

## Republic's Heart...

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kitchens (at the time of writing, these kitchens were temporarily not operating for lack of food supplies from the Biba, where it could get commodities at controlled prices) is to see the face of a nation in distress, a nation clinging faithfully to dear life in the wake of a global war with its inevitable concomitants of hunger, desolation, death. To see these wards of the Republic is to visualize, with one sweep of the imagination, what a thoughtful and grateful government is doing for its less favored members.

The Republic started these community kitchens in June when it became evident that the Biba could no longer supply the daily rations of 120 grams per day for each resident for the simple reason that the cereal was most difficult to obtain from the rice regions because no inconsiderable part of the stock had criminally been cannalized into the hands of profiteers and other human vultures who thrive on the misery, confusion, and abnormality of the times.

Regardless of race or creed, anybody who is in acute distress, unemployed, or unable to buy rice at the black market, which is undoubtedly dominated by avaricious opportunists, was given a ladleful of boiled rice, *lugao*, or corn as the case may be.

Started in June, the community kitchens began with an operating fund of ₱1,700,000. The Central Community Kitchens Committee endeavored to get the best available under the circumstances, and achieved almost a miracle by giving what amounts to a fairly good

meal during these times, at a cost of less than forty centavos. At the start, these rations could not be bought for less than ten times their cost in the black market.

According to Director Honorio Poblador of the Bureau of Public Welfare, who is also executive officer of the community kitchens, the enterprise has already incurred an indebtedness of ₱3,145,081, so that there is a deficit of nearly ₱1,500,000.

But look at these figures: in June, 1,526,528 meals were served at an average per capita cost of ₱.38; in July, 2,062,708 meals at ₱.25 each; in August, 2,106,628 meals at ₱.33; and in September, 2,643,836 meals at ₱.34 each. The figures are not yet complete for October, but Director Poblador expects an appreciable increase, what with rice soaring to around ₱250 per ganta in the wartime criminal world of the black market.

Week ago, when interviewed by a representative of *The Republic* at ration hour, one of these recipients of the government's bounty tearfully cried. He is an old man of about sixty, his "langochi" trousers past mending, and his undershirt about to fall off from his shrunken frame, and he was too weak even to talk. After he had received his ladleful of "lugao," and a few pieces of roasted "dills," he was able to talk between tears.

"We thank President Laurel!" he said. "May God bless him! If not for these meals, I and thousands like me would now be corpses. If only the people who control the black market would see us, as you are seeing us now, they may perhaps have a change of heart and they might become less greedy and more human. I tell you, if not for these community kitchens, these black market people would long ago have become the object of violent public indignation."

As he moved on, a girl of about eleven years old took his place in the ranks, followed by three others, her mother and two other emaciated creatures.

They told a similar story. And their story is typical. They could well provide themselves with rice, when its price was not yet beyond the ₱20-a-ganta mark; but when, around April, rice prices began zooming to heights beyond the wildest imaginings even of the most rabid pessimist, they gave up. And if it were not for the community kitchens, they would now be resting in some nameless graves...

### 30,000 Magaanak Ang Tinulungan Ng Pamahalaan

Mahigit na 30,000 magaanak sa Maynila ang tumanggap ng mga alaala sa pamahalaang pangbansa dahil sa pagdiriwang sa unang kaarawan ng pagsasarili ng Pilipinas. Ang ipinagkalob ay mga damit, tuyong isda, niyog at iba pang pagkain.

Karamihan sa mga nakinabang sa mga handog na ito ay ang mga magaanak na dukha at talagang nangangailangan.

Sa paglalan ng Pangulo at Gng. Laurel ay 37,341 yarda ng telang dadamitin ang binahagi ng mga samahan sa kawanggawa sa kanikanilang tangkilik.

### Nahirang Na Bise-Ministro Si Evangelista

Sumumpa si Teodoro Evangelista sa kanyang bagong tungkulin bise-ministro ng mga suliraning panglabas sa harap ng Pangulong Laurel sa Malakanyang noong Martes. Si G. Evangelista ay dating patnugot ng mga suliraning panglabas.

### Itinaasang Nang Ibayo Ang Buwis Sa Ariarigan

Ipinasisya ng Pangulong Laurel sa bisa ng Kautusan Blg. 42 na dagdagan nang 100 sa isangdaun ang buwis sa amilyaramiento sapul sa unang araw ng Oktubre ng 1944. Kinakailangan ng pamahalaan ang dagdag na likumun para sa kanyang mga lumalaking gugulin, lalo na ang panulong sa mga naghihahabos.

# Insurance Firm "Tatlong Maria" Sets New High in Local Film Standards

By Vicente L. del Fierro

Fired by a desire to help encourage and develop the habit of thrift and financial independence among the people, and thereby contribute to the economic well-being of the nation, several Filipino businessmen have formed a new life insurance company, with a capital stock of ₱5,000,000. The company will be known as The Associated Life Insurance Company.

