

A SYMPOSIUM ON THE PHILIPPINE JUDICIARY

PART I INTRODUCTION

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The articles comprising the following symposium are revisions of the papers presented by the Order of the Purple Feather, honor society of the College of Law, University of the Philippines, before the faculty and student body of the college, on September 24, 1954.

It is not amiss to state here that the writers of these papers are still undergraduate students. This is not, however, apologetic or excusatory. It is rather an assertion which echoes the policy of Dean Vicente G. Sinco to raise the kind and quality of the academic work and participation of the students. The organization of the Order is one of the means or media to express scholarly observations on problems and points which have a direct bearing on the legal education and training of the students. It can be a fruitful path to the cultivation of scholarly inclination. This, no doubt, is a very important step. It really stems from the reform of the curriculum of the College of Law introduced by Dr. Sinco when he assumed the deanship of the college.**

This symposium is a revisit to old problems peculiar to the Philippine judiciary. But it is a different revisit. As a whole, the articles comprising the symposium are some new ways of thinking out old pressing problems of the Philippine judiciary.

It is piously hoped that the symposium may reawaken the interest of policy planners and policy makers to earnestly cope with and solve the problems connected with the administration of law and justice in the Philippines.

At the symposium on September 24, 1954, the Sebastian Plan was presented. A dissent to it was submitted by Professor Juan T. Santos to which Professor Sebastian filed a reply. Although the dissent and the reply were not read in the meeting, the editorial staff of the Philippine Law Journal deems it advisable to include them in this volume.

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** See Sinco, V. G., *Objectives of the New Curriculum of the College of Law, University of the Philippines*, 29 Phil. L. J., 307-311 (1954).