March 17, 1960

No. 12

Dear Doctor Oliver:

This week again we are rather pressed for time due to Tuesday being an official holiday, but we still hope to get our mail in the pouch on time.

No doubt you have read the pre-election news reports sent out by the foreign correspondents who are now roaming through our poor cities hunting up headlines and becoming head-hunters. It seems to be a well-organized attempt to smear our Government. The worst among the foreign newspapermen is Campbell of Time Magazine. He seemed quite determined to unseat the "Rhee Government".

In the end it is not difficult to realize why the American Government is so determined to push the more co-operative man to head the Government. It would be so much easier to unite Korea and get along with Japan. But I guess you know all that and read between the lines.

However, before an election you may do all you want, but when the individual goes to the poll he has his own mind and can put his mark on the ballot for the person he wants elected. No one can change that. It is taken for granted that mud-slinging occurs in an election whether it is in Korea, America, or elsewhere, but nowhere in the world is what "The Opposition says" taken as truth and never mind what the Government says.

In America when the election is over things more or less settle down in a normal way, but in Korea it is a matter of a candidate losing an election losing face before his party and the people. That is why the Opposition is determined to bring up accusations in connection with the election, etc., so as to minimize losing the election and face.

I know you receive the Korean Republic regularly but I thought you might like to have the two enclosed copies in advance.

[K]

We have not heard that Pennsylvania has suffered in the snow storms which have occurred in America, and do hope that you are enjoying relatively mild weather. Every day here is bright with sunshine and this makes our daily walk so pleasant.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

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