approved in the House, and asks for the concurrence of the Senate. It appears here that the House has not acted on the Senate bill No. 332 which was approved during the last regular session. In view of the fact that these two bills cover the same matter and in order to expedite the proceedings, I ask that the House version be rejected by the Senate and that the Conference Committee previously appointed to confer with the corresponding Conference Committee of the House to iron out the differences continue as such.

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

Senator PRIMICIAS. The former Conference Committee for this bill was composed of Senators López, Montano and Peralta. Now Senator López has informed me that he would request that he be substituted by Senator Recto. I therefore request that the Conference Committee on the Land Tenure Bill be composed of Senators Montano, Recto and Peralta.

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

Senator PERALTA. Mr. President, will the Floor Leader answer a question with reference to the Conference Committee on the Land Tenure Bill?

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman from Pangasinán may yield, if he so desires.

Senator PRIMICIAS. With pleasure.

Senator PERALTA. May I know why the Democratic Party is not represented in the Conference Committee on the Land Tenure Bill?

Senator PRIMICIAS. The distinguished gentleman from Iloílo, Senator López, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture of the Senate, was the appointed Chairman of the Committee on Conference, but he has told me he was renouncing membership in favor of Senator Recto.

Senator PERALTA. In favor of Senator Recto? Do I understand therefore that the Democratic Party of the Senate renounces its right to be represented in the Conference Committee?

Senator PRIMICIAS. I should think that anyone can make his own conclusions on the request.

Senator PERALTA. I was led only to make these observations because of the vast importance of the Land Tenure Bill as affecting the peasantry and the economic future of our country. I really thought that the Democratic Party would want to have a say in the Conference Committee which would ultimately formulate the final form of this bill, but if the Democratic Party believes that it does not

want to participate, then I of course have nothing further to say on the matter.

Senator PRIMICIAS. I do not know, Mr. President, if the Democratic Party does not want, or wants, to participate. All I know is that the distinguished gentleman from Iloílo has expressed his confidence in the gentleman from Batangas that could adequately represent not only the interest of any party but the whole people of the Philippines.

Senator López. Mr. President, I want only to clarify why I have renounced to be member of the Conference Committee. In the first place, I am known as a land owner. I have vested interests as they call it. To be fair to everybody, I have given my place to a distinguished Senator like Senator Recto who does not own land.

Senator RECTO. I own much less than 500 hectares, Mr. President. In spite of the fact that I signified both to our Floor Leader and to the gentleman from Iloílo my acquiescence to taking his place in the Conference Committee, I think that my better judgment advises me not to accept any position in that Committee, and I would prefer that another Democrat be named in place of Senator López. I regret that I have to decline the gallant offer of the gentleman from Iloílo.

Senator LÓPEZ. Mr. President, I insist that it should be Senator Recto because Senator Recto has studied carefully this Land Tenure Bill, and Senator Recto being from Luzón, here in the affected area, I think he should be the one who could give a sound opinion regarding this Land Tenure Bill that is very important to our country, so that I insist that Senator Recto should take my place.

The PRESIDENT. He is already designated and unless we reconsider that, Senator Recto remains.

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, in view of the insistence of the gentleman from Iloílo, I ask that the appointment of Senator Recto be confirmed.

The PRESIDENT. Unless the Senate wants to sound the opinion of the members, if there is no objection, the appointment of Senator Recto is confirmed. (There was none.)

# SEGUNDA LECTURA Y CONSIDERACIÓN DEL S. NO. 383

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, I ask that we consider Senate Bill No. 383.

El Presidente. Está en orden la consideración del Proyecto de Ley Número 383 del Senado. Léase el proyecto.

