

Republic Letters

November 17, 1944
Editor of The Republic

Dear Mr. Editor:
The Minister of Health, Labor and Public Welfare had been kind enough to call my attention and translate to me an article in the "Tagalog Section" of the last issue of *The Republic* under the caption of "ayotayoismo" in which the following denunciations are made:

(a) That the NADISCO and the BIBA are managed under the "ayotayo" system whereby certain Government employees through the intervention of their respective Chiefs are getting double rations and certain benefits improperly;

(b) That certain agencies for procurement are supplying commodities only to Government officials and employees to the prejudice of the public in general and at the expense of the Government funds, not to mention the waste of time that it represents.

The aforementioned article is a direct criticism against certain organizations and agencies under the Ministry of Economic Affairs. I welcome it; but, I would wish it to be more specific. It contains nothing but generalities which may serve to poison or add fuel to the already burning soul of the masses against the utter inability of the Government to adequately supply their needs for reasons that everybody knows, but in no way help our efforts to remedy such deplorable state of things. In view thereof, may I request that specific cases of favoritism be submitted to us or even published so that the evil may be corrected and the recurrence of it avoided for the benefit of the public and the improvement of the service?

For your information:—Aside from the BIBA whose activities practically became paralyzed since September, 1944, the Ministry of Economic Affairs has three agencies for procurement: the NADISCO, for food substitutes and other essentials; NACOCO, for coconuts; and the Fresh Fish Corporation, for fresh fish. As far as we know, unless the author of the article has a better information, all that is secured by or through the NADISCO, namely: fish or pork although in limited quantities, had been and are being served to the public through the MCCA; same may be said with regards to coconuts procured by the NACOCO. As to fresh fish which due to the present circumstances can only consist in "bañugs", it was also served through the MCCA at the beginning, but it happened that due to the perishable nature of the commodity and its very limited quantity, it was not advisable to distribute it through the MCCA. For such reason the agency was directed to the same to charitable institutions and to the different Government agencies. Incidentally, may I know if the "Republika" is against the policy of helping charitable institutions and the employees of the Government? It would not be out of place to state that His Excellency, the President, with all the members of his Cabinet, favors such policy. And the reason is that the employees and ordinarily all those with fixed income, in times of monetary inflation are the most badly hit and unless the Government does its best to help them, the alternative for them is to perish or rob. With my highest regards,

PEDRO SABIDO
(Minister of Economic Affairs)

Editor's Note:—We appreciate the general attitude of Minister Sabido on the matter of newspaper criticism. It sets him apart from others we know, whose reaction is hardly that of intelligent men. While we would be happy to comply with the Minister's request for specification of cases, we regret that, for lack of personnel, we cannot do so very fully all the many cases brought to our attention from time to time. However, we believe we need only remind him that in the heads, over the phone and on the desks of all procurement organization managers are always many special requests for special attention and accommodation signed by or requests coming from high officials which when "specially" served "first" in effect, deprive attention to the MCCA's and the less fortunate public without special connections. This does not need any investigation. It is a fact that everybody knows and sees everyday. At any rate, we call our readers' attention to this kind of violation of the Minister to bring cases of favoritism to his attention direct or thru us.

Day To Day War Activity On Leyte Front Reviewed

Nov. 17, Friday.—Furious land battles continue to feature the fighting in Leyte, according to Domei dispatches. In the Carigara sector, the enemy are desperately rushing reinforcements to the 24th division which has been isolated and are facing annihilation, with their retreat cut off.

In the other sectors of Jaro, Dagami and Burauen the Japanese forces hold on their positions, in spite of desperate enemy attempts to dislodge them, which cost the enemy serious losses.

Nov. 18, Saturday.—Latest reports from Leyte indicate that despite reinforcements for enemy forces, which now number about seven (7) divisions, the Japanese garrison troops continue to hold their positions, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. This determined defense makes possible the landing of reinforcements to Nippon forces.

Raiding the Burauen airfield, army air activity accounted for five (5) large planes set ablaze and a dozen damaged.

Nov. 19, Sunday.—The Japanese forces in the Managanas area, south of Pinamopan, have taken the initiative and pushed back enemy forces towards a narrow beachhead.

