws, therefore, we should submit all our familiar problems, but all this shall only be possible if from now on we succeed in avoiding annihilation, and thus be able to save the most precious diadems of our cultural and spiritual treasures.

Fellow-countrymen: To despair is to degrade ourselves, since it is disdainful cowardice to allow ourselves to be conquered by the tribulations of the moment. When the tragic shadows vanish from the horizon, the sun will shine again, whose warmth shall kindle into flame the coagulated blood in the veins and hearts of men, and its radiant rays shall clothe again our desolate fields in gay and pleasant colors.

**Nation's Indigents . . .**

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In a report sent to the Minister of Health, Labor and Public Welfare, Director Honorio Poblador of the Bureau of Public Welfare, outlined the relief activities of his office as follows:

1. *General Welfare Activities* relating to public assistance and relief of civilian indigents, the study, adjustment, and solution of social problems, and the improvement of social life.

Indigent persons who are found deserving, after a thorough social investigation, are given assistance in the form of cash or material relief, or work relief, as the case may demand. Other forms of relief, including social advice or counsel, encouragement, etc. are given. During the month of February, 1944, alone, about 4,414 families with 14,935 dependents were given material relief in the form of rice, corn, fish, vegetables, etc., in Manila and 399 families with 2,276 dependents, in the provinces. In 28 community kitchens managed by the Bureau, approximately 35,000 persons were fed daily.

The Bureau also runs a Welfare Home at Legarda where half-starved, homeless, and helpless persons are provided shelter, food, and care. Other Welfare Homes are contemplated to be organized in strategic places soon.

The work relief Section of this Bureau handles its rehabilitation and food production projects. During the month of Fe-

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panese forces swept all opposition and established themselves in all the territories once controlled by the Anglo-Americans. Within the short period of five months, the Japanese were virtual masters of the entire Pacific basin. We cannot but admire these brilliant exploits of the Imperial Japanese Forces. For, after all, the Japanese people are our neighbors and our friends. Geographically and historically, Japan and the Philippines have been closely intertwined for countless generations. And, during the Philippine Revolution, the Japanese people, convinced that we were fighting a life-and-death battle for our freedom and independence, offered to lend us her aid.

"On December 8, 1941, Japan redeemed her promise and, in a short time, she was able to cut asunder the ties that had kept us in domination. Japan further showed her magnanimous intentions towards us by recognizing our independence.

"Thus, on October 14, 1943, only over a year after the Imperial Japanese Forces first touched Philippine soil, the second Philippine Republic was born. We became a member of a free concert of nations with the rights and prerogatives—as well as the responsibilities, of course—of a free and independent nation.

"But this freedom, this independence, has been threatened. Disregarding my appeal to the entire world that our national integrity and sovereignty be respected and recognized, the American air forces have attacked the territorial integrity of our land, laid waste our cities and our countryside, and killed and wounded many of our population.

"Consequently we were forced to declare a state of war against the United States and Britain. We could do no less. Our racial pride and integrity were at stake. And the commitments that we made in the Pact of Alliance with Japan bind us to aid her with all the resources at our command to fight this war to a successful conclusion.

"December 8 will forever remain a memorable day in our calendar, because it marks the moment when Japan, compelled by the consciousness of her mission in Greater East Asia, sought to set aright, through war, what she considered an unjust and undignified situation in this part of the world."

February, 1944, a total of 27,201 square meters of land was cultivated and planted to different vegetables. An estimated income of ₱2,559.30 was expected to be realized from the harvest of crops such as cassava, camote, peanuts, eggplants, talinum, tomatoes, squash and other garden plants.

In line with the policy of the Government to depopulate Manila, the Transportation Service of this Bureau undertook the sending home of indigent persons and assisted those who could afford to pay for their transportation fares.

2. *Child Welfare Activities* relating to the maintenance, education, care, and custody of destitute, neglected, orphaned, delinquent and other underprivileged children in the government child-caring institutions at Welfareville; probation work among minor offenders and supervision of private child welfare institutions.

At present there are seven (7) institutions located in Welfareville under the administration and supervision of this Office.

A total of 1,459 children were under the supervision of this Office thru the Probation and Placement Section during February, 1944. Of this number 1,058 were probationers, 325 parolees, 45 delinquent cases (Units A and B) of the Orphanage, 28 "placed out" cases from the Girls Training School and 3 "placed out" cases from the Boys Training School.

A total of 1,215 inmates was taken care of in the various charitable institutions receiving financial aid from this Bureau during February, 1944.

