

## ACTIVITIES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND THEIR OFFICIALS

Minutes of the Conference of Provincial Governors and City Mayors held in  
Manila, October 4 to 9, 1948

(Continued from June Number)

### No. 36

WHEREAS, since his assumption to the Office of President of the Republic of the Philippines, His Excellency, President Elpidio Quirino has amply demonstrated his excellent qualities as Chief Executive, proved by his successful implementation of the basic programs of administration of which the Liberal Party stood during the last National election of 1946, under the leadership of the late President Manuel A. Roxas, particularly as to peace and order, rehabilitation and social amelioration of the people, and the laying down of a far-sighted basis of our foreign policy;

WHEREAS, we have noted that the people in our respective provinces are unanimous in their praise of the manner His Excellency, President Elpidio Quirino conducts the affairs of the Philippine Republic, and are realizing the beneficial results of his benign and practical execution of the program of Government Administration of the party in power, and believe and feel that His Excellency should be afforded unqualified support in carrying out to a successful conclusion his policies and said program of government which he has so far successfully implemented;

WHEREAS, the term of office of the President will expire on December 31, 1949, when the program of reconstruction and rehabilitation of this devastated country which His Excellency, President Quirino is successfully executing shall still be then in the finishing process of execution;

WHEREAS, to enable him execute his benign and practical policies of administration to a successful conclusion, it is imperative that His Excellency, President Elpidio Quirino be given another term of office;

WHEREAS, considering the almost insurmountable difficulties being encountered by the present Ship of State requiring the steady and competent

hand of His Excellency, President Elpidio Quirino, and considering further that it is not advisable now and in the immediate future to "Swap horses in mid-stream" due to the unsettled state of international affairs;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Provincial Governors and City Mayors in convention assembled do hereby unanimously

RESOLVED, to express by means of this resolution its complete confidence in the leadership of His Excellency, Elpidio Quirino, President of the Republic of the Philippines.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to forward this resolution to His Excellency, Elpidio Quirino, President of the Philippines, Manila, for his information.

Carried.

### No. 37

WHEREAS, the vice-mayors and members of the municipal councils are at present still receiving a per diem of P2.00 each when actually attending sessions of the councils as fixed in Section 2187 of the Revised Administrative Code;

WHEREAS, this rate of per diem is now so low that it will not amount so much with the present cost of living to meet the cost of representation required by their offices in the performance of their official duties, in attending official and social functions;

The Conference of Provincial Governors and City Mayors after due deliberation on the matter and believing in the efficiency of the government service when its public servants in their official dealings ably represent their constituents,

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to petition the Congress of the Philippines to amend Section 2187 of the Revised Administrative Code fixing the rate of per diem of the vice-mayors and members of the municipal councils at not less than P3.00 but not more than P10.00, depending upon the class of the municipality, or P3.00 for 5th,

P4.00 for 4th, P6.00 for 3rd, P8.00 for 2nd, and P10.00 for 1st class municipalities.

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to forward this resolution to the Congress of the Philippines, Manila, thru the Honorables, the Secretaries of both Houses, for their information and favorable consideration.

Carried.

No. 38

**WHEREAS**, in order that matters taken up and resolutions passed and approved by this Body be realized with a view to having them yield beneficial results;

**WHEREAS**, in order to fully attain this end a committee needs be formed for the purpose of pushing through all resolutions passed by this Body;

**NOW THEREFORE**, in view of the foregoing considerations the Conference of Provincial Governors and City Mayors has

Upon motion of Governor Perfecto Faypon of Ilocos Sur

**RESOLVED**, to create a committee to be called "Committee on Understanding and Public Relations" to make proper representations of the accomplishment of the Conference of Provincial Governors and City Mayors to the President.

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that the committee thus created by this resolution shall compose of the following:

Governor Jose B. Lingad of Pampanga .....	Chairman
Governor Jacinto Borja of Bohol .....	Member
Governor Felipe Azcuna of Zamboanga .....	"
Governor Mariano Penaflo- rinda of Iloilo .....	"
Governor Perfecto Fay- pon of Ilocos Sur .....	"
Mayor Miguel Raffiñan of Cebu City .....	"
Mayor Manuel S. Rojas of Cavite City .....	"

**RESOLVED FINALLY**, to furnish copies of this resolution to the Chairman and Members of said committee for their information and guidance.

