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Philippine Revolution in Misamis Province: The Bautista Manuscript on the Philippine Revolution in Misamis Province

Review Author: Miguel A. Bernad

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Book Reviews

PHILIPPINE REVOLUTION IN MISAMIS PROVINCE

THE BAUTISTA MANUSCRIPT ON THE PHILIPPINE REVOLUTION IN MISAMIS PROVINCE, 1900-1901. By Filomeno M. Bautista. (Transcript No. 1). Edited by Francis C. Madigan, S.J. Cagayan de Oro: The Research Institute for Mindanao Culture, Xavier University, 1968. iv, 56 pp. Mimeographed.

The author of this manuscript, Mr. Filomeno M. Bautista was a public school teacher who rose to become Academic Supervisor of schools in three provinces of northern Mindanao, namely Surigao, Bukidnon and Misamis, retiring from the service in 1933. He was born in Cagayan de Oro in 1890, and was therefore ten years old when the events he describes took place. The present manuscript was begun in 1936 and completed in 1939. We are told by Father Madigan in the Introduction that Mr. Bautista had tried in vain to look for written sources for the narrative but found none. His only sources therefore were the oral testimony of persons still living at the time. Where their testimony was conflicting, he simply followed that of the person who seemed more intimately connected with the particular events narrated.

The existence of this manuscript came to the knowledge of Father Madigan in 1957, but it was not until ten years later that the present mimeographed edition was issued.

The manuscript falls into two parts. The first 25 pages deal with the history of Cagayan de Oro (it was then called Cagayan de Misamis) prior to the American Occupation. This section contains some interesting materials, but it is not reliable, since the author had no access to a good library. Some of the statements in fact are quite inaccurate. (One example: "According to history, there was a time when the capital of the province was moved to the town of

Misamis now in Occidental Misamis, but due to its unfavorable condition the capital was *moved back to Cagayan*." The facts: The *Corregimiento* which comprised much of Northern Mindanao had its capital first at Iligan. In 1756, under Father Ducós, it was transferred to Misamis. Whence the name: "the *Corregimiento*—later the Province—of Misamis." The capital was later transferred to Cagayan.)

The valuable part of Mr. Bautista's contribution to history begins at page 26: "One afternoon, March 6, 1900, President Roa immediately sent Apolinar Velez, Anselmo Abejuela and Pedro Roa y Racinas to interview the commander of the ship..." That is a businesslike beginning. Here we are dealing with actual events of local history, told with circumstantial detail.

The remaining 25 pages tell the story of the Filipino resistance to the American Occupation in Misamis: the bombardment of Cagayan by the American ships; the landing of the American troops; the organization of a Filipino resistance army at Gango under Nicolas Capistrano; the battle of Cagayan; the removal of Filipino headquarters to Tanculan; the battle of Agusan; the battle of Macahambus Hill; and finally the surrender of the Filipino troops at Sumilao.

Mr. Bautista has done a thorough job, giving a list of the officers, and the dead and wounded in each particular action. He has also reproduced some of the Visayan ballads of the era.

This is consequently a contribution of very great value to the history of a district. There is need for many more monographs of this kind dealing with local and regional history, and Father Madigan and the Institute for Mindanao Culture of Xavier University deserve much credit for bringing the Bautista manuscript to the attention of scholars.

MIGUEL A. BERNAD

CHANGES IN PHILIPPINE SOCIETY: 1896-1963

CHANGING PATTERNS OF SOCIAL STRUCTURE IN THE PHILIPPINES: 1896-1963. By John J. Carroll, S.J., Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila University Press, 1968. ix, 236 pp.

The original edition of this book appeared in mimeographed form in 1963 and the present printed edition, five years later, is a tribute to its acceptance and usefulness as an outstanding reference book. As described in the foreword, it "is an attempt to describe and compare the structure of Philippine society at two points in time, to examine