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Origins of the Philippine Republic

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http://www.philippinestudies.net Fri June 27 13:30:20 2008 which provides guidance to the ordinarily available published works for the non-specialist, who the author hopes will be interested in further reading. For those who are, this book will have provided not only the framework for further study, but also the perspective from which to undertake it. Finally, it may be remarked that the book is singularly free from errors of any kind. The only one which caught the eye of this reviewer was the confusion in the name of Archbishop Basilio Sancho de Santa Justa y Rufina, on p. 142, surely a pardonable slip!

John N. Schumacher

ORIGINS OF THE PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC: Extracts from the Diaries and Records of Francis Burton Harrison. By Francis Burton Harrison. Edited and annotated by Michael P. Onorato. (Southeast Asia Program: Data Paper No. 95) Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Southeast Asia Program, 1974. x, 258 pp. \$6.50.

Francis Burton Harrison is well-known to every student of Philippine history as the Governor-General (1913–1921) during whose term substantial Filipinization of the colonial government took place, in close cooperation with Quezon and Osmeña. The events contained in this book, however, come from two later periods during which Harrison acted as adviser to Quezon — late 1935 to early 1937 in Manila, and 1942—1944 with the Philippine government-in-exile in Washington, D.C. — and a brief visit in 1938 to Manila. Professor Michael P. Onorato, who has written extensively on the regimes of Governors-General Harrison and Leonard Wood, has edited the work for publication. It was apparently earlier printed by Harrison for private circulation among friends in a Tangiers press in 1951. The copy used by Onorato, the only one he has located, has annotations in the handwriting of Harrison himself, which are noted in this edition.

As might be expected in such a work, there is a great deal of routine matters and of contemporary Manila or Washington gossip. Harrison, however, seems to have frequently been very close to Quezon, and the recipient of many confidences. The diaries, moreover, are remarkably frank (Harrison had bracketed some of the more revealing passages in his own copy, probably for omission in a later printing), and afford numerous insights into persons and events. Naturally, such material must be used with great caution, given the mixture of direct reporting, gossip, and personal opinion or biases of Harrison. It is Quezon particularly who is the focus of Harrison's attention. The man, the politician, and the statesman in him are all illuminated.

Onorato has annotated the work, sometimes giving his personal evaluations of particular issues, other times referring the historian to his own or other pertinent published works for further study: The annotations are generally helpful, though naturally not all will agree with the editor's opinions on every point. Onorato and the Cornell Southeast Asia Program deserve thanks for making available to historians and future biographers of Quezon the materials contained here. No doubt the book will also be of interest to many non-historians who lived through the years in Manila recorded here. A number of those mentioned are still alive.

John N. Schumacher