El Secretario:

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION ONE OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED TWELVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIVE ENTITLED "AN ACT AMENDING

SECTION TWENTY-TWO HUNDRED AND NINE-TEEN AND ONE-HALF OF THE REVISED ADMIN-ISTRATIVE CODE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. The 6th paragraph of section 1 of Republic Act Numbered Twelve hundred forty-five is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The members of the barrio council shall hold office for one year or until their successors are duly elected and qualified. But in no case can he be re-elected for more than four consecutive terms, unless two years have elapsed from the expiration of his last term, in which case he shall again be eligible for election to any barrio office. They shall not receive any compensation or emolument of any kind. The municipal, provincial or national seats of government or for time spent during working days on legitimate barrio business, shall be reimbursed in a manner to be decided upon by the qualified voters of the barrio in a barrio meeting wherein at least three-fourths of the qualified voters are in attendance, or this matter may be entrusted to the council itself by a vote of three-fourths of the voters in attendance in the aforesaid barrio meeting."

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, the sponsor of Senate Bill No. 383 is the distinguished Acting Chairman of the Committee on Rural Development, the gentleman from Negros Occidental, Senator Locsin.

El Presidente. Tiene la palabra el caballero de Negros Occidental.

#### PONENCIA DEL SEN. LOCSIN

El Sen. Locsin. Señor Presidente y caballeros del Senado. Se trata de enmendar la Ley Número 1245 de la República, porque cuando el Proyecto de Ley Número 372 del Senado fue considerado y aprobado por la Cámara de Representantes durante las sesiones regulares pasadas, dicha Cámara de Representantes introdujo una enmienda al tercer párrafo del referido proyecto de ley, eliminando las siguientes palabras: "Provided, however, That expenses incurred by any member for necessary travel in going to or from." Dejando dicho párrafo sin esas palabras, no tendría significado y, por tanto, para corregir este defecto se debe eliminar también el resto del párrafo.

El Sen. Paredes. ¿Tendría objeción Vuestra Señoría a que adoptemos el mismo procedimiento que empleamos en relación con el proyecto de ley sobre los "Agrarian Courts"? Porque veo que varias de las disposiciones de la ley que se trata de enmendar podrán mejorarse.

El Sen. Locsin. Yo dejaría la decisión de eso en manos del distinguido Floor Leader.

The PRESIDENT. What does the Floor Leader say about the motion of the gentleman from Abra?

Senator PRIMICIAS. I do not have any objection, Mr. President, because, at any rate, the Proclamation of the President of the Philippines includes all amendments to Republic Act No. 1245.

### MOCIÓN PAREDES

Senator Paredes. Then, Mr. President, in order to save time and in order not to be charged with dilatory tactics, I would move that every member of the Senate who has any amendments should submit them in writing this morning, so that we will be able to report a substitute bill.

Senator PRIMICIAS. I believe, Mr. President, that the members of the Senate who would want to file amendments may do so now verbally according to the information I got.

Senator PAREDES. We will have to present a substitute bill. We have to prepare it. So, let us submit our amendments.

## SUSPENSIÓN DE LA SESIÓN

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, I ask for a suspension of the session for a few minutes.

The PRESIDENT. If there is no objection to the motion on the part of the Senate the session is suspended for a few minutes. (There was none.) Eran las 10:50 a.m.

#### REANUDACIÓN DE LA SESIÓN

Se reanuda la sesión a las 11:10 a.m.

The PRESIDENT. The session is resumed. The gentleman from Negros Occidental has the floor.

El Sen. LOCSIN. Señor Presidente, el Comité está dispuesto a considerar las enmiendas.

The PRESIDENT. We are in the period of amendments. The gentleman from Quezon may propose his amendments.

### ENMIENDAS TAÑADA

Senator Tañada. Mr. President, I would like to propose only two amendments as a part of the substitute bill. The first amendment pertains to the third paragraph of section 2219½ which reads:

"A voter who may not be able to attend the meeting may appoint a proxy in writing, who may cast his vote in his stead: *Provided*, however, That such proxy is also an eligible voter of the barrio in which the absentee voter is qualified to vote. The written authority granted to the proxy must be signed by the voter and by two witnesses who are eligible voters of the barrio, or if the voter is unable to write, the ones who will be present to vouch for the authority granted the proxy to vote for him at the barrio meeting held for the election of the barrio councilmen."

