# Gazette

## QUEZON CITY HALL

VOL. I No. 3 MONTHLY INFORMATION GUIDE November 2, 1988






# League of Cities meets in Calbayog to tackle crucial measures

The League of Cities of the Philippines will hold their quarterly meeting in Calbayog City on October 29, 1988 to tackle pressing matters affecting local officials and governments. This was announced by Quezon City Mayor Brigido R. Simon, Jr., president of the League of Cities of the Philippines.

Expected to be discussed by the 60 members of the League are the proposed internal rules, the draft local autonomy law of 1988 as prepared by the Department of Local Government and the draft suggestions to the proposed local government code of 1987, Mayor Simon said.

At the same time, Mayor Simon called on his fellow city executives to work together towards the passage of pending bills in the House and Senate that directly affect operations of city governments.

The youthful League president cited in particular Senate Bill No. 463 proposing to create a Department of Interior that restores authority in mayors over police forces, at the same time, abolishing the Philippine Constabulary and the National Police Commission.

Another significant bill is SB 749 providing local government units adequate internal revenue allotments by amending Section 4 of PD 1741, according to Mayor Simon.

Also considered of vital importance to local governments is SB 758 providing fixed monthly salaries for the members of local Sanggunian; House Bill 10054 prescribing a revised compensation system in the government and for other purposes; HB 15498 providing for the national government debt relief for local government units (LGUs); and HB 15290 establishing squatter prevention units in every city and first-class municipalities and appropriating funds therefor.

Furthermore, Mayor Simon cited SB 374 transferring to the local governments the management, administration and operation of interland ports and fish ports.

At the same time, he also mentioned SB 578 increasing the number of amicable disputes to be settled by the Lupong Tagapayapa at the barangay level and amending for that purpose Section 2 of PD 1508 and SB 615

(Cont'd on p. 7)

# *Cities' League favors SB 756 on allotments*

The League of Cities of the Philippines has unanimously endorsed the immediate passage of Senate Bill 756 which was introduced by Senators Romulo and Herrera and in the process seeks the repeal of PD 1741 governing the computation of internal revenue allotments to local government units.

This was revealed by Quezon City Mayor Brigido R. Simon, Jr. in his capacity as president of the League of Cities of the Philippines. Speaking on behalf of the 60 members of the League, Mayor Simon cited the following

(Cont'd on p. 7)

# Landmark urban poor paper inked

Government officials connected with housing and urban development planning signed the code of policies on beneficiary selection, lot allocation and disposition for Quezon City areas for priority development.

This was concluded in connection with the government's mandate to provide affordable housing to low and marginal income families, Mayor Jun Simon said during his brief remarks.

The City Executive also said that in furtherance of this objective, the code of policies to be adopted include maximum community participation, consideration to the fullest extent possible about the community's preferred development program or approach, cooperation of the private sector/non-government organizations in the government's continuing land assembly program, continuing system of complete periodic review and revalidation of Areas for Priority Development (APDs), inclusion of blighted areas, development of APDs and containment of these areas against

(Cont'd on p. 7)

## Comelec count boosts Simon-Sotto tandem

Some nine months after the election last January for local posts in Quezon City, the defeated opponents of Mayor Brigido R. Simon, Jr. and Vice-Mayor Sotto seemed not to have given up the fight yet although they were thoroughly trounced in the contest.

They continued but futile harassments being employed by losers Charito Planas for mayor and Ulan Sarmiento for vice-mayor is evident in their headline grabbing and trial by publicity

(Cont'd on p. 7)

**FIRST-PERSON REPORT**

# Korea far advanced

**By Mel Festejo**

I had a limited view of South Korea. I only visited Seoul and Inch'on. Nonetheless, these two cities are in the heart of South Korea's development; Seoul being the capital and Inch'on, an industrial and seaport city.

From the moment one-step foot on the airport terminal building, one gets a preview of what to expect in Seoul. The ultra-clean, spacious airport facility has urinals that flush automatically without any help from its clients — they are triggered by infra-red devices. Such state-of-the-art technology for even the most mundane of human activities makes one cry for how far we have been left behind.

Driving into Seoul says it all — we have been really left behind in development by our fellow Asians. Seoul is a paradigm in urban planning and design. The city streets are wide, bustling with Korean cars, all glistening in their new sheet metals and designs that makes the PCMP a sham and a shame.

Architecture is unique in character. Wherever one goes in Seoul, he simply is constantly aware that he is still in Korea because the buildings tell him so. Most of the buildings sport a neat brick or tile exterior finish, ever so slightly enhanced by architectural trims here and there. Shops and store signs are all hung from the same elevation. They are all framed in uniform fashion and height, faced with the same letter types and sizes, and differ only in the color of the background.

The visitor has plenty of sidewalk room to tread on. And the sidewalk treatment deserves to be appreciated for its practical-

(Cont'd on p. 7)

## Gov't-private Congress set on November 4

The Quezon City government will present its medium-term development program to the business sector on November 4, 1988 during the "Businessmen's Congress for Progress" and in the process involve the private sector in the city's economic and developmental thrust.

The first of its kind to be held in the history of Quezon City, the workshop-conference will be hosted by the Quezon City Economic Development Board which is chaired by Mayor Brigido R. Simon, Jr.

The opening ceremonies will be graced by Sen. Vicente Paterno, chairman of the Senate Committee on Trade and Industry as guest speaker while the closing remarks in the evening will be delivered by Sec. Jose Concepcion as the special guest.

Four workshop modules have been scheduled, namely, urban development models for Quezon City, business development and opportunities for Quezon City, in-

(Cont'd on p. 7)



# For 'Miss QC', astronomy, astro-physics come first

Once in a while a refreshing face emerges and makes our day much easier to bear, what with all the pollution, politicking and endless banter among our congressmen and senators.

One such refreshing sight is Jeanne Hilario, who's just beated 54 of the prettiest in town to snag the "Miss Quezon City" crown, the first ever in this "Texas-like" city.

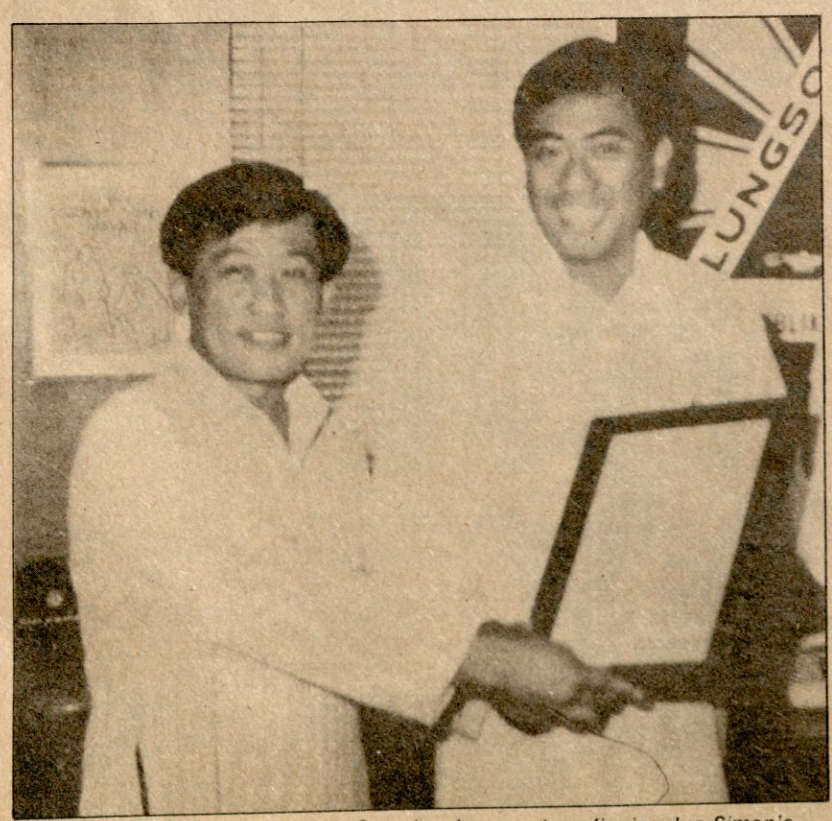
Beauty and brains seldom mix like oil and water but Jeanne has both and it doesn't surprise acquaintances as her father is City Attorney Nescito Hilario while her mother, Myrna, is an English professor.

Indeed, beauty queens are a dime a dozen in a country where almost every corner has its own "mutya" or "muse" that prompted the late Indonesian strongman, Sukarno, to boost that "Manila has the most beautiful women in the world per square meter."

Thus, I nearly fell off my seat when she revealed nonchalantly that her ambition is to eventually delve into astrophysics and astronomy!

Astrophysical! Astronomy! But having been a consistent scholar since elementary days and capped by graduating

(Cont'd on p. 7)



*Lawyer Romy Makalintal confers Comelec document confirming Jun Simon's election as QCity mayor.*

# 'Baliksaya' funded by private donors

The Quezon City government categorically denied reports that it ever imposed any news blackout to cover up the reportedly extravagant expenses incurred during the celebration of the 49th Foundation Day held on October 9-15.

