

EXECUTIVE DETERMINATIONS

CONDONATION OF LOANS—NO LAW AUTHORIZING.—There is no law authorizing the condonation of loans. However, Republic Act No. 205 remits the interest which accrued from January 1, 1941, to June 13, 1946, on all obligations contracted by the local governments in favor of the national government or of any government-owned or controlled corporation and extends for a period of four years and six months the payment of such obligations.—*6th Ind., Undersecretary of Finance to Mun. Council of Sta. Barbara, Pangasinan, dated November 11, 1948.*

EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPAL SHARE IN THE GASOLINE AND MOTOR VEHICLE FUND—INTERVENTION OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS NOT NECESSARY; DISTRICT ENGINEER TO ACT IN ADVISORY CAPACITY.—Respectfully returned to the Honorable, the Secretary of the Interior, Manila, with the information that the fund given to the Municipality of Bobon as its shares from the gasoline and motor vehicle fund as provided for in Commonwealth Act No. 466, as amended by Republic Act No. 314 may be expended by the Municipal Council of Bobon, Samar for the construction and maintenance of its roads, streets and bridges, without the intervention of this Office. It may be stated in this connection that the District Engineer shall act in an advisory capacity upon request by the Municipal Council in connection with the construction, repair and maintenance of the roads and bridges of the municipality, pursuant to Section 1912 of the Revised Administrative Code.—*4th Ind., May 3, 1949, of Dir. of Pub. Works to the Sec. of the Int.*

VOLUNTEER GUARDS AND AIR RAID WARDENS—SERVICES OF CONSIDERED HONORARY AND A RESPONSE TO PATRIOTIC DUTY.—* * *, please be advised that in accordance with the letter from the Of-

fice of the President, dated June 27, 1946, quoted in the Unnumbered Provincial Circular, dated July 8, 1946, of this Department, volunteer guards and air raid wardens are not entitled to compensation, their positions being considered honorary and a response to patriotic duty.—*From letter dated May 31, 1949, of the Undersecretary of the Interior to Mr. Paciano M. Miralles of Alangalang, Leyte.*

OFFICIAL RANK OF MUNICIPAL MAYOR TO BE MAINTAINED.—It is noted that the salary of the municipal mayor is lower than that of the municipal treasurer, contrary to the spirit of Republic Act No. 103. It is therefore suggested that steps be taken so that the official rank and salary scale established in said Act could be maintained.—*From letter dated May 26, 1949, of Undersecretary of Finance to Mun. Council of Lilio, Laguna.*

TRANSFER FROM PERMANENT PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT FUND—WHEN MAY BE MADE.—This Department is not inclined to recommend favorable consideration of the salary increases as provided for in the attached supplemental budget No. 1, general fund, of the municipality of Mabitac, Laguna, it appearing that the amount being made available therefor is taken from the permanent public improvement fund, by transfer to the general fund. As may be noted from the existing provisions of law (Sec. 2291(A) of the Administrative Code), a portion of the permanent public improvement fund not actually needed may be transferred to the general fund only for the pre-emptory needs of the municipality.—*1st Ind., dated Feb. 2, 1949, of Sec. of Int. to Sec. of Finance*

MUNICIPAL BUDGETS AND PLANTILLAS, APPROVAL OF BY PROVINCIAL TREASURER NO LONGER NECESSARY.—It has been noted that you have been approving, as it used to be before the enactment of Republic Act 238, municipal budgets and plantillas submitted to your

office. As under this Act municipal budgets and plantillas do not require the approval of the Provincial Treasurer, you should simply forward them to this Department, with your comment and recommendation, when submitted for action in accordance with Section 648 of the Revised Manual of Instructions to Treasurers.—*Letter dated May 14, 1949, of Undersecretary of Finance to the Provincial Treasurer of Samar.*

MUNICIPAL TREASURER'S REVENUE ESTIMATE—LIMIT OF INCREASE THEREOF BY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.—Your revenue estimates from land taxes (current and preceding years) and municipal licenses appear to be inflated. Under Republic Act 238 you may increase the revenue estimate made by your municipal treasurer by 20% thereof only. As your budget does not show the estimates made by the municipal treasurer, the estimates made by you may be considered as in order if the same do not exceed the aforementioned percentage. Otherwise, said budget should be adjusted accordingly.—*From letter dated May 4, 1949, of Undersecretary of Finance to Municipal Council of Zumaraga, Samar.*

POSITION OF ASSISTANT SANITARY INSPECTOR—CREATION OF BY MUNICIPALITY CANNOT BE APPROVED.—The position of assistant sanitary inspector can not be approved, as under existing law such positions are to be paid from the provincial health fund to which each municipality has to contribute. If the provincial health fund is not in a position now to maintain an additional position of assistant sanitary inspector for that municipality, the contribution of that municipality to the said fund may be increased by such amount as may be needed for that purpose. The provincial board may then be requested to create the position needed. The resolution of the provincial board should be submitted to this Department as usual.—*From letter dated May 4, 1949, of Undersecretary of Finance to the Municipal Council of Borongan, Samar.*

CAESAR'S WIFE SHOULD BE ABOVE SUSPICION

PUBLIUS CLODIUS, Roman patriot, made love to Caesar's third wife, the charming Pompeia. To outwit Caesar's mother Aurelia, who kept close watch on her daughter-in-law, the young profligate in the disguise of a singing girl ventured into Caesar's house while the Roman women were celebrating the festival of Bona (goddess of the earth).

If detected, he risked death, for it was a capital offense for a man to pollute these ceremonies with his presence. His voice betrayed him to be a maid, and he was thrown into the street.

News of the scandal quickly spread, and Caesar promptly divorced Pompeia. He asserted at the trial, however, that he knew nothing of her alleged attachment to Clodius. Why, then, he was asked, had he cast her off?

Because Caesar's wife should be above suspicion, he replied.

Satisfied with having vindicated his honor, Caesar refused to sanction the prosecution of Clodius, probably because the culprit was a useful agent of his own policy. By direction of the senate, however, the reckless gallant was put on trial, but escaped conviction by bribing his judges—with money which, the historian Merivale suspects, he obtained through Caesar himself.

CREDIT

THERE is a bit of good, sound philosophy in the following sign recently observed in a Chinese laundry:

You want credit,
Me no give,
You get sore.
You want credit,
Me give,
You no pay,
Me get sore;
Better you get sore.—*Scholastic.*

SOUTHERN LIGHT

City of Cebu