PREFACE.

The following report of the learned Jesuit Father José Coronas on the Climate and Weather of the Philippines is of great practical value. It is altogether original and contains very valuable information not only on the general conditions of our climate, but also on exceptional weather conditions experienced during the period of 16 years, 1903–1918. The data given in this report will be of exceptional interest to the public in general and most particularly to those who are engaged in agriculture or in commerce in the Philippines. Never before has any report been published on the climate of the Philippines with such a wealth of data and referring to so many stations distributed throughout the Archipelago.

In the introductory remarks of this report, a short account is given of the Climatological and Weather Service of the Philippines as it existed at the end of 1918. There were, in all, 60 official stations and 53 voluntary or coöperative stations throughout the Archipelago. Weather telegrams are being received twice daily in Manila from about 50 stations in the Philippines, one station in Guam, ten stations in Japan, five stations in Formosa, five on the China coast, and three in Indochina. A weather map of the Far East based on these telegraphic reports is being prepared daily at the Manila Observatory since 1907, and posted in several public places in Manila. There cannot be any doubt that the preparation of this weather map has helped considerably to improve the forecasting service of the Philippine Weather Bureau, especially as regards the forecasting of typhoons.

Special effort has been made in this report to present, in a most comprehensive manner, the greatest possible amount of information referring to the distribution of rainfall in the Philippines, as this is considered the most important element of our climate. In fact, it is the cause of the different types of climate which exist in the Philippines within a characteristically tropical climate. A very elaborate and interesting climate and rainfall map and a good number of other graphic illustrations