

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PHILIPPINE VOLCANOES

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The impulse and effort of a scientist who seriously undertakes the study of Philippine Volcanoes is to canvass the field of Philippine Vulcaneology and to ascertain the extent and nature of the ground covered by previous investigators. The best guide and adviser in making this reconnaissance is a bibliography of literature relating to volcanoes. The books dealing with Philippine Volcanoes only are very few. Neither Spanish nor Filipino writers seem to have been particularly keen in transmitting to posterity their knowledge of our volcanoes. Valuable information about volcanoes is to be found in letters of missionaries, chronicles of religious corporations, reports of Government officials and narratives of foreign scientific expeditions. As an example the best description of the eruption of Mayon volcano in 1814 undoubtedly is the account of the Franciscan parish priest of Cagsawa, Francisco Arageneses. The earliest prehistoric study of the lavas of Catarman volcano is to be found in the reports of the Challenger expedition undertaken by the British Government in 1872. A detailed account of the eruption of Taal in 1754 is preserved in the Archive General de la Nación, Mexico. Using the books and publications available in the local libraries a bibliography of Philippine volcanoes has been prepared at the Weather Bureau. In a few cases when the books were not available for consultation or purchase, photostatic copies of the pertinent sections of the publication were secured. The bibliography, far from being a mere list of books, summarizes important points discussed by the authors.