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Andolong Denies Aquino's Charges

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Roxas Seeks To Create Citizen's Counsel League

Sen. Gerardo M. Roxas sponsored recently a bill seeking to create an independent and permanent office to be known as the Office of the Citizen's Counsel.

This permanent and independent office shall be clothed with the powers to investigate, criticize publicly, and recommend remedies for the faults of the bureaucracy.

Senator Roxas explained that today only the grossest instances of mismanagement are accorded enough remedy and cognizance. "Sufficient attention and correction are seldom given to the many serious, if undramatic, instances of injustice to individuals, injury to public interest, and plain and simple inefficiency imputable to the various administrative sectors of the government," Roxas said.

Blame for this he stated "lies on the inordinately political" orientation of most of our administra-



Senator Roxas

tive reforms that are generally geared towards the sensational and the big scandals in the government."

"The less sensational but very real difficulties that are everyday inflicted on the common man by the inefficient, arbitrary and the outright unscrupulousness of the

(Continued on page 8)

New Train Service Between Naga-Manila

Col. Nicanor T. Jimenez, general manager of the Philippine National Railways, announced recently the introduction of a new motor train service between Manila and Naga City effective March 1, 1968.

Using the newly arrived diesel rail cars, the new train will leave Manila everyday at 9:40 a.m. to arrive at Naga City at 8:04 in the evening.

On its return trip this train will leave Naga City at 4:30 a.m. arriving Manila at 2:38 p.m.

Jimenez said that the new train schedule will serve stations unserved by present express trains to the South. This new train is designed primarily for points in the south where there are now other means of transportation. This train will stop in

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Sa Isay An Responsible Paggadan Ki Gob. Alberto?

Sagkod gnonian dai pa nangad nahuhusay kun sa isay an mga responsables can paggadan cadtong gobernador Juan Alberto can Catanduanes. Si Alberto binadil can Septiembre 18, 1967 sa groundfloor can Government Service Insurance System sa calle Arroceros sa Manila mientras siya naghahalat can elevator na siyang lulunadan pa itaas sa saiyang oficina. Si Alberto miembro can Junta de Gobernadores can GSIS. Cal. 45 an badii na iginadan saiba.

Segun sa bareta igua gabos nin sampolo catao an sinasalutan na inuvelto can paggadan ki Alberto, alagad tolo pa sana an arrestado asin n'uculong can CIS; an pito dai pa pagsasambit an ngaran alagad caiba na sinda sa sampolong acusado por asesinato (murder) sa fiscalia sa Manila. Dai mahahaloy dadarhon

(Dagos sa pagina 8)

No Fake Sweeps Tickets Being Sold to the Public Says Manager

NEREO ANIOLONG, Chairman and general manager of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes strongly denied and answered the charges of fraud and mismanagement thrust against the PCSO by Senator Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. in his privileged speech last Wednesday night in

the Philippine senate. Andolong said that there were attempts made by some persons to defraud the PCSO by presenting some "doctored" tickets for collection of prizes but were frustrated and nipped in the bud.

Tickets issued by the PCSO to authorized agents and being sold to the public are printed with great care and security on imported paper from England and foolproofed with perforations that could not be duplicated.

Andolong furnished the Senate Committee on games and amusements and tourism the documents describing the different steps in the process of production and distribution of tickets of the PCSO, so it would be fully informed of the matter.

The manager further explained that all unused spoiled and damaged paper requisitioned for printing of tickets are always condemned.

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ANDOLONG

D.I. Supreme Regent Due Here; Naga Host to D of I District Convention

Mrs. Anna C. Walsh, Supreme Regent of the Daughters of Isabela, is due to arrive from the United States to be the guest of honor of the 1st District Convention of the Daughters of Isabela at the Colegio de Sta. Isabel in the City of Naga on March 9 and 10, 1968. The theme of the convention will be: "Charity-Love of God and Love of Neighbor."

Vice Mayor Jenny F. Perez, the Supreme Director of the Daughters of Isabela, called all the Regents of the D of I circles of the Bicol Region last Saturday to lay down the preparations for their first District Convention. Those who attended were

Dr. Edith D. Dizon, Regent of the Lady of Nativity Circle No. 1019, Naga City; Atty.

Charito Q. Losa, Regent of the Blessed Sacrament Circle No. 1145, Naga City; Mrs. Adela C. Malonda, Regent of the Little Flower Circle No. 1090, Iriga, Camarines Sur; and Mrs. Francisca K. Moll, Regent of the Holy Trinity Circle No. 1091, Tigoan, Camarines Sur.