I propose, Mr. President, to delete this entire paragraph because voting by proxy is allowed only

with respect to corporations. With respect to voting as your right as a citizen and as your duty and obligation as a citizen, that cannot be delegated to any person.

Senator LOCSIN. The Committee accepts the amendment.

The PRESIDENT. If there is no objection on the part of the Senate, the amendment is approved. (There was none.)

Senator Tañada. The next amendment pertains to the fourth paragraph of section 2219½ which reads:

"Any qualified voter of the barrio of not less than twenty-five years of age and who may have the necessary training, experience and fitness for the position to which he may be elected regardless of political affiliation, is qualified to run for a seat in the barrio council,"

I move to amend this paragraph by changing the word "twenty-five" to "twenty-one."

Senator PERALTA. Mr. President, will the gentleman yield?

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman may yield, if he so desires.

Senator Tañada. Gladly, to the distinguished gentleman from Tárlac.

Senator PERALTA. Will the gentleman be able to give the Senate any justification why we permit the election of barrio councilmen and yet the voters of Quezon City are not allowed to vote for the city council, nor in Lipa City or Dagupan City?

Senator Tañada. Well, I think that is a question which should be answered by the top leaders of the Nacionalista Party, because I am with the distinguished gentleman from Tárlac when he says that the voters in Quezon City and the other cities he mentioned should be given the right to vote for mayor and the other elective officials in those cities.

Senator PERALTA. In other words, does not the gentleman agree with me that a bill which seeks to protect apparently local autonomy as far as the barrio is concerned is pure hypocrisy when it does not extend the same rights to intelligent voters in big cities like Quezon City?

Senator Tañada. I would not just call it hypocrisy but inconsistency.

Senator PERALTA. Inconsistency, I would admit that, Mr. President. I thank the gentleman from Quezon.

The PRESIDENT. What is the amendment of the gentleman from Quezon?

Senator TAÑADA. The amendment is about the age.

The PRESIDENT. What does the Committee say? Senator LOCSIN. Accepted, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Is there any objection on the part of the Senate? (Silence.) The Chair hears none. The amendment is approved.

Is there any other amendment?

### ENMIENDAS PAREDES

Senator Paredes. Mr. President, I submit as an amendment by substitution the following, and I would like to read it to the members of the Senate to be taken note of. The substitute bill that I would propose is this:

AN ACT TO AMEND REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED TWELVE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIVE ENTITLED: "AN ACT AMENDING SECTION TWENTY-TWO HUNDRED NINETEEN AND ONE-HALF OF THE REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," AND OTHER RELATED PROVISIONS OF THE SAME CODE.

That will be the amended title.

SECTION 1. Section. 2219 of the Revised Administrative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 2219. Duties of lieutenants.—The lieutenant, or in his absence or inability the (substitute) deputy lieutenant (of barrio) designated by the councilor from among the deputy lieutenants elected as provided for in the next following section, shall assist the (councilor) latter in the performance of his ministerial duties in such barrio, to which he is assigned. (The term of his office shall be that fixed in his appointment.) The councilor may, for cause, suspend or dismiss any of the (lieutenant of barrio) members of the council from (his) office with the advice and consent of the municipal council."

SEC. 2. Section 2219½ of the Revised Administrative Code as amended by Republic Act No. 1245 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 2219½. (Rural) Barrio Council,—In each barrio, there shall be organized a barrio council which shall be composed of a barrio lieutenant who shall be its chairman, and such number of deputy barrio lieutenants as there are sitios within the barrio and who will assist the barrio lieutenant in the discharge of his duties, a councilman for livelihood, a councilman for education, and a councilman for health, who, in addition to their other duties, will look after the enforcement of laws, ordinances and resolutions pertaining to the matters comprised within their respective offices and the promotion of the welfare of the barrio."