In a press statement, Mayor Brigido R. Simon, Jr. said that the city government practically spent nothing during the celebration because all the expenses were voluntarily contributed by private corporations.

(Cont'd on p. 7)

## EDITORIAL

# In Memoriam

He was perhaps ahead of his time. The very few times I met him from a distance immediately suggested bigness, not so much in physical size but more so in the intellect.

But he was different from the other heavyweights, especially in literature where he garnered the coveted TOYM award. He drew friends like flies do. They just gravitate to him.

It was unfortunate that when I had a chance to commune with him, he was already in sick bay. I tried a few times to communicate with him but perhaps due to the enormity of the task that I inherited time flew so fast that before I knew it he was gone.

But we who are left behind could continue the so many things he dreamed of. We could emulate his good deeds and close fellowship with his peers. We could emulate his outstanding humility.

To perpetuate his memory the best way is work hard to perpetuate freedom of the press.

But it shouldn't be freedom of the press at the expense of ethics, not freedom of the press at the expense of public service, not freedom of the press to villify the innocent and subject them through trial by publicity, not freedom of the press to exercise yellow journalism, not freedom of the press to have the license to print stark lies, speculations and innuendos but freedom of the press as our ancestors knew it and exercise it.

Alfredo N. Salanga has not really left us. He is still in our midst. Everytime a fabricated lie sees print I know he must be turning in his grave and wanting us to rectify every obnoxious error, every pestering headline — grabbing and endless politicking.

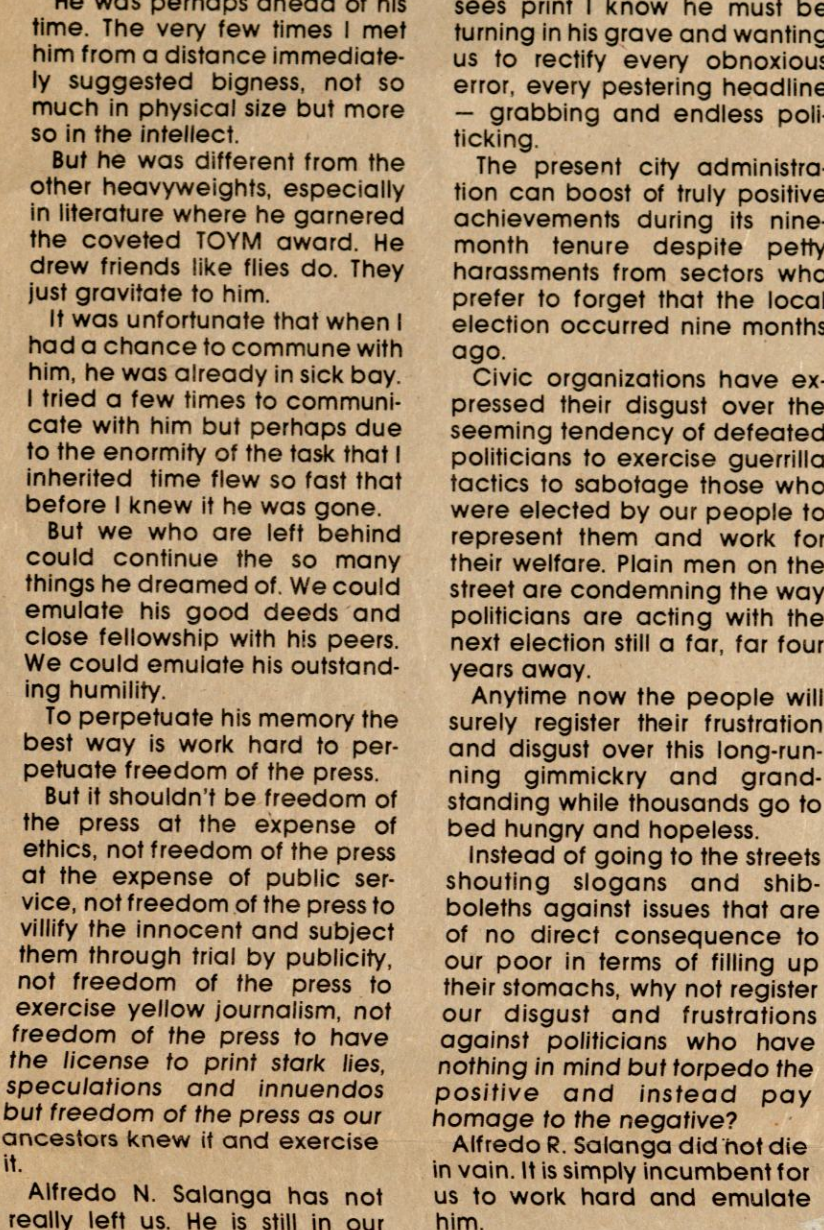
The present city administration can boost of truly positive achievements during its nine-month tenure despite petty harassments from sectors who prefer to forget that the local election occurred nine months ago.

Civic organizations have expressed their disgust over the seeming tendency of defeated politicians to exercise guerrilla tactics to sabotage those who were elected by our people to represent them and work for their welfare. Plain men on the street are condemning the way politicians are acting with the next election still a far, far four years away.

Anytime now the people will surely register their frustration and disgust over this long-running gimmickry and grandstanding while thousands go to bed hungry and hopeless.

Instead of going to the streets shouting slogans and shibboleths against issues that are of no direct consequence to our poor in terms of filling up their stomachs, why not register our disgust and frustrations against politicians who have nothing in mind but torpedo the positive and instead pay homage to the negative?

Alfredo R. Salanga did not die in vain. It is simply incumbent for us to work hard and emulate him.




# Gazette

The Quezon City Hall Gazette is published three times a month on weekly basis in missalette form and once a month in tabloid form. All manuscripts are welcomed but should be typewritten double-spaced and subject to editing. Photos should be properly captioned and preferably in black and white. Please send all manuscripts and photos to:

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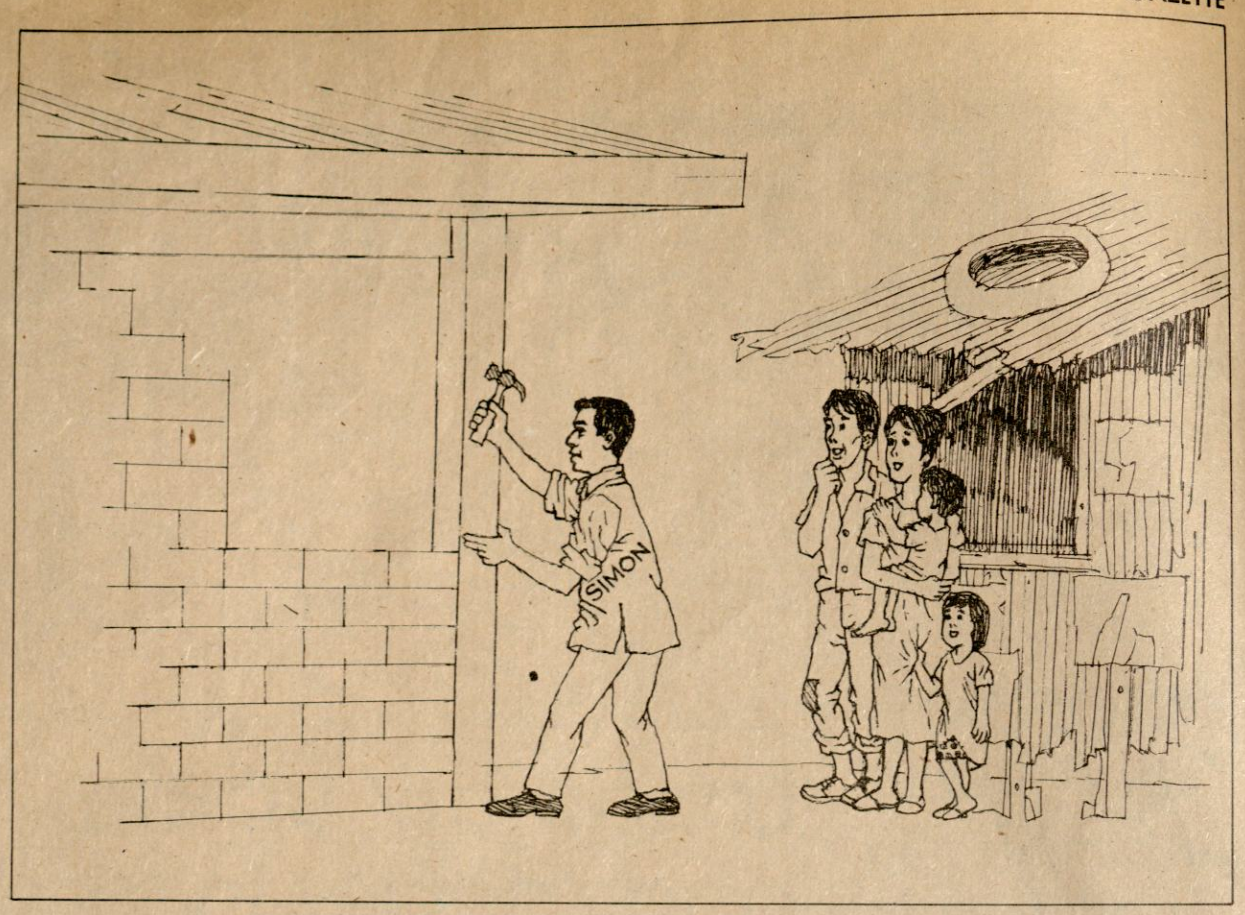



# St. Paul says prime factor behind teamwork is humility

By Rev. Aniceto Q. Lazo

Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the Spirit, and you have kindness and compassion for one another. I urge you, then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind. Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble toward one another, always considering others better than yourselves. And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own. The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had: He always had the nature of God, but he did not think that by force he should try to become equal with God. Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like man and appeared in human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death — his death on the cross. For this reason, God raised him to the highest place above and gave him the name that is greater than any other name. And so, in honor of the name of Jesus all beings in Heaven, on earth, and in the world below will fall on their knees, and all will openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

St. Paul had told the Philippians to stand firm and stand together in the face of adversaries. Here he takes up again, and presses, the exhortation to unity and humility. The grounds for his appeal to unity are put in the form of conditional clauses, assuming in each case that the condition is a reality.

