

NOTES CONCERNING THE RAGANG VOLCANO AND A
GREAT EARTHQUAKE IN SOUTH MINDANAO

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The following notes, by Rev. Father Masó, were transmitted to the BULLETIN through Professor Warren D. Smith of the University of Oregon.—*Editor.*

RAGANG VOLCANO, MINDANAO.—In the month of July, 1916, during a Constabulary patrol through the region situated between Lake Lanao and Cotabato, Lieut. W. F. Donnelly, P. C., came in sight of an active volcano which from all indications had recently erupted a discharge of volcanic ash and vapors capable of partially destroying the vegetation for 3.5 kilometers around.

Later, in September, Col. P. E. Traub, U. S. Cav., Chief of the District, greatly interested in the discovery of Lieut. Donnelly, undertook a second expedition in company with Capt. G. O. Fort, P. C., and the said lieutenant to locate the crater and examine its actual state of activity. Arriving in the region, the party met with some difficulty in discovering the volcano, on account of the fog. When the fog lifted they saw a group of three peaks or cones with a deep hollow in the center between them. From the hollow or crater, apparently extinct at present, there radiates toward the southeast an old current of broken and jagged lava extending about three kilometers. In some places the lava, not so broken, presents the slaggy and corded type characteristic of some recent Vesuvian flows. All around the cones and crater the products of former eruptions are scattered in the order of their size, boulders and bombs, pedregal, sand and ashes, to a great distance. The actual activity is shown by numerous jets of sulphurous vapor issuing from vents distributed in the interior faces of the cones, forming the broken crater, and in the current of lava. At present the most active center is a great fissure, about thirty meters long and five wide and deep, opened across one of the cones. This crater seems to have been the origin of the last and very recent outburst; it is steaming energetically but filling up with loose material carried down its walls by the rains. There are all around the principal cones, other extinct vents, some in the shape of small cones and some of cracks and crevasses.

Capt. Fort, in his interesting report, for the perusal of which, to extract all the given details, we are greatly indebted to the courtesy