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HISTORY *of the* PHILIPPINES



Revised Edition

BENITEZ



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HISTORY

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OF THE PHILIPPINES

ECONOMIC • SOCIAL • CULTURAL • POLITICAL

REVISED EDITION

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BY

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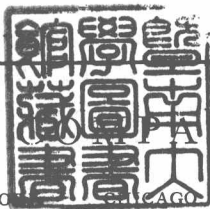
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Preface to the Revised Edition

So many fateful events have taken place in the history of our country during the years that have elapsed since this book was last brought up to date that not merely additions but also a complete overhauling of the record of past history have been undertaken.

When the original edition was published, stress was laid on the quotation of source materials for the period before 1898. Now, in the interests of easier reading and a more continuous narrative, these numerous quotations have practically all been eliminated and the facts contained in them have been embodied in the text itself.

In the original edition, and in the additions later made to it, considerable stress was laid upon the economic advancement of the Filipino people, in order to demonstrate the capacity of the Philippines for economic as well as political independence. Since this justification is no longer necessary, the later sections on economic conditions have been reduced to their proper proportions in the history of our country.

The advantages of the large-unit arrangement have been retained and extended in such a way as to leave with the student a definite, clear-cut impression of each period in our history. To reinforce this grasp of each period, there has been added a foreword to each unit which is designed to carry a continuous thread of thought throughout the story and bind it together; and the epilogue impresses upon the student the final civic lessons conveyed by a study of the history of his country.

In accordance with the latest trends in school history writing, emphasis has been placed upon those movements which have most affected the life of the people, with a minimum of emphasis upon the military and purely governmental aspects of our history. Recent history has been stressed, largely for the civic lessons it conveys. The facts of Philippine history have been taken from primary, contemporaneous sources wherever available; foreign historical facts—such as the history of the Second World War outside of the Philippines—have been taken in part from secondary

sources. The topics for class discussion or report have been made thought-provoking rather than merely factual in nature, in order that independence of thinking may be encouraged and history made to serve as a means of awakening civic consciousness.

Since references to footnotes tend to interrupt the smooth reading of any text, such citations have been concentrated, in so far as possible, at the beginning of sections and paragraphs instead of being scattered throughout the textual matter.

In addition to those acknowledgments made in connection with the original edition, the author wishes to express his gratitude to those persons and organizations who have been so extremely helpful to him in revising and adding to the story of the Philippines as it now appears. Among the many who have so contributed their help, the following are outstanding: former Ambassador Joaquin M. Elizalde and his Embassy staff and library officials at Washington; the staff of the Library of Congress, Washington; General Carlos P. Romulo, Permanent Delegate of the Republic to the United Nations; the late Director Eulogio B. Rodriguez and the staff of the Bureau of Public Libraries, Manila; U.S. Army officials and the U.S. Embassy staff in Manila, who have gladly furnished needed documents and records; the Bureau of Public Information at Malacañan; General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, who courteously furnished war photographs; and Mr. Teodoro Agoncillo, who pointed out certain errors of fact in the first draft of this revision. The help of Dr. Walter G. M. Buckisch has been invaluable, both in suggestions and encouragement, and in editing the manuscript. Special thanks are due to the publishers who have so kindly given permission to use the materials from which quotations were made.