The men behind the new company are Judge Manuel Camus, president of El Hogar Filipino; Mr. Francisco SyCip, president of the Associated Finance Company; Dr. Luis R. Salvasa, formerly manager of the Government Service Insurance System; Director Eulogio B. Rodriguez, of the National Library; and Attorney Lorenzo Tanadara, former Assistant City Fiscal of Manila.

The officers of the company are Judge Manuel Camus, president; Mr. Francisco SyCip, vice-president; Dr. Luis R. Salvasa, general manager and actuary; and Atty. Simeon M. Gopencco, secretary-treasurer.

The Associated Life Insurance Company will write all forms of life insurance and annuities, including war risks. Appointed general agents of the new firm are C. S. Gonzales and Company.

The home office and agency of the company are located at the Metropolitan Theater Building, Plaza Burgos. Formal opening for business will take place shortly.

## Inihayag Ni Laurel...

(Karugtong ng nasa pahina 4)

Ang pagbabalak sa kabuhasan na tuwirang pinangangasiwaan ng Pamahalaan ay siyang nanginigbabaw na simulain ng daigdig sa ngayon. Ang makabagong pamumuhay ay naging lubhang masalimot; ang pakikipaglabanan ng mga adhi-kaing panlipunan sa mga pamamaraanang niluma-ng-panahon, ang karamihan ng mga bagong imbensiyon na nagpapawalang-saysay sa mga matatandang kaalaman hinggil sa agwat, panahon, bilis at sa pagisikap ng tao ay siyang nakapagbabago sa anyo ng nararapat maging kasiyasyang pamumuhay ng mga pangkat, kung kaya kapag mga tao lamang, sa pagtataguyod ng kani-kanilang ilang mga kapakanan, ay di na maaaring pagkatiwalaan ng di-natatakdang kalayaan sa paggawa ukol sa kabuhasan, nang hindi nila lilikihin, sinasadya o hindi, ang isang ditimbang na kalagayan sa buhay ng lipunan. Kinakailangang ang Pamahalaan ay siyang maghahatag at mangasiwa sa lahat ng malalaking gawing pangkabuhasan upang matiyak sa bawat mamamayan ang di-mababawasang sapat na kapatanang at kaginahawhan, ang kakayahang makapagtatugon sa isang maunang pamumuhay. Hindi lukulangon dito ang niulungatring gawin ng Pamahalaan ng Republika.

Bukod sa iba pang mga tungkulin, ang Lupong Tagapabalak sa Kabuhasan ay gumagawa ng "isang pagsasalikil at pag-aaral sa mga kayamanang pangkabuhasan ng bayan at hinggil sa iba pang mga hakbanging kinakailangang isagawa ukol sa wastong pagpapalilad, pagsasamantala sa Pagsasaka at Pangangalakal ang Kagawaran ng mga Suliraning Pangkabuhasan ay siyang nagpapabisa sa mga panukalang binanghay ng Lupon at pinagtibay ng Pangulo, sa payo ng Gabinete at pagkatapos maisangguni sa Sangguniang-Bansa.

Bagama't walang bungang karamihan sa maaasahan kundang ang marahil ay hindi sa pagdami ng mga pagkainang pangkatiwalaan sa mga ilang buwang darating, sa takdang panahon ang Lupon ay dapat makapaglahad ng mga panukalang pagsasalid ng mga pagbabago sa ating pambansang kabuhasan. Ang mga pangunang layunin natin tungo rito ay tiyak at binanghay. Una sa lahat, ang ating pagsasaka, kasama ang ating

There was a time when local films were pale imitations of Hollywood opuses, when local actors trimmed their hair a la Robert Taylor, and our actresses in the fashion of western female screen divinitives. That was a long time ago, if we are to estimate the progress made by Philippine talkies since pre-war days, with "Tatlong Maria," as the yardstick.

And we daresay that no follower of local film productions, much less the writer of this review who has been identified with the progress of Philippine talkies since more than ten years ago when local talking pictures first made their appearance, will fail to notice the vast improvements.

"Tatlong Maria" is a turning point in many respects. It is not only the most notable picture of these troublous times; it amounts to a pictorial testament of this tragic as well as epochal era, and it breathes of the spirit and hopes of the Philippines of these daring and perilous hours, catching the never-dying truism of every-day life as it is lived.

The story element in "Tatlong Maria," is rather weak, rather it is almost hackneyed. In a more direct way, it is something to be expected. Any three sisters in any family anywhere can be expected to turn out as the three Marias in "Tatlong Maria." And it is not hard to guess that they would get the type of husbands that their nature deserved.

