

EITHER...OR

By S. ARTIAGA, Jr.

The other day we received the visit of a friend who had returned to the city after having left it shortly after liberation; he had left, a very discouraged man, and had returned, a very surprised individual. He waxed eloquent and fairly went into hysterics of happiness at what he termed the "great change for the better that the city had undergone."

Frankly, we did not get him at first and even told him to sit down, relax and asked him if he had those attacks very often. But he was not to be silenced by only a pail of cold water; he went on and on pointing to the good things that had come to pass. At the end we were glad he had come . . . it was pleasant to have somebody still able to see the brighter side of life. As a matter of fact we are seriously considering him as our official morale builder. "Greater love hath no friend than this..."

A man is either a pessimist or an optimist. Our friend apparently is an optimist (even if he says he is just a realist) and also a genius. He saw, what we, in our daily struggle for survival, failed to see. He saw a city valiantly rising from out of the invader's lash . . . a city that refuses to stay down and instead picks up whatever remnants of its old glory the monkey man left it. And before he left, this jewel among friends, gave us this bit of wisdom: "Write and tell people to forget their woes and to smile; after all a smile does not cost anything and the profiteers cannot get at it."

QUEZON ON COLLABORATION

That the late President Quezon gave instructions to prominent leaders for collaboration short of taking the oath of allegiance to Japan was revealed recently by Senate President Manuel A. Roxas in an effort to clarify the collaboration issue which has gripped the people.

TRAFFIC BOOK

A handbook containing an explanation of all traffic rules and prepared by the Traffic Division of the Manila Police Department is now off the press and ready for distribution at all Police Precincts.

GONZALEZ BACK TO U. P.

Latest reports from Malacañan are to the effect that Bienvenido Gonzalez, president of the U.P. at the start of the war and another "graduate" of Fort Santiago, is going to occupy again his former position. The announcement has been received with general approval by educational circles.

HUGE DEFICIT FACES P.I.

A huge deficit of 130 million pesos is faced by the Commonwealth government for the coming fiscal

year, which begins next month, according to figures compiled by governmental financial circles. The budget for the coming year is estimated at 137 million pesos while the expected income does not pass the seven million peso mark.

RÉCORD B-29 ATTACK

More than 500 superforts attacked Japan and dropped 3,000 tons of high explosives on munition factories in what is considered a record bombing attack on enemy military installations.

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