This Bureau operates a milk relief unit which collects human milk from various donors for distribution free of charge to indigent babies and children in the different clinics and institutions under it. During February, 1944, a total of 475,401 c.c. of human milk was collected and distributed free of charge while a total of 64,827 c.c. was sold to private milk recipients during the same period.

**Sagana Ang Bigas . . .**

ngayon ng mga kinatawan ng Ricoa at ng mga kawal sa pagpapalantay sa mga sasakyang lumalabas at manasok sa Maynila ay dapat namang tinutugon na ng pagraramon ng bigas sa mga mamamayan.

Ang lumilitaw na pagkatiwala ng Maynila sa mga bigasan sa Gitnang Luson ay lalo pang nasasamantalala ng mga mayhawak ng bigas sa "black market", ayon sa nadama, kaya nasusunod pa rin sila sa pagtatakdang mataas na halaga.

Nahiwatigan sa Ricoa na halos yari ang pamamaraan ng pagraramon ng bigas sa Maynila na pangsamantalang nakatakdang pangwang ito ng Disyembre, bagaman hindi pa inihahayag ang tiyak na araw at halaga.

Sa isang panawagan ng Ricoa kamakailan ay hiningi sa madla na itigil ang lihim na pagpapasok ng bigas at mais sa Ciudad, at ibinabalang sino mang mahuhalin ay sasamsaman ng kanilang dala at susigun pa rin sa paglabag sa mga tadhana ng Kautusan Blg. 44 ng Pangulo.

Sinabi ng Ricoa na ang pagsunod ng madla sa kautusang iyan ay siyang magpapadali sa pagkaganap ng mga layuning ng bagong samahan sa bigas at mais ng pamahalaan, isa na ang pagraramon sa mga mamamayan.

**Nasa Likuran . . .**

dangal ng tinurang Kalipunan.

Sa mga layuning ng "Makapili" ay nangingibabaw ang paghahandog ng pusapung tulong sa Kulong Hapones, ang pagpapakilos sa bansa upang makarokon ng sagangang pagkain at kagamitan sa digna, at ipakilala sa bayan na walang kalayaan ang Pilipinas kungdi magtatagumpay ang lahing asiano sa kasalukuyang digmaan."

"Bawa't pilipinong nagmamahal sa ating bayan ay may puwang sa Makapili, at hinhihintay namang ang kanilang pakikilahok," ang pahayag ni G. Ramoz.

"Ang New Leaders Association" na may mga hangarin ding katulad ng sa "Makapili" ay siya namang bibigkis at mamamatuget sa kilusan ng kabataan, ayon sa napagalaman.

**Ginunita Ang . . .**

sang pangdaigdig na nasasalig sa katarangan, pagkakapantay ng lahi at pagpaggalangang ng pagsasarili at kawangyarihang pangbansa, at pagtutulongan sa kabuhasan, kami ng Republikang ito ay naganais na ipahayag minsan pa ang aming matibay na pagtatapat sa banal na kasunduan ng pagtutulongan na bumubuklod sa amin upang tumulong sa ating pakikilaban sa buo naming kaya at magagawa.

"Kung paanong ang Republikang ito ay isinilang sa dakilang digmaan na ang ikatlong kaarawan ay ating inaalaala ngayon, gayon din katibay ang paniwalang bayang pilipino na ang ganangyong kadakilang usapin na gaya ng atin ay hindi mabibigo."

**Naglagay Ng . . .**

taas na halaga ng mga paninda, pagtatago ng mga "prime commodities" at pagtatalang-tangi sa mga kasapi.

Ipinaliwanag ng Kawanihan ng Kalakal at Industria na ang mga pangunahing aliwang irarasyon ng NADISCO sa buwan ng Disyembre ay ipagamahagi sa madla sa pamamagitan ng mga lider sa mga pinuno, magsuri sa mga ng mga samahang pangkapitbahay.

Ipinatalastas naman ng NADISCO na ang pagbibili ng kasabang arina at ginayat sa mga MCCA ay gagawin na sa uno sino ang matunag bumili, at hindi sa tur-nuhan, upang makapagtipid ng panahon. Ang halaga ng kasaba sa NADISCO ay ₱70 ang arina at ₱60 ang ginayat.

Si Kinatawan Pio Duran, itaw na orientalista at naging pnanugot ng kawanihan ng mga sulirirang panghalat ng KALIBAPI, ay hinirang ng Pangulong Laurel na pangalawang ministro ng mga sulirirang pangloob.