Taking the three sisters, then, as typical, as characteristic of such fictional figures, and the story as rather commonplace, why is "Tatlong Maria" such a magnificent picture? The answer is quite plain: it's the magnificent acting of the three female leads: Carmen Rosales, Norma Blancafort, and Liwayway Arceo, the latter outshining the two veterans. As a

mga industriya ng paghahayupan, manukan at "dairy" o mga produkto ng gatas, ay kailangang pagyamanin upang sila'y magbunga ng lahat nating pangangailangan sa pangunang pagkain, asukal, kape, dalandaan at iba pang mga bungang-kahoy, karne at mga produkto nito, itlog, gatas, mantekilya at keso. Itatag ding panibagong ating industriya ng pangisdaan upang makatiyak ng saganaan dami ng sariwa at tuyong isda sa buong taon. Sapagka't kinakailangang magpatuloy tayu sa pagpapabunga ng mga pananim na pinagkukunan ng salapi na gaya ng tubo, niyog, tabako at abaka na ipadadala sa ibang bansa upang makabii ng mga makinang ukol sa maliit na industriya na kailangan nating itayo, ay maglaala tayu ng mga kinakailangang lupain para sa mga ito; nguni't kailanang hindi na natin pahintulutan ang kanilang paglikha sa ikapinpinsala ng puhunan, lupa at ng mga mamamayang kailangan sa paglikha ng mga di-maiiwang pagkain. Sa wakas, ang magiging kanais-nais na pangyayari ukol dito ay ang mababaw na paglawak ng mga lupang binubungkal sa taun-taun upang samantaling tinatamo natin ang patuloy na pagsasagana ng mga pangunang pagkain ay dapat ding dagdagan natin ang kabuhasan ng mga inaaning pananim na pinagkukunan ng salapi.

(Itutuloy sa susunod na bilang)

## Oasis Sa Gitna...

(Karugtong ng nasa pahina 4)

pang tumatangap ng rasingong bigas hangang ngayon, at naging kapakipakaning din naman sa kaban ng siudad at sa bangko ng nagpaunting.

Tuwi nang kukulangin ang saring salapi ng siudad ay nagpaunting walang magaanak na Lopez (Eugenio) at Moreno (Gng. Lopez), na nagbili ng ilang libong sako ng palay sa pamahalaan ng lungod sa P10 isang sako. Ang siudad ay siyang nang kumukuha ng palay sa Kuyapo, Nueva Esaha. Iba pang litaw na magaanak ang nagsitulong din sa ganitong kapuri-puring paran.

Nang magbanta ang panghuhuhut, nagtatag agad ang pamahalaan ng malingaw, magaanak sa pananim ng mali at pagbibili ng mga pangunang

neophyte, Liwayway Arceo is a meteoric success, and if we are to judge by the reception she is getting from the crowds in this picture, she is bound to have an assured career in the Philippine movies of the coming years.

The acting of Fernando Poe and Precioso Palma, among the male actors, is flawless and true to life. To this reviewer, it is these two who deserve high commendation, for together with Mameng Rosales, Norma Blancafort, and Liwayway Arceo, they bring to "Tatlong Maria" the high note of histrionic perfection that is something unknown hitherto in Philippine movies.

Dr. Gerardo de Leon deserves no small amount of praise for there is in "Tatlong Maria," an imprint truly Philippine, uninfused by foreign affectations, for which this director is justly noted.

To see "Tatlong Maria" is to feel that if facilities were available, Philippine movies might yet outdistance the already big strides made by the theater arts since three years ago.

## Medicines, Drugs Given

Donations in drugs and medicines, valued at ₱296,600, have been received by the Republic of the Philippines on the occasion of the celebration of its first anniversary, Minister of Economic Affairs, Pedro Sabido, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Rations, announced last week.

According to the Minister, in order to benefit as many people as possible, these drugs and medicines are not being given directly to sick persons but instead are being distributed to hospitals and clinics for the use of those who deserve free medical service, upon the prescription of competent physicians.

The agencies to whom these drugs and medicines had been turned over for proper use and distribution are the Office of the City Health Officer, the Bureau of Health, and the Philippine Red Cross.

## Sinisiyasat...

(Karugtong ng nasa pahina 4)

pinsalaan ng mga kasapi at sa pagsasamantala sa mga dukha.

Natalos na ang Ministerio ng karamihan laban sa pangasiwaan ng ibabang Samahan sa Pagtutulungan. Isa sa mga hinakal ang ang kamahalan ng halaga ng mga paninda ng umano'y mataas pa kaysa "black market" sa kaya hindi makabili ang mga kasaping mahihirap.

Ibig malaman ng marami kung ang panghuhuhut na pinaguisig ng pamahalaan sa mga mangangalakal at tindahang partikular ay ipinahihintulot sa mga tindahan ng MCCA.

Ang Ministro ng Kabuhasan ay nagpasugo agad ng kanyang mga ahente upang siyasatin ang mga sumbong. Napagalaman na ang Malakanyang ay tumatangap din ng mga daing hinggil sa bagay na ito.

Ang sino mang mandsadyer at iba pang patnugot ng MCCA na mapapanat ng pagkakaasala o katiwalian ay paguisig sa tangang hukuman na nilikha ng Pangulo ng Republika, alinsunod sa mga tagasiyasat.

kailangan. Sinamsam niya ang lahat ng trak na humihimpl sa Bagyo at pagkarangan magamit sa makailang paghahatid ng pagkain, ayon sa kasunduan, ay saka isinaul sa mga tunay na may-ari.

Ang Hukbong Imperial Hapones ay may malaking neitulong upang agad Bagyo ay maging huwarang siudad, gayon din si Mahistrado Dionisio de Leon sa isang gobernador militar ng Purok Blg. 2.