Unable to attend the executive meeting were Mrs. Aurora C. Vinzon, Regent of the Holy Family Circle No. 932, Daet, Camarines Norte, Mrs. Cielo Yujico, Regent of the Sta. Rita's Circle No. 928, Legazpi City, and Mrs. Naty Pigon, Regent of the St. Therese Circle No. 1061, Ligao, Albay.

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RHF Appropriates P300-T for Ragay And Sipocot Emergency Hospitals

P200,000 For Cam. Sur Provincial Hospital

Congressman Ramon Felipe, Jr. of the First District of Camarines Sur announced that the municipalities of Sipocot and Ragay, Camarines Sur will soon have their own emergency hospitals. In Republic Act No. 5187, otherwise known as the Public Works Act of 1968, Cong. Felipe included the following appropriations:

- a) Sipocot Emergency Hospital P150,000
- b) Ragay Emergency Hospital 150,000

(Continued on page 6-A)



Rep. FELIPE

Schistosomiasis problem in S'gon

One of the biggest health problems in this province is schistosomiasis or snail fever as it is also known. Some 4,000 persons in the Juban-Irosin valley are said to be afflicted with this debilitating disease.

Schistosomiasis is a chronic parasitic disease caused by a blood worm (schistosoma Japonicum) transmitted by certain type of aquatic snails. The disease affects not only human beings but also domestic animals such as pigs, dogs, carabaos and cattle.

In the Philippines the intermediate host of the disease is

(Continued on page 6-A)

Price Breakthrough Abaca World Market Increased

A floor price for abaca fibers in the world market that would result in the general increase of the per capita income by our local producers was approved in the recently concluded international conference on hard fibers in Rome, it was announced by Dr. Estelito M. Madrid, Chairman-General Manager of the Abaca Corporation of the Philippines.

Madrid, who arrived from Rome recently was one of the Philippine delegates to the crucial meet that presages the upward swing of our heretofore dwindling abaca industry.

As approved, the recommended indicative price of the com-

modity is increased by 2.5 to 3.5 cents per pound of the raw fibers or an average increase of from P28 to P35 per bale over the current price to be implemented gradually.

Dr. Madrid said that the increase of abaca floor price was the vital point of the position paper he submitted to the delegation left for Rome.

The mission, Dr. Madrid added, was a great success because an increase of at least \$5 per bale would mean an increase of \$35 million earning in foreign exchange for the country considering that our annual average abaca export is around 700,000 bales.

In his discussion with abaca end-users and industrialists in continental Europe, America and Japan, Madrid observed that:

1. The inroad of synthetic fibers in the manufacture of cordage poses a great threat to the survival of the abaca industry.

The fall in demand for hard fibers and corresponding drop in price is traceable to the increasing use of synthetics;

2. Rope manufacturers would prefer synthetics to abaca the moment its production cost is lowered. However, since the cost to produce synthetics for the present is three times as

(Continued on page 6 A)

4-H Club Prov'l. Rallies Scheduled

The 16th 4-H Club Provincial Rallies in the six Bicol provinces will start on Saturday, this was bared by Mr. Abraham H. Acompanado, Regional Rural Youth Club Supervisor of the Agricultural Productivity Commission this region.

Highlights of the affair will be the different methods demonstration on 4-H club subjects such as field crops, poultry and swine raising, vegetable gardening, entomology, foods and nutrition, home industry, home improvement, and clothing including judging contest, interview of project contestants and talent

(Continued on page 8)

U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer Helps in Building School Project in Sipocot

Sipocot, Cam. Sur - The first school to school PTA Aid project which was a joint project of the United States of America school to school PTA aid project and the Sipocot South Central School PTA, was recently inaugurated and dedicated at the Sipocot South Central School grounds with provincial, municipal, school officials, prominent citizens and the people of Sipocot attending.

The impressive and durable school building which has three classrooms was started through a substantial donation of all pupils of the St. Giles Grammar School at 1033 N. Columbian Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois, 60302, USA, a sister school of the Oak Park International Organization. The President of the Oak Park International Organization is Mrs. Earl Jacobson while Sis. James Mary, O.P., is the Principal of St. Giles Grammar School.

The project was initiated and realized largely through the efforts of Mr. Marty Salmon, Peace Corps Volunteer, who was once assigned in the Sipocot District, and the PTA of Sipocot South

Central School under the indefatigable efforts and leadership of Mr. Bernabe Avengoza, President, and Dr. Carlomagno Manuel, Business Manager.

