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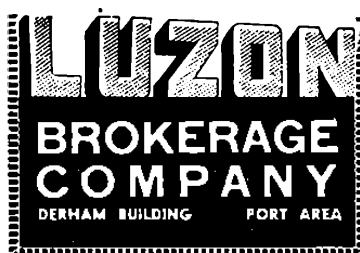
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**The
"LET YOUR HAIR DOWN"
Column**

THE whole business community, these days, has its collective hair down and presents a rather disheveled appearance, but the general talk is too uninhibited for print. We will record only one expression which struck us as the most superlative we heard. It was the remark of a prominent business executive to the effect that a multi-million peso fire which a year or so ago destroyed most of his buildings, equipment, and stock, caused him less "headache" than the exchange control is causing him now!

Anent the letter of the "Harassed Householder", which we printed in this column last month, we received a note which ran as follows:

"I read the 'Harassed Householder's' communication, published in your 'Let Your Hair Down' column, with a deep fellow-feeling.

"However, as he referred to the import percentage-cuts in practically everything he mentioned as using that day, he might in referring to his baby, have brought out the fact,—in justice to our control authorities, that neither import, credit, or exchange control has been imposed on babies.

"Of course, personally, I could not say whether this was just an oversight or whether the officials concerned imposed this restriction on themselves out of real goodness of heart. One might well think, though, that since about everything is being controlled, why not control everything about babies? Not only their eating and their dressing, but their coming into the world. And PRATRA could be called upon to control their crying and their other natural functions. Or must we draw the line somewhere?

"Yours truly,
"Anxious to Know."

Well, to be serious about it, how could the State control the coming into the world of babies except by the most radical means, wholly unthinkable in a democracy unless, per-

haps, in connection with the sterilization of the physically and mentally "unfit"? And even in that case, argument arises as to who are to be considered the unfit. It might be the very officials of the government who would attempt to carry out such measures. Men might well say, — "Controller, control yourself."

Woodrow Wilson was a very serious man, and he said: "The history of the struggle for human freedom is the history of the struggle to limit the powers of the state."

John Calhoun was also a serious man, and he said: "I am convinced that the power of the government can only be increased at the expense of the liberties of the people."

Let us think on these things.

In connection with our reference last month to his "History of the American Teachers in the Philippines", Dr. Gilbert Perez wrote us, in part:

"You are right about the 'History'. I should have called it a 'brief history', as it merely scratches the ground. The subject requires a tremendous amount of research which would result in such a large volume that I do not know how its publication could be financed. Instead of making some other studies, I believe it would be a better contribution both to the United States and the Philippines if the United States Educational Commission would assign some young scholars to this task. I consider my little monograph as merely an eye-opener . . . Much of the material came out of the Bureau records and from the early reports of the War Department which annually included the reports of the Secretary of Public Instruction and the Bureau of Education here. I had mountains of material gathered together, but all this was lost during the war. The monograph is merely a part of the first chapter I had ready, with some additional material. It is merely a 'write-up'. But I wanted to emphasize

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that I am not proposing a raid on the American tax-payer but a plan to let the folks at home know about the great services performed by the American teachers sent to the Philippines. They really deserve more than a mere medal, but I don't want to be the one to say that. I am glad you mentioned the pamphlet in the *Journal* and referred to its brevity as this might draw attention to the need of a more comprehensive study which I am unable to undertake myself..."

We received a letter from Mr. Edward Danks, during the month, who now lives in San Francisco, — 2236 Lombard Street, and is in the real estate business. He wrote in part:

"After such a long sojourn in the Philippines terminating with the three rugged years after the war, and, of course, as you remember, including those 37 interesting months in Santo Tomas,—with all these experiences behind me, I am finding life in San Francisco very pleasant, and my wife and daughter are enjoying all equally as much as I am..."

THE editor said that he received Christmas cards from some important people, including President Quirino and family and Senator and Mrs. Lorenzo M. Tañada. He was very pleased about this because during the year he had had to express differences of opinion with them on occasion, and, he claimed, these Christmas cards proved that they nevertheless entertained only the most kindly feelings toward him. We say,—perhaps. It might be just Christian forbearance. He said that after mentioning these two important personages, he did not like to list the names of others he received cards from because they might think he does not consider them important, while, really, he said, any true friend is important. He also received a number of desk-calendar pads, two boxes of cigars, and a box of bonbons! No whisky. Not much of a showing for such a popular guy. Perhaps it was the import control.

"You've got that on the brain," said the editor, "like the rest of us. Last week, during that bad earthquake, one fellow in the office shouted, 'It's that d-d import control again!'"

"I'll say for myself that I am very grateful for every little thing people were so kind as to remember me with, including the bonbons, and never mind the whisky. I thank them one and all and wish them a happy and (if possible) a prosperous new year."

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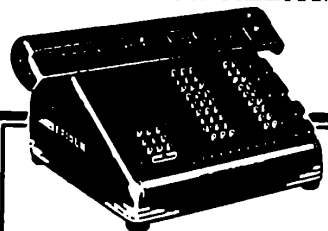
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