

# philippine studies

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## History of Physical Education in the Philippines

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**HISTORY OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES.** By Cecilia Bocobo Olivar. Quezon City: University of the Philippines, 1972. xiii, 219 pages, illustrations.

In 219 pages, Celia Bocobo Olivar has succeeded in organizing available data in the history of physical training of the Filipino into a readable, systematized form. Almost all books in Philippine education include a section or two of observations similar to those of Olivar, but not one has related the events with the historical and sociological influences affecting physical training in the country as she did in this book.

The book, which is based on the author's Master's thesis submitted to the University of Oregon, is organized as follows: Part I Pre-Spanish Times; Part II Spanish Era; Part III American Regime; Part IV Japanese Occupation; Part V Contemporary Period.

An interesting feature is the recognition given to national leaders, American patrons, and civic organizations who contributed to the betterment of physical training in the Philippine schools. Recognition is also given to well-known names as well as unknown ones in this field.

On the whole, Olivar has achieved what she hoped to, "... that students today recall the early efforts of the pioneers and look back proudly to the nation's records and rich heritage in dance, sports, and games as they enjoy themselves in these and other similar activities." Not only students but teachers and researchers as well, will find recorded in this book the gains and achievements made in physical training in the Philippines through the years.

The last paragraph on the front jacket states that this book is a pioneering venture. Even as such, it is a commendable work of a Filipino educator. If this book is an index to the quality of the forthcoming locally published books on Philippine education, then these are worth waiting for.

*Aida C. Caluag*

**CHINA AND THE OVERSEAS CHINESE: A Study of Peking's Changing Policy, 1949-1970.** By Stephen Fitzgerald. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge Press, 1972. xii, 268 pages, bibliography, appendices.

Dr. Fitzgerald was recently named to serve as Australia's first Ambassador to the People's Republic of China (PRC). He earned well the title of number-one English-language expert on Peking's policy towards the Overseas Chinese by articles which he published in *The China Quarterly*, from October, 1969 onwards.

His book is a timely, scholarly chronicling of an historical turn-of-the-tide in the threefold relationships of China, the Overseas Chinese, and the nations of Southeast Asia. Awareness of this change of direction, and a