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Ateneo

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Ateneo

JAMES J. MEANY

THE meaning of the word "Ateneo" is asked frequently enough to warrant a brief explanation. It is the Spanish form of "Athenaeum." The Dictionary of Classical Antiquities thus explains "Athenaeum":

The name of the first educational institution at Rome, built by Hadrian about 135 A.D. . . . There rhetoricians and poets held their recitations, and salaried professors gave their lectures in the various branches of general liberal education, philosophy and rhetoric, as well as grammar and jurisprudence.

The Roman school of Hadrian, however, derived its title from the Greek designation of a temple in Athens dedicated to the goddess of wisdom, *Athene*, "where," the Encyclopedia Britannica says, "poets and men of learning were accustomed to meet and read their productions." In modern times, "Athenaeum" is a term frequently used to designate schools and literary clubs. Many a famous educational institution in Europe, which we would probably call a university, has the official title of "Athenaeum"—for example, the "Athenaeum Angelicum," the Dominican center of learning in Rome. The word "academy" would be the best English substitute for "Athenaeum" were it not for the fact that in Philippine and American usage "academy" connotes an institution merely for secondary education, a High School. But so well known in the Philippines is "Ateneo" as the official title of Jesuit institutions of learning, that it needs no further translation. And it is an inspiring title. It is reminiscent of Graeco-Roman civilization, of Spanish culture, of the

traditions of liberal education, of men devoted to Divine Wisdom. *Sapientia aedificavit sibi domum.*¹

In 1865, the name of the Jesuit school in Manila, the "Escuela Municipal de Manila" was changed to "Ateneo Municipal de Manila." In turn, this title was shortened in 1901 to "Ateneo de Manila." Today, in addition to the Ateneo de Manila, there are six other Jesuit institutions of similar title: Ateneo de Zamboanga, Ateneo de Cagayan, Ateneo de Naga, Ateneo de Tuguegarao, Ateneo de San Pablo, and Ateneo de Davao.

Fairly widespread is the mistaken notion that the other Ateneos are "branch schools" of the Ateneo de Manila. It might be prudent to take the advice of the Virginian to "smile when you say that" to faculty members of the other Ateneos. All of the Ateneos are related to one another in the collateral line. It is true that the Ateneo de Manila antedates the others by many years, the others have consciously imitated their older brother in Manila, and former faculty members and alumni of the Ateneo de Manila have contributed much to the formation of the Ateneos in other parts of the Philippines. But administratively and financially all of the Ateneos are completely separate and independent of one another. Each one is related in a direct line to the Father Vice-Provincial of the Society of Jesus in the Philippines, who exercises over each general supervision and control. They themselves are "brother institutions."

This chronicle will first give separate treatment to each of the seven Ateneos in their order of seniority, beginning with the Ateneo de Manila and concluding with the youngest, the Ateneo de Davao. In these seven separate accounts will be included the principal events of their history and distinctive features. Then, in order to save time and space, but also to draw attention to the family likeness, some of the common features of the seven brother institutions will be discussed.

ATENEO DE MANILA

This writer's assigned topic for the Ignatian issue of *Philippine Studies* was the story of the Ateneo since 1921, the year in which the American Jesuits assumed the administration of the Ateneo de Manila. Since the Ateneo de Manila traces its

history to the year 1859 when the "Escuela Municipal de Manila" was entrusted to the Jesuit Fathers, or even to 1803 when the same school was founded under the title of "Escuela Pia de Manila", it is obvious that the whole story of the Ateneo de Manila is not related here.* In 1921, the Ateneo was already an old and well-established institution, with a revered name and a long list of famous alumni. The American Jesuits did not begin a new school; they tried to continue the work so well conducted by the Spanish Fathers over a long period of time. That the administration of the Ateneo was transferred in 1921 from the hands of the Spanish Jesuits to those of the Americans was due, not to local circumstances, but to international tensions resulting from the First World War period. In a new Jesuit mission in British-controlled India, it was judged that the Spanish Fathers would be more acceptable than the Americans most of whom had Irish or German-sounding names. Thus, the Americans for whom the new mission in India had originally been intended, were sent to the Philippines and the Spaniards went to India.

The story of the Ateneo de Manila since 1921 recalls to mind a facetious suggestion once made by Robert Hutchins, famed American educator, that in order to insure periodical re-evaluation and self-examination, all members of the faculty employed in a new college should be exactly 40 years old and then at the age of 65 promptly retired *en masse*, or else that all colleges and universities be burned down every 25 years! Old alumni, anxiously looking for familiar faces on their return to the Alma Mater, might suspect that Mr. Hutchins' first suggestion is followed by the Ateneo de Manila; it is a rare faculty member indeed who, present at the age of 40, is still there at 65. But it is the second proposal, made doubly incendiary, that the Ateneo most clearly appears to have followed. For the institution was burned to the ground in 1932 and again in 1945. The dates of these two conflagrations can well serve as terminal points for three periods of Ateneo History from 1921 to the present.

* The 1859-1921 period has not been treated for practical reasons as entailing much laborious research for which there is no time. Moreover the centenary of the Ateneo de Manila will be celebrated in 1959 and PHILIPPINE STUDIES hopes to deal adequately with the earlier history of the institution then. — Editor

1921 to 1932

On July 12, 1921, twelve American Jesuits assumed their duties as administrators and teachers at the Ateneo de Manila; one of their number, the Rev. Francis X. Byrne, S.J., was appointed Vice-Rector. Father Byrne was made Rector on June 15, 1922 and remained in that post until July 24, 1925 when he was succeeded by the Rev. James J. Carlin, S.J. In 1927 Father Carlin was followed by the Rev. Richard A. O'Brien, S.J., who continued as Rector until 1933.

The Ateneo, during this period, continued at the old site in the Walled City of Manila. It consisted of Grade School, High School and College departments. The total annual enrollments fluctuated between 1150 and 850 students, with the numbers declining towards the end of the period. Whereas in 1924-25 the total enrollment was about 1145, it had reached a low of 873 during the year of the great fire, 1932-1933.

The college department had a four-year course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts and two-year Pre-Medical and Pre-Law Courses. There had been a commercial course intended chiefly for working students, but this was discontinued in 1926. In 1925 there was introduced a new course, Sugar Technology, under the direction of Rev. Richard B. Schmitt, S.J. assisted by Rev. Eugene A. Gisell, S.J. The purpose of the course was "to give the student an understanding of the various chemical processes and methods employed in the Sugar Centrals to extract the sugar grain from the cane."² In the Commencement Exercises in 1926, fifteen students were awarded the "certificate of Sugar Chemists."

Quite typical of the 1921-32 period in the life of the Ateneo de Manila was the strong emphasis on military training. A Cadet Corps had been formed in the Ateneo in 1918, during the First World War, but was discontinued shortly after the end of the war. It was revived in 1922 and thenceforward was a prominent feature of the school. *Woodstock Letters*, the domestic organ of the American Jesuits, as well as student publications of the Ateneo, frequently report its successes in inter-scholastic military competitions and tell of the glowing encomia heaped upon it by American military officials. Summer encampments

in Baguio, under the direction of United States Army officers, were held from 1923 until 1930.

Other characteristics of the Ateneo de Manila were those common to all Jesuit institutions or, at least, to all of the Ate-neos. These are discussed elsewhere in this article or in other parts of *Philippine Studies*. Suffice it now to give this interesting quotation from a manuscript of Father William Repetti, S.J., reporting the transition of the Ateneo from Spanish to American administration:

"The lid is off!" was the unspoken anticipation of the students of the Ateneo when they learned that the American Jesuits were to take over the management of the school. Discipline under the Spanish fathers had been very strict and now it appeared to the more sagacious that happy days were in the offing. To their unpleasant surprise however, they discovered after the flurry of first arrival that discipline seemed to be linked with the name "Jesuit." This or that custom changed, but they soon settled down with resignation to the same sort of training.³

The Intramural era of the Ateneo was brought to a sudden close by the fire that destroyed the entire institution on the evening of August 13, 1932. The fire had started in a small store some distance from the Ateneo and within about an hour's time had reached the school building. Fortunately there was no loss of life nor injury, but the building and its contents were a total loss.

1932 to 1945

The Ateneo did not Phoenix-like rise from the ashes. The ashes were left right there in Intramuros and the entire institution began operating on a new site in the Ermita section of Manila. At the time of the fire, both San José Seminary and the Jesuit Novitiate occupied a commodious building on Padre Faura St., Ermita, which had formerly been the Seminary and then the College of St. Francis Xavier. After the Ateneo fire, it was found possible to house San José Seminary in the Jesuit Mission House in Intramuros and the Novitiate in the Retreat House in Santa Ana, where they remained until their own new buildings were completed in Balintawak and Novaliches respectively. The Ateneo de Manila moved into the vacated building

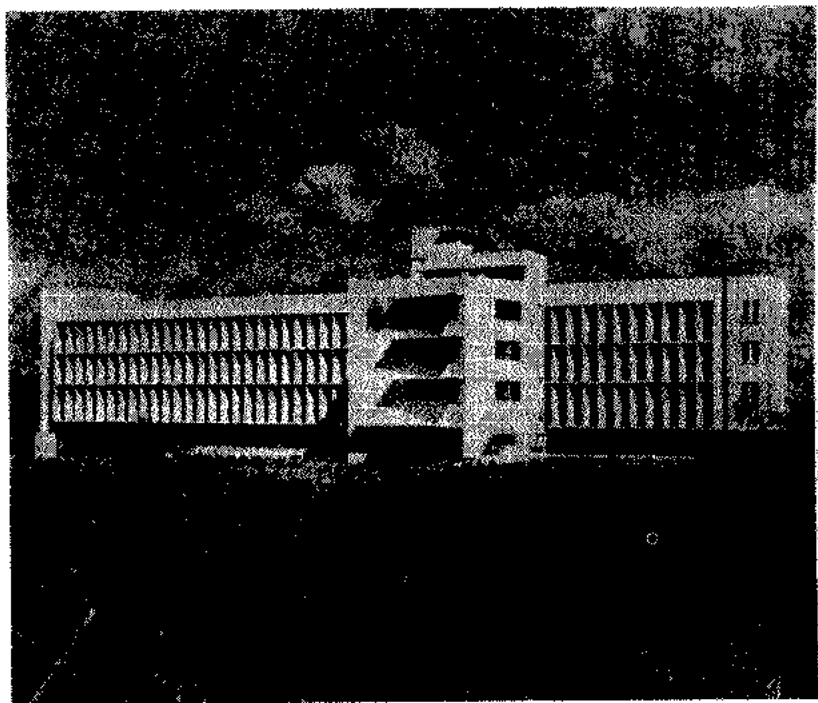
and was able to resume classes as early as September 19, 1932, little more than a month after the fire. In the meantime, four one-story wooden buildings were built to accommodate the science lecture rooms and laboratories, and before the opening of the following schoolyear (June 1933) a good deal of reconstruction was done on the main building, including the addition of a third floor. A magnificent auditorium was completed in 1936. In 1936 two one-story buildings were erected for the lectures and laboratories of the newly formed College of Industrial Technology. In 1940, a new Grade School building was constructed on the site of the old Ateneo in the Walled City.