Then all of the provisions of the first and second paragraph of Republic Act 1245 beginning with the words, "They shall be elected at the meeting to be attended by at least one-half of all the residents of the barrio, etc." until the words, "prior to the election" at the end of the second paragraph.

The following paragraph we will eliminate by virtue of the amendment approved by the Senate, presented by Senator Tañada. Then we will continue with the following paragraph beginning with the words "Any qualified voter of the barrio of not less than twenty-one years of age and who may

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have the necessary training, experience and fitness for the position to which he may be elected regardless of political affiliation, is qualified to run for a seat in the barrio council.", with the amendment introduced by Senator Tañada as to age, making it 21 instead of 25.

Then the following paragraph which begins with: "The members of the barrio council, etc." until the words, "emoluments of any kind." Then eliminate the rest of that paragraph from: "The municipal, provincial or national seats of government" until "in attendance in the aforesaid barrio meeting.", for these are precisely the words that the original bill that we are substituting tries to eliminate.

Then continue with the following:

"The barrio council shall have power to promulgate resolutions not inconsistent with law or ordinances of the municipal council, and subject to the approval of the latter, which shall be operative within the barrio. The council shall be responsible for the planning, budgeting and spending of funds belonging to the barrio treasury and shall have the following duties and powers."

Then insert the next paragraph which begins with (a) copy everything until paragraph (g) on page 3. Instead of the words, "to offer to the Government the cooperation necessary locally for the success of measure of general interest," substitute the following: "to cooperate with the Government for the success of measures of general interest in their respective barrios." Then the rest of that paragraph will be inserted. And immediately thereafter insert the following:

"The barrio council shall also elect from among their members a treasurer who shall be charged with the collection of fees and contributions due the barrio treasury, shall be the custodian of the funds collected, and will disburse the same in accordance with resolutions of the council, upon vouchers signed by the payee and approved by the barrio lieutenant."

Then section 3 will be as follows: "Section 2218 of the Revised Administrative Code is hereby repealed."

In explanation of section 1 of this substitute bill, I wish to say that section 2218 of the Revised Administrative Code is proposed to be amended as follows:

"Duties of lieutenants.—The lieutenant, or in his absence or inability the deputy lieutenant designated by the councilor from among the deputy lieutenants elected as provided for, shall assist the latter in the performance of his ministerial duties in the barrio, to which he is assigned."

We eliminate the words "The term of his office shall be that fixed in his appointment," because that is already covered by the provision on his election. After the elimination, continue:

"The councilor may, for cause, suspend or dismiss any of the members of the council from office with the advice and consent of the municipal council."

Section 4 will read: "This Act shall take effect upon its approval."

The PRESIDENT. What does the Committee say? Senator LOCSIN. Mr. President, the Committee beforehand agreed to those amendments.

The PRESIDENT. Is there any objection on the part of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the gentleman from Abra, as read by him? (Silence.) The Chair hears none. The amendments are approved.

# APROBACIÓN EN SEGUNDA LECTURA DEL S. NO. 383

The PRESIDENT. Is the Senate ready to vote on this bill? (Silence.) Those who are in favor of the bill as amended by the gentleman from Quezon and by the gentleman from Abra will please say aye. (Several Senators: Aye.) Those who are against will please say nay. (Silence.) The bill is approved on second reading as amended.

Senator PAREDES. Mr. President, it seems to me that the gentleman from Quezon wants to ask some clarifying questions on the bill.

## MOCIÓN DE RECONSIDERACIÓN

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, in order to enable the distinguished gentleman from Quezon to ask some clarifying questions, I ask for reconsideration of the bill.

The PRESIDENT. Is there any objection on the part of the Senate? (Silence.) The Chair hears none. The motion is approved. The consideration of the bill is now again in order.

The gentleman from Quezon has the floor.

