

By Atty. MARIANO DE LEON
NBI Regional Director, Naga City

Since the early American occupation wave after wave of pensionados were sent to the United States and some to other countries.

The benefits are there of course. But what, for whom and how much worth for the country. First it goes to the pensioners: He or she sees the world or part of it. Some enjoyed it extensively body and soul depending upon their pocket, other with less means had it mostly to their eyes' satisfaction only.

Self satisfaction and gratification are personal and individual. With this the purpose of pension is not served. If ever there is the country's benefit, it is very insignificant and this can only be derived from the exceptional few who are really meritorious.

The bulk of our pensioners specially these days are political proteges and the rest are those who, in one way or another, know how to grease their office bosses. If the latter group happens to achieve some worthwhile achievements in the office in order for their Chief to consider their efforts by way of sending them abroad, it is but a matter of gratitude to the recipient and not precisely for office benefit or improvement. How many belong to this category? About 90% of them. For observation, they have a stint of 3 to 6 months, for training and study, 1 to 5 years. Some of them who are really meritorious, aggressive, and dedicated acquired additional knowledge on their specialties, but majority who are abroad take things for granted.

Many of our doctors are only mere observers in the hospitals in the United States. Seldom if ever are they allowed to prescribe medicines and much less permitted to operate minor surgery cases even in free wards. Yet, when they return home, their first concern is to order a bronze plate for specialist's inscription, bragging that they have specialized in some illness for years in hospitals so and so.

Some government pensionados for technical studies in foreign lands may be at par and have their country in mind in the venture, but, with due regard and respect to a few who are presently applying that their alleged knowhow acquired from abroad, about 90 to 95% are disillusioned, most of them have to return to their former desk work.

The government has no funds to get the necessary materials, equipments, or goods whereby the introduction of these pensioners' alleged acquired knowledge for innovation can be made of use. They become the arrogant idles in our officialdom whose mind is more busy in recollecting their adventures, than for the government to gain some advantages of their pretended superiority. Imagine the disappointment of our tax payers with all the money spent abroad by the pensionados doing nothing but resting on their superiority complex? There are also such things as conferences, conventions, seminars, etc. where the country derives

nothing but having in our midst these well-travelled privileged few in the government. Travel must be for private persons who can afford the same and not a handout by a poor government.

Except in some regional and international conventions and conferences, these seminars, training and observations abroad are luxuries, to say the least, if they are not mere junkets and tours for the members of the delegation or representatives.

On account therefore of these trainings, specialization and/or seminars of government officials and employees, their expenses abroad are too much a drain against the treasury that, if this luxury is stopped and converted instead to more practical endeavors like the increase on palay, corn and other productive seeds and fertilizers for farmers, we would not be in want but in abundance in cereals.

After all the intelligent and genius men who have gone thru college need not go abroad to improve their knowledge. The country is creating enough to produce wonders and their going abroad for further studies is but a luxury. This is another manifestation of colonial mentality. Most great men in any country did not go to other countries to learn more. We had in our country Quezon, Osmeña, Roca, President Roxas, Justice Diokno to cite a few among lawyers; Gagerio Singian, Jacinto Menciaño, among surgeons; Baldemero Roxas, Lu's Guerrero, Pedro Lantim, among doctors; Mandel Roxas, Gregorio Sara, Tomas Cutañ, among scientists and many others from other professions. College after college conferred them degrees, meritorious cause. If ever others who have gone abroad also become great they become so on their own native ingenuity and not because they took higher degrees somewhere. The whole world bows to the Germans and the English in matters of human achievements. Can anyone cite a German who went somewhere to acquire more knowledge or any Englishmen who went to Germany or elsewhere for specialization? Even Americans did not. Therefore, the primary need in our country are for the sacrificing and dedicated men and women to do their utmost in researches and studies in the laboratories of their land, for the government and private

Community Development Seen Project For ASA

KUALA LUMPUR— Ernesto Maceda, Presidential Assistant on Community Development visiting rural and community development projects here, says his country could adopt some of the Malaysian modernization techniques.

The Philippine official was the leader of his country's delegation to the Association of Southeast Asia (ASA) working party conference which wound up its work here April 30.

Following the meetings, he accompanied Malaysian Acting Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak on a tour of the Ipoh area.

Mr. Maceda said rural and community development should be an ASA project. The working party conference in its final communiqué, recommended priority action by Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand on 10 projects in economic cooperation; eight projects in technical cooperation and research and 11 projects in agricultural, social and cultural fields.

The joint working party will hold another session in Bangkok in July prior to the third meeting of the ASA foreign minister here.

Mr. Maceda said the proposal to consider rural and community development as one of the additional ASA projects will be brought up at the July conference.