Father Richard A. O'Brien, S.J., rector during this difficult period of moving and reconstruction died suddenly on December 10, 1933 shortly after he had been succeeded by the Rev. Henry C. Avery, S.J. who remained in the office of Rector until 1937. From 1937 until 1941 the Rector was the Rev. Carroll I. Fasy, S.J. In 1941, not many months before the coming of War, the Rev. Francis X. Reardon, S.J. became Rector.

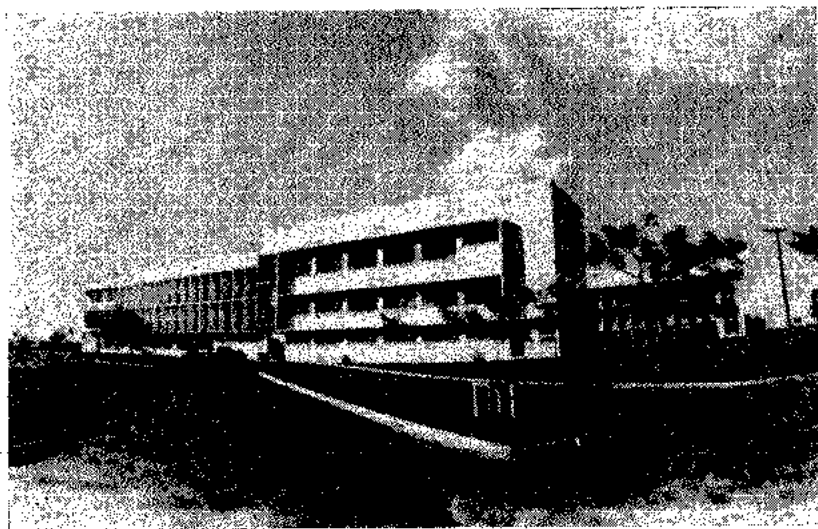
The total annual enrollment at the Ateneo remained in the vicinity of 1000 students until the schoolyear 1937-1938. (1933: 923; 1934: 919; 1935: 877; 1936: 1057). In 1937, the enrollment jumped to 1431 and continued to climb during the next three years. The enrollment figures during these years are as follows:

School Year	Grade School	High School	Lib.Arts	College Comm.	Ind.Tech.	Law School	TOTAL
1938-39	567	586	184	91	113	158	1699
1939-40	555	620	203	200	137	202	1917
1940-41	555	635	257	281	135	231	2094
1941	?	?	?	?	?	?	1968

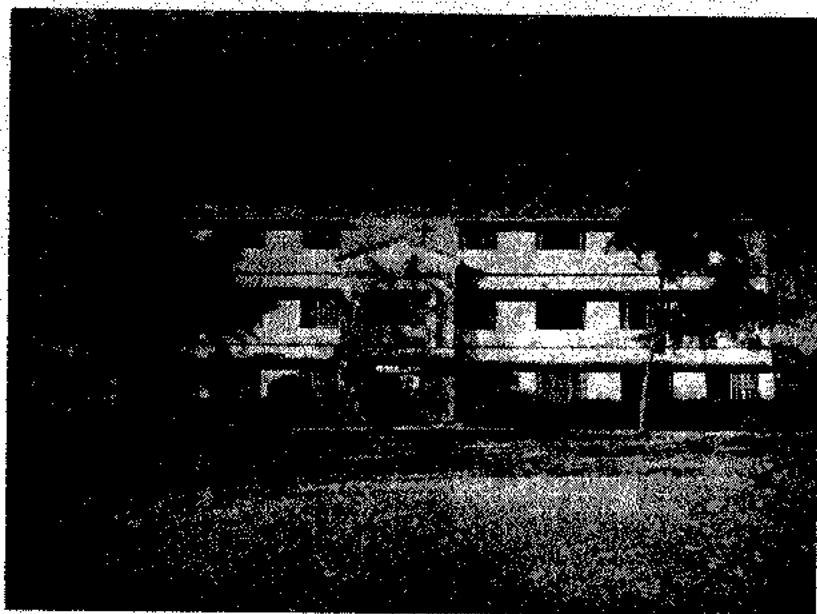
Chiefly responsible for the increase in enrollment was the addition of a Law School and of Colleges of Commerce and of Industrial Technology. The College of Commerce opened in 1936 with freshman and sophomore classes; junior and senior classes were added in the following years. The College of Industrial Technology, likewise inaugurated in 1936, offered a four-year course leading to the degree of B.S. in Industrial Tech-



ATENEO DE MANILA
Faculty Residence



ATENEO DE MANILA
College Group



ATENEO DE ZAMBOANGA



ATENEO DE TUGUEGARAO

nology, and a two-year course leading to the title of Associate in Industrial Chemistry. In that same year of expansion, freshman and sophomore classes in a new College of Law were begun, to which in the following years were added junior and senior classes.

This was truly a period of expansion. Besides the increase in total enrollment and the addition of new collegiate courses, there was a great increase in extra-curricular activity. The Ateneo had always stressed the value of such activity and neither in the preceding period nor under Spanish administration was there a dearth of it. But in the five or six years immediately preceding World War II—after the Ateneo had “settled down” in its new site on Padre Faura—extra-curricular activity rose to an almost feverish height. Most noteworthy was the increase in the apostolic work of the Ateneo Sodality. The traditional Sodality activities, catechetical work and hospital visitation, were revived and expanded. The Campion Literary Guild was organized in 1935. In 1937, the Chesterton Evidence Guild was begun as a Sodality activity and later expanded into an organization of students and alumni devoted to the presentation of English and Tagalog radio broadcasts on the “Catholic Hour.” The St. Ignatius Deaf-Mute Center was founded in 1934 and continued its “apostolate of the deaf” until the War.

Noteworthy also were the beginnings of a “Social Justice Crusade” under the inspiring leadership of Father Joseph Mulry, S.J. The institution of the Ozanam Award can be taken as symbolic of the increase in social consciousness during this period. This Award, presented in recognition of some distinctive and outstanding service performed by a Catholic lay-man or woman, was first presented to Dr. Augusto J. D. Cortes, at the Commencement Exercises in 1937. Other recipients during the pre-war period were Doña Aurora Quezon and Don Mariano Santos.

An abrupt end to academic and extra-curricular activity came on December 8, 1941 when the first bombing of Manila occurred. During the war, the Ateneo did not function as a school, but its buildings were put to good use as shelter for

the Jesuit communities of the Manila area and for hundreds of refugees. But in February 1945 during the fierce fighting over the liberation of Manila almost all of the buildings were destroyed by fire. All that remained were the two small buildings which formerly had served for laboratories and lecture-rooms of the College of Industrial Technology.

1945 to 1956

After its second great fire, the Ateneo again opened on an entirely new site. The ruins of Manila had scarcely ceased to smolder, when classes were resumed for Third and Fourth Year High School. The school-building was a retreat house on Plaza Guipit, offered for the use of the Ateneo by the Hijas de Jesús. There classes began on July 9, 1945, and on December 1 of the same year, classes for First and Second Year High School were opened. By dint of extra classes and the use of the usual summer-vacation period in April and May, it was possible to finish an entire school-year before the end of June 1946. Then, at the beginning of July 1946 the Ateneo returned from Plaza Guipit to its former site on Padre Faura street. There two dozen quonset huts had been erected and small sections of the ruins temporarily roofed over. The old Industrial Technology buildings had been converted into quarters for the Jesuit Faculty.

The entire Ateneo was housed in these temporary shelters from July of 1946 until January 1952. In the meantime a large piece of property (one hundred and thirteen hectares) was purchased in the Balara Section of Quezon City, and construction begun. In January 1952, the High School and the College were transferred to the new site, since appropriately named Loyola Heights. The Grade School remained at Padre Faura until January 1954, when its new buildings on Loyola Heights were ready for occupancy. The Law School and Graduate School continue at the old site. On March 17 of the current year (1956) the new Law School Chapel and buildings were blessed; they are now being used as a new school year commences. The Graduate School occupies those same two one-story buildings of the pre-War College of Industrial Technology which have already been thrice mentioned.

Father Francis Reardon, S.J., who had been named Rector of the Ateneo shortly before the war began, continued as Rector of the post-war Ateneo until 1947. He was succeeded by the Rev. William A. Masterson, S.J. who, in turn, was succeeded in 1950 by the Rev. James J. McMahon, S.J. who remains as Rector until the present day.