Carried.

No. 39

**WHEREAS**, that part of the National Highway leading to the Cagayan Valley, between Nueva Ecija and Isabela, specially along the mountains, is infested with bandits and highway robbers who have from time to time molested and harrassed travelers and actually gone to the extent of committing murders and violated female passengers besides robbing them of their personal belongings and money;

**WHEREAS**, that section of the National Highway is an ideal spot for the commission of such crimes in view of the terrain and its remoteness from police and constabulary headquarters; and

**WHEREAS**, these conditions if not properly checked will discourage traffic to and from the Cagayan Valley and thereby disturb the normal flow of commercial transactions between the northern and southern communities of Luzon and affect adversely economic and industrial rehabilitation in the areas affected;

**NOW THEREFORE**, on motion of Governor Silvino Gumpal of Isabela, seconded by Governor Jose A. Madarang of Nueva Vizcaya,

**RESOLVED**, that the Honorable Secretary of the Interior be, as he is hereby, urged and requested to take immediate and adequate measures by directing enough units of police and constabulary patrols to be permanently stationed at regular intervals along the National Highway between San Jose, Nueva Ecija and Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya to the end that robberies, murders, and other violent crimes committed by organized bandits and lawless elements in the area will be completely placed under effective control and that normal traffic in the area will be safely conducted.

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, to forward this resolution to the Honorable, the Secretary of the Interior, Manila, for his information and kind consideration.

Unanimously approved.

No. 40

**WHEREAS**, the City of Manila is the capital and principal commercial and industrial center of the Philip-

lines; and

WHEREAS, the condition and state of public works, particularly that of flood control and drainage, therein which is the hub of transportation and communication system of the Philippines, should likewise be of great concern to other and neighboring provinces; and

WHEREAS, the value of the City of Manila as such a center has been greatly hampered by its susceptibility to recurrent floods due mainly to its inadequate flood control and drainage systems;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion by Mayor Manuel de la Fuente of Manila, be it

RESOLVED, as it hereby resolves that special funds be provided by the National Government so that improvements may be undertaken immediately with a view to solving the flood control and the drainage problem in the City of Manila, other cities and provinces.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to forward this resolution to the Honorable, the Secretary of Public Works and Communications, Manila, for his information.

Unanimously approved.

No. 41

WHEREAS, under Republic Act No. 267 cities and municipalities are authorized to contract loans from the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation, the Philippine National Bank and/or any other entities or persons at a rate of interest not exceeding 8% per annum for the purpose of purchasing or expropriating homesites within their territorial jurisdiction, and reselling them at cost to their residents;

WHEREAS, the problem of housing is felt more acutely in the City of Manila than in any other city or municipality in the Philippines considering the increase in population therein and the comparatively greater destruction to property caused by the last war;

WHEREAS, there are still thousands of city residents without shelter, living only in shacks and make-shifts built on borrowed lands, without sanitary facilities and other conveniences which

contribute to a decent living;

WHEREAS, the problem of housing also affects other cities and municipalities in the Philippines although to a lesser degree; and

NOW THEREFORE, in view of the foregoing premises the Conference of Provincial Governors and City Mayors has

On motion by Mayor de la Fuente of Manila, be it

RESOLVED, as it hereby resolves, that in view of the seriousness of the problem, the Rehabilitation Finance Corporation, the Philippine National Bank and any similar government entity be requested to reserve substantial amounts from their funds to be devoted exclusively for the purpose mentioned in Republic Act No. 267 in the procurement of contract loans by cities and municipalities from these agencies, and that in the application for these loans, technicalities and red tape be dispensed with as much as possible.

RESOLVED FURTHER, to forward this resolution to the President, Philippine National Bank, Manila for his information.

Carried.

*(To be continued)*

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. . . If there is any principle of the Constitution that more imperatively calls for attachment than any other it is the principle of free thought—not free thought for those who agree with us but freedom for the thought that we hate . . .

—Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes

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