If the Philippians are to stand firmly together against their adversaries, they will need to admonish and encourage one another; they will have to practise the spirit of Christian love and fellowship as brethren who have experienced the love of Christ in their own hearts; they will be merciful and show compassion, even as they have received mercy and compassion from their one Lord and Savior. "If you are what I firmly believe you are, then you will readily respond to may appeal and fill my cup of joy to the brim by exercising the virtue of true humility." In V. 2, Paul says: "Fulfill my joy that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." Here we have the idea of harmony in thought and feeling and action, of always being bent on an intelligent purpose, like the players in an orchestra, each contributing his part to bring out the concord of sound. Naturally, not every one can play first fiddle or try to outshine the rest of the players. There must be team-work, and a prime factor in teamwork is humility. That is why the apostle continues: "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory." Moody once said, "Strife is knocking another down; vainglory is setting oneself up." What the self-seeking persons get when they achieve the purpose of their ambition, is a lot of glory that is empty and hollow. The antidote is pointed out: "But in lowliness of mind let one esteem others better than themselves." Lowliness of mind is distinctively a Christian virtue. A girl at school surprised her friends by a motto on the wall of her room which read: "I am willing to be third." God was first with her, others second, self third. That is what St. Paul meant when he said that each was to esteem another better than himself.

When St. Paul proceeds to say: "Look not every man on his own things but every man also on the things of others," he does not mean that we are to neglect our own affairs and become busy bodies in other men's matters. His use of the "also" shows that he has no such ideas. But he means that one must not fix his eye upon his own interests to the exclusion of the interests of other people. The Christian cannot look out simply for "number one." Ignoring the welfare of others may please the Old Adam, but it does not please God, who says, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." But if this selfishness of minding your own things first still bothers you, look at Jesus and learn from Him what true humility really is.

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus." Thus St. Paul introduces his great passage on Christ's two states, His humiliation and exaltation. Jesus Christ is spoken of as being in the form of God, having in Him that whereby God is manifested as God. He thought it not robbery to be equal with God. He did not cling to His heavenly possessions as a robber gloats over the riches of his spoils. Had He done so, there would have been no cross for Him and no redemption for us. He did not use this equality with God as a means for self-glorification, seeking praise for Himself. On the contrary, He made Himself of no reputation in that He took upon Himself the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself. Jesus Christ was truly God, God in the fullest sense of the term, to whom all power was given in heaven and on earth; yet He went about in the form of a servant, as a man among men. Born of a human mother, He increased in wisdom

(To be continued)

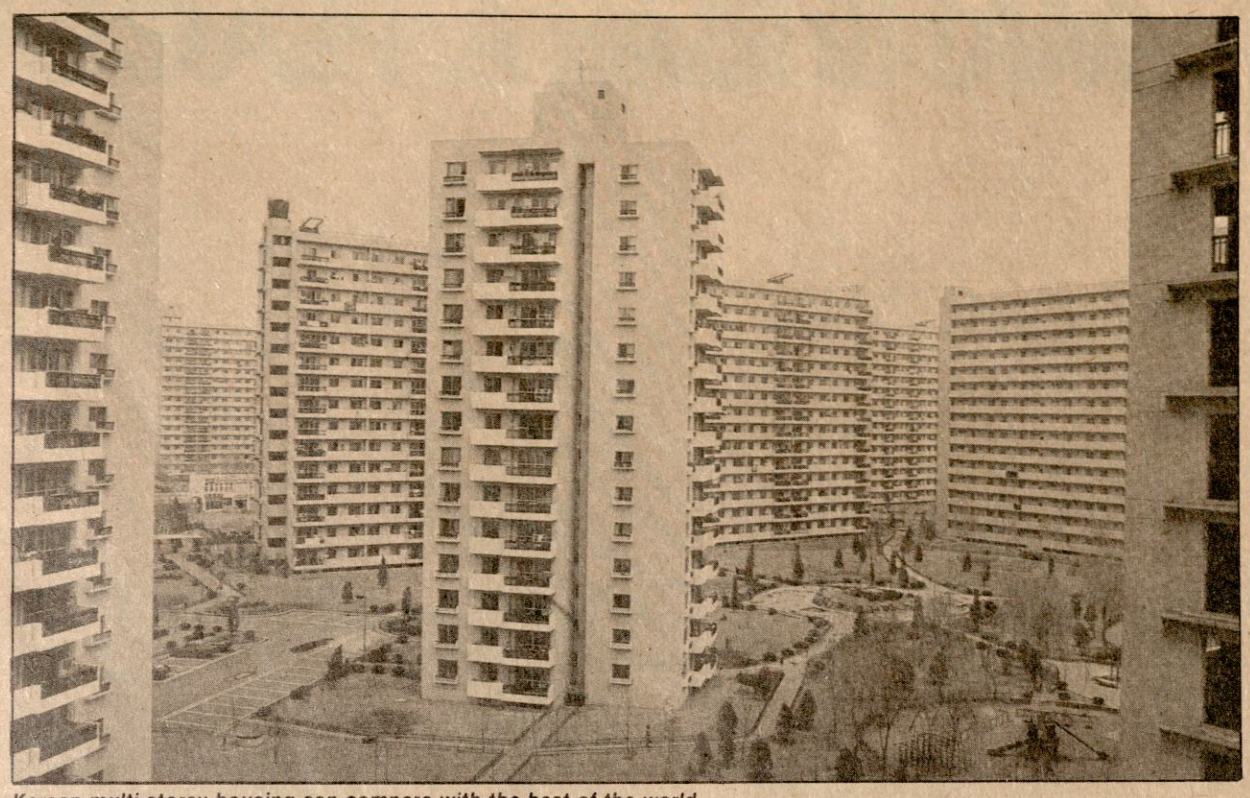



*Mayor Simon appoints Cora Yellen as OC*

OFFICIAL REPORT

# Despite some hustles, trade mission brings home 'bacon'

By Mel Festejo



*Korean multi-storey housing can compare with the best of the world*

A. BACKGROUND

1. Objectives of the Mission

Given the combined private sector-government participation in the mission, the goals of the project may best be summarized as follows:

a. To identify trade and investment opportunities;
b. To project Quezon City as potential base for foreign investments.

2. Preparation for the Trade Mission

The project was organized under the auspices of Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The airline and hotel bookings were handled by a travel agency. The business meetings were arranged through the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Commercial/Trade attache of the Bureau of Foreign Trade assigned in Seoul, Tokyo and Taipei. There were also some personal contacts who arranged for some meetings.

3. Participation in the Mission

Six (6) members of QCCCI and four (4) city government officials joined the mission. They are:

Manuel J.S. Peña, QCCCI President
Atty. Tolomeo Ligutan, QC-CCI Past President
Mr. Elias Cipriano, QCCCI 1st Vice-President
Mr. Larry Yu, QCCCI Member
Mr. Eugenio Daza, QCCCI Member
Ms. Teresita Rojas, QCCCI Member
Hon. Guillermo Altuna, City Councilor
Hon. Emilio Tamayo, City Councilor
Hon. Dante Liban, City Councilor
Mr. Emilio Festejo

B. DETAILED ITINERARIES

B.1. Seoul

The team met with some members of the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Korean companies represented were:

a. Construction Companies:
Shinwha Construction and Engineering Co.
Samsha Corporation
Hanil Development Co., Ltd.
You One Construction Co., Ltd.
b. Trading/Other Companies:
Namyangsa Co., Ltd. (Food Processing)
Big Star Business Corp. (Aluminum)
Filkor Business Integrated Inc.

A group presentation was made by the team. Private interests of the QCCCI members and an overview of Quezon City and its economic development intentions were expounded on. Afterwards, individual one-on-one discussions were made between interested counterparts.

The following day, the QCCCI group paid a courtesy call on the Philippine Ambassador. The City Officials proceeded to Inchon to visit three factories: two small and one medium-scale industry. The small companies were Nam Ching Co., Ltd. and an affiliate company, both manufacturing piano wire and metal parts. The medium-scale company is Young Chang Akki Mfg. Co., Ltd., the largest piano manufacturer in Korea.