When the Ateneo first re-opened at Padre Faura in 1946, it offered collegiate courses in Liberal Arts and Commerce. In Liberal Arts there were four-year courses leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Literature and a two-year Associate in Arts course intended primarily as preparatory for Law School. In Commerce there was a four-year course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Commerce or Bachelor of Business Administration. In 1948 it was decided to discontinue the College of Commerce as a separate unit and, instead, combine with the A.B. or Litt.B. course the Business Administration subjects needed to obtain the B.B.A. within five years after the beginning of the Liberal Arts course. Beginning in June 1948, the college department was known as the College of Arts and Sciences. The incoming freshman of 1948 had to choose between only the two-year Preparatory Law Course or the Four-year Liberal Arts Course in either A.B. or Litt. B. Beginning in Junior Year of either the A.B. or the Litt.B. course, the student chose one of the following "Fields of Concentration": Law, Education, Business Administration, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Engineering, Journalism. He could obtain his Law degree within three years after his graduation from either A.B. or Litt.B.; or a degree in Business Administration within one year after his graduation; or he could finish his Engineering course in another institution within two or three years after his A.B. or Litt.B.; or if he concentrated in Natural Sciences he could fulfill all the requirements for entrance into the Medical School of some other institution; or, finally, he was prepared for graduate work in the fields of English Literature, Education, Journalism, or Social Sciences.

In 1952, it was once again made possible to take a four-year course in Business Administration without pursuing the A.B. or Litt. B. course. In the same year, a three-year Pre-Med-

ical course was introduced, and the name of the Litt.B. course was changed to B.S. The opportunities for some degree of specialization in Junior and Senior Years of A.B. or B.S. remain substantially the same as in 1948.

The Law School was re-opened in June 1948 and at the same time the Ateneo opened a Graduate School, with courses leading to the degree of Master of Arts in English Literature, Education or Social Sciences. The Graduate School has since greatly expanded its curricular offerings. Particularly noteworthy is its program of studies in Speech and Dramatics. Its Electronic Speech Laboratory has proven to be very effective. The Graduate School is the only department of the Ateneo to which women students are admitted.

Enrollment, Ateneo de Manila, 1946 to 1956

School Year	Grade School	High School	College	Law School	Graduate School	TOTAL
1946-47	370	600	179			1149
1947-48	520	590	289			1399
1948-49	780	630	350	125	10	1895
1949-50	920	620	420	194	36	2190
1950-51	1207	750	480	295	50	2782
1951-52	1383	845	458	384	113	3183
1952-53	1742	952	430	399	212	3735
1953-54	1885	1036	487	409	225	3992
1954-55	1909	1017	534	441	216	4117
1955-56	2130	1041	619	352	140	4282

By 1949 the total enrollment in the Ateneo had surpassed its highest pre-war level, and has continued to rise until the present. Obviously, the tremendous increase has been due principally to the enlarged Grade School. Before the Ateneo began its transfer to Loyola Heights, there were many dire predictions of a decided fall-off in enrollment due to the distance of the new site from the central points of Manila, poor transportation facilities and even the "peace and order situation" in such remote districts as Balara. The enrollment figures show that the prophets were wrong. The High School did not decrease at all; the College showed only a slight decrease during the year following the transfer. The Grade School moved to Loyola Heights in 1954 and continued its fantastic expansion.

It would be unwise to attempt to single out now the characteristic features or outstanding events of a period in Ateneo history which, it is hoped, has only just begun. It is likely, however, that the development of the Graduate School and of "Second Language" techniques in various departments of the school will be ranked among the outstanding events of the Ateneo post-war period. It may also be conjectured that a characteristic of this period will be recognized in the growth of the four-year Liberal Arts courses and the various attempts to combine these courses with specialized training. So important is this problem of Liberal Arts *versus/and* specialization in the life of the Ateneo, as in any college, that it will be treated here under a separate heading.

The Liberal Arts Course

The degree of Bachelor of Arts was first granted by the Ateneo de Manila at the Commencement Exercises on April 1, 1870. It was given to ten students "who had completed the full five year course." The five years required at that time for the A.B. degree was reckoned from the beginning of what we today would call the High School training. At some later date, the course was lengthened to six years. In 1921, however, the Bureau of Education ordered the A.B. course in the Philippines lengthened to four years of college. Henceforward, it would take a student eight years from the beginning of his High School course to obtain the A.B.

Under the Spanish system—the same as the prevalent system in most of the European countries—the course which the A.B. candidate began after his elementary school training and continued for five or six years, was actually one, well-integrated Liberal Arts curriculum. There was not the clear-cut division between "High School" and "College" to which one is accustomed today. The American system of education made this division. But even after the lengthening of the A.B. course to four collegiate years, it was some time before High School and College in the Ateneo de Manila assumed the distinct characteristics which they have today. Until 1939 the one Dean of Studies presided over both High School and College; in extra-curricular activities there was the closest union: one school pa-

per, one Cadet Corps, one "Players' Guild", etc. At the beginning of the school-year 1939-40, with the assignment of a Father to act as dean in the High School and another for the College, the distinction between the two departments began to be marked. This tendency has continually increased until the present day.

When in 1921 the educational authorities of the Philippines decreed that four years of college would be required for the A.B. degree, many students were frightened away from the course, and from the Ateneo. They preferred to attend other schools where there were offered two-year preparatory courses for entrance into law or medical school. In order to retain such students for some collegiate education under Catholic influences, the Ateneo instituted its own two-year "pre" courses. But it tried to induce the capable students to take the full four-year A.B. training.

In 1925 a chronicler of the Ateneo reported of the Commencement Exercises held on March 22.:

This year's commencement marked an epoch in the history of the Ateneo, for, on this occasion, for the first time in its long existence, and, so far as we can learn, in the educational history of the Philippines, the degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred upon three Ateneo graduates after the completion of the full four-year college course.....

The Ateneo is almost alone among the schools of the Philippines in its endeavor to attract the young Filipinos to this course. The Government University and National University, the two largest schools in the Islands, each with an enrollment of upwards of five thousand students, had only one A.B. graduate each this year. Our efforts to build up the A.B. course in preference to the two-year pre-law or pre-medical courses is due to our great desire to send out from the Ateneo to the four corners of the Philippines young men fully trained and adequately equipped to become great Catholic laymen, and leaders of this Catholic people in every walk of life.⁵

Thus, in 1925 four years after the institution of the full A.B. course, the Ateneo had three graduates. The following year, there were eight A.B. graduate, occasioning this exultation: "As the readers.... may remember, the four-year liberal course is almost a dead letter in the Philippines, so our graduation of 8 is a triumph."⁶

Efforts continued to increase the enrollment in the A.B. course. In 1929, however, there were only four to receive the A.B. degree. But the Ateneo Fathers were still very hopeful, and one of them commented upon the 1929 graduation figures:

It is encouraging to reflect that this will be about the last of the "lean years" for the A.B. course at the Ateneo, and that future commencements will see an ever increasing number of men receiving that favorite Jesuit degree. Under the sponsorship of Rev. Joseph Mulry, S.J. a campaign has been conducted in the High School during the past four years with a view to inducing the most talented students to pursue their studies in the cultural course rather than in the at present more popular pre-technical courses It is a fact that the course has never enjoyed its proper popularity in the Islands. However, a substantial increase in applications next year is practically assured, and as the idea continues to grow upon the parents and boys, future years will see the A.B. course filled with the numbers which are its due.⁷

During the years immediately following upon this optimistic prediction there was an increase in A.B. enrollment, but yet not so great as the writer quoted above seemed to expect. The highest number of A.B. *graduates* in the pre-War years was 17 (in 1932). The A.B. class of 1940 had 13 members. But the average number of A.B. graduates between 1930 and 1941 was about 10. It wasn't until 1950 that the graduation figures began to reflect the success of the A.B. enrollment campaign.

In 1939 the Ateneo de Manila adopted a policy which had long been operative in the Jesuit colleges of the United States in order to increase enrollment in a four-year Liberal Arts course. It announced an "A.B. without Latin" course—a four year Liberal Arts course quite similar in content to the A.B. course but substituting courses in general literature for the Latin which so many college students either would not or could not "tackle." It was first announced that the degree obtainable through the new course would be the "Bachelor of Science in English", but this was soon changed to "Bachelor of Literature" (Litt. B.) It remained thus until 1952 when, as previously remarked, it was changed to "Bachelor of Science" (B.S.)⁸

The success of the new course in attracting applicants, as well as the remarkable increase in number of *A.B.* graduates, is indicated by the following figures:

Four-Year Liberal Arts Courses
Numbers of Graduates

Graduation Year	A.B. Graduates	B.S. Graduates (Litt.B. until 1953)
1937	6	
1938	12	
1939	12	
1940	13	
1941	10	
1947	2	
1948	8	
1949	2	1
1950	26	4
1951	39	12
1952	26	42
1953	36	45
1954	33	36
1955	38	31
1956	41	27

The *A.B.* graduation class of 1950 was much larger than the largest pre-War class; the 1951 class was still larger and, in general, the numbers have continued to be large since that time. Many factors contributed to this increase. The long, persistent campaign of Father Mulry and of many others since then is bearing fruit, and the fine example of some outstanding *A.B.* graduates of the pre-War period has no doubt helped a great deal. The opportunities offered the *A.B.* student of specialization in one of a variety of "fields of concentration" or "majors" in his Junior and Senior years have probably done more than any other single factor to induce the college men to persevere through four years of a Liberal Arts Course. It may be observed that the 1950 *A.B.* graduation class was comprised of the first students to have the choice of the fields of concentration introduced at the beginning of the school year of 1948-1949.⁹ In 1948, they were entering Junior year. Similarly, the increase in the *B.S.* (or *Litt. B.*) enrollment was largely due to the fields of

concentration. The B.S. graduates of 1952 were enrolled in the College in 1948.

The general cultural value of the A.B. course probably suffers some loss because of the beginning of specialization in Junior year— or even earlier, as is sometimes the case. *Per se* it would be preferable that the talented student devote more time to the subjects proper to the A.B. curriculum, particularly to philosophy and the humanities. But this loss is offset by the fact that, unless they were offered the opportunity for some specialization, the greater number of talented students would not take the four-year course at all. For the benefit of the comparatively few willing to devote the entire four years to liberalizing subjects, the Ateneo has recently (1955) offered an "Honors Major" in the Humanities to selected students.

