

Bill For Cityhood of Iriga Hurdles Senate
By Philip I. Garay

House Bill No. 7270- an Act converting the municipality of Iriga into a city successfully passed the Senate on third reading last May 16, 1968, without amendments.

This was made possible largely by Senate Almendras who sponsored the bill in the upper chamber and also with the able support of Sen. Aytona and Sen. Ziga. The bill as passed by the upper house, except for some minor changes in phraseology, was practically the same and all major provisions remained intact.

As things now stand, the measure goes to Malacanang for presidential approval. It is the prevailing consensus that the President will most likely approve the bill in a week or two.

There is however a disturbing report unconfirmed though, that

an official of the province of Camarines Sur is hell-bent on opposing it and will allegedly resort to a last-ditch lobby at Malacanang.

The crucial query now is, will this official succeed in thwarting the aspirations of Iriga to be a metropolis, or shall this same official again receive a stinging rebuke as he found out to his dismay in congress?

To oppose a thing for a noble and justifiable cause deserves commendation and support but to consistently oppose something for obviously political and personal interest is a brazen manifestation of sheer rascality and irresponsibility.

The proper perspective then in this connection, should be magnanimity in defeat and humbleness in victory.

vacationist because of the good beaches and beautiful scenery. Eventually, this road will serve as the main northern access route to the planned Bicol West Coast Highway.

2. SAN FERNANDO - SALINGOGON ROAD (J.:

unkn. kms., gravel all-weather road with temporary structures.

A Food . . .

world. "I felt sure it would work. Still, it was a gamble when I ordered our farmers to plant it."

President Marcos' gamble has brought the farmers unexpected dividends. IR 8 ripens in four months a full month faster than standard varieties of rice - and it will grow in any season in most tropical lands, thus giving farmers a three-crop year.

To finance the fertilizer and insecticides needed to assure a heavy yield, the Philippine government has instituted an agricultural credit program which makes loans readily available to farmers. With the new rice, bankers in the countryside are assured of getting their money back.

"This has changed the Philippines from being a rice importing nation to an exporter," President Marcos said, and there are statistics to back up his words. The rice yield in the Philippines, wherever IR 8 is grown, is five times greater than it was previously. Only last year, before the crops were in, the Philippines figured it would take 35,000 tons of rice from the United States to feed the population. With the first IR 8 harvest, however, the government realized the American rice would not be needed, and it was sent on to feed the hungry in another island nation, Indonesia.

President Marcos is eager to share the Philippines' new wealth with the rest of the world. He has already sent the seed to the leaders of more than 60 other nations. At the coronation of the Shah of Iran last year, gold gifts came from all over the world. The present from the Philippines looked poor by comparison in its burlap sack, but it was far more valuable than any of the others. It was a bag of IR 8 seed.

When the monsoons destroyed the rice crop in South Vietnam's coastal plains last October, the Philippines rushed 45 tons of seed to the stricken area. This saved the farmers and the beleaguered country's economy. The results were so exciting that Vietnam is now changing over to IR 8.

President Marcos' pride is justified. "This is a more important revolutions," he said, "than those being fought with guns."

Hotel and . . .

hotel and restaurant operators to send participants to that city for one week. He reiterated his previous stand that separate seminars be held in each provincial capital so adequate participants from each province could be assured.

Destura added that in Sorsogon alone there could be enough participants to warrant the holding of such seminar in this capital. —JDD

without their consent. Agbayani said that the amendment is being introduced to protect teachers, as actually classroom teachers, can be persecuted by school officials by not allowing them to transfer. (Continued on page 7)

Beginning at San Fernando Poblacion this route would pass through Antipolo, Hubo, and terminate in Salingogon, situated on the Ragay Gulf. It traverses good rice, coconut and abaca land. Eventually, this route will also serve as an access route to the proposed Bicol West Coast Highway.

a. **San Fernando Antipolo:** This section would be new construction beginning at the San Fernando poblacion and joining the already existing provincial road at Antipolo.

b. **Antipolo-Hubo-Salingogon:** This section was constructed with heavy equipment during the previous administration but has since deteriorated and will need regrading and the construction of culverts and bridges.