(Cont'd on p. 7)



BY FROILAN C. ANTONIO

# City Hall's chief nemesis

The just concluded seminar-workshop on planning and budgeting opened the eyes of so many participants to the importance of dialogue during the sectoral moduling. Discussions were so intense and serious that co-modulers **Bert Seno** of BOC (Barangay Operations Center), **Rudy Alcantara** of CRO (Community Relations Organization and **Micky Perez** of YWC (Youth Welfare Council) unloaded some of their planned special projects next year on the backyard of PAISO (Public Affairs and Information Services Office). What I mean is they were just too glad to ease their load of information activities which we similarly accepted as a challenge. But guys, have you tried peeping at the final pie after going through Budget? **Johnny Ortiz** sure can really make a good surgeon!

• • • • •

**Ever since I wrote in the first issue that we are accomplishing our objectives and goals despite the smelly toilets, etc., the comfort room at the 3rd floor now smells like anaesthetic and the walls and floors ever clean and spic and span. Hurray to the diminutive janitress who's responsible for this welcome change.**

• • • • •

Tardiness is still our No. 1 nemesis at City Hall. Try visiting the various offices at 8:30 and chances are a good three-fourths of the staff are still not around. And don't try coming in at 7:30 a.m. or earlier. Chances are you'll get cramps waiting for a good 30 minutes at least before the staff with the key arrives. And you bet that come 5 p.m. this same guy will be the first to disappear.

• • • • •

**And going back to the Tagaytay seminar-workshop, one of the guys who served as rapporteur got so engrossed at rapporteuring that he nearly demolished the cement wall separating our rooms after endless rounds of beer.**

• • • • •

*The 49th Foundation Day "Baliksaya" celebration was a roaring success despite attempts by the usual saboteurs to sabotage the project. One guy complained about not getting tickets for the "Parangal '88" at Philippine Plaza when complimentary tickets were a-plenty if only he knew how to get them.*

• • • • •

**To ensure that rain would not dampen the "Kiti-Kitihan sa QC" on Timog Avenue during the week-long Foundation Day celebration, we offered a dozen eggs to St. Claire and lo and behold, a full day before the event the sun came out a-shining. Thanks St. Claire. We really needed that.**

• • • • •

City executives will be flocking to Cebu City for a fellowship meeting preparatory to tackling serious issues in Calbayog. A word of warning to our hizzoners: Don't get **"inday-gestion!"**

# Children dump war toys in peace rally

Children in Quezon City have signified their protest against all forms of violence recently when they buried war toys and petitioned media to cut down on programs showing too much and unnecessary violence.

Spearheading the campaign were 2,000 schoolchildren, parents and teachers of PWU-JASMS in Quezon City during a program and unfolded peace tapestry and release pigeons and balloons as peace symbols. This was aside from having a poster exhibit and listening to peace messages from Mayor Brigido R. Simon, Jr., Dr. Leticia de Guzman of PWU and Dr. Renato Constantino, Jr. who represented the parents.

In his brief remarks during the program, Mayor Simon stressed the need to instill in the young the value of peace as against the adverse effects of violence.

"With the barrage of media productions that almost always contain excessive violence, it is high time that we act to contain the problem and spare our children the lingering effects of this persistent menace," the Mayor told the youthful audience.

Inspired by the global peace program initiated by the World Association for Orphans and Abandoned Children based in Geneva, Switzerland, students from both schools drafted a Peace Program that highlighted the bad effects of exposing children to violence in mass media particularly television programs during prime time and urged children to stop buying and playing with war toys.

For her part, Mrs. Luciano said that "schools are seeking alliance with mass media as effective allies in the fight against war toys and violence."

At the same time, she praised Mayor Simon for his deep concern over the long-lasting effects of violence.

# City mayors not in favor of bill cutting film tax

The League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) through its president, Quezon City Mayor Brigido R. Simon, Jr., has registered vehement objection to House Bill No. 13682 which seeks to reduce the amusement tax on theater admission from 30% to 15%.

Mayor Simon, in his letter to House Speaker Ramon V. Mitra, pointed out that "such reduction will drastically reduce the revenue of local government units. As a result, Mayor Simon pointed out that local governments may be constrained to cut down on their development plans and scrimp on the delivery of basic social services.

The proposed bill states that taxes in the motion picture industry make up a full 42% of the total production costs. This, according to the sponsors of the bill, practically makes the film industry "moribund" and incapable of producing quality films.

(Cont'd on p. 7)

# QC 'Facts & Figures' for '89 off press soon

The QC Public Library, in coordination with the Public Affairs Information Services Office, Cultural and Tourism Affairs Office and the Assistant Secretary to the Mayor, is now in the final stage of completing the second issue of the QC FACTS, FIGURES & DIRECTORY '89.

This is a handbook of information consisting of two parts. The first part covers Quezon City as a whole, while the second will be a business directory where it lists all the principal business establishments in Quezon City.

This handbook will be a very good reference because it will include, among other things, QC's history, statistics, geographical location, map, significant events that happened in QC, places of interest and landmarks, population since 1960 to present, population by districts, outstanding accomplishments of each Mayor, mobility, all the past officials, present city officials, national government offices, military headquarters, educational institutions, social services, sport/recreational facilities, past and present QC hymns, seal and many, many more.

Hon. Eduardo F. David, City Councilor has solicited books and other publications for the Quezon City Public Library. Through his friend, Atty. Jojo Ma. Lacson, the Central Law Book Publishing Co., Inc. donated a total of ninety-seven (97) law books last August 25, 1988. This donation will update and increase the inadequate collection of law literature and this will also benefit the countless researchers of the City Library.

## Congress . . . (from p. 1)

stitutionalizing city government — business sector linkages for development and human resource development.

Earlier, Mayor Simon met with Quezon City presidents and officers of various business and industry associationsl and briefed them on his administration's plans to tap the help and cooperation of the private sector in implementing the city government's growth thrusts, at the same time, consult them with regards to the impact of projects.

The landmark event will be a whole-day event. For particulars, interested participants are advised to call Tel. 996-261 for more information and details.

## First of 66 areas for development (APD)

# MANRESA: A PLACE W

Everytime something different, something unusual, something historic emerges, the birth turns out to be painful, at times, discouraging but with its creators intent on pushing the idea or the project and despite the difficulties and countless obstacles sooner or later success is achieved.

This seems to be the case with the Manresa Area for Priority Development Project (APD) that initially blazes the trail towards a unique housing scheme primarily intended for the lowly squatters or what we now euphemistically call as *the urban poor.*

Yes, the squatters get *special priority in Mayor Jun Simon's administration and knowing perhaps that this will* be a clear achievement for the youthful mayor in case he succeeds, his political opponents, who seem to forget that the mayoral election was finished last January 1988, have been putting all sorts of obstructions and abnoxious harassments to prevent him from implementing such humanistic program.

This became evident when about a month ago, trouble plagued the Manresa project as professional squatters tried to exert their authority and influence by battling demolition squads sent to clear out their illegally constructed shanties right smack in Phase One of the project.

What happened actually was as an initial move to finally kick off the historic project, by having the shanty owners in Phase One temporarily relocated to another area within the 2.6-hectare property to allow construction to start.

But knowing how red tape haunts bureaucracy, it was some time before the Quezon City government managed to get hold of the necessary funds to finance Phase One and during that hiatus, professional squatters constructed their shanties in that same area and staked their illegal claims.

The beneficiaries of Phase One and who were then temporarily relocated in another area within the Manresa compound were part of a 500-family list of legitimate and future lot owners who made it into the official census conducted by the City government even before the February 1986 revolution.

Thus, it was then expected that people who failed to make the official census tried to gatecrash. This then explains



**"Manresa serves as the centerpiece of Mayor Simon's social justice program. He is determined to push the program for Areas for Priority Development (APDs) despite intense flak from several sectors who are out to torpedo his mass-based project which is the first of its kind in the country".**

shanties in Phase One.

It was just incumbent then for QC Hall to demolish these shanties to give way for Phase One. Initially, the demolition came out fine and implemented peacefully but "imported" goons hired by a professional squatter who former-

Dagat-Dagatan started trouble by throwing stones, pillboxes, and darts to the demolition crew who were left with no alternative but to protect their lives from the unexpected onslaught.

In fact, the rabble-rousing was so intense that a police

of the demolition crew was kidnapped by the squatters that needed an all-out assault by the police to rescue their comrade.

It was during the unnecessary melee that one died and several were wounded on both

vantage of the situation and trumpeted the alleged "human rights" violations committed. A Senate committee conducted a thorough investigation where City Hall executives gave their side and eventually won the plaudits of the committee members who finally saw the actual humanistic side of City Hall.

In fact, the brazen and unlawful activities of the professional squatters who started the trouble were exposed and the go-signal was given not only by the Senate committee but also Malacañang to go on with the humanitarian project.

Now Manresa is about to witness the first turnover of one-storey and apartment-style houses by virtue of PD 1517, PD 2016 and Proclamation No. 1967 and a Memorandum of Agreement signed between QC Hall with NHA, HUDCC, PCUP and other government institutions.

All a family will shell out is a low, low ₱288 monthly for a one-storey unit which already contains adequate basic essential facilities such as road network development, greening, water and electricity.

