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## THE MANILA OBSERVATORY IN BAGUIO

Visitor's Day is busy at the Manila Observatory. Wednesday and Saturday mornings are used to explain the scientific work being done and to introduce guests to the departments. The serious research effort in Baguio is a complete surprise. John Hay, the U.S. Airbase, includes the Observatory on its Baguio Tour list of interesting stops for their vacationing visitors. Lowlanders discover it if they walk up the road farther than the Lourdes shrine to get a view of the Lingayen Gulf. Teachers make a visit a "must" for their classes, mixing work with entertainment. The variety of scientific material displayed makes for a very profitable and pleasurable visit. Few, however, realize the significance of the Observatory's name or its historic background.

Even though located in Baguio, the name MANILA OBSERVATORY is used, because as a legal person, it keeps its name wherever it goes. Baguio was the best place for it to arise from the ashes of the past war. In Manila it began almost a hundred years ago as an offspring of the present Ateneo de Manila. In 1865, under the enthusiasm of young Jesuit teachers, it started on a small rooftop in Intramuros. Recognized by the Royal Crown of Spain in 1884, its need for expansion took it into the Ermita section. Here it remained during the Spanish and American regimes and under the Commonwealth. The street in front of it was named after its Founder, Padre Faura. Under the second Director, Padre José Algué, it increased its reputation for scientific achievement especially in weather investigation. It was also busy in seismology, geomagnetism and astronomy.

In the pre-war days the Observatory dome was a landmark in the city. With the arrival of the Imperial Forces of Japan its work ceased for a time - both its private work and its public service in the Philippine Weather Bureau.

At war's end, Fr Miguel Selga, third Director, stood within its former compound on Padre Faura Street, and looked on the hot waste of black ashes, the ruins of his beloved Observatory, spread about him. Gone were his tools, his instruments, books, buildings and precious records of its eighty years work. The Manila Observatory had met a tragic end!

Totally destroyed, to all physical appearances, this moral person, The MANILA OBSERVATORY lived on, particularly in the heart of Fr. Charles Deppermann. He considered Baguio more propitious a place for it to rise from the ravages of war. Mirador Hill thus became the present center of its activity in 1952. It has branched out in its geophysical research program into seismology, ionospheric Physics, Geomagnetism, Solar Photographic and Visual research and radio astronomy of the sun. Though varied disciplines of study, still all, except for seismology, are concerned with sun-earth relationships.