Senator Tañada. Mr. President, it has just occurred to me while the distinguished gentleman from Abra was presenting his amendments this question. Before the election of these members of the barrio council, may the President appoint temporary barrio councilmen, or shall we exclude this from the appointing power of the President of the Philippines, because when the law granting the President of the Philippines the power to make temporary appointments pending the elections to be made was drafted, these positions were not then existing. Is it the intention of the author of this bill to bring these positions within the power of the President to appoint temporary officials?

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Senator PRIMICIAS. Having been called upon to answer the question of the gentleman from Quezon, I will answer it to the best of my ability.

The law as it now stands provides that the elections shall take place annually on the third Tuesday of January. In cases where it becomes necessary to fill these positions where they have not yet been filled by election, or in cases where vacancies may occur after such election, they being municipal officers, under the general law they should be filled by the provincial board especially if the vacancy is temporary, in cases where it becomes necessary to do so. Of course the provincial board may fill up all these temporary vacant positions if it wants to. But there may not be any need to fill them up immediately, so they may just as well wait for the next election. In that event the election will fill the vacancy. But the appointment must have to be made by the provincial board because these are municipal offices.

Senator Tañada. Inasmuch as the election is to be held next January yet, now between the date of approval of this bill up to January, shall there be temporary appointments for these positions?

Senator PRIMICIAS. That depends upon the needs of the respective barrios and upon the demand of public opinion there. If they may want to organize the barrio council immediately, inasmuch as the law provides that it shall take effect immediately, they may make recommendation to the provincial board for appointment and their recommendees might be selected by extra-official means within their own communities.

Senator Tañada. I think that we should not leave such important matter to the discretion of the inhabitants of the barrio. There should be a uniform rule governing such situations, and that is why I am raising this question. I am not here to object to the exercise of the provincial board or the provincial governor of the power to appoint temporary councilmen, but let us not leave it to the uncontrolled discretion of the inhabitants in each barrio.

Senator PRIMICIAS. Under the provisions of this bill, members of the barrio council only will be elected in January next year. Between now and next year, there will be no election of barrio councilors, so that the organization of these barrio councils will have to take effect after the elections to be held in January. Now if the respective communities believe that there is need of immediate organization, not all communities might be of the same belief, but if any community would

want the immediate organization, there is a remedy under our laws for the temporary filling of the vacanies by the provincial board in those communities whose inhabitants feel that there is immediate need of organizing the barrio council.

Senator Tañada. I don't believe that that situation is covered by this law or any law in existence whereby the discretion is left to the inhabitants of each community. All that I want is a clarification.

Senator PRIMICIAS. Of course, technically speaking, the provincial board may fill these positions temporarily, but as I have said before, in the practical run of things, these positions, unless there is immediate demand for their filling up, need not be filled immediately by appointment of the provincial board. Probably the provincial board will act only in those communities where they may demand immediate organization, although technically they may fill the positions temporarily.

Senator Tanada. I am raising this question because the law is not very clear. As I stated before, when the law granting the provincial governor and the provincial board power to fill temporary vacancies in elective positions was enacted, these positions of barrio councilmen have not yet been created, they were not yet in existence and therefore it is open to construction that what the legislature had in mind was the filling of vacancies of positions then existing. I would suggest that we clarify this point.

Senator PRIMICIAS. If the gentleman from Quezon has any proposition to make to clarify this point, I should think that the distinguished gentleman from Abra, who is the proponent of the amendment, would have no objection.

### SUSPENSIÓN DE LA SESIÓN

Mr. President, I ask for the suspension of the session for five minutes.

The PRESIDENT. The session is suspended for five minutes, if there is no objection. (There was none.)

Eran las 11:25 a.m.

## REANUDACIÓN DE LA SESIÓN

Se reanuda la sesión a las 11:30 a.m. The PRESIDENT. The session is resumed.

#### ENMIENDA TAÑADA

Senator Tañada. Mr. President. El Presidente. Caballero de Quezon.

Senator TAÑADA. I would like to introduce an amendment to the amendment by substitution as

follows: Section 2 of Republic Act No. 1245 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 2. This Act shall take effect on January first, nine-teen hundred and fifty-six."