THE OTHER ATENEOS

So quickly and so well have the Ateneos outside of Manila developed in the comparatively few years of their existence that it becomes increasingly more inept to group them together, in an apparently off-hand manner, under the heading of "the other Ateneos." Separate treatment will indeed be given here to each of the other Ateneos, and yet the space devoted to all of them combined will scarcely equal the number of pages apportioned to the Ateneo de Manila. This might be excused on the grounds that the Ateneo de Manila was already, at the time the story begins, a developed and diversified institution in a metropolitan area, and so provides more opportunity for comment. It is older than the other Ateneos and it is only in the last few years that any of the others have approached its size and complexity. In the last analysis, however, the apportionment of space in this chronicle might be an illustration of the lesson contained in Cardinal Newman's fable of the man and the lion. If a writer more familiar with the other Ateneos had told the story, they would have fared much better.

ATENEO DE ZAMBOANGA

In the year 1916, in the City of Zamboanga on the southwestern tip of Mindanao, a little parochial elementary school proudly hung up its sign: "Ateneo de Zamboanga." It is

alleged that eyebrows were raised in Manila over the presumption of this small provincial grade school in assuming to itself the revered name of Ateneo. But it remained the Ateneo de Zamboanga throughout the thirteen years of its existence as a mere elementary school. In 1916 the incorporation papers of the institution had provided for a high school, but it was not until 1929 that money and personnel were sufficient for its beginning. In that year 1929 the High School was finally opened. Both High School and Grade School of the Ateneo de Zamboanga were attached to the Cathedral Parish. They remained thus until 1949 when the school was made an entity distinct from the parish; it was in that year that the first Rector of the Ateneo de Zamboanga was appointed by the Very Reverend Father General of the Society of Jesus.

The founder of the Ateneo de Zamboanga in 1916 was the Rev. Manuel Suaras, S.J. The Rev. Thomas Murray, S.J. opened the High School in 1929 and, as Pastor of the parish, was director of the Ateneo until 1935. He was succeeded by the Rev. Jose Buxó, S.J. The Rev. Eusebio Salvador, S.J. was Pastor and Director from 1937 until 1946. In 1941 the school closed with the outbreak of War, and its building was destroyed during an air raid on October 7, 1944. Under the direction of Father Salvador, the Ateneo was reopened in July, 1946 in temporary quarters erected on a new site. The Rev. Andrew F. Cervini, S.J. became Director of the Ateneo in 1947 and remained in that office until 1949 when the Rev. Alfredo E. Pagua, S.J. was made Rector. Father Pagua was succeeded in 1953 by the Rev. Paul B. Hugendobler, S.J. who remains Rector until the present.

Jesuit Scholastics are a distinctive feature of every Ateneo; as teachers, as advisers of extra-curricular organizations and as mentors and friends of the students, they are indispensable to the truly Jesuit school. In the Ateneo de Zamboanga's pre-War period, they played exceptionally important roles. During two brief periods, Jesuit priests were in immediate charge of the school—the Rev. Henry L. Irwin, S.J. in 1931 and the Rev. Walter F. Hyland, S.J. in 1937—but for the greater part of the period, the Dean of Studies was a Jesuit

Scholastic. The first Scholastic to hold this administrative post was the Rev. Anthony V. Keane, S.J.; others were the Rev. Eugene J. O'Keefe, S.J., Rev. Walter de Lawder, S. J., Rev. Francis X. Clark, S.J. and the Rev. Ralph B. Gehring, S.J. Strictly speaking, these Scholastics were assistants to the Director who, as Pastor of the Parish, was already too heavily burdened with administrative duties to take immediate charge of the school.

Before the War, the Ateneo was situated on Plaza Pershing in the center of the City of Zamboanga, and just across the street from the Cathedral. The school building was a converted moving picture theater; conditions were crowded, and there was little recreation space for the students. In 1940, a small piece of property (one and a half hectares) was purchased on a site about a kilometer north of the existing school. Immediately after the War, the Ateneo erected a temporary school building on this new site, and there classes commenced in July, 1946. Since that date, the property has been increased to four hectares and much construction has been accomplished. In 1949, a new school building replaced the temporary structure; in 1950 there was completed a very useful gymnasium-auditorium seating 1500 and providing also extra classroom and office space, and in 1951, a wing was added to the school building. The Zamboanga Parish Church of the Immaculate Conception has been constructed on a site adjoining the Ateneo property and is available to the students.

From 1929 until 1952, the Ateneo de Zamboanga had only grade school and high school departments. For the first six or seven years of its existence, the High School was a very small one, its total annual enrollment hovering about 100. From 1938, however, until the outbreak of the War the numbers greatly increased.

Until the War, there were seven grades in the elementary school. The school reopened after the War with only 5th and 6th Grades, to which Grade 7 was added in 1954.

In the High School there has been, generally speaking, a gradual increase in enrollment. In 1954, the High School added

Enrollment Figures

School Year	Grade School	High School	College	TOTAL
1938-39	281	119		400
1939-40	270	140		410
1940-41	205	194		399
1941	230	376		606
1946-47	49	267		316
1947-48	49	348		397
1948-49	113	429		542
1949-50	213	482		695
1950-51	215	577		792
1951-52	129	663		792
1952-53	77	683	165	925
1953-54	71	639	160	870
1954-55	107	619	248	974
1955-56	111	569	327	1007

Night Classes for the benefit of working students; young men working in Government offices especially were under the necessity of obtaining high school diplomas.

The College was opened in 1952. It offered the two-year Associate in Arts and Pre-Law courses, and four-year courses leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science in Education, and Bachelor of Science in Commerce. In 1954, a Pre-Nursing course was added, and in 1955 a Pre-Engineering Course. From its beginning, the college has been co-educational.

Similar reasons are given not only for the very existence of a college department but also for its co-educational character and the great variety of the courses in such a small institution. As is also the case with most of the other Ateneos, the alternatives seem to have been: either open a college department in the Ateneo or lose the youth to institutions under Protestant or unsatisfactory secular influences. Courses are multiplied in order to make the college attractive to the greater number; female students are accepted lest they too go to the wrong type of school. By choosing the first alternative, the Ateneo de Zamboanga increases Catholic influence upon the region in which it is located; it sends into the City of Zamboanga and other population centers of the area a number of men and women better prepared for Catholic leadership.

ATENEO DE CAGAYAN

In June, 1933, three months after His Excellency, James T.G. Hayes, S.J. D.D., was appointed the first Bishop of Cagayan, the Ateneo de Cagayan was opened as a diocesan High School of Cagayan, Misamis Oriental, on the northern coast of Mindanao. The first class was held in a small wooden building on Padre Burgos St., quite near to St. Augustine's Cathedral. The total enrollment of the new Ateneo was 17 students. Two years later, the school was moved to its present site on Corrales Avenue, about one kilometer distance from the Cathedral. There a concrete building had been erected, in which classes opened in June, 1935 with 68 students. In 1937 the administration of the Ateneo was entrusted to the Society of Jesus, and in 1940 the Bishop transferred ownership to the Society. In May 15 of that year 1940, the Rev. James Edward Haggerty, S.J. was appointed Vice-Rector of the Ateneo. Later that year Father Haggerty was made Rector. He remained in the post until 1949 when he was succeeded by the Rev. Andrew F. Cervini, S.J. who has remained Rector until the present.

The Rev. Joseph Lucas, S.J., Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese, was director of the school at the time of its founding in 1933; the Rev. John E. Wasil, S.J., at that time still a Scholastic, was its first Dean of Studies. In 1935 Fr. Wasil was succeeded by the Rev. George Kirchgessner, S.J. Father Haggerty relieved Father Kirchgessner in 1937, thus beginning his long and eventful years of active management of the Ateneo—as Director, then Vice-Rector and Rector.

The attractive U-shaped concrete building erected in 1935 was two stories in height along its front with one story wings extending to the rear. In 1936 a second floor was added to the wings and a students' Chapel was erected to the rear of the building. By 1940 another U-shaped building was constructed behind the Chapel, providing Jesuit Faculty quarters, extra classrooms and a dormitory for the boarding-students. An auditorium-gymnasium was completed in 1941.

December 8, 1941 brought an end to all scholastic activities. The buildings were later occupied by the Japanese, until

October 21, 1944 when they were bombed by the U. S. Air Force. The Chapel and the gymnasium were completely destroyed; the other buildings were horribly damaged. Father Haggerty returned to the Ateneo in 1945 to begin the massive work of reconstruction. Sufficient shelter was prepared for the opening of classes in June 1946. In the course of the next few years, the two main buildings were almost completely rehabilitated and a new auditorium-gymnasium erected and dining-hall and college dormitory. From 1949 until the present day, an extensive building program has been in continuous operation. Work on the original buildings has been completed and a series of new buildings erected: Lucas Science Hall, the new Students' Chapel, Grade School, Loyola House, two new dormitories.