CONRADO BENITEZ

From the Preface to the Original Edition

. . . In closing, the author offers special thanks to the following: to Director Luther B. Bewley of the Bureau of Education, for suggesting the idea of preparing this book; to President Rafael Palma of the University of the Philippines, . . . for valuable and inspiring information concerning contemporary events; to Gabriel Mañalac, Assistant Director of Education, for helpful data concerning the school curriculum; to Dr. James A. Robertson, co-author of Blair and Robertson's *The Philippine Islands, 1493-1898*, who read the proofs and made many helpful suggestions; to V. Carmack of the Bureau of Insular Affairs, for important materials furnished; to Gabriel A. Bernardo, Librarian of the University of the Philippines, for courteous assistance; to Eulogio B. Rodriguez, chief of the Filipiniana Division in the Philippines Library; to Hugo H. Miller, for assistance and the use of certain illustrations; to Dean Maximo M. Kalaw; to Jose Abad Santos, former Secretary of Justice; to Dean Francisco Benitez; to Director Jose G. Sanvictores; to Dr. T. H. Pardo de Tavera and his family, for the use of their valuable historical collection; to Dr. Alejandro Albert; to Justice George A. Malcolm; to Justice Ignacio Villamor, formerly President of the University of the Philippines; to Senator Santiago Fonacier; to President Camilo Osias of the National University; to Professor H. O. Beyer, for valuable information; and finally to my father, Judge Higinio Benitez, whose choice library of old Spanish books is a veritable intellectual treasury, and has been a constant inspiration to those of us whose *uso de razón* dates back only to the American occupation. The author is indebted to all the publishers who have given their permission for the use of quoted material.

The author is peculiarly indebted to the courtesy of The Arthur H. Clark Company, publishers of Blair and Robertson's monumental history entitled *The Philippine Islands, 1493-1898*, for permission to reprint extended excerpts from this work. . . .

CONRADO BENITEZ

HISTORY
OF THE PHILIPPINES



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THE NATIONAL HEROES MONUMENT

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HISTORY OF THE PHILIPPINES

INTRODUCTION

The Land and the People

Strategic location of the Philippines. A glance at the map in this introductory section shows how strategically our country is located with reference to Southeastern Asia and the Indonesian islands. Our archipelago guards the approach to these regions by sea—from the north and from the east. This is both a handicap and an asset to us.

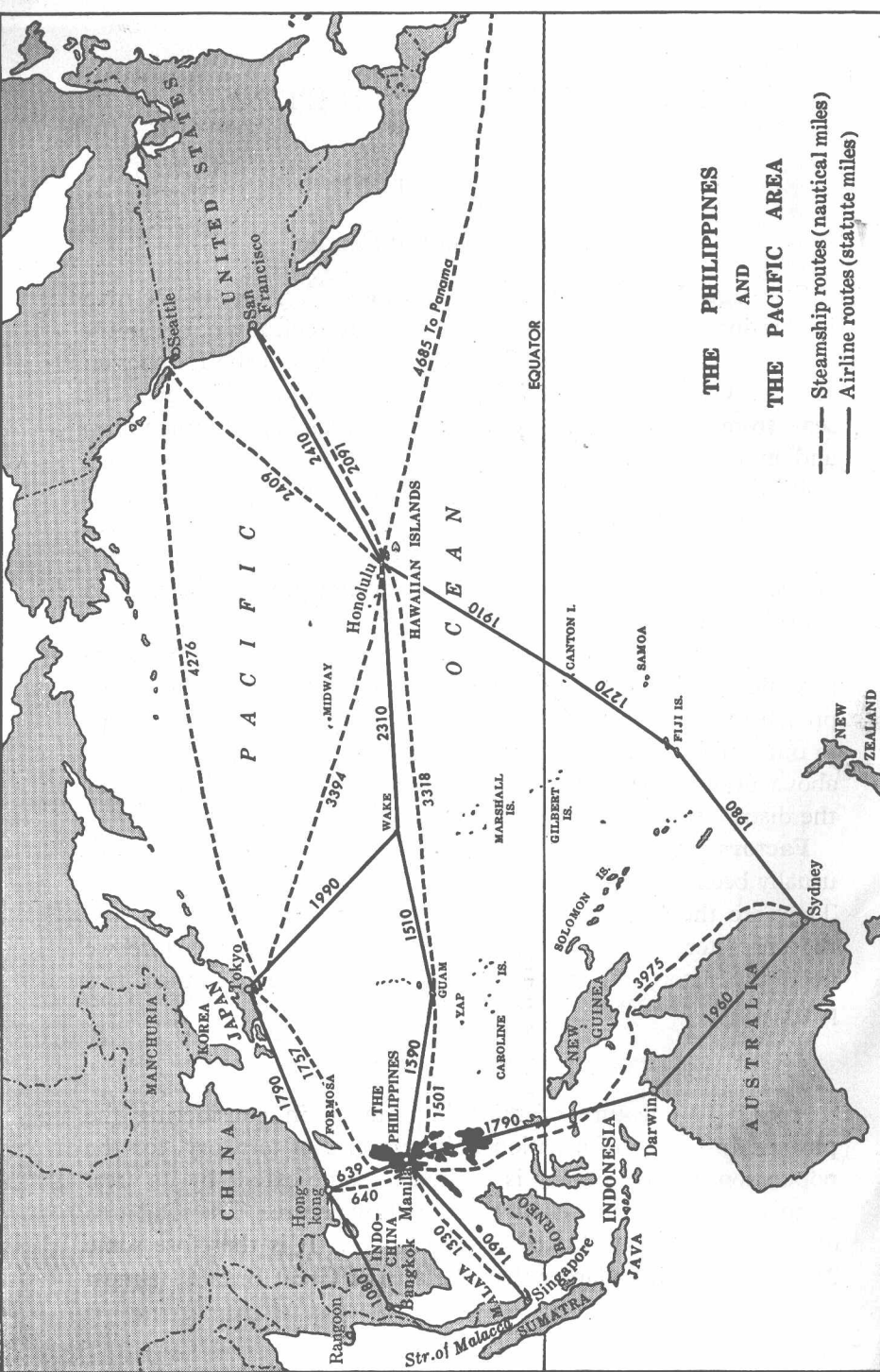
It is a handicap to us in case war involves nearby countries, as a powerful aggressor nation with designs on such countries might well feel obliged to attempt the conquest of our country first. We learned this disadvantage of our location during the Second World War.