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Gentleman from Pangasinán.

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, may I suggest that the new section be numbered "Section 6" as consequence of previous amendment. So that the amendment will be as follows:

"SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect on January first nineteen hundred and fifty-six."

The PRESIDENT. What does the gentleman from Quezon say?

Senator TAÑADA. Accepted, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT. Is there any objection to the amendment on the part of the Senate? (Silence.) The Chair hears none. Approved.

# APROBACIÓN EN SEGUNDA LECTURA DEL S. NO. 383

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, I ask that Senate Bill No. 383, as amended, by substitution, be approved on second reading.

The PRESIDENT. Gentlemen of the Senate, we shall now vote on the bill as amended. As many as are in favor of the bill will please say aye. (Several Senators: Aye.) As many as are against will please say nay. (Silence.) Senate Bill No. 383 is approved on second reading as amended.

# SEGUNDA LECTURA Y CONSIDERACIÓN DEL S. NO. 384

Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, I now ask for immediate consideration of Senate Bill No. 384.

The PRESIDENT. Consideration of Senate Bill No. 384 is now in order. The Secretary will please read the bill.

The SECRETARY:

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE SO-CALLED "NO-DOLLAR" IMPORTS EXCEPT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. No importation into the Philippines under the so-called "no-dollar remittance" shall be allowed except:

- (a) Machinery, equipment and raw materials brought in by foreign investors or prospective foreign investors who have been duly authorized by the proper government office or agency to invest in the Philippines to aid and assist in the industrialization program and economic development of the country;
- (b) Commodities of a value not exceeding five thousand pesos (P5,000) already used in a foreign country by the person or family importing the same, and which are being imported for the personal use of the person or family import-

ing them, as well as gifts sent from abroad through the post office, of a value not more than one hundred pesos (P100) each gift, unless there is evidence of abuse in the use of this privilege, each gift to be allowed only once every (6) six months; and

(c) Commodities brought from abroad by a person who is returning to the Philippines, provided they are not being brought for commercial purposes, and do not exceed one thousand pesos (P1,000) in value, unless there is evidence of abuse in the use of this privilege, provided this allowance will be granted only to persons returning to the Philippines once a year.

SEC. 2. Definition.—For the purposes of this Act imports under the "no-dollar remittance" basis, refer to those commodities, goods or merchandise which are imported for the payment of which no foreign exchange has been allocated by the Central Bank of the Philippines.

SEC. 3. Any violation of this law or any provision hereof shall subject the articles imported to seizure and confiscation by the Collector of Customs in accordance with the pertinent provisions of the Revised Administrative Code regarding unauthorized or illegal importation.

SEC. 4. All existing laws or parts thereof, executive orders and administrative regulations contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Senator PRIMICIAS. The sponsor of the measure is the distinguished gentleman from Camarines Sur, Senator Cea, the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce and Industry.

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman from Camarines Sur has the floor.

### PONENCIA DEL SEN. CEA

Senator CEA. Mr. President and gentlemen of the Senate, it has been observed lately that commodities are being brought into the Philippines without any dollar allocation having been first authorized by the Central Bank. There can only be one conclusion to this kind of no-dollar importation and it is that dollars from the Philippines are being smuggled out of the country or that some importers, in order to avoid payment of the 17 per cent exchange tax, have dollars abroad. This is a constant conflict between the Bureau of Customs and the Central Bank regarding jurisdiction over these no-dollar imports and, upon request of the officers of our government who have something to do with supervision of imports into the country, this bill has been prepared. Your Committee, Mr. President, has inserted certain exceptions to no-dollar imports. One of these exceptions is machinery, equipment and raw materials brought in by foreign investors or prospective foreign investors who have been duly authorized by the proper government office or agency to invest in the Philippines to aid and assist in the industrialization program and economic development of the country. This exception has been inserted in order not to jeopardize in any way