

**February 8, 1969  
CLARO M. RECTO**

**CLARO M. RECTO STAMP  
(Internationalist, constitutionalist and  
opponent)**  
**February 8, 1890 - October 2, 1960**

Coinciding with the 79th birthday anniversary of the late Senator Claro M. Recto, the Bureau of Posts issues today, February 8, 1969, the Claro M. Recto Stamp.

It is a regular issue, 22,5 x 33 mm perforation to perforation, vertically composed with a denomination of ten-sentimo. The stamp, depicting the bust portrait of Sen. Recto, was designed by philatelic artist Nemesio Dimanlig, Jr., printed by intaglio steel process by the Government Printing Bureau, Tokyo, Japan in sheets of 100 at a quantity of 5,000,000.

Claro, or 'Ito' as he was called when he was a child, was the son of Claro Sr. who was 'Kapitan Tarong', and Micaela Mayo. Ito was born in Tiaong, Quezon, then Tayabas province, on February 8, 1890.

Recto studied in the old Ateneo de Manila where he distinguished himself in literature and classical languages. The Majority of his poetical writings were published by "El Renacimiento" and were later compiled in a book entitled "Bajo los Cocoteros".

Recto had to work hard and study hard as he was not born rich. Nonetheless, he graduated with the unbelievable grade of "excellent" in all his subjects.

In the honored tradition, he took up law and became the titan of the Philippine forum and one of the most distinguished politicians of the nation. He was the president of the Constitutional Convention that drafted the Philippine Constitution in 1936.

He was a representative, a justice of the Supreme Court and up to the time of his death, a senator, who commanded more respect by sheer force of mind.

Here was a man who had spent many decades of his life literally fighting so that our people shall not lose that sense of national dignity and desire for national freedom for which heroes in the past had paid supreme sacrifice.

***He died in Rome, Italy, on October 2, 1960***

He died with the assurance of his place in the country's history as an internationalist, constitutionalist and opponent who spoke in such subtle and stylish language, being a man of letters, that he had provoked serious thinking but had at the same time created certain areas of disagreement among people.

