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FILIPINOS SEEKING CONCESSIONS HERE

Quezon Is Expected to Urge Revision of Independence to Permit Trade Treaties

Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
MANILA, April 1—With the Philippines Civic League taking the initiative, a movement for re-examination and possible revision of the Tydings-McDuffie Independence Act is growing here.

Manuel Quezon, President of the Commonwealth, is believed to be preparing the ground to seek new concessions from Washington in the direction of increased Philippine autonomy, particularly a change in the law to permit the Filipinos to consummate trade treaties with other nations.

His thrice-repeated statement that independence in 1946 was the only proper course, because the United States would not accept the minimum requirements of Filipinos for continued relations, is construed as a broad hint to Congress that he is formulating proposals.

He broached the subject to the Assembly in January, elaborated on it in a talk to students last week and took it up again Saturday night in addressing the Law School of the University of the Philippines.

On the third occasion the President said that he was not opposed to re-examination in theory but only in practice, because he did not believe that Washington would accept the only terms upon which the Philippines would forego independence in 1946, namely, absolute freedom in economic equality with the United States.

He said that those who favored re-examination to afford the Philippines protection while danger existed were impractical because, if re-examination were had, the Philippines might continue their dependence upon the United States and could not break away later when danger was no longer present.

He conceded that it was possible for an outside power to conquer the Philippines, but he expressed confidence that ultimately the Filipinos could throw off a foreign yoke. And he predicted that they might be able to defend themselves with their own army twenty-five years hence.

In an editorial commenting on the situation, The Manila Daily Bulletin says:

"In view of the trip to Washington that Mr. Quezon is planning this Summer, it would be advantageous to him to know in advance of reaching the capital the reaction of Congressmen to the proposal to give the Commonwealth power to conclude commercial treaties."

Speaking for the re-examinationists, Assemblyman José Romero, a leader of the Civic League, says:

"There are those who feel that the President is being a little too pessimistic and who note that responsible leaders in America, like Senator Key Pittman and former High Commissioner Paul V. McNutt, have stated that American-Philippine relations could be rediscussed.

"But it is now up to our friends in America to convince the American people of the plausibility of the new arrangement upon the basis set forth by Mr. Quezon."

Salvador Araneta, another league leader, says:

"Re-examination simply means a restudy, and if there is a man who has kept himself restudying the question it is President Quezon himself."

Philippines
General
Pub with pp
Feb 2/w

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