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Editor's Preface

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Editor's Preface

With this issue of *Philippine Studies* Fr. Joseph L. Roche, S.J. ends his long term as editor. Fr. Roche was the ninth editor in the thirty-one-year history of *PS* and produced twenty-four issues (this issue is really his) – more than any other editor in the history of *PS*. He joins a list of eminent scholars who edited the quarterly with much distinction—Leo A. Cullum, S.J. (1953-56), Miguel A. Bernad, S.J. (1956-59), Horacio de la Costa, S.J. (1959-64), Pacifico A. Ortiz, S.J. (1965-67), Antonio V. Romualdez (1967-71), Jose S. Arcilla, S.J. (1971), Roque J. Ferriols, S.J. (1972-75) and John N. Schumacher, S.J. (1975-78). The editorial staff will miss Fr. Roche's sharp eye and his insistence on deadlines; the readers of *PS* will miss the breadth of his mind and the catholicity of his taste. The present editor will sorely miss his tremendous capacity for work.

PS was born at a meeting on 14 September 1951 when the Philippine Mission of the Society of Jesus committed itself to an annual subsidy of ₱5000. Fr. Leo A. Cullum, S.J. was named the first editor, with Fr. Horacio de la Costa, S.J. and Fr. James Meany, S.J., as associate editors. *PS* was to be a quarterly journal aimed at the educated reader in the Philippines. One of the early formulations of editorial policy stated that the articles were to be "learned in content, interesting in manner and of a general rather than of a specialized nature." The first issue appeared in June 1953 and included articles by Miguel A. Bernad, S.J., Salvador Araneta, Dean Deogracias Reyes, George Willman, S.J. and Charles Depperman, S.J.

Editorial policy has changed very little over the years. *PS* is, perhaps, more clearly a humanistic journal now than it was in its earlier days. The bulk of the articles published over the years have

been in literature, history and the social sciences, with a good number in philosophy, theology and education. Its audience has been extended beyond the educated Filipino reader to include foreigners interested in the Philippines and in things Filipino. The bulk of the foreign subscribers are university libraries, which explains, perhaps, why there are a lot more footnotes in *PS* now than there were in the 1950s. For better or for worse, *PS* has come a long way since that first issue in June 1953.

There is much to look forward to—in this issue and in the issues to come. As *PS* enters its fourth decade, the editors hope that it will continue to be “learned in content, interesting in manner and of a general rather than of a specialized nature.”

Joseph A. Galdon, S.J.