

EDUCATION WITH A PURPOSE

We have for our cover picture this month that of the Hon. Carlos P. Romulo, President of the University of the Philippines and concurrently Secretary of Education. For two reasons: 1) he is a good representation of Fil-American friendship which is celebrated on July 4, and 2) he is currently the epitome of public education in our country where public and private schools open their doors on July 3 for the seven million students who flock in for the ten-month grind of educating and being educated during the school year 1967-68.

The friendly relationship between the Republic of the Philippines and the United States ebbs and flows. It has been so for almost seventy years. It is more like conditions obtaining in any home. There are spats between husband and wife, between brothers, between sisters, between brothers and sisters, between parents and children; and yet, the family remains solidly behind each other in fair or foul weather, in sickness and in health, in poverty and in riches. They say that the strength of family life lies not so much in looking at each other, sometimes with fiery eyes, but in looking together in the same direction.

The Philippines and the United States are in direr need of looking together in the direction of their common antagonist that they may the better ward off its evil designs on their peoples and nations. These two countries of ours need to look together in the direction of peace with freedom, of plenty with personality, of democracy with people.

Masonry is committed to the cause of public education. Our public schools are the bulwark of democracy. They are the foundation stones on which our civilization and culture must be built. They are the beacon lights with which to set our course in our voyage in a sea of uncertainty. The lights must be trimmed at all times and kept ever brighter.

We must commend Secretary Romulo for his yeoman efforts at making the Department of Education free of the many idiosyncracies that have crept into the government service. He has not, by any means, fully succeeded in his project, but he is ever on the alert to see that any incidence of graft and dishonesty in the schools is nipped at the outset.

We must commend further the many Masons in the department who are helping Dr. Romulo in cleaning up the public schools. Theirs is a thankless task, but when they succeed, theirs will be a victory indeed.

Last summer it was our pleasure to chat with a Brother attending the annual convention of the Philippine Association of School Superintendents. He was pleased to tell us that Masons in the association constitute only 30 per cent of the group, but not one of these Masons is involved in any shady transactions in what they call standard operating procedure — that of getting cuts on supplies they order from the suppliers.

He told us that personally, by living it straight, he and his wife, who teaches in another school, get enough to live decently and send their children to college. By decreasing their wants and increasing their efforts,

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WB Dionisio Barrios, WM
(28)

Address delivered by WB Dionisio Barrios, elected Worshipful Master, on the occasion of the 1967 Installation of Officers of the Masonic Temple of Balintawak Lodge No. 28 in Gumaca, Quezon on January 21, 1967.

I stand here before you tonight to witness our installation of the new officers of the Balintawak Lodge #28 in this municipality for this year 1967. From my grateful heart, I am taking this opportunity to express my gratitude to my brethren for their confidence and trust reposed in me.

In electing me as their Worshipful Master in three consecutive Masonic years from 1965 to this year, undoubtedly, their decision was based on many factors. Each of them knew by observation and contact the brother who meet those qualifications required by our Constitution to qualify as an officer of a Symbolic Lodge for installation. They are cognizant of the fact that I always endeavor to be punctual and proficient in my duties. They are aware of my regular attendance in our meetings as shown in our attendance record. They are aware that for the good of the Order I tried my best to discharge my personal duties strictly in accordance with my obligations. I obligated myself to continue showing the same conduct in the

future to be worthy of their confidence, as a true, faithful and just Mason. I hope they find me more deserving for the best interest of our Craft.

In this connection allow me to tell you my simple guide in life — "Be the labor great or small, do it well or not at all." Now permit me to talk a little about our fraternity or institution. Masonry is a progressive moral science divided into different degrees. It is not a religion. We admit all persons who believe in God, whom we call the "Grand Architect of the Universe" or Almighty. It is a society of friends and brothers among whom no contention exists but the emulation of "who best can work and best agree."

Here in the Philippines, we have Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, etc., as members of our lodges. Masonry teaches man to practice charity and benevolence, to protect chastity, to respect the ties of blood and friendship, to support the government, inculcate morality, love one another and hope for happiness. △

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all but the youngest of their children have finished their college courses and now as professionals are helping the family acquire what they refused to acquire in those days of hard economizing. He and his wife, more than anything else, are proud to see their children enjoying life which they themselves can afford through the example set by their parents.

Further, he and his wife look forward to their retirement, a retirement which will enable them to look everybody in the eye. △