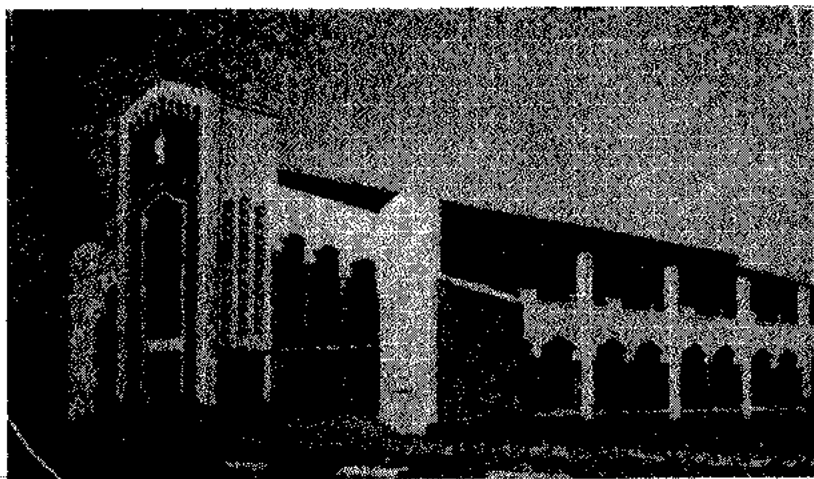
Ateneo de Cagayan Enrollment

School Year	Grade School	High School	Colleges	Graduate School	Agriculture	Law	Total
1933-34		17					17
1934-35		34					34
1935-36		68					68
1936-37		c100					c100
1937-38		145					145
1938-39		162	57				209
1939-40		197	85				232
1940-41	76	250	116				442
1941	50	450	164				764
1946-47	56	343	82				481
1947-48	77	478	194				749
1948-49	101	600	432	18			1151
1949-50	180	619	795	20			1614
1950-51	192	565	905	13			1675
1951-52	221	588	975	12			1796
1952-53	238	590	862	9			1699
1953-54	261	639	749	14	19		1682
1954-55	266	615	745	12	20		1658
1955-56	315	535	871	11	13	57	1802

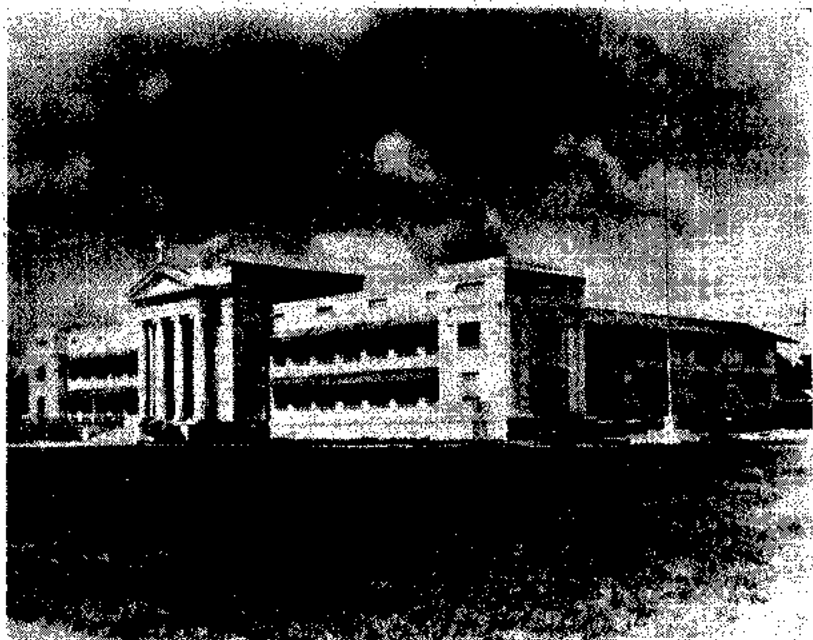
The enrollment figures indicate the gradual growth of the Ateneo de Cagayan from its opening in 1933 with 17 High School students to its peak enrollment of 1802 during the recent school year. The High School began with only a First Year;



ATENEO DE CAGAYAN
Administration Building



ATENEO DE CAGAYAN
Chapel



ATENEO DE NAGA



ATENEO DE SAN PABLO

another class was added each year so that the first graduation exercises for the complete four-year High School were held in 1937. There were 24 members of this first graduation class.

In 1938, the Ateneo de Cagayan opened the first college in Mindanao, with courses in Liberal Arts and Education, to which Commerce was soon added. Since its beginning with only 57 students, the collegiate department has greatly increased in enrollment and in the variety of courses offered. The Ateneo now has three complete colleges: Liberal Arts, Education and Commerce or Business Administration. (Note: On the enrollment chart printed above, these three units are included under the heading of "Colleges.") The College of Liberal Arts offers the Bachelor of Arts course and courses in Pre-Medical, Pre-Law and Pre-Dental. The College of Education offers courses leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, or the Elementary Teacher's Certificate. The College of Commerce prepares for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Commerce, and also offers a Secretarial Course. In addition to these three Colleges, there are the Graduate School, opened in 1948, the School of Agriculture dating from 1953, and the recently opened School of Law. In the various collegiate departments there are both day classes and evening classes. The evening classes are co-educational.

The College of Education of the Ateneo de Cagayan has played a very important role in the educational and religious life of northern Mindanao. It is estimated that 85% of the Public School teachers in the provinces of Misamis Oriental, Bukidnon and Lanao have been either full-time or part-time students of the Ateneo de Cagayan. Summer courses, offered by the College of Education since 1939, have given a great number of teachers the opportunity to complete their collegiate training under Catholic auspices. Through these summer classes and through the courses offered during the regular academic year, the College of Education has done much to form Catholic leaders within the Public School System as well as provide the numerous parochial grade schools and high schools of the region with well-formed Catholic teachers.

The School of Agriculture is also particularly noteworthy. It is the first of its kind in any of the Jesuit institutions in the Philippines and one of the comparatively few agricultural colleges in this largely agricultural land. It is still very young and its enrollment is very small, but there are solid hopes for the future. The Rev. William F. Masterton, S.J., Dean of the college, has brought together a good faculty and an interested group of students. The Ateneo has recently acquired a tract of 88 hectares on the road to the Cagayan airport. This land will be used for an Experimental Farm, while the classes and laboratory periods of the agriculturists will be held at the school site in the city.

In this sketchy chronicle of the Ateneos, the demands of brevity prevent "special mention" of the many Jesuits and laymen who have contributed to the growth and development of the schools. But since an attempt is made to point out particularly noteworthy features of the various Ateneos, special mention must be made of the two Rectors whose combined terms of office have spanned practically the whole of the Ateneo de Cagayan's vigorous life. Father Haggerty and Father Cervini have, between them, built the Ateneo, rebuilt it, and then greatly improved upon the great work, and they have both done much to form the ranks of the Church Militant in Mindanao. And incidentally, they have a distinction rare among busy Rectors: they have performed the herculean task of authorship during their term of office. One of them wrote the autobiography of a "Guerrilla Padre" and the other, appropriately enough, has published this Ignatian Year a life of Loyola, the Soldier Saint, entitled "Lord, the Company is Formed!"

ATENEO DE NAGA

The pre-War period of the Ateneo de Naga was a short but very crowded one. In 1940 the Jesuits went to Naga at the request of the Most Rev. Pedro P. Santos, D.D., the Bishop (now Archbishop) of Nueva Cáceres. Naga is the principal city of the "Bicol Region", a group of provinces occupying the southernmost part of the Island of Luzon. The Ateneo

began classes in June, 1940 in a building formerly used by the Camarines Sur Catholic Academy, next to the Naga Cathedral. This building, meant originally to be a parish convento, bulged at the seams with the 650 students admitted to the new Ateneo during the first year of its existence. The following June, more than 700 students were squeezed into the narrow quarters. Construction had already begun of the new Ateneo building on a site near the outskirts of Naga. This fine new building was nearing completion when the Japanese came to Naga on December 14, 1941. Plans had already been announced to move the school into its new quarters during the Christmas holidays. Instead, school was closed and the new building provided the Japanese military with an excellent headquarters. The American Jesuits of the Ateneo community were housed in the local jail until March 9, 1942, then interned in the Bishop's residence for a few weeks and finally removed to Manila where they were interned with their brothers in the Ateneo de Manila. The school was reopened in July, 1946 on the new site. In its two years of existence before the war, the Ateneo had a greater High School enrollment than any of the other Ateneos. It reopened with 875 students, a very large number for that turbulent school-year of 1946-47.

The Rev. Francis D. Burns, S.J. was the first director of the Ateneo de Naga; he was made Vice-Rector in 1940 and Rector in 1948. He was succeeded in 1949 by the Rev. Eusebio G. Salvador, S.J. In 1954, the present Rector, the Rev. Vincent M. McNally, S.J. assumed office.

Unlike the other Ateneos with a pre-war history, the Ateneo de Naga came out of war with its building substantially intact. But the forces of nature almost accomplished what men had failed to do. A series of destructive typhoons, beginning in 1937, battered the building, tore off sections of the roof and flooded the interior. The building was patched up, however, and improvements made. With the addition, in 1955, of an gymnasium-auditorium with a seating capacity of 2000, the physical plant of the Ateneo de Naga is quite impressive.

During its first year, the Ateneo included the intermediate grades of elementary school. In 1941, however, the ele-

mentary school students were transferred to the nearby Sisters' school and the Ateneo was solely a high school during 1941-42 and 1946-47. In 1947 a collegiate department was added. At present there is a four-year Liberal Arts Course leading to a Bachelor of Arts' degree, the two-year Associate in Arts course, four-year Education courses leading to the degrees of either Bachelor of Science in Education or Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, one-year Secretarial and Pre-Nursing courses, and, in the College of Commerce, four-year courses for the degree of either Bachelor of Science in Commerce or Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. The enrollment figures for High School and College Departments are as follows:

School Year	High School	College	Total
1940-41	c600		c600
1941-42	c750		c750
1946-47	875		875
1947-48	905	84	989
1948-49	775	125	900
1949-50	721	195	916
1950-51	781	250	1031
1951-52	935	240	1175
1952-53	964	180	1144
1953-54	855	158	1013
1954-55	793	197	990
1955-56	750	262	1012

The collegiate department became co-educational in the second semester of 1953-54. At present, women constitute approximately one third of the college enrollment.

The decrease in the collegiate enrollment in 1952 and 1953 seems to have been due principally to the loss of students from the College of Commerce. Some unpleasant incidents arising from competition between the Ateneo and another local institution have caused the commerce course to be the focus of much attention. During the recent schoolyear however, enrollment in the College of Commerce had reached 106 students as compared with 64 during 1953-54.