American Red Cross sends \$15,000 to Indonesian Flood Victims

WASHINGTON—A disaster grant of 15,000 dollars for flood sufferers in Indonesia has been announced by James F. Collins, American Red Cross President.

The aid, 5,000 dollars of which is earmarked for children, was given to the League of Red Cross Societies for the Indonesian Red Cross Society, to help relieve the suffering of victims of mid-March floods in the Surakarta-Wonggiri-Klaten area of Central Java, where over 200,000 persons were reported in dire need. The Indonesian Government has declared

Sen. Aytona

committee headed by Senator Manuel P. Manahan.

The Bicol legislator declared that to the charge of Castillo that he is acting as accuser, prosecutor, and judge all at the same time, he emphatically pointed out that the accusation was a smoke screen "to divert public attention from the truth."

All I can say, Aytona declared, is that now that the illegality of Mr. Castillo's notions have come to light through the legal process of legislative hearings, Mr. Castillo cries foul.—jac

patriotic citizens to help and encourage their countrymen to improve in their native land, and not to send pensionados abroad who return here only to find that his government and people have no place and means whereby to apply their know-

The Star Witness

(Continued from page 1)

lunteer, remained standing for quite sometime before additional seats could be secured.

Vice Governor Odiamar's predicament is far worse than that one experienced by our witness. It seems Odiamar finds himself between the proverbial "devil and the deep blue sea"; wherein the inevitable consequence is—"damned if he does, damned if he doesn't". For choosing to be right than popular, and for protecting the greater interest of the greater number, he is being lambasted and vilified by those who have axes to grind against him.

The "uprear" of course would be worse should Odiamar choose the line of the legendary "3 little monkeys", who could see no evil, hear no evil, and speak no evil.

Our witness observes however, that to be a successful politico nowadays, one has to resort only to the simple principle of "you scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours". So few are those who prefer to lead a lone fight, than to be dishonest to their own conscience.

There is no truth to the rumor that the people of Camarines Sur are soon to reimburse a five thousand-peso expenses incurred in the entertainment of Pres Macapagal during his last visit there 5 days before the last election.

To Revitalize Bicol Nutrition Council

Miss Catalina Narvaez, Nutritionist of the Nutrition Foundation of the Philippines announced recently, that the different nutrition councils in the Bicol Region will be revitalized to cope with the policies of the present administration in the intensified program on nutrition-education. This will be done through the assistance of the personnel of the Agricultural Productivity Commission, Rural Health Unit, civic and social organizations in this region.

Miss Narvaez, who is at present in Masbate with Mrs. Socorro V. Nieves, Actg. Reg. Supv. HED of the APC, said that there is a great need for revitalizing these existing nutrition councils in order to facilitate the implementation and carrying out of the different programs to be undertaken in the six provinces of this region. According to her, the Philippines are very much behind and deficient in the standard intake of food based from the individual nutritional requirement which is necessary for a healthy body. She put the blame on the slow acceptance of our people especially those in the rural areas in following the practice of eating "balance diet" which

Important to Car Owners and Drivers

Acting Land Transportation Commissioner Romeo F. Edu yesterday urged owners of motor vehicles to comply with the provision of law requiring that the certificate of registration of motor vehicles must be carried at all times in the vehicles.

Edu said that thousands of motor vehicle owners and drivers, knowingly or unknowingly, fail to have with them the registration certificate whenever their vehicles are on the road.

The importance of this certificate, he said, is that it is the owner's or driver's only evidence of the registration of the vehicle in accordance with law. It is also a "companion document of the papers of purchase or acquisition of the vehicle, he added.

Any bona fide deputy or agent of the Land Transportation Commission or authorized police officer, is empowered to compel an owner or driver of a motor vehicle to produce the registration certificate for inspection, Edu said.

The recent discoveries of rampant issuance of fake registration certificates, the

has the basic six food requirement being taught not only by nutritionist, but also the home economics demonstrators of the APC assigned in the barrios.

The Nutrition Council aims to promote nutrition consciousness among the people through nutrition education; promote measures that will insure availability of nutritious food to the people through specific examples and demonstrations; and help in the implementation of government nutrition measures upon realization of nutrition problems and their scope. Membership to the council is open to professionals, civic groups; scientific and trade societies interested in the problems of nutrition and help solve them —L.V.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Extra-Judicial Settlement has been entered into by and among the Hrs. of the Late Nazario Baldoza & Hipolita Gasalun, namely: Aquilino, Rufina & Teodora, all surnamed Baldoza, adjudicating unto themselves in undivided equal share the property situated at Barrio San Miguel, Bula, Camarines Sur, with an area of 7,6938 has., embraced by OCT. No. 7028, said deed acknowledged before Not. Pub. H. Espano of Canaman, Camar. Sur per Reg. No. 960; Page 57; Book XIV; S. of 1966 on May 12, 1966

sub May 14, 21, 28 1966.