The objective behind the Manresa APD project is to upgrade the living condition of the inhabitants, develop the area into a sanitary and livable community and provide homes at nominal cost to homeless and underprivileged residents of Quezon City," according to Noli R. Rivera, a civil engineer and City Hall's executive assistant for special projects.

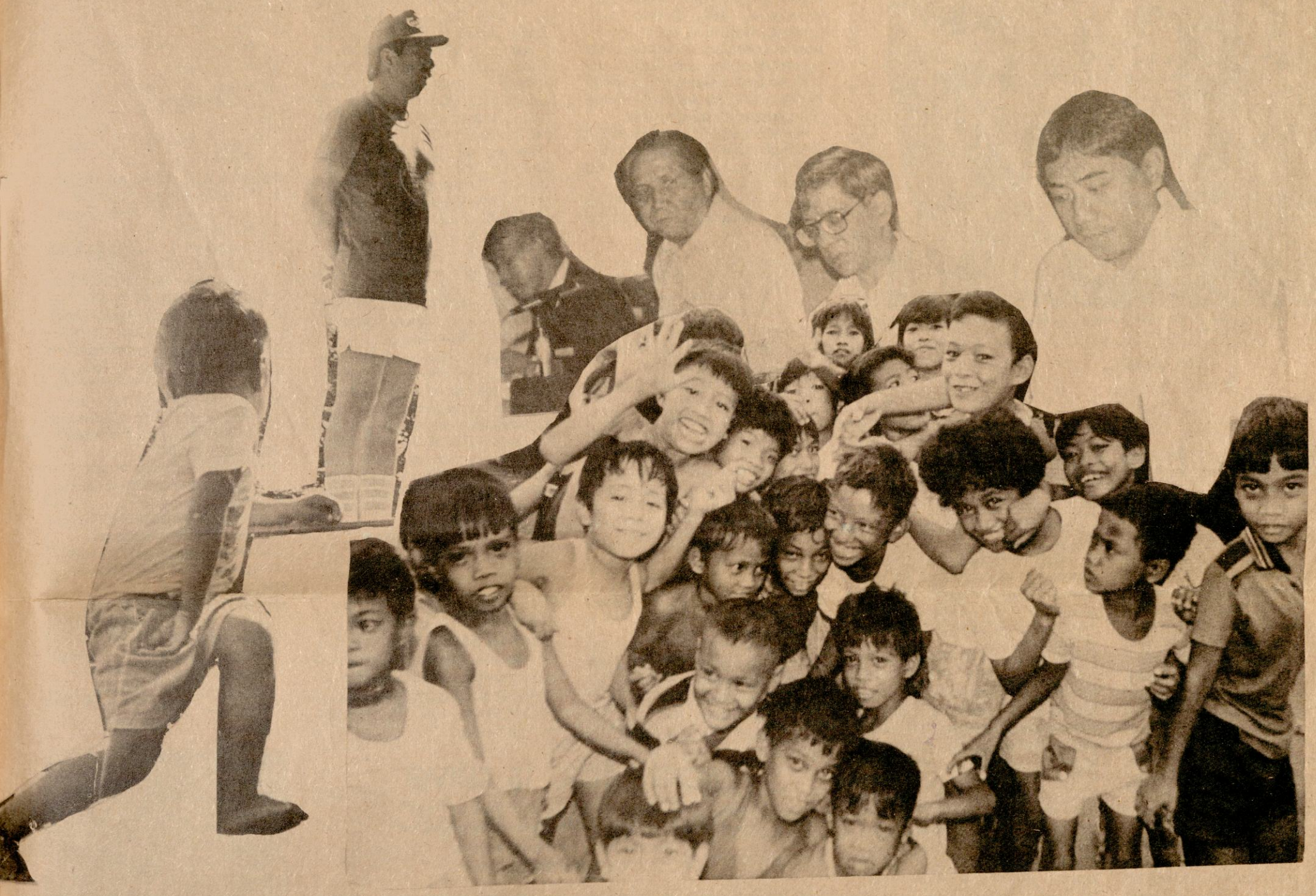
Mayor Simon personally tapped Rivera to head the project, with the proper assistance from the police and other social service agencies of City Hall in order to realize the final implementation of this landmark project.

And Rivera got his baptism of fire since working with City Hall as his one and only Beetle was set on fire by the enraged minions of the professional squatters. Asked to comment on this incident, Rivera nonchalantly replied that "everything is part and parcel of government service and which I fully expected when I accepted to run this project."

There were times when Mayor Simon got so frustrated with the heavy opposition put up against the project implementors that he was tempted to call in the army but prudence told him that this was not necessary.

Thus, a civilian security

# THOSE TIME HAS COME



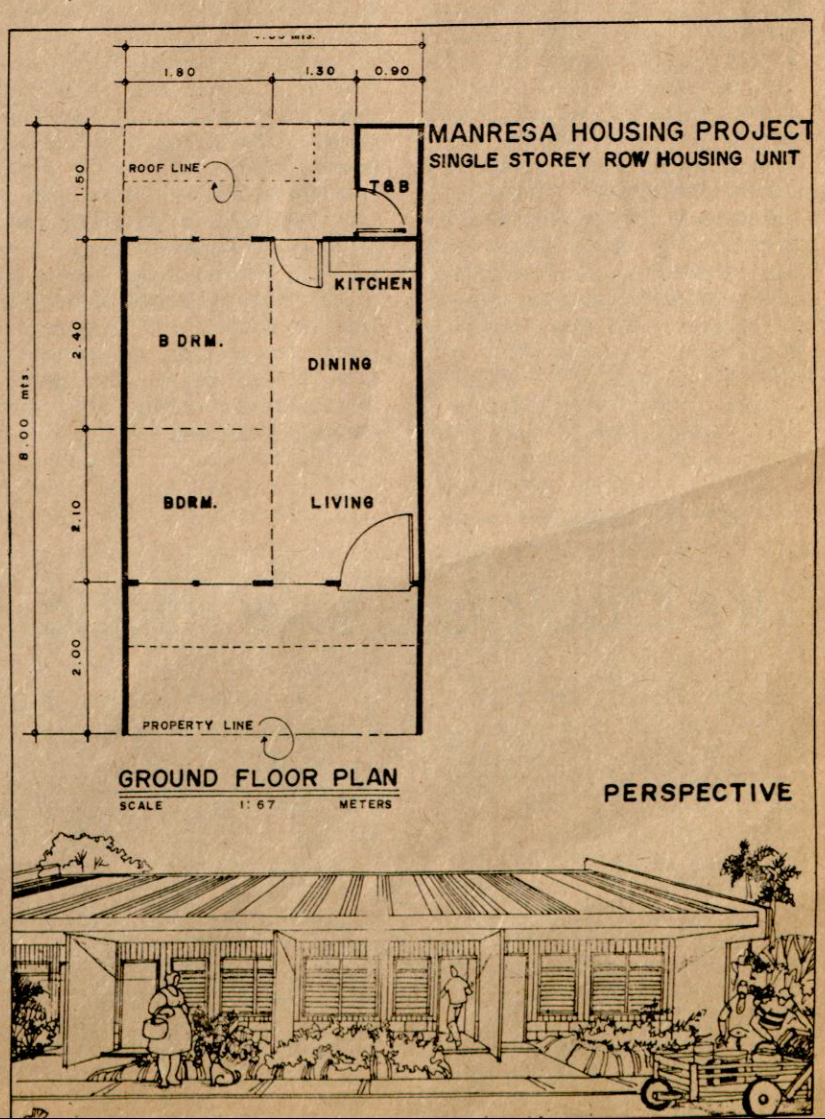
especially the on-going construction of houses and apartments on Phase One after goons continued to harass the construction crew.

