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Cultural Calendar

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that it is restricted to providing help for the individuals and the lesser communities so that they are enabled to fulfill their essential task in life in self-responsibility and self-determination.⁶

J. G. BERNAS

Cultural Calendar

THE GREAT EVENT of the quarter was the dedication of the metropolitan cathedral of Manila, a tribute to the energetic efforts of Manila's Archbishop Rufino J. Santos. The ceremonies were presided over by the papal legate a *latere*, His Eminence Gregory Peter XV Cardinal Agagianian. The dedication ceremonies (December 7-8) climaxed a whole series of cultural and social events beginning in October with a P50-a-couple dinner at the Skyroom, a fashion show featuring film celebrities, a presentation of the *Bayanihan* and the Manila premiere of Cecil B. de Mille's *Ten Commandments*. Some of the events took place in the cathedral itself: Verdi's *Requiem* by the Manila Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, William Strickland conducting; T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral* reenacted by the Aquinas Theatre Guild (but renamed *Archbishop of Canterbury*); an organ recital by Flor Peeters, director of the Royal Conservatory at Malines. The electro-pneumatic organ of the Manila cathedral, incidentally, is the largest in the Far East. Built by Pels and Son of Alkmaar, Holland, and Lier, Belgium, and assembled in Manila by Peter Andriessen and José Loinaz, it will have, when finally completed, 5,599 pipes and 70 stops, four manuals, 10-ton weight, and 20 kilometers of wire. Other events took place outside the cathedral: an exhibit of religious art at San Agustín; two recitals at St. Paul's College auditorium by the Sistine Choir which had been brought, with their director, Msgr. Domenico Bartolucci, to Manila for the occasion; and a symposium on the history of the Manila cathedral, organized by Father Thomas B. Cannon S.J. and held at the U.S.T. college of medicine auditorium. The papers read at that symposium are found elsewhere in this issue.

Taking advantage of the presence in Manila of so many prelates (16 archbishops, over 70 bishops, vicars and prefects

⁶ Joannes Messner "Freedom as a Principle of Social Order: An Essay in the Substance of Subsidiary Function" *The Modern Schoolman* XXVIII (January 1951) 103-104.

apostolic) for the inauguration of the Manila cathedral, a conference was held among the bishops of the Far East, with the papal legate presiding.

Other conferences were held in December. In Manila, a convention of Asian universities; in Baguio, an Asian conference on mental health and on family life; also in Baguio a writers' convention under the auspices of PEN (poets, essayists, novelists), with the editor of this Quarterly as one of the speakers.

In August the Magsaysay Awards were given for the first time. Founded by John and Nelson Rockefeller to honor the late President, the fund is administered by an all-Filipino board of trustees headed by ex-Justice Pedro Tuason. The prizes (\$10,000 each) are given annually to anyone or to any entity in Asia, regardless of race, color or creed, for outstanding achievement in government service, public service, community leadership, international understanding and journalism and literature. This year's recipients: Chiang Mon-lin of Formosa (for rural reconstruction), Mary Rutnam of Ceylon (public service), Acharya Vinoba-Bhave of India (community leadership), Operations Brotherhood of the Philippines (which flew doctors and nurses to help the sick and wounded in Indo-China). The journalism award was divided between Mochtar Lubis of Indonesia and Robert McCullough-Dick, publisher of the *Philippines Free Press*. Prevented from coming to Manila by the Indonesian government which imprisoned him and suppressed his paper (the *Raya*), Lubis was represented in Manila by Carlos Nivera, head of the journalism department of the Ateneo de Manila and former editor of *The Herald*.

The musical season this year was particularly interesting, with a revival of the Manila Symphony's Tagalog *Carmen* playing to five packed audiences at the FEU and the UP auditoriums, followed by a performance in Tagalog of *La Traviata* presented by another musical group. Manila was taken by storm by "pops" orchestra performances, first by the Manila Symphony Orchestra under Dr. Herbert Zipper, then by the UP orchestra under the direction of Ramon Tapales and under the auspices of the Cultural Foundation of the Philippines. Besides the four yearly concerts of the Manila Symphony Orchestra, there was also a presentation of the Filipino Youth Orchestra, with Benjamin Tupas as piano soloist. Alfredo Lozano, the enterprising impresario, has this season presented to Manilans a variety of gifted artists

from abroad, including the Spanish violincellist Gaspar Cassado, the tenor Jan Peerce, the American pianist Mary Graffman, and the American violinist Maurice Wilk. Eduard Strauss revisited Manila and led the Manila Symphony Orchestra in an all-Strauss concert.

Rizal's *Noli me tangere* has been turned into an opera, with the sculptor Guillermo Tolentino writing the libretto and Felipe Padilla de Leon writing the music. First presented in 1957, it was again presented in June 1958. Meanwhile the Rizal Centennial Commission has announced a contest for the best opera on the life of Rizal. Prize: ₱6,000. Deadline: summer of 1959.

ANTONIO G. MANUUD

IGY Report From Baguio

THE AMERICAN SATELLITE "Atlas" has been observed more regularly at the Manila Observatory in Baguio than any of the previous satellites. Father Richard Miller of our astronomical division has made predictions of location, direction and time and these have been found to be accurate. The "Atlas" changed perceptibly in brightness about every two minutes, showing that the cone kept tumbling as it orbited around the earth. *Space-track* continues to send the Observatory telegrams requesting information about the satellites. Though the International Geophysical Year ended with 1958 the IGY program continues through January. Thereafter a modified program will be in effect, known as International Geophysical Cooperation 1959. The sun of course remains active. Ionospheric activity remains rather high, for which reason several calls have been received from the "Voice of America" personnel concerning their long distance communication problems. On the other hand the earth has been especially quiet during the past few months. Father Bernard Doucette of our seismic division reports that earthquakes have been fewer and less intense.

JAMES J. HENNESSEY