Although the Ateneo de Naga does not have its own school of agriculture, it is actively cooperating with efforts to develop

backward rural areas. The success of its rural education program is indicated by the activities of many of its graduates. Eleven Ateneo graduates are working in the Naga office of ACCFA, a government agency for encouraging, training and financing farmers and fishermen's marketing and credit associations. In a competitive exam to choose college graduates for a training program in rural barrio improvement, three out of the five students chosen from Camarines Sur province were Ateneo graduates. Graduates are encouraged to continue their studies in agricultural schools.

ATENEO DE TUGUEGARAO

In 1938, people who identified the title "Ateneo" with a *Jesuit* school and who knew the Latin parent, if not the meaning, of the word, were surprised and even disturbed that a new school was opening in northern Luzon under the title of Cagayan Valley Athenaeum—not conducted by Jesuits. But since then the world has been righted, for today this school is in the hands of the Jesuits. The Province of Cagayan in which this Ateneo is located is not to be confused with the City of Cagayan de Oro, the home of the Ateneo de Cagayan, many hundred miles to the south. Lest the schools themselves be confused—and also, perhaps, for the benefit of those who don't know the etymology of their title—the Cagayan Valley Athenaeum was renamed the Ateneo de Tuguegarao in April, 1951.

The Cagayan Valley Athenaeum was founded by the Most Reverend Constancio Jurgens, C.I.C.M., Bishop of Tuguegarao. From its foundation in 1938 until the war, it was housed in ample buildings adjoining the Cathedral of Tuguegarao. The buildings were destroyed in 1945 and the school reopened in a temporary structure of nipa and sawali erected in the patio of the pre-war compound. Shortly after its reopening during the schoolyear 1945-1946, the Athenaeum was committed by Bishop Jurgens to the direction of the Society of Jesus, and during 1949-50 complete jurisdiction was transferred to the Society. In October, 1950, the school was moved to a new site in the southwest section of Tuguegarao. Two buildings were completed in time for occupancy before the second semester of

1950-51—Loyola Hall, containing classrooms, laboratories, library and students' chapel, and Xavier Hall, with Fathers' quarters and students' dormitory and study hall. A third building, Bellarmine Hall, was completed shortly after the beginning of the semester and used for boarders' dining room. In 1953, an Administration Building was completed.

The Ateneo de Tuguegarao has no Grade School nor is there co-education in any department. A college department was added to the High School in June, 1947. Until 1953 it had only a two-year Pre-Law course and a two-year Commerce course. In 1953, government recognition of the full four-year Commerce was obtained.

Ateneo de Tuguegarao Enrollment

School year	High School	College	Total
1946-47	140		140
1947-48	267	40	307
1948-49	239	73	312
1949-50	266	64	330
1950-51	326	102	428
1951-52	408	95	503
1952-53	479	97	576
1953-54	480	103	583
1954-55	457	94	551
1955-56	456	111	567

It is a small school, and the collegiate course offerings limited to the Pre-Law and Commerce courses. (During the past few years, the college student body was almost equally divided into Pre-Law students and Commerce students.) The courses have been chosen with a regard for local circumstances. The Commerce courses will prepare the students for local business enterprises. Many of the Pre-Law students go to a law school in Manila and are encouraged by the Ateneo to attend a law school under Catholic auspices—for which, as the records of Ateneo de Tuguegarao pre-law graduates show, they have received a solid foundation. Approximately fifty percent of the High School graduates go on to college; of these approximately two-thirds go to Manila, while the others continue at the Ateneo de Tuguegarao.

The Rev. Leo McGovern, S.J., was the first Jesuit Director of the Ateneo de Tuguegarao. He was succeeded in January 1947 by the Rev. Walter F. Hyland, S.J. who remained as Director until July, 1948 when the Rev. Ralph M. O'Neill, S.J. was appointed Vice-Rector. Father O'Neill became Rector in September, 1951, until succeeded in that office in 1952 by the present Rector, the Rev. Rosalino Pascua, S.J. Father Pascua is to be reckoned among the "noteworthy features" of the Ateneo de Tuguegarao, for he has been active in the school since the Jesuits first came in 1946.

ATENEO DE SAN PABLO

The Ateneo de San Pablo might be said to have had a pre-war period. Father de la Costa, writing in 1941, a few months before the war begun, was already able to speak of an Ateneo de San Pablo:

As these lines are being written, plans have reached their final stage for still another Ateneo—the Ateneo de San Pablo, which will open, God willing, in June, 1942. San Pablo, one of the principal towns of the province of Laguna, belongs to the diocese of Lipa and hence comes under the spiritual jurisdiction of Bishop Alfredo Verzosa. Just as the Ateneo de Naga would have been impossible without the generosity of Bishop Pedro Santos, so it must be to Bishop Verzosa's zeal for the welfare of his people, and to his confidence in and active cooperation with the Society of Jesus, that the foundation of the Ateneo de San Pablo must be attributed.¹⁰

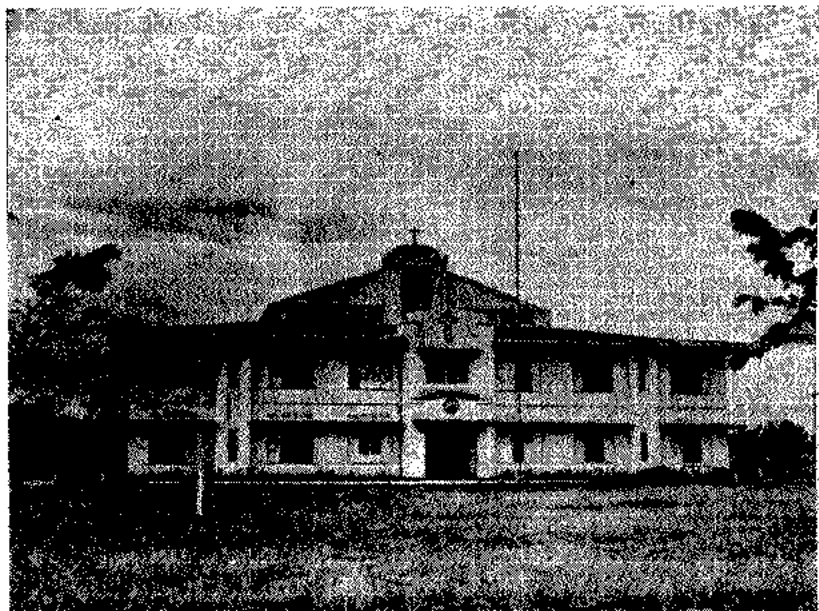
Obviously, God was not willing that the Ateneo de San Pablo open in June, 1942. Bishop Verzosa had turned over to the Society of Jesus the ownership of the land and building of the former Seminary at San Pablo with the intention that it be converted into a new Ateneo. The war came before the Jesuit Fathers were able to begin the school, and the project had to be abandoned "for the duration." In April, 1945, the former seminary building was set on fire during a raid made by American planes on Japanese soldiers in the tower of the adjacent church and the vicinity of the church. Everything inflammable was destroyed, with the result that when the Jesuits finally did come to San Pablo in 1947, they found "nothing but broken pillars, battered walls and wide stairways that led to nowhere."¹¹ The old seminary building was in ruins.

Under the direction of the Rev. John McCarron, S.J., a section deep within the ruins was cleared of its debris and out of it were carved five classrooms, a library, office and students' Chapel. And when, in addition, the old patio was converted into a concrete-paved basketball court and two other Jesuits arrived to assist Father McCarron, 69 students were enrolled, in June, 1947, into what probably was at that time and for that number of First Year High School students the best housed, best equipped and best staffed school in the Philippine Islands—and to all outward appearances, one of the worst of war ruins. As in each successive year another High School grade was added until the Ateneo had the full four-year course, the enrollment increased proportionately and the process of revitalizing a dead building went on *pari passu*.

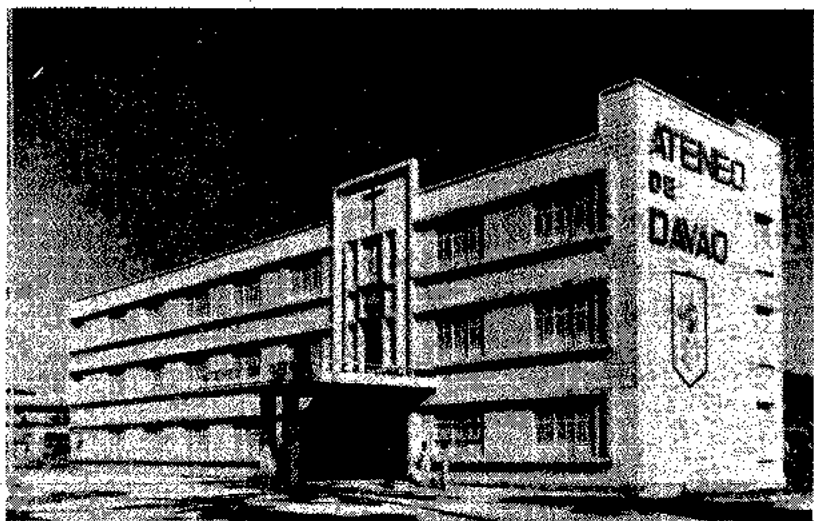
Father McCarron, the first Director of the Ateneo, was succeeded in 1948 by the Rev. Paul V. Finster, S.J. who was Vice-Rector until 1952 and Rector from 1952 until 1954. He was succeeded by the present Rector, the Rev. Eusebio G. Salvador, S.J. Under the direction of these Fathers, the reconstruction work continued outward and upward. By January of 1951, the front section of the ruins was rehabilitated and adorned with an impressive facade, so that now the Ateneo even looked like a good school. Finally, by February of the current year (1956), the center section of the ruins had been renovated and a beautiful Chapel erected on the second story of the building directly above the rooms first used by the school in 1947. The Ateneo de San Pablo has remained solely a High School for boys. Its enrollment statistics are simple:

School Year	H. S. Students	School Year	H. S. Students
1947-48	69	1952-53	396
1948-49	162	1953-54	433
1949-50	203	1954-55	535
1950-51	213	1955-56	520
1951-52	364		

Like the massive foundations of the Spanish-style building upon which it has been erected, the Ateneo de San Pablo has been built slowly and solidly. There is not much more that can



ATENEO DE DAVAO
High School Building



ATENEO DE DAVAO
College Building



SAN JOSE SEMINARY



BERCHMANS COLLEGE
Cebu City

be, or need be said of it than that it is a good Jesuit High School; may it remain just that! A remarkably large percentage of its graduates have gone to college—approximately 85% since the first graduation class of 1951. The Ateneo, fortunately, can continue to concentrate on the work of college preparation.

