

# BITS OF QUEZONIANA

*(Editor's Note: A fiery and eloquent orator and a prolific writer, MLQ always expressed his thoughts, whether in his speeches or in his writings, in simple but forceful words. The force of his logic and the beauty of his phrases have greatly impressed some present-day writers and speakers so much so that it is not seldom that one reads or hears his famous quotations. Proof is his much-abused "My loyalty to my party ends where my loyalty to my country begins," oftentimes modified to suit the purpose of the writer or speaker.*

*Following are quotations from the speeches and writings of Quezon which, in a large measure, reflect his philosophy on various subjects and the rule of action he had consistently followed during his lifetime).*

ON MODESTY — One of the virtues that men should have—men who are on the road to success and with ambition to go high — is modesty.

\* \* \*

ON RELIGION. — I am one of those who believe that religion exercises a wholesome influence upon man, both as an individual and as a citizen.

ON DIVINE FAITH. — No nation will prosper and be happy that is without faith in God, or who forgets him.

\* \* \*

ON HUMOR. — Humor that is clean and wholesome has always helped me solve difficult and, at times, trying problems which usually confront a man who finds himself the head of a nation.

\* \* \*

ON BOOKS. — Good books are among the best friends we can have.

The choice of books is as hard and delicate as the choice of friends. For a bad book is in life a false friend — destructive and pernicious.

\* \* \*

ON PARENTHOOD. — As a good father, I did not want my children to suffer the hunger and privation that I suffered.

I did not want them (his children) to be "shirtless" as their father has been, not because to be poor is a dishonor, but because it is hard.

\* \* \*

ON LEGAL PROFESSION. — Time there was in our country when the appellation lawyer was taken to mean a champion of human rights, a veritable soldier of truth and justice, an apostle of peace and general well-being.

\* \* \*

ON THE NEED OF AN OPPOSITION. — It is our duty to pave the way for this new opposition (the Popular Front) and to place in its hands the instruments by which it can foster its own growth through lawful procedure.

\* \* \*

ON PORK BARREL. — I do not only consider it a duty of the government not to use the appropriations for public works as a means to induce voters to support one candidate or another by giving them work or employment; it is also for me a matter of conscience not to permit such a practice.

\* \* \*

ON WAR. — We are fighting that the Filipino people may be the master of their own destiny and that every Filipino not only of this generation but of the generation to come may be able to live in peace and tranquility in the full enjoyment of liberty and freedom.

## From Baler . . .

*(Continued from page 9)*

He became the champion of the working mass as he introduced law to better their lot, advocating higher wages and better living conditions for them. He tried to prove he was the Father of Social Justice in many successful" in the entire history of the Philippines. That ways.

It was said that his administration was "the most undoubtedly was true for it had successfully united the entire nation—a fact which historians admit no Spanish or American executive had done.

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RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE	
of	
PRESIDENT MANUEL L. QUEZON	
(As Certified to by the Commissioner of Civil Service)	
	Per Annum
September 19, 1903—Fiscal—Mindoro . . . .	P 2,800
March 12, 1904—Fiscal—Tayabas . . . . .	3,000
November 1, 1904—Resigned.	
March 5, 1906—Provincial Governor—Tayabas . . . . .	4,000
January 1, 1907—Provincial Governor—Tayabas . . . . .	5,000
July 25, 1907—Resigned.	
—Delegate (Tayabas)	
—Resident Commissioner	
—Senator for the Fifth Senatorial District	
October 16, 1916—President—Philippine Senate	
October 16, 1922—President—Philippine Senate	
July 16, 1925—President (Fifth Senatorial District) Philippine Senate . . . . .	₱12,000
January 1, 1926—President (Fifth Senatorial District) Philippine Senate	16,000
July 16, 1928—President (Fifth Senatorial District) Philippine Senate . . . . .	16,000
January 1, 1933—President (Fifth Senatorial District) Philippine Senate	12,000
January 1, 1934—President (Fifth Senatorial District) Philippine Senate	12,000
November 15, 1935—President of the Commonwealth of the Philippines . . . . .	30,000

His administration was fraught with achievements such as the increase of roads, schools, hospitals and other public improvements.

At the height of his presidency, war broke out in December, 1941, thereby interrupting the nation-building that Quezon had so beautifully begun. As the war years grew worse, President Quezon moved the seat of the government from Manila to Corregidor, and later to Washington "on the insistence of Pres-

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## QUEZONIAN . . .

(Continued from page 24)

protection and safeguard of those residing in our own territory.

We recognize no substitute, admit no alternative, concede no reduction of our righteous demand for the absolute independence of the Philippines.

**ON POPULAR AUTHORITY.** — We must ask them (the people), and we can trust that they will respond to our request, to give up the inspiration of their patriotism, their advice and direction of their intellect, the support and cooperation of their powerful arm.

The voice of the people is the voice of God only when it expresses a judgment formed within the safe channels of serene reflection.