During the program, the dedication of the building was made by Mr. Marty Salmon in behalf of the Peace Corps Volunteer National Director, and the acceptance was made by Sipocot District Supervisor Fernando Alsisto. After these, Board Member Hilario Abonal and Provincial Board Secretary Silverio Veluz delivered addresses as guest speakers. Mrs. Myrna R. Alanis, Principal of the Sipocot South Central School, gave a word of thanks and the closing remarks.

The others who were present during the affair were Academic Supervisor Jose Realubit, Principal Feimion Regalado, Mrs. Remedios Alsisto, ex-Mayor Pablo Salazar, Councilors Rosita Sancho, Maria Lasat, Alfredo Lim, Valerio Peña and Silvestre Rances, Mr. Leopoldo Jarne, Rev. Father Aquilino Ochoa, Mrs. Rosita Manuel, Dr. Felix Macalino, Jr., and Attys. Quirino Biasco and Severo Dacanay, Jr. - sdjr.

Abaca World Market . . . (Continued from page 1)

much as the natural fibers, our abaca can still compete with synthetics. If we fail to lower production cost and increase our percentage of recovery, it is very probable that in the very near future synthetics may totally replace abaca in the manufacture of cordage considering that millions of dollars are being spent annually on research to lower the cost of the man made fibers.

3. Release of the American abaca stockpile would not as much affect the world market price of abaca as it would the price in continental America. This is so because while five million pounds released in previous years may not adversely affect the status of the industry in the American market, fourteen million pounds which was released last year at a price even lower than current prices depressed the American market and reduced the needs for fresh abaca purchase from our country.

The salvation of the abaca industry is in total industrialization, particularly the manufacture of paper where synthetics has no place at all. The best paper in the world is made of abaca pulp and more and more uses of abaca pulp are being discovered. America alone is consuming forty to sixty per cent of her import for the manufacture of paper from abaca pulp. Japan and the other countries are in the same trend, Madrid added.

Allaying fears expressed by some sectors of the total replacement of abaca cordage by synthetics, Madrid said that Maritime conferences would withstand such a move because besides the inherent properties of abaca cor-

dage for maritime uses the freight charges of our average annual abaca export of 700,000 bales give than no less than 37 million annually.

To solve the present problems of the abaca industry and in pursuance of the great interest of President Marcos to help abaca producing people, Madrid enumerated the steps taken by the ABACORP, thus:

1. Well financed trading operations for domestic price stabilization;
2. Organization of a well guided abaca farmers and producers federated association in order to regulate the volume of national production and quality control;
3. Extension of small commodity and facility loans to members of federations payable upon delivery of fibers to liberate farmers from the clutches of unscrupulous middlemen;
4. Intensive industrialization with priority to abaca pulp, sacks and cottage industries using abaca to reduce the dependence of abaca fibers to foreign consumers with adequate financial backing by government and other financial institutions;
5. Lower the cost of production by increasing yield per hectare through scientific agricultural methods, farm management and extensive mechanization to improve quality and greater percentage of fiber extraction; and
6. Establishment of an abaca research center to discover additional uses for abaca fibers and its by-products.

RHF Appropriates . . . (Continued from page 1)

The above-mentioned towns urgently need an emergency hospital each on coconut of the lack of transportation facilities. They are the Phil. National Railways for transportation. When the railway line is disrupted by rains, landslides, floods or mechanical breakdowns, inhabitants of these towns are unable to transport their sick and wounded to Naga City or to Lopez, Quezon for treatment and hospitalization.

Congressman Felipe has also included in said Public Works Act of 1968 an appropriation of P100,000 for the construction of a Veterans' Annex Building to the Camarines Sur Provincial Hospital, for the exclusive use of sick war veterans and their families. Another sum of P100,000 is appropriated in the same Act for the expansion of the Camarines Sur Provincial Hospital, which at present can hardly cope with the many patients being brought in from all over the province.

Schistosomiasis . . . (Continued from page 1)

the *oncomelania quadrasi* snail while in the Americas it is the *Austroorbis glabratus* and in Egypt, the carriers are two varieties of snails, *Bulinus truncatus* and *Planorbis boissyi*.

Sorsogon is one of the sixteen provinces in the country where snail fever is endemic. The late Dr. Trinidad Pesigan estimated that no less than 500,000 people in the whole country are victims of this tropical malady.