In the Carigara sector, the Japanese forces steadily gained ground

Malolos New . . .

(Continued from page 1)

less than ₱50 a kilo, whereas in Manila, this food commodity sells at more than ₱120 per kilo. Crabs, shrimps, oranges, and an infinite variety of fruits abound.

The earlier evacuees were persons of means who were seeking the comparative safety of this rural place where life has always been pleasant and safe, in peace and in war. They came in the spirit of picnickers. Then came the B and S crowds, specially those who had accumulated bagfuls of money, followed by the unemployed, the pickpockets, and the beggars. As a result, during daytime, the most every streetcorner is a mart, and every man with a ring, a necklace, or a polo shirt for sale, has a ready buyer, for the inhabitants of the barrios come daily with their produce and with their money they buy the things they need and can secure immediately.

Every house in the town proper has three to eight families for neighbors. They have a community kitchen, but they have the privacy of their own individual rooms. In the daytime, they cultivate a community garden, and at night, with no blackouts, they play card games or read. There is a heavy demand for reading matter.

The peace and quiet of this rural place has lately been disturbed by the appearance of those sly folks who victimize people's pockets in broad daylight. In their train, too, have come the beggars. But these are problems, more for officials to solve, than the evacuees to bother about.

Priority Given . . .

(Continued from page 1)

any other reason connected with the present war operations.

"Sec. 2. The new lessee and the representative of the owner of former lessee in charge of the premises shall, before occupancy by the former, make or cause to be made an accurate inventory of the personal property, effects or other belongings found therein, one copy of which shall be kept by the new lessee and another copy by said representative. Should the representative refuse to be a party to the making of the inventory, or should there be no such representative, the president of the district association or leader of the neighborhood association to which said owner or former lessee belonged, shall represent them in the transaction and shall keep the copy pertaining to the same. The new lessee shall be charged with the safekeeping and custody of all inventoried property and be liable to the owner or former lessee for any loss, disappearance or damage suffered thereby while they remain under his control if the same is due to his willful act or negligence. If for some reason or other the new lessee is deprived of, or compelled on his own initiative to leave the premises, he shall surrender the

and have repulsed all counter efforts of the enemy forces.

Nov. 21, Tuesday.—The Japanese air force on November 17 and 18 sank three and heavily damaged four transports off Tacloban, as per announcement of the Imperial General Headquarters on Nov. 20th.

Maintaining their position firmly against desperate enemy attacks, the Japanese forces in the Dagami sector repulsed the enemy who left not less than 900 killed on the field, besides 3 tanks disabled and other heavy equipment.

Nov. 22, Wednesday.—Japanese air units sank two cruisers and heavily damaged one aircraft carrier in an attack against an enemy task force in the seas east of the Philippines, on Nov. 19th.

The Imperial General Headquarters also announced that 4 American transports in Leyte Gulf were heavily damaged and set ablaze on Nov. 18th.

Nov. 23, Thursday.—Reports reaching Manila reveal the enemy encirclement of the trapped 24th division is tightened in the Carigara sector, thus preventing the decimated enemy forces from receiving reinforcements from the 32nd division.

Nov. 24, Friday.—Continuing their air activities, Japanese air units on Nov. 23, in spite of inclement weather, followed up their attacks on Burauen airfield, and attacks on surrounding territory, making direct hits and blasting military establishments.

In the Jaro and Ormoc sectors, death-defying Japanese units carried out daring, surprise attacks on American heavy-gun positions. They silenced most of the 820-centimeter "Canet" guns being used for the first time by the Japanese in the campaign, especially in the Ormoc area to try to smash Japanese superiority.

Nov. 25, Saturday.—Japanese air units on Nov. 21 and 23 attacked an enemy convoy and escort fleet in the seas east of Mindanao, sinking or damaging four warcraft, including one aircraft carrier and one transport, as announced by the Imperial General Headquarters.

