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Editor's Preface

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Editor's Preface

One of the problems in a rapidly industrializing and modernizing country like the Philippines is that, due to the fact that historically industrialization had its beginnings in the West, the patterns of organization and operations in modern business and industry are largely Western in origin. As such, they frequently differ from or conflict with traditional and indigenous cultural and social values. Wilfredo F. Arce and Niceto S. Poblador bring together here their own research into such formal organizations as industry and business with the relatively few other published studies on the subject and analyze how the patterns of organization and motivation introduced from the West have both conflicted with, and been modified to a considerable extent by, basic values and patterns of Filipino society. On the basis of their studies they foresee that though Western and Japanese models of organization will have a continuing influence on modernizing Filipino society, the impact of Filipino values and thought-patterns interacting with these external models of organization will give them an authentically Filipino shape.

Continuing our series of studies on Philippine vernacular literature, Teresita Gimenez-Maceda analyzes the short stories of Marcel Navarra, the first prominent Cebuano writer in the realist tradition. She finds Navarra's focus on the Cebu barrio evolving over the years from a picture of hopelessness and sterility to the discovery that barrio life has a beauty and happiness of its own.

Two articles deal with the role of Chinese in the Philippine economy. James F. Warren draws on sources in several languages for a pioneering study of the independent Sulu Sultanate's role as entrepôt for European as well as Manila commerce in the China trade from the late eighteenth to the end of the nineteenth century. In the course of time immigrant Chinese played an increasingly

major role in many fields of the developing Sulu economy, and after the conquest of Sulu by the Spaniards, much of the trade passed into Chinese hands. The article casts light on Sulu society itself as well as Chinese participation in it.

Ellen Palanca, on the other hand, studies the role of ethnic Chinese, whether they be aliens or naturalized Filipinos, in the contemporary Philippine economy. In spite of the problems arising from the ambiguous nature of available statistics on the subject, she analyzes various indicators which dispel some of the myths involved in the often-alleged Chinese domination of today's Philippine economy. At the same time, she shows where Chinese participation is strongest in the economy and indicates what may be deduced of its nature.

Newspaper accounts of recent months have called attention to archaeological finds in excavations around Butuan. In the Notes and Comments section Linda Burton, the chief archaeologist of the Xavier University team which has taken part in the excavations of the past few years, presents a preliminary report on the findings and their probable significance for the pre-Hispanic culture existing there. They point to a flourishing trading center in pre-Hispanic Butuan, and offer further information to our still too meager general knowledge of the Philippines prior to, and at the time of, the Spanish contact. They likewise open up several further areas for research, including the possibility that it was Butuan rather than Limasawa where Magellan's expedition had the first Mass celebrated in the Philippines.

John N. Schumacher