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Editor's Preface

Joseph L. Roche, S.J.

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Editor's Preface

This issue sees a change in the editorial board of this review. With the double number commemorating Fr. Horacio de la Costa, S.J., Fr. John Schumacher finished his extended term as editor of *Philippine Studies*. Under his guidance, the consistent high quality of *PS* was even further enhanced. His relinquishing the editorship does not mean an end to Fr. Schumacher's interest in, and active contribution to, *PS* as the lead article in the present number attests.

The new editorial board returns to an earlier style of editing *PS*, namely, through a team effort. Our two associate editors, Frs. Joseph Galdon and Frank Lynch, both familiar for years to the readers of this review, bring to *PS* long experience in publishing expertise in the fields of literature and social sciences. Ms. Edna Zapanta-Manlapaz takes over the position of book review editor, a post re-established because of the increasing number and importance of Philippine publications. These appointments, together with a revised Advisory Editorial Board, are aimed at eliciting more active participation in this review from a wider spectrum of Philippine academia. One concrete goal, then, is to engage the University community more actively; the articles and notes in the present issue are indicative of this aim.

For some, the whole idea of a general, humanistic review aspiring to certain scholarly standards, in a third world country like the Philippines, beset by so many and such crying needs, seems problematic in the extreme. Nevertheless, for others this concrete situation does not diminish the value and importance of a sustained, reasoned study and dialogue on basic truths and cultural values. One could argue that there is greater need than ever to provide a public forum in which an articulate, critical, Christian-grounded dialogue can be fostered and sustained in addressing the fundamental issues raised in the Philippines today. Dialogue is not suf-

ficient in itself; it must lead to reasoned decision and action. The action itself then forms the subject for further dialogue and critical analyses. It is the hope of the new editorial staff that *Philippine Studies* might continue to contribute in its modest fashion toward this ongoing dialogue, and perhaps be able to extend it to include a wider number of participants and a larger reading public.

The present issue offers two studies in Philippine history. In the first, Fr. Schumacher relates Jose Rizal and the role of the Ateneo in his life, to the contemporary themes of freedom and justice. The underlying question is whether revolution can serve as a viable means for securing the God-given, inalienable rights of every human person. The second is an historical document from the Philippine cultural past, an Ilocano-Igorot Peace Pact, presented by Fr. John Flameygh, CICM, and W. H. Scott. A bit of Philippine history also enters into a third essay in the form of a seventeenth century legend surrounding Our Lady of the Rosary. Florentino Hornedo's "The Source of Nick Joaquin's "Legend of the Dying Wanton'" may thus be of interest even to those who are not usually overwhelmed with literary history.

Dr. Howard T. Fry presents a well researched study on the inter-relation of Philippine-U.S. politics and American economic interests as exemplified in a particular US congressional bill of the late 1920s — a timely subject today when so much is being written by various structural analysts about precisely this relationship. Perhaps this article will inspire comments from political scientists on possible ways of curbing such economic determinisms. Ricardo Abad presents a well reasoned invitation to sociologists in terms of proper "debunking." His essay includes an interesting discussion of ideology, debunking's subversive character, and a quiet reminder of the "imperative of routine." The author also presents a view of "value free science," involving a notion of "objective understanding" that should stir up some comment from the more philosophically inclined. These readers will find an interesting introduction to classical Chinese philosophy in Manuel Dy's readable account of Chinese theory of knowledge. Finally, our indefatigable Fr. Galdon has given us a perceptive critique of the seminar sponsored by the Association of South East Asian Institutions of Higher Learning as well as a recently published anthology of Philippine writings.

Joseph L. Roche, S.J.