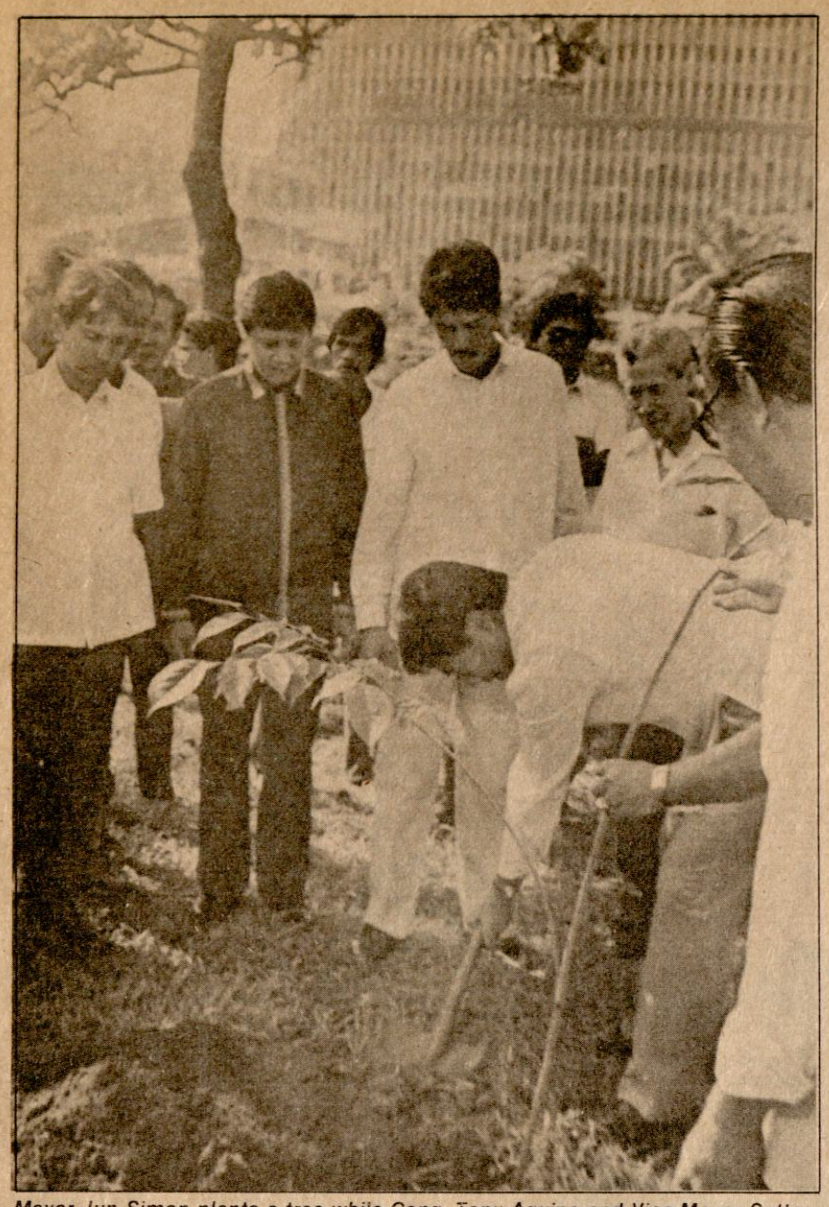
Any day now, the historic turnover of certificates of title to newly constructed and low-cost houses be performed by Mayor Simon and housing and financing officials of the national government for the benefit of some 60 beneficiaries of Phase One.

And who can resist the easy amortization plan of Manresa housing units when the most that a family will pay for the apartment-type will be a little over P300 monthly, with no downpayment and equity contribution to worry about.

Mayor Simon and his cast of city officials are intent on implementing the 66 APDs during the duration of his five-year term and after Manresa and its eventual 500 family-beneficiaries will come the Payatas APD project and so on until all the 66 APDs will see reality and the doubting Thomases among both QCity residents and non-residents finally be convinced about the sincerity and dedication of their City Hall officials.







*Mayor Jun Simon plants a tree while Cong. Tony Aquino and Vice-Mayor Sotto look on.*

GREENING

# 1-M trees in 5 years

*Five years from now Quezon City will be as envisioned by its founder, the great Manuel L. Quezon, who dreamed of a* capitol city that has no pollutants and environmental problems like factories in an area that encompasses Marikina and Montalban.

This was the gist of the short remarks delivered by Mayor Jun Simon during the launching of the Quezon City "greening" project that aims at planting one million trees in five years time.

The launching of the project that involves just about every sector from businessmen to schoolchildren and civic organizations. Unlike other tree-planting programs in the past, the Quezon City government's project assures "lifetime" survival of the trees by awarding its planter a certificate that not only makes him the "owner" of the tree but with the responsibility to take care of it "for life."

For a continued supply of tree samplings, the launching ceremony witnessed the signing of a memorandum of agreement between the city government represented by Mayor Simon and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) that was represented by Regional Technical Director and Officer-in-Charge of the National Capital Region Renato Pelayo.

Two months later, Mayor Simon *repeated the ritual by leading in the planting of some 2,000 trees in main thoroughfares, schools, parks and other public places in* Quezon City during the fifth day of celebration of the recently concluded 49th Foundation Day of Quezon City.

Though the day proved to be rainy and windy due to the effects of a typhoon up north, Mayor Simon led members of civic organizations like the Rotary Club, Knights of Columbus and Lions Club in planting trees along main streets as Roces Avenue, North Avenue and Kalayaan Avenue.

In other places of the city on that same day, there were simultaneous planting of trees in parks, with each park being planted with 20 narra samplings with the aid of enthusiastic Boy Scouts.

"Today's greening activity will kick off a sustained activity of tree planting for the next five years, particularly next year when Quezon City will be celebrating its Golden Jubilee as a city," Mayor Simon told newsmen covering the historic event.

"Thus, it is incumbent upon us to rally behind the call of the late Manuel Quezon and realize his life-time dream of making Quezon City, our city, the 'green city' of the country," the city executive added.

CITY ENGINEER

# It's Cabigao, says Hilario

Nescito Hilario, Quezon City Attorney, announced that City Engineer Norberto Cabigao remains in his position contrary to reports published that he has been allegedly replaced by an appointee of President Aquino.

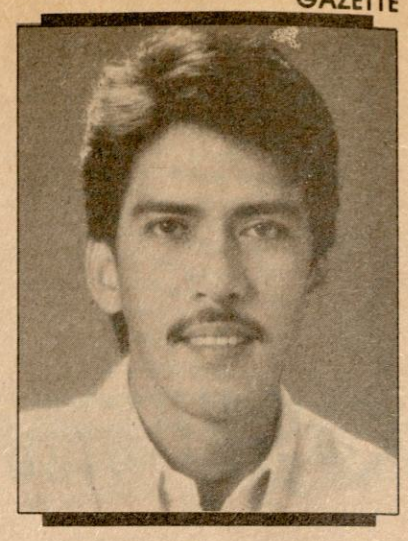
Hilario said in a press statement that the appointment of a certain Jesus Reyna was as city engineer of Quezon City in the Department of Public Works and Highways.

"This means that the position of Norberto Cabigao as City Engineer has not been affected and Only the mayor can appoint the City Engineer," Hilario added.

The controversy occurred when Reyna was appointed city engineer and was reported by various newspapers that he was replacing Cabigao.

"I had plans of filing a quo warranto in court to stop Reyna's assumption of the position as city engineer but it turned out the letter from Malacañang was clear and that it only referred to his being appointed as city engineer of Quezon City in the DPWH," Hilario concluded.

# Getting to know Vice-Mayor Vicente Sotto III



During the last local election period, it was speculated that a T.V. personality will never make it as a public official. But ever since February this year, Vice-Mayor Vicente C. Sotto III has been proving that he is worthy of his elected position. With practically no experience as a public official, he took the position with the policy to "give services to the constituents of Quezon City."

He took his oath of office at the City Hall together with Mayor Brigido R. Simon, Jr. in the morning of February 2, 1988.

The Office of the Vice-Mayor handles different programs as follows:

1. Livelihood
   a) Holding seminars in barangays about food, cottage industry and backyard gardening and piggery dispersal.
2. Sports Development
   a) Supports sports projects in Quezon City.
   b) Holds several tournaments.
   c) Golf, chess, basketball, volleyball, bowling, marathon and boxing
3. Anti-Drug Abuse
   a) QCADAC — Quezon City Anti-Drug Abuse Council Chairman — Vice-Mayor Vicente C. Sotto III
4. Legislative and Urban Affairs

As Presiding Officer of the Quezon City Council, he set up the Legislative and Urban Affairs Division, headed by Atty. Engracio M. Icasiano, which is the alter-ego of the Vice-Mayor as far as legislative, legal, and political matters and functions are concerned. Likewise, it also serves as Secretariat;

Set up the Public Affairs Unit to bring the Office of the Vice-Mayor closer to the people. This office unit serves indigents of Quezon City and is the Public Relations Office of the Vice-Mayor in coordination with the various public and private agencies in Quezon City;

Elected as President of the National Capitol Region's Vice-Mayors League, then overwhelmingly elected as the President of the League on August 7, 1988 at the Camelot Hotel;

In constant coordination with Mayor Brigido R. Simon, Jr., he assists the City Mayor in the maintenance of peace and order in Quezon City through constant communication; and

Although hounded by his hectic schedules, he still finds the time to attend council meetings, receives government and private officials, visitors aside from his usual official appointments. Not entirely having show business, he still can prove that he is worthy being called as public servant.

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

NAME:
**VICENTE 'Tito' SOTTO III**

DATE OF BIRTH:
August 24, 1948

PLACE OF BIRTH:
Quezon City

CIVIL STATUS:
Married to Helen Gamboa with whom he has 3 daughters and a son

PRESENT ADDRESS:
No. 2 Greystone St., White Plains
Quezon City

EDUCATION:

ELEMENTARY:
Ateneo de Manila (1954-1960)

HIGH SCHOOL:
San Juan de Letran (1960-1964)

COLLEGE:
San Juan de Letran (1964-1968)

PROFESSIONAL ATTAINMENTS
- — Former Board Member of Araullo University, 1971-1975
- — President, Magallanes Bowling Association, 1975
- — Vice-President, Vicor Music Corporation, 1976-1981
- — President, Ham Radio Philippines, Inc., 1984
- — Presently Vice-President for Special Projects — Television and Production Exponents, Inc.
- — President and General Manager of Tasha Recording Studio
- — Consultant, Sports and Cultural Affairs, Araullo University
- — Multi-Awarded Composer and Record Producer
- — Multi-Titled Bowling Champion

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION/BACKGROUND
- — Son of the first Philippine Medical Commissioner Com. Herminia Castelo Sotto, M.D.
  Grandson of the late Senator Vicente Sotto

# 'Mad Max' is alive and fighting in QC

**By Leo Paras**

Barangay San Roque is one of the most thickly populated barangays in Quezon City's third district.

