

from abroad, including the Spanish violincellist Gaspar Cassado, the tenor Jan Peerce, the American pianist Mary Graffman, and the American violinist Maurice Wilk. Eduard Strauss revisited Manila and led the Manila Symphony Orchestra in an all-Strauss concert.

Rizal's *Noli me tangere* has been turned into an opera, with the sculptor Guillermo Tolentino writing the libretto and Felipe Padilla de Leon writing the music. First presented in 1957, it was again presented in June 1958. Meanwhile the Rizal Centennial Commission has announced a contest for the best opera on the life of Rizal. Prize: ₱6,000. Deadline: summer of 1959.

ANTONIO G. MANUUD

✓IGY Report From Baguio

THE AMERICAN SATELLITE "Atlas" has been observed more regularly at the Manila Observatory in Baguio than any of the previous satellites. Father Richard Miller of our astronomical division has made predictions of location, direction and time and these have been found to be accurate. The "Atlas" changed perceptibly in brightness about every two minutes, showing that the cone kept tumbling as it orbited around the earth. *Space-track* continues to send the Observatory telegrams requesting information about the satellites. Though the International Geophysical Year ended with 1958 the IGY program continues through January. Thereafter a modified program will be in effect, known as International Geophysical Cooperation 1959. The sun of course remains active. Ionospheric activity remains rather high, for which reason several calls have been received from the "Voice of America" personnel concerning their long distance communication problems. On the other hand the earth has been especially quiet during the past few months. Father Bernard Doucette of our seismic division reports that earthquakes have been fewer and less intense.

JAMES J. HENNESSEY