ATENEO DE DAVAO

The growth of the Ateneo de Davao, the youngest of the Ateneos, has paralleled the rapid post-war development of the City of Davao in which it is located. The Ateneo began in 1948 with a total Grade School and High School enrollment of 201 students; today it has, besides Grade and High School, collegiate courses in Liberal Arts, Commerce and Education and a total enrollment of over 1300.

Unlike the other Ateneos, the Ateneo de Davao commenced in a new building on its own piece of property. In February, 1948, six hectares were obtained in the Juna Subdivision in Matina, about two kilometers distant from the business section of the City of Davao, and construction begun. The two-story wooden building was sufficiently complete for the opening of classes in June, 1948. At first the Ateneo had only the Intermediate Grade School classes and the first three years of High School. Within the next two years, the full six-year Grade School and four-year High School courses were introduced. In 1951 a three-story building was constructed on a two hectare lot obtained in the heart of the city. The College opened in this building in June, 1951. The High School has continued to occupy the building in Matina; the Grade School now shares the new building with the College. Improvements have been made in the original Matina building, and its courtyard roofed over to provide for a gymnasium-auditorium.

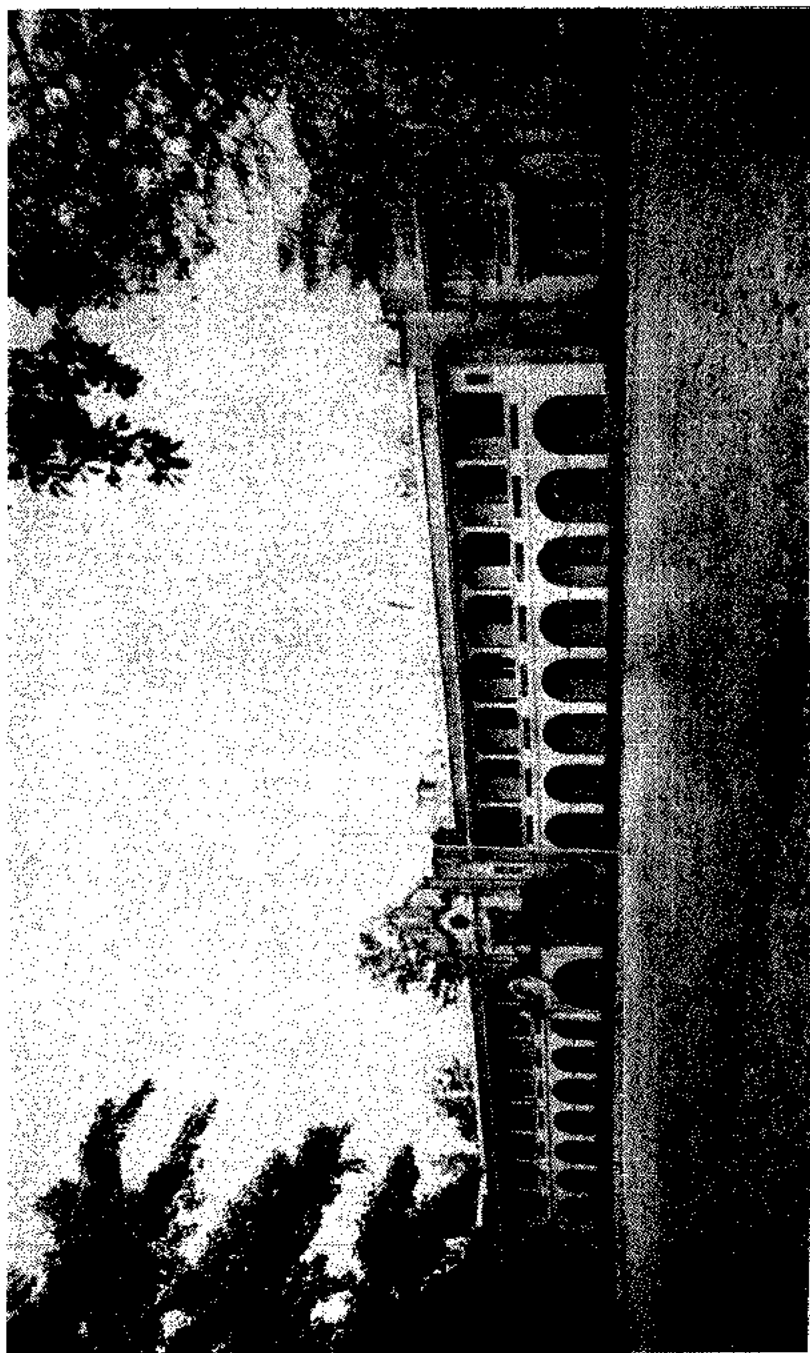
The founder and first Rector of the Ateneo de Davao was the Rev. Theodore E. Daigler, S.J. The second Rector, appointed in 1952, was the Rev. Martin J. Casey, S.J. Father Casey was succeeded in 1954 by the present Rector, the Rev. Paul V. Finster, S.J.

Ateneo de Davao Enrollment

School Year	Grade School	High School	College	Total.
1948-49	73	128		201
1949-50	236	194		430
1950-51	310	240		550
1951-52	413	294	138	845
1952-53	440	325	125	890
1953-54	485	317	207	1009
1954-55	489	293	318	1100
1955-56	536	368	420	1324

The College of Liberal Arts began in 1951 with the two-year Pre-Law Course and the first two years of a Bachelor of Literature course; it now offers a four-year Bachelor of Arts course, two-year Pre-Law, Pre-Medical and Pre-Dental courses, a one-year Pre-Nursing course, and a course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. In the College of Education there is the four-year course for the degree of Bachelor of Science in Education and the Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. The College of Commerce offers the four-year course for the degree of either Bachelor of Science in Commerce or Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, a one-year Secretarial course, and a two-year course leading to the Title of Associate in Commercial Science. In addition to these, there is a two-year Basic Engineering course. Since the second semester of the school-year 1952-53, the collegiate departments have been co-educational.

The Ateneo de Davao, located as it is in the bustling city of Davao on the "Last Frontier," is in an excellent position for further development and for the exercise of a decisive Catholic influence on its region. It has already benefited much from the zealous cooperation of the Parent-Teachers' Association and of the large group of Ateneo de Manila alumni in the city of Davao and its environs. Ninety-five percent of its own High School graduates go on to some college. The importance of the preparation received in the Ateneo is evident. As for the great variety of courses in the Ateneo de Davao's collegiate department: it reflects conditions in the city of Davao.



SACRED HEART NOVITIATE
Novaliches

THE FAMILY LIKENESS

A considerable amount of restraint has been exercised in the preparation of the foregoing account of the Ateneos. It is a bit difficult to write dispassionately on a subject so close to the heart of the Jesuits in the Philippines, and to confine oneself to a recital of dates and a dry account of building operations and enrollment statistics. It might be well here to disclaim faith in the reliability of physical plant and size of student body as measures of a school's worth. They are scarcely more reliable than are external appearance and bodily weight as gauges of a man's character. It would be necessary to know what goes on within the walls of the buildings and within the heads and hearts of the students. Building operations, nevertheless, have been perforce a preoccupation of the Ateneos, and all have necessarily been concerned with the size of the student body; for some, the problem has been how to increase in, for others, how to control it, and for all, how to house it.

To give a complete and consequently a true picture of the Ateneos, it would be necessary to describe their characteristics as Catholic schools and as Jesuit schools. How closely do they follow the *Ratio Studiorum* which they all profess as their guide? To what extent is student life influenced by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola? How closely do they approximate the ideals of Christian Education? Are they characterized by the program of constructive discipline generally accepted as a hallmark of a truly Jesuit school? How recognizable in their students is the image of their Captain, Christ?

It would be foolhardy to attempt an answer to these questions here. Suffice it to say that in these respects the family likeness is visible. No sane observer would fail to recognize in each of the Ateneos a Jesuit Catholic school, albeit with varying degrees of clarity. Since this chronicle of the Ateneos, however, has thus far been confined to surface manifestations of Ateneo life, it will remain consistent to the end. It will give a brief account of Ateneo "extra-curricular" activity. In the eyes of the general public success in such activity is a characteristic of the Ateneos; it has some degree of reliability as a criterion of institutional excellence—and it exhibits features common to all the Ateneos.