Its closeness to Camp Aguinaldo, the general headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, may be endangering the lives and properties of its more than 55,000 inhabitants but they have learned to live with this situation.

In fact the inhabitants actually learned how to crawl under their beds for cover during the "tora-tora" bombing which rocked the whole military camp on August 28, 1987. Whew!

Thank God, nobody was hurt among the residents during the siege.

But of course, there were a few who came from other barangays were not as lucky at EDSA when they chose to go out from their houses instead of staying in doors under their beds while the attack and counter-attack were in progress.

**Sumalangit nawa ang kanilang kaluluwa.**

It is not surprising then if they now want the AFP general headquarters and Camp Crame to be relocated somewhere outside Metro Manila, say, to Clark Airbase in Pampanga?

Barangay San Roque has a total land area of 66.5 hectares. Its creation as Barrio San Roque was enacted into law by the City Council on March 4, 1963, which was presided by then Vice-

The boundaries were defined as follows: North — Aurora Boulevard; South — Boni Serrano Avenue (formerly Santolan Road); East — 20th Avenue, Diego Silang Street, Jose Rizal Street up to Kamias Creek; and, West — 15th Avenue.

Since then, Barangay San Roque has established five institutions of learning, namely, the Republican College, Juan Sumulong High School, Aguinaldo Elementary School, Doña Josefa Elementary School and Camarilla Elementary School.

It has a public market, a 30-bed Lying-In center, a police detachment and, oh yes, a Catholic Church where the NAMFREL set up their station during the last local elections to monitor more than 19,000 voters who cast their ballots.

Probably, this is the only barangay in the Philippines wherein all the enumerated above could be found together.

To mention a few more business establishments, there are three gasoline stations, four modern townhouses, a publishing house, several restaurants and discos and a funeral parlor from which taxes are collected to finance City Government's social services.

Thus, San Roque Barangay Captain Ermelo "Mad Max" Maximo stressed his desire to make his Barangay one of the most, if not the best, in Quezon City and also in the entire Philip-



*Barangay captain Maximo with Mayor Simon*

As he was recently designated as one of the 24 Area Monitoring Officers (AMO) of Quezon City, Captain "Mad Max" is now concentrating on an effective and efficient anti-crime drive not only in his barangay but also his assigned area-of-responsibility (AOR) which comprises eight barangays.

These are Barangays San Roque, Tagumpay, Mangga, Dioquino Zobel, Masagana, Bayanihan, Villa Maria Clara and Milagrosa.

His program is in consonance with the City Government's program of finding ways and means to deliver basic services to all levels, particularly the barangay level.

Going back when he was appointed Barangay Captain of San Roque on January 1987 by Mayor Junsy who was still then the OIC, Captain "Mad Max" took the courage to achieve the desired changes and reforms expected from him by the Mayor, especially in the social, economic and political structures of the barangay.

His first course of action in

## Landmark . . .

(Cont'd from p. 1)

illegal entrants, provision of security of tenure leading to land ownership and rational and equitable system of prioritization or ranking for beneficiary selection.

At the same time, Mayor Simon stressed the need to formulate and adopt a uniform system and policies on beneficiary selection and lot disposition due to "the magnitude and complexities of said APDs, aside from the constraints arising from limited resources and planning considerations."

As part of the City government's APD program, Mayor Simon cited the case of Manresa where his administration is currently implementing the first of 66 APDs at low-cost housing and lot amortizations monthly. The mayor revealed that after some unfortunate incidents that occurred during the demolition period and which were due to the machinations of professional squatters, the city government finally has succeeded in implementing its APD in Manresa, with the first three houses almost finished.

## Calbayog . . .

(Cont'd from p. 1)

converting all the fifth-class and sixth-class provinces and cities to the level of fourth-class provinces and cities for them to enjoy equal privileges, more particularly with respect to administrative and statutory aids, financial grants and other forms of assistance to local governments amending for the purpose Section 1 or Executive Order No. 249.

It will not be all work, however, for the City Executives. There will be a Fellowship Party in Cebu City where they will be billeted throughout the course of the two-day affair. Other itineraries were still being finalized during press time but everyone of the city mayors look forward to a relaxing respite from the burdens of everyday work at City Hall.

## Simon-Sotto . . .

(Cont'd from p. 1)

being waged in publications.

For instance, not content with their already-bloating losses in terms of votes, Planas and Sarmiento have waged an all-out press barrage against Mayor Simon, alleging graft committed in City Hall transactions but which have been point-by-point reputed and now a pending case at the Commission on Audit.

But Planas and Sarmiento finally got their comeuppance when three weeks ago the Comelec finally counted the contested 54 precincts and 44 of the returns showed Mayor Simon leading Planas by 3,384 votes to 3,105 votes while Vice-Mayor Sotto trounced Sarmiento with 4,482 votes to only 1,404 votes for the latter.

The counting was directed by the Supreme Court after Planas and Sarmiento petitioned the High Court to do so. Thus, the Special Board of Canvassers of the Comelec conducted the counting but didn't finish the ten remaining uncanvassed returns considering that the ten unlocated election returns will no longer affect the vote-lead of Mayor Simon and Vice-Mayor Sotto.

This only proved the previous claim of Mayor Simon and Vice-Mayor Sotto that a canvass of the contested 54 returns will only widen their vote-lead over their election rivals who until now cannot admit their loss in the last elections in Quezon City, lawyer Romulo Makalintal said.

"The results of this canvass, therefore," according to Makalintal who argued the case on behalf of Mayor Simon and Vice-Mayor Sotto, "confirmed Mayor Simon's claim that the said 54 uncanvassed returns will no longer affect his and Sotto's proclama-

## Baliksaya . . .

(Cont'd from p. 1)

Replying to charges, Mayor Simon said that in the case of the "Kiti-Kitihan sa Quezon City," expenses were shouldered by the San Miguel Corp. and other establishments in the city such as McDonald's and others in the form of voluntary contributions.

In the case of the Foundation Day Race, again these were shouldered by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes, the Manila Jockey Club and such companies as Concrete Aggregates and others, the Mayor explained.

For the "Miss Quezon City" contest, again the Mayor explained that expenses were shouldered by the Quezon City Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the expenditures being mentioned were not incurred by the city government.

The only possible city government expenses with regards to the contest, added Mayor Simon, will be the salaries to be paid to the winners of the contest who will serve as ambassadress of goodwill during the Golden Jubilee celebration next year on a contractual basis. So far, however, this hasn't been implemented yet, the Mayor said.

With regards to the "Parangal '88" contest, the Mayor explained that the expenses came from contributions of employees and which were spent on plaques and commendations given to retiring city hall employees, aside of course on the dinner served during the affair at Philippine Plaza Corp.

For the basketball game at the Araneta Coliseum, San Miguel again acted as sponsor and whatever proceeds from the game were to be donated to charity.

Assuring the residents of Quezon City, Mayor Simon said that as usual his political opponents have again resorted to "trial by publicity," speculations and innuendoes and added that every expense in the Foundation Day celebration came from private donations.

## Film Tax . . .

(Cont'd from p. 3)

"We do not agree with this view," Mayor Simon said, speaking on behalf of the League. "Indeed, we believe that the local film industry is far from moribund and is in fact progressing at a healthy pace," he added.

Mayor Simon said that in Quezon City alone, the amusement tax has increased from ₱21.98M in 1985 to ₱34.81M in 1986 and to ₱45.48M in 1987.

He revealed that there are 12 moviehouses in various stages of completion and scheduled to open before the end of the year in addition to the 47 moviehouses now in operation.

Mayor Simon further commented: "This is substantiated in the national level by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) which can attest that the number of registered film producers and moviehouses has progressively increased from 30 in 1985 to 22 in 1986 and 122 in 1987.

Under the Local Tax Code, local autonomy can be guaranteed and enhanced only by enabling the local government units to exploit fully their taxing and other revenue-raising power, the City Executive elaborated.

Furthermore, Mayor Simon said that the League had prioritized in their agenda the pursuit of local autonomy. He believes that the passage of the proposed bill reducing amusement tax on admission would only negate the constitutional provision granting autonomy to local governments particularly in the field of taxa-

## Trade Mission . . .

(Cont'd from p. 3)

The site of these factories is an industrialized city where the seaport is located. The factories are located in a large industrial area bounded by the residential buildings.

B.2. TOKYO

The team met with various overseas department managers of NISSHO IWAI and MARUBENI CORP., two of the largest Sogo Shosha's of Japan. Both companies have branch offices in the Philippines and are already engaged in trade with Philippine business companies. After brief introductions by the Philippine group, the members split into sub-groups for private discussions with the different department managers. Generally, they were receptive of the plans of the Quezon City Government and the infrastructure programs being contemplated in support of the economic development program of the City.

