

THE TYPHOONS OF NOVEMBER, 1909.

By Rev. JOSÉ CORONAS, S. J.,
Assistant Director of the Weather Bureau.

(Reprint from the Bulletin of the Weather Bureau for November, 1909.)

During the month of November two notable typhoons have crossed the Philippine Archipelago south of Manila. The first of these was remarkable for the unusual violence which it displayed in the Visayas and the China Sea, and for the changes in direction of the track while the storm traversed the China Sea—viz, after inclining toward north, the typhoon, on reaching the height of Bolinao, resumed its original westerly course and entered the Asiatic Continent near Tourane. The second storm was distinguished by the extraordinary development which it acquired in the China Sea after having crossed the Philippines ill defined and with little intensity; but above all by the fact that for several days it remained practically stationary to the east of the Paracel Islands.

We shall endeavor to ascertain the tracks of these two typhoons, which are represented on Plates XXVI and XXIX, to the best of our ability.

THE TYPHOON OF THE VISAYAS, NOVEMBER 6 AND 7, 1909.

It would seem that this typhoon formed north of the Pelew Islands on November 2 to 3. Although a low-pressure area existed in the neighborhood of the Western Carolines ever since the last days of October, we do not believe that it had a well-defined cyclonic center before the 2d. On the 3d Manila Observatory sent the following advice to Hongkong and the other observatories of the Far East:

November 3, 11 a. m.: Typhoon north of Pelew Islands; direction unknown.

In the morning of the 5th it became perfectly clear that the disturbance threatened to cross the Archipelago through the Visayas and the interisland seas between the latter and Luzon. The following notices were given to the newspapers of the capital on that day:

November 5, 11.40 a. m.: The depression or typhoon east of the Visayas seems to be moving slowly to W or WNW.

November 5 6 p. m.: The typhoon over the Pacific is approaching the Visayas, moving apparently to WNW. It will probably cross Samar Island and the interisland seas between Luzon and the Visayas by to-morrow. Navigation very dangerous south of Luzon.

Similar warnings were telegraphed to all the stations of the Weather Bureau, giving ample time to forewarn the endangered regions. To Hongkong, etc., we cabled as follows:

November 5, 9.30 a. m.: Typhoon east of the Visayan Islands, moving W or WNW.

November 5, 6 p. m.: Typhoon east of the Visayan Islands, moving WNW.