At the same time our strategic control over the northern approaches to the China Sea, and indirectly over the eastern approaches to the Straits of Malacca, has advantages, too. It adds to our political importance among the nations of the world, and, above all, it makes our country, commercially, an ideal center for the distribution of goods throughout Southeastern Asia.

Factors determining national progress. Two factors have usually been listed as necessary to determine a country's progress. They are the wealth of its land—or its natural resources—and the character of its people. Let us consider briefly, before we begin the history of our country, how we measure up in these two particulars.

I. THE LAND

Area. The feature of most importance in considering the physical greatness of a nation is its expanse of territory, for the population of any country is limited to some extent by its area. In this respect our homeland is favored by nature. The total area of the Philippines is 115,600 square miles. It is therefore some 21,000 square miles larger than the area of Great Britain; almost



ten times the size of Belgium; and only 32,000 square miles smaller than Japan proper. Our country is not one of the largest countries in the world, but it is far from being one of the smallest.

The coast line, rivers, and lakes. It is obvious that an extensive seacoast, with good bays and harbors, and navigable rivers and lakes are of great advantage to a nation in time of peace—if not always in wartime. With such advantages our country is richly endowed. We have a coast line of 11,440 statute miles, which exceeds that of the continental United States. There are thirty-one fine harbors and eight almost landlocked straits. Manila Bay, with an area of 770 square miles and a coast line of 120 miles, is the finest harbor in the Far East. All the principal islands and groups of islands, except Bohol, have harbors adequate for large vessels in almost all kinds of weather and at all seasons.

Nearly all the principal islands have navigable river systems. The longest river, the Rio Grande de Mindanao, can be used by small steamers, launches, and light craft for more than half of its 330 miles. All of the larger rivers are navigable for distances from twenty miles up. The extensive river systems found throughout the islands are potential sources of water power for an industrialization program.

Our larger islands contain also a number of lakes of varying sizes, like Laguna de Bay, near Manila, which are navigable by small craft and add to the transportation resources of our country.

Minerals. One of the basic industries supporting material civilization is mining. Most of the materials for the development of this industry are found in our country, although unfortunately we seem to lack sufficient quantities of two important ones—coking coal and petroleum. The most important in commercial value of our metallic minerals are gold and silver, iron, chromium, copper, manganese, lead, zinc, and molybdenum. Our most important nonmetallic minerals are coal, salt, stone and gravel, clay, limestone, asbestos, gypsum, and sulphur. In general, we export the metallic minerals and use the nonmetallic.