In the land fighting, the continued offensive of the Japanese units in the area west of Carigara have pushed back enemy troops to Colasian and Capocan where they have been cornered. Japanese columns continue to gain ground steadily. The enemy 32 and 24th divisions continue to be encircled by the Nippon troops in the other sectors.

the same and all inventoried property to the representative of the owner or former lessee, or to the president of the district association or leader of the neighborhood association concerned in default of the former.

"Sec. 3. The amount of rentals that shall be charged for the lease of buildings made available hereunder shall be governed by the provisions of Executive Order No. 117, as amended by Executive Order No. 89, dated October 31, 1944. The rentals in case the representative of the former owner or lessee refuse to accept tender of payment or if there be no such representative, may be deposited with the Clerk of the Court of First Instance of Manila in the same manner and under the same conditions prescribed by law for consignation of the thing due.

"Sec. 4. Within thirty days after the date of promulgation of this order all presidents of district associations in the City of Manila shall submit a report to the Central Housing Committee as last reconstituted under Executive Order No. 91, dated September 27, 1944, of all residential buildings or parts thereof, subject to occupancy under this Order. All persons, who, under Section 1 hereof, are given preference in the lease of such buildings may secure information from said Committee relative to the availability of the same.

"Sec. 5. Any person in charge of, or exercising control or possession of any residential building or part thereof made available for occupancy under this Order, who refuses to deliver possession of the premises to the new lessee after the making of the inventory prescribed in Section 2 hereof, or who excludes said lessee therefrom, or in any other way disturbs him the peaceful possession and enjoyment thereof, shall be held guilty of an offense and upon conviction shall be

LAUREL PRESSES MAYOR FOR HEALTH CAMPAIGN

In a letter commending the Military Government's clean-up campaign recently, President Jose P. Laurel urged that the Military Governor give the drive his immediate attention and asked him to report on its progress.

The President stated that the health of the citizens concerns him gravely, especially at this time when their low vitality makes them susceptible to sickness, adding that the insidious condition of the city is a serious menace to health and unless timely corrected may give rise to sickness in epidemic proportions.

"Not much effort is needed to correct the situation," the President wrote in part, referring to the uncollected garbage and waste which litter the City. "A willingness of heart, a determination to do one's little share and civic pride, should move every citizen to action."

Kamay Na . . .

dumano ng malalaking ariarian sa kabikabla, gayon din ang isang talaan ng mga mangangalakal na "pinlano" sa pamilihang itim.

Sinasabi ring bagaman mayroon nang kautusan sa tela at damit ay marami pang pintungang ari ng mga mamamayang dayuhan ang nagtinglag at naglalabas ng lihim ng mga panindang ito, at ito'y hindi isang lihim ng Pulisya. (30)

500 Homeguard . . .

sig ang tanodnayan ay gagamit ng buhong tinulisan sa dulo. Naitalan sa City Hall na magtatatala rin ng hindi kukulangin sa dalawang pulis sa bawat kuarter ng tanodnayan.

Samantala, ipinataltas din na 500 pang bagong pulis ang kukunin ng MC sa madaling panahon. Si Komandante Gregorio Ligtug ay itinalagang pinuno ng mga pulis na nakainiporme, samantala si Komandante Eduardo Quintos ay siyang inilagay na pinunong tagapagpaganap ng MC. Si Kapitan Juan Villasantay ay katulong ni Komandante Quintos. (30)

amenable to the penalties prescribed under Section 4 of Act No. 39, otherwise known as the Emergency Powers Law.

"Sec. 6. All laws, orders, ordinances, rules or regulations or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

"Sec. 7. This Order shall take effect immediately upon its promulgation."

TALUMPATI NG PANGULO

NIHAYAG NI LAUREL ANG BALANGKAS NG NAGSASARILING BAGONG PILIPINAS

(Karaglong ng talumpati ng Pangulong Jose P. Laurel na binigkas sa pagdiriwang sa kaarawan ng pagsasarili ng Pilipinas noong ika-14 ng Oktubre)

