

## THE BEGINNING OF THE OBSERVATORY AND SEISMOLOGICAL WORK.

The Manila Observatory began its work in a very unpretentious manner in 1865 when the Spanish Fathers who were teaching sciences in the Ateneo Municipal commenced to take meteorological observations. The work developed steadily, especially under the administration of Father Faura, Director from 1867 to 1871, and, with a few short interruptions, from 1878 to 1897.

In the year 1884 the Observatory was officially recognized by the Spanish Government and subsidized as the Weather Bureau of the Philippine Islands ~~(with the two divisions of Meteorology and Seismology)~~. The same recognition and help has been continued under the American regime and so this year 1934 marks the completion of a half century of official weather bureau work under two nationalities. We take this occasion of presenting to the scientific world a review of the seismological work of the Observatory.

From the very inception of the Observatory it had been recognized that seismic observations were very desirable in a country such as the Philippines where earthquakes had taken their toll in lives and property. Sometime previous to October, 1869, Father Juan Ricart, professor of Natural History in the Ateneo Municipal, devised two seismoscopes, one for horizontal and one for vertical motion, and both are still preserved in the Observatory. The former, later known as Pendulum No.1, consists of a simple pendulum 55cm long, the bob of which carries a pin on its lower surface. A spherical plate, with radius of curvature equal