3. CALABANGA - TINAMBAC SIRUMA - ROAD

This route will serve as the main trunk road providing the Tinambac-Siruma area access to the National Road through the poblacion of Calabanga. It is expected that such a route should facilitate the development of the Tinambac-Siruma area which embraces more than 15,000 hectares of land with high agricultural potential. It will also make accessible the rich deposits of Kaolin in San Vicente, Tinambac, and enhance the potential of the development of a ceramic industry in the area. As the area develops the port of Tandoc would make an ideal location of the direct overseas shipment of products such as copra and copra-oil, bananas, and new Kaolin.

a. **Calabanga-Tinambac (JJ)** 24.46 kms., completion of the asphaltting from Hinaguianan up to Tinambac and the replacing of temporary structures with per-

- manent ones.
- b. **Tinambac-Tamban:** (J) 17-38 kms., Gravel surfacing and temporary structures.
- c. **BANGA-TANDOC,** with access road to Siruma: (J); 21 kms. plus-gravel and temporary structures
- 4 **APAD-TINALMUD ROAD (J):** 33.2 kms.-Graveling and temporary structures.

The road was constructed with the use of heavy equipment during the last administration, but no surfacing of any kind was provided for. This road passes through lands previously accessible only by foot. Because the initial expenditures for the road will soon be lost if the road is left unimproved, it is recommended that temporary structures and a gravel surface be provided for, particularly for the Apad-San Isidro Junction Section. The Apad-Tinalmud road connects the Central Libmanan area with the Ragay highlands and terminates in barrio Tinalmud situated on the Ragay Gulf.

5. GOA-TINAMBAC:

PROPOSED: Conversion of dirt and loose gravel sections of this, to all weather-surfacing road, with specific attention to those sections from Lalud, Goa to Tierra Nevada, Tinambac, a distance of Approx. 4 kms.

The Research and Planning Division proposes, that in order to insure all-weather travel, a plan of resurfacing and general rehabilitation of all aspects of this road be undertaken. It is further proposed that a coordinated program of year-round maintenance be initiated.

An improved Goa-Tinambac road would go a long way in providing the near-isolated and economically viable northern sectors (Continued on page 7)

Philippine Gamble Pays Off
Dreams that Come True



MANILA, - (UPI) — It sounds as risky as turning a trained mice act over a bunch of rats. But it worked and in the successful experiment may lie the germs of hope for a new and revitalized Philippines where law, order and faith in elemental human dignity may yet prevail.

The experiment is the Luneta Beautification Project — a dream come true for the man who originated it, Teodoro Valencia, columnist for the Manila Times, and Imelda Marcos, the President's wife who can be as determinedly tough as she is pretty.

Five years ago, Luneta Park and the old walled city of Intramuros lying off the Sea and Roxas Boulevard were among the toughest areas in the world. It was literally worth your life to walk past the area after sundown. Squatters' shacks sat amidst squalor unequaled anywhere.

Today, the area has been turned into one of the most beautiful park areas in Asia. The squatters have been resettled, and there is virtually no crime. Who accomplished the job, this near miracle in this still lawless city?

Five-hundred ex-convicts. And they still are at work beautifying such areas as old Fort Santiago where Japanese tortured and murdered hundreds of Filipino, American, Chinese and other prisoners before they set fire to it and fled at the end of World War II.

Not one of the convicts have slid back into crime. And they see to it that the Manila hoodlum element does not operate in what they like to think of as "their area."

The beautification project has been carried out entirely through contributions, and it is obvious that the Filipinos take pride in the transformation. The area, once one of the dirtiest, is now litter-free. And it has touched off similar projects in other parts of the city.