Ni ang mga naghihikahos at nagsisipagtiis ay hindi pinababayaan. Isa sa mga unang batas ng Kapulungang Pambansa ay ang paglalagan ng dalawang pangaw na piso ukol sa pagsaklolo at pagpapalibang-buhay ng mga bayan. Ang mga mamamayan, lalo na yang mga salanta, balo, ulila at iba pang mga taong dukha, na nagdaranas ng hirap na bunga ng digmaan. Ang Lupon sa Saklolo na pinangunguluhan ng Kagawad-Bansa sa Kalusugan, Paggawa at Kagalingang-bayan na akting hinirang upang maminihala sa guguring ito ay nakatapos na sa pamamahagi nito at kahi't ngayoyi namamahagi ng dalawang pangaw na piso pa'na kamakailan ay iniabuloy ng Hukbong Imperial ng Happon ukol sa saklolong pangkagipitan. Karapatapat bangitin ang ginagawa ngayon ng Kawaligang ng mga Beterano na akting hinirang upang siyang kumalaga sa mga lumahok sa digma, gayundin sa kanilang mga balo at ulila. Ang mga Kusinaang-bayan, na itinatatag ng Pamahalaan upang magpakain sa mga hikahos sa Lunsod ng Maynila ay gumagawa ng kapuripuring paglilingkod.

Maging ang mga pangkat ng manggagawa ay hindi nalilimit ng pamahalaan, lalo na yang na-

Tatanggap Ng Damit At Ibang Abulyo

Ang tanging lupon tagasaklolo na itinatag ng Pangulong Laurel upang lumikom ng mga abulyo na pamasko ng libo-ibong dukha sa Maynila ay nagpatalastas na bukod sa salapi ay nakahanda silang tumanggap ng damit, mga kagamitan at ibang pangunang kailangan. Ang mga abulyo ay maaaring ipadala kay Direktor Honorario Poblador ng Kagalingang-bayan o kay Mr. F. Fukumoto ng Philippine Publications.

Tayotayoismo . . .

Hindi pa nakukuha ang rasyon ay sinasabing naidas na.—F. Jalbuna.

Divisoria Market.—Ang inyong pansin sa "Tayotayoismo" sa bilang ng Republic noong ika-13 ng Nobiembre ay dapat matatag sa kaalaman ng Pangulong Laurel. Naniiniwala akong hindi ipahihintulot ng mabunying Pangulo ng Republika ang pagtatangitang sa pamamahagi at pagtatanggap ng mga unang kailangan sa buhay, lalo pa sa panahong ito na ang tunay na bayan ay nakaupang sa gutom. Ang mga mababang go-bierno ay mang talong buwang sahod at bonus at may rasyon pang mga pulubi ay may Timbulan. Ang bayang kakawagkaway ay no naiman ang sukat asahan?—Melanio Burgos.

2727 S. del Rosario.—Ako'y isang lider ng neighborhood association, at ipinatagatag kong naguguluhan akong lubha sa isang rasyon na mayroon kang pamilyang kakalasin, may hahatlin at mayroon hindi. Ang kaguluhang ito ay buunga ng kanikaniyang rasyon sa mga kagawaran at kawanihan ng go-bierno. Sinabi ay hindi na dapat rasyon ng neighborhood ang kawanihan ng pamahalaan, ngunit kawanihan na isang umiing ng kamagakan ng isang pulis na itinangka kong alisin sa senso ng mga dapat tumanggap ng "prime commodities," pagka't siya raw ay miembro ng MCCA at may karapatan siyang kumuha ng rasyon. Ang isip ko ay nabemang ako nang hindi oras.—Jeremias Lopez.

Garage No. 1.—Hindi po naman lahat ng nagtatrabaho sa go-bierno ay tumatangag ng tanging rasyon. Ako'y isang baridor sa daan na tauhan ng Siudad, ngunit' wala akong rasyon ni ulaluhing kamote ni sigarilyong ginayut. Ang pagkakaalam ko ay yon lamang malalaki sa City Hall ang nakasesguro ng rasyon, na umano'y kahongkahong tabako sa Federacion, saksakong mais sa Nafecor at saksako ring kamote sa iba pang ahensya. Ang kawikaan ko na lamang ay talagang ganito sa buhay na ito: mayroon may mabuting estrella at mayroon namang estrellado.—Eriberto Catindig.

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(Itutulyo sa susunod na bilang)