**ON PARTY LOYALTY.** — As Pres-

ident of the Philippines, I declare my independence from dictation by this political organization (Nacionalista Party) and I publicly avow my loyalty to my office and to my country above the political fortune of the party in general or the members composing it in particular.

**ON NATIONALISM.** — So long as the nationalistic sentiment is not fostered to the point where a people forgets that it forms a part of the human family; that the good of mankind should be the ultimate aim of all and every nation; and that there is always a just formula for adjusting them, nationalism is a noble, elevating, and most beneficial sentiment.

**ON INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD.** — We seek to become a member of the brotherhood of nations with love in our hearts for all mankind and

with a prayer on our lips for the salvation of humanity.

**ON THE NEED OF AN OPPOSITION.** — It is our duty to pave the way for this new opposition (the Popular Front) and to place in its hands the instruments by which it can foster its own growth through lawful procedure.

**ON PORK BARREL.** — I do not only consider it a duty of the government not to use the appropriations for public works as a means to induce voters to support one candidate or another, by giving them work or employment; it is also for me a matter of conscience not to permit such a practice.

**ON ELECTION FRAUD.** — It is true that frauds are common in democratic countries, but when they assume such grave proportions as evidenced by the ignominious conduct of the voters of the sixth (senatorial) district, then they can no longer be excusable on account of human imperfection, and consequently, their authors must be punished with all the force of the law because they reflect the greatest dishonor, shame and discredit to the society in which they live.

**ON THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION.** — I am glad to be able to affirm, first of all, that simultaneously with the American occupation, there has been established a more liberal government, and from that, the Filipinos have enjoyed a more personal and political liberty than they ever did under the Spanish Crown.

**ON JAPAN.** — Japan and the Philippines are geographically close neighbors. The only question is whether the two countries shall stand as friends or as enemies. (This statement, made in 1938 when MLQ was in Japan on a vacation, revealed his doubts as to Japan's intentions towards the Philippines. —Ed.)

**ON WAR.** — We are fighting that the Filipino people may be the master of their own destiny and that every Filipino not only of this generation but of the generations to come may be able to live in peace and tranquility in the full enjoyment of liberty and freedom.

—E.G.R.

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# Mga Katatanging Quezonian Para Sa Taong 1996

*MLA STANDARD AUG 19 1996*

**Eladio A. Caliwara**  
*Government service*

**Wigberto E. Tañada**  
*Legislation*

**Edita A. Tan**  
*Economics*

**Domingo C. Abadilla**  
*Agriculture*

**Melecio C. Deauna**  
*Science Education*

**Remigio M. Olveda**  
*Medical Research*

**Agnes V.S.T. Devanadera**  
*Local Government*

**Noe A. Babilonia**  
*Medicine (Cardiology)*

**Godofredo S. Laureles**  
*Arts & Letters*

# MLQ: Colorful RP politician

Manila Bulletin  
Oct. 12, 1987

Manuel Luis Quezon was a man ahead of his time.

He was the most colorful politician the Philippines ever produced. He was handsome, dashing and had a charming personality. A discriminate dresser, he had the poise and posture of a man of the manor.

Although fiery and temperamental, he was kind and compassionate and was a master from whom his followers learned.

A mestizo, he spoke the Spanish language elegantly, and his English was spoken properly. But at home, he spoke to his family only in Pilipino which years later made him the father of the Filipino language.

As a politician, he was a genius and outstanding statesman.

He was born on Aug. 19, 1878 in Baler, province of Tayabas, now Quezon Province. His parents were Lucio Quezon and Maria Dolores Molina who

were both teachers.

Although he spent his early academic years in Baler, his parents brought him to Manila to study at the Colegio de San Juan de Letran where he earned his bachelor of arts degree in 1894, graduating with the highest honors.

From Letran, Quezon pursued a law degree at the University of Sto. Tomas and graduated in 1902. While at UST, he made friends with Sergio Osmeña, Vicente Madrigal and Vicente Singson Encarnacion.

Osmeña remained to be his friend for a long time until they became political rivals.

Madrigal, one of his closest allies, rose to become a business tycoon while Singson Encarnacion became a political kingpin in Ilocos Sur.

Quezon worked briefly for Monte de Piedad and Savings Bank and for a time practiced law in the law firm of Don Fran-  
*(Cont'd on page 37)*

## MLQ...

*(Cont'd from page 36)*

cisco Ortigas but had to leave after he was appointed fiscal of Mindoro and Tayabas.

In 1916, he married his cousin, Aurora Aragon, in Hongkong. They had three children — Maria Aurora, Zeneida and Manuel Jr.

The nation will always be grateful to him for his contribution to Philippine nationhood which led to Philippine Independence from the American government.

As the winds of World War II swept the nation, Quezon was forced to leave for Washington DC by way of Corregidor and Australia to head the Philippine government in exile.

Sick of tuberculosis, he was not able to savor the country's independence he had fought for. He died before US forces under Gen. Douglas MacArthur who liberated the Philippines.

He did not live long enough to see the raising of the Philippine flag on July 4, 1946 because he died on Aug. 1, 1944 in