Extra-Curricular Activity

A publication of the Ateneo de Naga has given this convenient summary of what it terms "Ateneo's Outstanding Achievements of the Year":

- * *Top Medalist—Triumph* 1955, Year Book Contest, Columbia Scholastic Press Association, U.S.A.
- * *First Place Award—The Blue and Gold* 1955, News Magazine Contest, Columbia Scholastic Press Association, U.S.A.
- * *Oratory*
 - First Place—National "United Nations" Contest
 - First Place—Bicol Regional Contest on Community Improvement
 - Finalist—National "Voice of Democracy" Contest
 - Finalist—National Contest on Dr. Jose Rizal
- * *Essay*
 - First Place—Bicol Regional Contest in Filipino Language
 - 3rd Place—National Contest on Coconut Industry
- * *P.M.T.*
 - First Place, three consecutive years, Peñafrancia marching Competition
- * *College Varsity*
 - Bicol Regional Open Champions
- * *H.S. Varsity*
 - PAAF—Zone V Intersecondary Champions
 - BACS meet Champions
- * *BACS Interscholastic Meet*
 - General Championship Trophy College Department for Men
 - 12 Gold Medals
 - 10 Silver Medals
- * *About three thousand children instructed by Ateneo Catechists*

This record of "outstanding achievements" is of only one Ateneo, the Ateneo de Naga. (For present purposes, it does not seem necessary to provide the reader with a glossary; the record is sufficiently clear.) But a study of the daily newspapers, school papers and the domestic organ of the Society of Jesus in the Philippines, *The Philippine Clipper*, will show that such a record is typical of all the Ateneos. A comparable record of achievements in extra-curricular achievements could be compiled by each of the Ateneos, in any year. It reveals the success of the Ateneos within their respective regions and within the Philippines as a whole. *Ex uno disce omnes.*

The record manifests the emphasis placed by the Ateneos on four general classes of extra-curricular activity: the media of Self-Expression, Military Training, Athletics, Sodality activity.

SELF-EXPRESSION

To supplement classroom efforts towards the improvement of the students' power of self-expression, both oral and written, the Ateneos have always given great encouragement to oratorical contests, dramatics, student publications and the like.

The Ateneo de Manila established the reputation of the Ateneos in these fields long before 1921, the starting point of this chronicle. It has greatly enhanced the reputation during the past thirty-five years; the other Ateneos have not merely inherited the name, but have established their own right to it.

A striking example of the Ateneos' success in oratorical competition may be found in the results of the "Voice of Democracy" Oratorical Contests sponsored for the past five years by the Philippine Junior Chamber of Commerce. Eight contestants, representing the different regions of the Philippines, take part in the final contest held in Manila. The Ateneos were represented in the final contests in the following manner:

School year 1951-52: First Place — Ateneo de Manila
Other Finalists — Ateneo de San Pablo,
Ateneo de Cagayan, Ateneo de Zamboanga

(School year 1952-53—Contest not held)

School year 1953-54: First Place—Ateneo de Manila
Second Place—Ateneo de San Pablo

School year 1954-55: Second Place—Ateneo de Cagayan
Other Finalists—Ateneo de Tuguegarao,
Ateneo de Zamboanga

School year 1955-56: First Place—Ateneo de Davao
Second Place—Ateneo de Manila
Third Place—Ateneo de Cagayan
Finalist—Ateneo de Naga

The Annual Play of the Ateneo de Manila has generally been a dramatic success. Classical plays have frequently been presented, but there have also been modern plays and those of a semi-classical type. It would be rash to attempt to single out the best of the long series since 1921, but of the pre-war period it is likely that the Passion Play of 1928 would be in the run-

ning for first honors, while in the post-war period, the "Hamlet" produced in 1950 was among the best. The other Ateneos have continued the tradition in their own regions. It is no little achievement for the Ateneos to have successfully produced such plays as "Alcestis" in San Pablo, "Cyrano de Bergerac" in Cagayan, and "Green Pastures" in Naga.

Where broadcasting stations have been available, the Ateneos have encouraged their students to participate in radio programs. During the pre-war period the "Chesterton Evidence Guild" of the Ateneo de Manila had great success on its "Catholic Hour". In the post-war period, the "Cathedral Players" of the Ateneo de Naga successfully broadcasted many radio-plays. The Ateneo de Cagayan has a weekly program, "Mary Time", on the local station.

The awards made annually by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association of Columbia University to deserving student publications the world over, have provided a fairly reliable norm whereby to compare Ateneo student publications with those of other schools in the Philippines and abroad. Ateneo de Manila and Ateneo de Naga publications have been frequent recipients of "Medalist" or "First Honors" awards.

MILITARY TRAINING

The stress put upon Military Training by the Ateneo de Manila during its 1921-1932 period has already been mentioned.¹² Military training has continued to hold an important place in the Ateneo de Manila, and the other Ateneos have continued the tradition. Within their respective regions, the Ateneos are generally given very high ratings, and often the highest, in interscholastic military competition. With the advent of the Philippine Commonwealth government in 1935, military training was made obligatory in the schools. "Cadet Corps" have lost much of the glamor attached to them before they were made obligatory; gaudy institutional uniforms are mostly obsolete and the training itself has become more grimly rigorous. On the level of casual conversation, the Jesuit Fathers are not unanimous in their approval of military training in the schools. Would it be retained if it were not obliga-

tory and not needed for national defense? That is a moot question. But the fact is that at present military training is being used in all the Ateneos as an effective means towards constructive discipline and character formation.

ATHLETICS

All of the Ateneos, admitting the need for "*mens sana in corpore sano*", have extensive athletic programs. In intercollegiate or interscholastic competition for honors in the national sports, basketball, the Ateneos are frequently among the best in their regions. On the national scale, the Ateneo de Manila has frequently had championship rating during the past thirty years. In soccer football also the Ateneo de Manila has generally finished first or second in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) annual series.

Intercollegiate competition, however, aids in the physical development of only the comparative few. It is, moreover, a bit doubtful at the present time whether NCAA athletic competition is a help or a hindrance to the "*mens sana*." Fortunately, each of the Ateneos has a well-developed program of intramural athletics, for the benefit not of only a few students but of all.

SODALITY

The traditional place of honor held by the Sodality of Our Lady in Jesuit colleges throughout the world is maintained in the Ateneo. With its twofold mission, to foster personal holiness and stimulate Catholic activity, the Sodality forms the background of all school activities and communicates to each its vital spirit.¹³

In the account of the Ateneo de Manila, mention was made of the vigorous Sodality activity during the years immediately preceding World War II.¹⁴ Such activity has characterized the Ateneo de Manila in the post-war period, and all of the other Ateneos as well. The Ateneo de Manila Sodality activities mentioned above have their counterpart in the other Ateneos. Most important and oldest of the Sodality organizations is the Ateneo Catechetical Instruction League (A.C.I.L.). Before 1921, Ateneo de Manila students had done much catechetical work among the poor of Manila. In 1924, catechetics was for-

mally designated a Sodality activity and its organization named the Ateneo Catholic Instruction League (since changed to Ateneo Catechetical Instruction League). Since that time it has had a vigorous and successful life. During the school year 1955-56, the A.C.I.L. provided weekly catechetical instruction to several thousand children in ten different centers of Manila and environs. All of the other Ateneos have the same activity, generally known likewise as the A.C.I.L. Through this organization and other "Sodality Sections," and especially through the various means employed to inculcate in their members personal holiness, each of the Ateneos strives to attain the ideals mentioned above in the Ateneo de Manila Bulletin's description of the Sodality. In the Sodality of our Blessed Mother, the Ateneos have a powerful means whereby to deepen the pleasing family resemblance between them all.

This concludes the chronicle of the Ateneo since 1921. It is but a partial picture of Jesuit educational endeavour in the Philippines during the past few decades. No mention has been made of the most important educational work of the Philippine Jesuits: the training of young men for the priesthood—for the Jesuit priesthood in Sacred Heart Novitiate, Novaliches, and Berchmans College, Cebu, and for the secular priesthood in San José Seminary, Quezon City. Omitted also is an account of the many parochial schools under the direction of Jesuits. In the Jesuit parishes of the provinces of Misamis Oriental, Bukidnon, Zamboanga and of the island of Culion, there are many grade schools, high schools, and even one college under the direction of their Jesuit pastors.

The account of the Ateneos is itself, because of the limitations of both time and space, sketchy and inadequate. Much has been omitted necessary for a true picture of these Jesuit schools. To understand their difficulties and the vigor and even heroism with which they have sought to overcome them, one would have to understand the background against which they have worked. The full picture would tell of fluctuations in the price of copra. It would tell of transportation difficulties in Davao. It would tell of frequent kidnappings in the vicinity of San Pablo and of a "red peril" so real that on one

eventful day the City of San Pablo was practically under the control of Communists. A hundred controversies distracting the Ateneo de Manila, a live volcano and earthquakes disturbing the even tenor of life in Cagayan, typhoons in Naga, fire and flood in Tuguegarao and Zamboanga—all of these catastrophes and near-catastrophes should appear in the chronicle. But especially lacking in the foregoing pages is mention of the hundreds of Jesuits who have contributed to the growth of the Ateneos and of the many devoted lay professors and administrators without whom there would be little story to tell. For schools are primarily people. To have the true picture of the Ateneos, one would need know of the individual students, leaders and others, who have actually lived the lives of the Ateneos, of the many alumni who have brought comfort and consolation to their Alma Mater—and even of the comparatively few graduates who have caused her disproportionately great sickness of heart. But it is left to someone else to develop the picture of the Ateneos, to clothe these bare bones with human flesh and blood and to breathe into it the quickening Spirit of Incarnate Wisdom. Only in such a picture of his schools could St. Ignatius Loyola recognize the image of his Captain, Christ.

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¹ *Proverbs*, 9. 1

² *Woodstock Letters*, LV (June, 1926), 317

³ William C. Repetti, S.J., *The Philippine Mission 1859-1938* (Manila, 1938), p. 74.

⁴ Repetti, *op. cit.* p. 36

⁵ *Woodstock Letters*, LIV (October, 1925), 291-292

⁶ *Woodstock Letters*, LV (June, 1926), 316

⁷ *Woodstock Letters*, LVIII (February, 1929), 209

⁸ See *supra*, p. 164

⁹ See *supra*, p. 163

¹⁰ Horacio de la Costa, S.J., *Light Cavalry* (Manila, 1942), p. 605

¹¹ *Ensign* (Ateneo de San Pablo Students' Newsmagazine), III, 1 (Feb., 1956), 3

¹² See *supra*, p. 158

¹³ *Ateneo de Manila Bulletin*, The College of Arts and Sciences, 1956-1957, 75

¹⁴ See *supra*, p. 161