

# Manila observes ozone a century ago

MANILA has one of the oldest records on ozone measurements in the world. Dr. Santino Sandroni, an Italian scientist, found the ozone records in the National Library in Madrid about two years ago. According to him the book where the records can be found won the Silva model in 1884.

The Manila observatory measured ozone from 1879 to 1882. Besides the ozone records of Manila, Doctor Sandroni obtained similar records in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and Oaxaca de Juarez in Mexico. Father Federico Faura, a Jesuit priest and the director of "Observatorio Meteorologico de Manila" from 1865 to 1897 used the same technique and instrumentation for measuring ozone developed in France and applied the same in Manila. This made it possible for Doctor Sandroni to make data elaboration in order to have data comparable with the present-day data.

According to his study, the ozone levels a century ago were early half of the present level. When compared with higher latitudes, his study showed that ozone levels were lower at tropical latitudes. This trend is also observed today. Dr. Sandroni wrote a paper on "Historical Data of Surface Ozone at Tropical Latitudes" which will be featured in the journal, "Science of the Total Environment" in England.

The ozone observations mentioned should not be confused with the ozone observations in the upper atmosphere or stratosphere.

On the other hand, the much publicized stratospheric ozone is on the decreasing trend.

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