

Senator ZULUETA. This is only a question of clarification. Last year, the first time this bill was called for discussion in the Senate I happened to talk to Senator López and he told me he was agreeable and now he changes his mind.

Senator LÓPEZ. Last year when the distinguished gentleman from Iloilo talked to me regarding this bill, I answered him that I would have no objection because at that time our finances were still sound. Now, there is not enough money, and besides, only fools don't change their mind.

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman from Iloilo may proceed with his speech.

Senator LÓPEZ. Thank you, Mr. President. To show that this is class legislation, I want to read Section 3 of this bill, as follows:

"SEC. 3. When the Auditor General takes advantage of the provisions of this Act, he shall not be entitled to retire under Republic Act Numbered Six hundred and sixty, as amended, nor under any other retirement Act, but shall be entitled to the refund of his personal share in the retirement premiums paid to the Government Service Insurance System with the usual interest granted by the System."

Mr. President, this is a class legislation. This would give pension only to the Auditor General. We know many employees of the Government who will retire and they are not given this benefit. I am sure that my colleagues in the Senate will not approve this bill. This is only intended to give to a friend, that is, Auditor General Agregado. I know he has been lobbying for two or three days going from one office of the Senator to another so that this bill will be approved. So I think, Mr. President, that we should postpone the consideration of this bill or recommit it to the Committee on Finance for further study.

Senator PÚYAT. Mr. President, I have taken a good note of the remarks of the distinguished gentleman from Iloilo and precisely as I mention in my sponsorship, that I am preparing a series of amendments so that this bill will not be classified as a bill purporting to benefit an individual or a few individuals. The amendments will cover constitutional officials so that the purpose is, if the intention of the Constitution is to give these officials certain independence in their duties and act without fear or favor while they hold office thereby insuring their independence should they continue, so as not to place these officials in an embarrassing position after they shall have left their position. These amendments will take care of these officials for a limited time after they shall have ceased to hold their

positions, so that there is no doubt as to the intention of these amendments and to satisfy the gentleman from Iloilo, I will have these amendments mimeographed and distributed among the members of the Senate.

For this reason, I have no objection to postponing the discussion of this bill until tomorrow. What will the gentleman from Iloilo suggest, that we take it up next Monday? (*After a pause.*) The gentleman from Iloilo requests that it be set on Wednesday of next week, and I accede to his request.

MOCIÓN DE APLAZAMIENTO

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, I agree with the request to postponing this bill until Wednesday of next week because our calendar for Monday and Tuesday will be crowded.

The PRESIDENT. Is there any objection? (*Silence.*) The Chair hears none. The motion is carried.

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, I also ask that we postpone the consideration of Senate Bills 375 and 376 for Monday, April 16, for April 17, S. 438 and H. 3674.

The PRESIDENT. Is there any objection? (*Silence.*) The Chair hears none. Approved.

ORDEN ESPECIAL

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, I ask that we include in our calendar of business the following bills for consideration tomorrow April 13, H. No. 4238; 3449 for April 17; and 2676, the Electoral Code for April 18, 1956.

Senator TAÑADA. Mr. President, could we have a little more time for that House Bill No. 2676? That is a long bill.

The PRESIDENT. What time does Your Honor want?

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, this bill is calendared still for Wednesday. We are placing now the discussion of the budget which might be finished in the Lower House this week, then the tariff. We just begin anyway on the 18th. At any rate it will take us several days.

Senator TAÑADA. I would like to say that the bill is very voluminous. If we are going to do justice to the bill, we shall be given time.

Senator PRIMICIAS. We shall go on postponing consideration from day to day. At any rate it is a very long bill really. We will just start the ball rolling on Wednesday if we have time.

Senator TAÑADA. I just record my observation because it is unwise to set that bill on the 18th con-