

HERE AND THERE

For Safekeeping

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for the Philippine National Bank in New York to accept for safekeeping, for the duration, war bonds, insurance policies, wills, bank books, and other valuable papers of Filipinos in the Armed Forces of the United States. Those who wish to avail themselves of this service are requested to send their documents by registered mail to Mr. Joseph H. Foley, Manager of the Philippine National Bank, 25 Broadway, New York City, who will issue the corresponding receipts.



Report to the Filipino People

PRESIDENT QUEZON'S *Report to the Filipino People*, an address broadcast to the Philippines via short-wave from Washington, D. C., on February 20, 1943, and published in Vol. III, No. 2 of PHILIPPINES, is now available in pamphlet form.

Copies may be obtained free of charge by writing to the Office of Special Services, Commonwealth of the Philippines, 1617 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C.



Filipinos in Defense and Farm Work

VARIOUS reports received by the Nationals Division, Office of the Philippine Resident Commissioner, from heads of Filipino organizations and councils, indicate that Filipinos in the United States are either working or fighting.

In Vallejo, California, where nearly 75 Filipino families live in the city and vicinity, about 1000 Filipinos are gainfully occupied in the Navy Yard, and average 88 cents per hour.

Over 400 Filipino families in San Diego proper and San Diego county, most of whom are connected with the navy in one way or the other, factories and shipyards, have an earning capacity of 40 dollars a week.

More than 100 Filipinos are employed in shipyards, railroads, and on farms in Portland, Oregon, where there are around 25 families in residence.

Shipyard workers in Richmond, California, number approximately 150 working as helpers and trainees. Trainees employed as welders, shipfitters, and machinists receive from 1.05 to 1.35 per hour; helpers get from 95 cents to 1.15 per hour.

The annual income of 11 Filipino families in Fresno,

California, range from 1500 to 4000 dollars under favorable working conditions.

There are about 150 Filipinos in Ventura County engaged in farm labor, mostly in the citrus industry. Lemon and orange pickers get 28 cents plus 14 cents for every box. Each picker averages from 35 to 40 boxes a day. Vegetable farms pay 60 to 65 cents per hour. About 25 families live in this county.

In Reedley and vicinity, there are around 50 farmers whose average income is easily 1000 dollars a year. Picking grapes yields from 60 to 75 cents an hour. Contract jobs which last from 25 to 30 days yield pickers as high as 25 dollars a day. They average 10 dollars daily. Last year there were more than 15 families, but members drifted to Vallejo for defense jobs.

NINETY-FIVE per cent of the Filipinos in Oakland work in defense industries; 70 per cent of them are employed in Mare Island, and the rest in the Naval Supply Depot at West Oakland and the Naval Air Depot in Alameda. They average 95 cents per hour. There were about 100 Filipino families in Alameda and Contra Costa counties at the time this data was secured, but since then an influx of workers might have swollen the number of families engaged in defense work.

In Seattle, Filipinos work as smelters, earning an average of 44 dollars a week. Those engaged in making mattresses for the army earn 90 cents per hour. Farmers earn 125 dollars a month with board and lodging.

Some of the Filipinos in Salinas are labor contractors. Each one runs his own camp for the companies which operate the farms around this locality. Others work on carrot, lettuce, sugar beets fields, and on other vegetable fields. The average size of farms where they work is 1000 acres. Work lasts 10 months in a year. Filipino contractors average from 15 to 20 men working in their camps, but before the war they kept from 60 to 85 men working under them.

The Representative of the Office of the Philippine Resident Commissioner, Western Division, summarizes his findings after a visit to Filipino communities in Phoenix, Yuma, Somerton, El Centro, San Diego, and Los Angeles, thus:

"The prevailing farm wages ranged from fifty to sixty cents per hour. Most of the Filipino agricultural laborers, however, are working on piece work basis. The average wage, under the latter arrangement, is from 8 to 10 dollars a day. Some workers who are very efficient earn as much as fifteen dollars a day. At the end of my visit our people were engaged in cutting lettuce, bunching carrots and harvesting citrus fruits."

Figures used in these reports are only approximate because of military necessity.