B.3. TAIPEI

The group visited the Taipei's Import Fair Organized by the China Economic Trade Development Council (CETRA) for developing countries. Approximately 30 countries participated in the fair, among which was the Philippines. CETRA also sponsored seminars on trade and investment policies of Taiwan and the program on industrial estates. These seminars were attended by the group. Meeting with the General Chamber of Commerce of Taiwan and the Taipei Imports/Exports Association. Both meetings were conducted on a very general level where only brief introductions and pleasantries were exchanged. The final meeting in Taipei was a dinner hosted by Senator Huang Yuh-Ming (who is also the head of the Chinese-Filipino Culture Cooperation Association) and also attended by Senators Chua Bun Khiok (representative of Filipino Overseas Chinese) and Teng-Lih-Hour.

C. RESULTS OF BUSINESS/OFFICE MEETING

C.1. SEOUL, KOREA

The meeting with the Korean Chamber was marked by significant interests shown by the Korean counterparts in the proposed infrastructure projects and industrial estate being contemplated. In particular, the construction companies also showed interest in the house program that may be developed by the City Government. At least three businessmen showed interest in locating the manufacturing facilities in Quezon City provided the infrastructure and facilities, as promised already exist.

To be continued)

## Korea

(Cont'd from p. 1)

ity. Almost all of the sidewalks I've walked on were made out of concrete blocks or tiles installed on sand bedding. In the business district, decorative tiles cemented in place dominate. Elsewhere, concrete tiles just sit on the sand bed, waiting to be easily lifted out in case of breakage or when new installations have to be made (as we are wont to do in the Philippines).

Trees are a-plenty, suggesting that they were always an integrated part of every road, curb and sidewalk construction. So unlike the Philippines where we have to uproot a tree just so we can build our roads.

The people are a serious lot, reminding one of Tokyo where people always walk in a brisk pace as if damning the necessary act as a distraction from their work. The walk is so different from the languid stroll of Filipinos, who seem to be perenially in a relaxed mood.

Yes, we find sidewalk vendors and eateries. But the way they engaged in their business and manage to keep their surroundings still so clean makes one think they have made cleanliness an art, and not just an ingrained habit.

On the day I left Seoul, the papers bannered an anxious story on how the economy slumped in July — to just over 9% growth. And to think that we once made so much fuss over a 0.6% growth just recently. I kept looking for political stories, those that told of intrigues, squabbles and other sordid tales that an average newsreader in the Philippines gets a daily dose of for entertainment. I was so disappointed. The newspaper was so staid, hardly any of the by-lined articles and columns telling of alleged- this or alleged- that.

For one fleeting moment, I thought of one strategy to make the Philippines the center for progress in Asia. I'd propose that we export our politicians, bureaucrats, mediamen and workers in one package to the four dragons of Asia, where they will spend the flames of all things Filipino. And then, I'll watch the fire of these dragons sputter into a tiny flame which the slightest wind of politicians' whims can

## Congress

(Cont'd from p. 1)

stitutionalizing city government — business sector linkages for development and human resource development.

Earlier, Mayor Simon met with Quezon City presidents and officers of various business and industry associationsl and briefed them on his administration's plans to tap the help and cooperation of the private sector in implementing the city government's growth thrusts, at the same time, consult them with regards to the impact of projects.

The landmark event will be a whole-day event. For particulars, interested participants are advised to call Tel. 996-261 for more information and details.

## SB 756

(Cont'd from p. 1)

reasons behind his all-out support for SB 756:

1) It removes the limit on the rate of change in the computation of internal revenue allotments to LGUs compared to PD 1741 which provides a maximum of 20% of national Internal Revenue taxes to be made available for national assistance to LGUs. At the same time, the annual allotment of any LGU shall not increase by more than 25% of, nor shall be less than, its actual allocation for the preceding year;
2) Abolishes mandatory contributions to such government entities as PC/INP, Health, Agriculture, COMELEC, etc.;
3) Cost of COA audit shall not be deducted from the 20% Internal Revenue allotment; and
4) 50% of local government allotment is spent for economic development projects.

Mayor Simon further said that under SB 756, the proposed measure sets aside 20% of the collection from IRA for LGUs. At the same time, he said that in terms of allocation, SB 756 sets aside 25% for provinces, 30% for cities, 30% for municipalities and 15% for barangays compared with 30% for provinces, 25% for cities and 45% for municipalities under PD 1741 and without any allocation for barangays.

Moreover, Mayor Simon said that barangays are emphasized under SB 756 with 50% distribution formula for population and 50% for equal sharing while this was not included under PD 1741.

## 'Mad Max'

(Cont'd from p. 6)

office was to convene the Barangay Council and passed a resolution for the immediate designation of qualified personnel to fill up all vacant positions in the Barangay, and likewise, formed a new set of Barangay Tanods dubbed as "The Mad Max Force."

Next, he studied all the problems that were besetting the community and planned for the resolution of the same.

Captain "Mad Max" was subjected to a test when he led the combined Police-Barangay Tanod team which tenaciously cleared 1st Camarilla Street, just beside the Murphy Public Market, from illegal vendors who were occupying the whole stretch of the street.

The street is now open to traffic.

Since then, the Captain was christened "Mad Max" due to his toughness in demolishing not only illegal structures on the streets, but also effecting the arrest of lawless elements.

As a reward for his toughness in implementing the law, he received several threats on his life from some disgruntled elements who were surely affected by his actions.

When asked what are the precautionary measures he has taken so far for his own safety with regard to the threats on his life, Captain "Mad Max" just shrugged his shoulders and wryly uttered — "God is my guardian."

**HATRED**

***Prov. 10:12 "Hatred is what stirs up contentions, but love covers over even all transgressions."***

## Miss Quezon City . . .

(Cont'd from p. 1)

**valedictorian** in high school, this tall seventeener and freshman in chemical engineering at UST, indeed, has a long way to go, especially with two understanding parents guiding her on the way up.

And it doesn't stop with astrophysics and astronomy. This girl can also sing! You only have to see Viva's latest blockbuster "Paano Tatakasan ang Bukas" to confirm why Councilor George Canseco chose her to sing the title song of the movie.

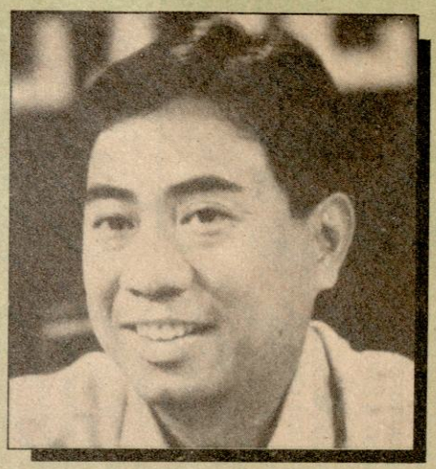
Why astronomy?

"Because the youth here seems to know everything about computers but they don't know anything about outer space when we are already in the space age," explains Jeanne.

Her dream is to help put up an institute of astronomy here after specializing on the subject in the U.S.

Meantime, boy friends can wait. This intelligent and smart teener has no time for dates. Instead she prefers to read, read and read especially psychology books, history, science-fiction and Agatha Christie thrillers.

# HIZZONER'S CORNER



We're all on our way to a hectic Golden Jubilee year after an experimental 49th Foundation Day celebration last Oct. 9-15 and which our detractors are again trying to belittle after its huge success.

Now these Tasmanian Devils are again on their naughty ways trying to denigrate a very successful week of frolic and fun by pointing out that the city government spent a fortune on the festivities.

What they cannot accept is how we were able to come out with so successful an affair despite lack of funds and with the city government depending only on the voluntary contributions of our corporate friends foremost of which was the ever benevolent San Miguel Corp.

From the Foundation Day Cup races at San Lazaro that was sponsored by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes and the Manila Jockey Club to the heavily attended mass in honor of the Virgin Mary at the Quezon Memorial Circle and the "Kiti-Kitihan sa QC" on Timog Avenue, there was no doubt that "Baliksaya" is the success of the year.

What was so painful for our detractors was how such a week-long party didn't spend the people's money, yet came out absolutely successful. This must have left them sleepless and mad!

Sorry, guys, better luck next time. With the residents of Quezon City fully backing our positive achievements, how can we possibly fail?

With the Golden Jubilee just around the corner, it is incumbent upon us in City Hall to live up to the high expectations of Quezon City residents no matter how our political opponents try to belittle our positive achievements.

It is incumbent to all of us not only in City Hall but in all nook and corner of every barangay to rally and join hands in solving our city's pesky problems: garbage, peace and order, squatting, housing and unemployment.

The Koreans are in town to pursue earlier-tackled investment opportunities in our city, with the Taiwanese just about to do the same.

Before we celebrate our Golden Jubilee in 1989, it is my fervent hope and prayer that all these problems will be finally licked in order to realize a megacity worthy of the dreams of Manuel Quezon.

Let us denounce the obnoxious politicking of a disgruntled few who resort to trial by publicity and headline grabbing to suit their selfish and filthy ends. Help me run the city by paying your taxes, respecting the law and instilling in our children the tried and tested moral values.

Help me achieve our dream city — Quezon City — the Golden City!