Not far from the Escolta, the old financial district where law says men must wear jackets which they seldom do, an entire plaza was transformed overnight. Grass grows and fountains play in colored fountains at night.

Beautification projects may seem a small point on which to bare hope for a nation which needs so much physically and morally. But the Philippine leaders have been saying for years if a strong pride in nationhood could be aroused, the country could do (Continued on page 7)

Of Importance To Teachers

Rep. Aguedo F. Agbayani (N, Pangasinan), chairman of the House Committee on Education, said recently that the Committee has reported out for discussion on the floor of Congress, HB No. 17451 amending the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers.

The bill, co-authored by Reps. Aghayani, Salih Ututalung (L, Sulu), Andres Clemente, Jr. (N, Masbate), and Constancio Maglana (N, Davao Oriental), seeks to provide additional protection for the "small fry" in the educational system, particularly, classroom teachers.

Agbayani said that the measure actually introduces five amendments which were formulated after consultations and thorough discussions with the Philippine Public School Teachers Association (PPSTA) and the Department of Education.

Section 6 of the Magna Carta has been amended to permit a teacher to voluntarily transfer, upon his request, even within three months before any local or national election, but teachers would continue to be protected from transfer within such period as they can not be transferred

SCHEDULE of BASKETBALL GAMES

(Naga Police Summer Athletic League)

- June 3
 - 4:30 PM-Triangulo vs Cougars (Midgets)
 - 5:30 PM-Jebals vs Anchors (Juniors) 2nd
 - 6:30 PM-241st PC Co. vs CASTEA
 - 7:30 PM-Chin po Tong vs Ateneo de Naga (Jrs)
- June 5
 - 4:30 PM-Nacida vs El Presidente (Midgets)
 - 5:30 PM-Celtics vs Triangulo (Midgets)
 - 6:30 PM-City Engineer vs APC
 - 7:30 PM-Triangulo vs Jebals (Jrs) 2nd
- June 8
 - 4:30 PM-Cougars vs El Presidente (Midgets)
 - 5:30 PM-Celtics vs Squires (Midgets)
 - 6:30 PM-Ventures vs Younkers (Midgets)
 - 7:30 PM-Chin Po Tong vs Triangulo (Jrs)
- June 9
 - 4:30 PM-Madniks vs Hawks (Midgets)
 - 5:30 PM-Conquerors vs Triangulo (Midgets)
 - 6:30 PM-Younkers vs El Presidente (Midgets)
 - 7:30 PM-Forestry vs APC
 - 8:30 PM Chin Po Tong vs Salesprom (Jrs) 2nd
- June 10
 - 4:30 PM-Nacida vs Madniks (Midgets)
 - 5:30 PM-Conquerors vs Celtics (Midgets)
 - 6:30 PM-Squires vs Hawks (Midgets)
 - 7:30 PM-CASTEA vs City Engineer
- June 15
 - 4:30 PM-Cougars vs Younkers (Midgets)
 - 5:30 PM-Madniks vs Squires (Midgets)
 - 6:30 PM-Triangulo vs Nacida (Midgets)
 - 7:30 PM-Ventures vs Hawks (Midgets)
- June 16
 - 4:30 PM-Conquerors vs El Presidente (Midgets)
 - 5:30 PM-Younkers vs Triangulo (Midgets)
 - 6:30 PM-Celtics vs Hawks (Midgets)
 - 7:30 PM-Ateneo de Naga vs Anchors (Jrs) 2nd
- June 17
 - 4:30 PM-Cougars vs Madniks (Midgets)
 - 5:30 PM-Nacida vs Conquerors (Midgets)
 - 6:30 PM-Ventures vs Squires (Midgets)
 - 7:30 PM-Salesprom vs Anchors (Juniors) 2nd
 - 8:30 PM-Yee Bros. vs Misericordia (Senior) 2nd