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The Ozanam Award 1957

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and state in education; *Area 2*, school and home; *Area 3*, the community school. Section 2 concerned "the culture which we transmit." This was subdivided into *Area 4*, values in academic and vocational education; *Area 5*, national and world culture; *Area 6*, the language problem. Behind this orderly division of topics (and indeed behind the entire seminar) was the resourceful and energetic rector of the Ateneo de Cagayan, Father Francisco Araneta S.J.

There were various panel discussions and committee meetings and in addition there were three plenary sessions at which besides the keynote address of Secretary Hernandez three principal papers were read. One was by Atty. Jesús Paredes Jr. on the proper balance between academic and vocational subjects. We are publishing that paper in this issue. The other was on the interrelationship in education among three societies: the home, the church and the state by Father McMahon. It is appearing in this issue under the title "One Coin in Three Fountains." A third paper (of which unfortunately we do not have the text) was a comparison between the educational systems of the Philippines and of India by Mr. Shanti Tayal of New Delhi.

A large share of the credit for the success of the seminar goes to the faculty and the alumni association of the Ateneo de Cagayan and to several civic-minded residents of Cagayan de Oro, with Mr. Guido Ongpin as general chairman. Educational leadership of this nature deserves commendation particularly if it does not remain sterile but issues in definite experiments.

MIGUEL A. BERNAD

The Ozanam Award 1957

THE Ozanam Award was created in 1937 as a mark of recognition "for outstanding and continued Catholic social action." It is considered the highest award in the gift of the Ateneo de Manila and it has been sparingly given—only eight times during the past twenty years.

The first recipient of the award was Dr. Augusto J. Cortez, now director of the San Juan de Dios Hospital. The following year (1938) it was conferred on Dña. Aurora Aragon de Quezon who received the medal at the hands of her husband, President

Quezon and in 1939 on Don Mariano Santos who received it at the hands of his brother the Most Rev. Pedro Santos, bishop (now archbishop) of Naga. After a nine-year lapse the medal was again conferred in 1948 on Mr. Benjamin C. Gaston of Negros and in 1949 on Mrs. Josefa Gonzalez Estrada of the faculty of the University of Sto. Tomas. After a four-year interval the medal was conferred in 1953 on Mrs. Lourdes Reyes Besa and in 1954 on Senator Lorenzo M. Tañada. This year after another three-year interval the medal was conferred for the eighth time in its twenty-year history on Dr. Jesus M. Tan who is described in the citation as "a Catholic intellectual leader and one of the best known figures in the Philippine medical world."

Dr. Tan started his medical career in 1930 when he passed the medical board examinations with highest honors. He became resident physician and later senior surgeon in St. Paul's Hospital then conducted in the Walled City by the Maryknoll Sisters. A year before the war he was appointed medical director of the same hospital by the late archbishop of Manila Michael J. O'Dougherty. Dr. Tan is physician to various religious orders and congregations: the Society of the Divine Word, the Redemptorists, the Columbans, the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart, the Maryknoll Sisters, the Good Shepherd Sisters, the Benedictine Sisters and to the Jesuits for twenty years. Dr. Tan is a member of various medical societies and for two years was president of the Catholic Physicians' Guild. He has received several marks of recognition from the Holy See. He is a Papal Chamberlain of Honor with Cape and Sword, a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Sylvester and Knight Commander with Star of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre.

During the Pacific war Dr. Tan joined the surgical staff of the U.S. Army Hospital as civilian surgeon and worked in Sternberg Hospital No. 4, then later at St. Paul's Hospital which had evacuated to the building of the Philippine Women's University where he remained at his post until the entire hospital personnel was forcibly ejected by the occupying forces. He was appointed by the American Committee of the Sto. Tomas Internment Camp as the official attending physician to the American and allied

internees in the Remedios Hospital at Malate from January 1942 until they were all taken to Los Baños in 1944. Because of this and other activities during the war he was by the authority of the President of the United States awarded the medal of freedom with a citation for "outstanding medical services even at the risk of his life to American prisoners of war and for raising their morale at a time they needed it."

Dr. Tan's wide connection with religious communities has brought many needy cases to him. Both to these and to the numerous others that come to him in his private capacity he has responded generously with medical and surgical treatment. At the same time he has been a strong champion of Catholic principles by his lectures on medico-moral problems and by his individual advice and treatments in cases referred to him. He has also taken an active part against legislation inimical to Catholic social principles. In his speech of acceptance of the Ozanam Award he alluded to this need for constant vigilance against immoral legislation: "The right to bodily integrity like man's life and freedom is an inalienable right of man and it is God-given, not state-given."

Thus for almost thirty years Dr. Tan has combined a life of superior scientific achievement with lofty idealism, great Christian charity and uncompromising Catholicity. And it was for this reason (as the citation said) that the Ateneo de Manila wished "to single him out for recognition and to propose him to others for imitation by conferring on him the award named after that other great scholar and Catholic, Frederick Ozanam."

At the conferring of the award four of the seven previous recipients were present: Dr. Cortez, Don Mariano Santos, Mrs. Estrada and Senator Tañada. It is interesting to note that the Ozanam awardees while representing various walks of life form a kind of exclusive Order—an Order of Merit. Only two of the eight recipients were in public life: Mrs. Quezon and Senator Tañada. The others were persons known in their own fields but obscure to the rest of the nation. The Ozanam Award singles out such individuals and proves to the world that there are great men and women among the world's unsung heroes.

M.A.B.