The first case of schistosomiasis in this province was discovered by Dr. Pesigan who conducted a survey of Irosin in 1947. He found 22 indigenous cases related to some snail foci in the municipality.

In 1950, a field unit headed by Dr. Edivo G. Garcia discovered the prevalence of the waterborne disease in Juban. The team found 16 of the 294 persons examined in that municipality to be positive for snail fever.

At that time, only Juban and Irosin were declared to be endemic areas. In 1962, another team was sent here in connection with the national program to integrate the control of schistosomiasis with the activities of rural health units.

Snail surveys showed the presence of infected snail hosts in barrio Mabini in Casiguran and barrio Dancalan in Bulusan, bringing of four the endemic municipalities in the province.

According to the regional schistosomiasis advisory team (RSAT) assigned in Irosin, the finding in Bulusan was considered significant "in view of the fact that it is totally removed from the Irosin-Juban valley, being separated from it by at least 16 kilometers of rough terrain including the Bulusan volcano which rises up to 5,000 feet."

The finding also discounted the previous belief that the disease is confined within the interior valley of Irosin and Juban.

A World Health Organization schistosomiasis advisory team led by Dr. Louise J. Oliver visited the snail fever control project here in 1962. The other members of the team were Dr. Nickler Pinto of Brazil and Zihni J. Buzo of Australia.

Schistosomiasis, according to Dr. Oliver, has been characterized as a deceitful disease, bringing decay and debilitation, instead of attacking openly like plague or cholera.

Medical authorities are of the belief that extent of the disease



Miss Medrano Wins Honor for Naga College

Miss Cora Medrano of Naga City who is the top singer of the Bicol Dramatic Circle whose director is Juaning Rosales Nicolas has won honor for Naga College of this city by winning first place in vocal solo during the Literary-Musical Contest in the Provincial PRISAA Meet last February 1-3. The literary-musical contest was held at the UNC Sports Palace, here. The other winners are Miss Delia Brinas of Mabini Memorial Colleges, 2nd; and Jose Silerio of UNC, 3rd place.



Miss Medrano

In guitar solo: Romy Sy, 1st; Naga College; Avelino Sabularse, 2nd, MMC and Romulo Prado, 3rd, V. A.

In vocal duet: Delia

Ibarreta & Ricardo Surtida, 1st, MMC; Teresita Julia & Raymund Valenzuela, 2nd, UNC; Trinidad Talagtag & Romandita Osea, 3rd, H.T.A.

Women of Bo. San Agustin form "Operation Sisterhood"

Fifteen active ladies of barrio San Agustin, Camarines Sur, has organized the SAN AGUSTIN OPERATION SISTERHOOD (S.O.S.) composed mostly of Public School Teachers and active residents of the barrio.

In their second organizational meeting last Sunday, March 3, 1968, the following have been elected officers:

President, Mrs. Virginia Bañas; vice-president,

could be reduced at least by one half through the improvement of the physical environment in which man lives. Clearing of the irrigation ditches where the snail population thrives was found effective at the pilot project in Palo, Leyte. Construction of sanitary privies is another method found effective in reducing infection rate.

Control of this disease could up agricultural productivity as it would open lands heretofore considered unproductive due to the prevalence of schistosomiasis. Afflicted persons if treated early would also mean additional manpower necessary in increasing food production.

Such methods were implemented in Japan and according to WHO, the control program in that country seems to have advanced to a stage where the disease is no longer regarded as a significant public health program.

Mrs. Benedicta R. Rudica, secretary; Mrs. Nieves I. Guliman; treasurer, Mrs. Ester N. Dunca; press relations officer, Mrs. Azucena C. Mampo; business managers, Mrs. Rosario Sto. Tomas and Mrs. Elisa Clasio; auditor, Mrs. Francisca B. Cabral; sergeant - at - arms, Mrs. Anatalia Romano and Mrs. Mina Oroflo.

The other ladies present and who actively took part in all deliberations were: Mrs. Concepcion R. Irigo, Mrs. Amparo G. Abesina, Mrs. Rosalina Sibucano, Mrs. Oliva E. Manuel and Mrs. Natividad Oroflo.

At present the organization is campaigning for the removal or transfer from San Agustin, the En Cielo Night Club which they consider nuisance to the residents specially at night as the said night club operates until the early hours of the following morning.

The S.O.S. is also working for the installation of the Nawasa Faucet so that the barrio residents can avail of clean drinking water. The cementing of the barrio road leading to the interior is also being looked into by this organization. — acmampo