

EDITORIAL

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SAFETY—FIRST

While every precaution has been taken by mining operators in the Philippines to insure the safety and well-being of their employees, it has only been in the past two years that first aid and safety work has been handled systematically. During the development and construction days of the industry, which for most properties was from 1933 to 1938, there was but little opportunity or real need for such work. Now, however, the industry has to a great extent completed its expansion as far as building and enlarging plants is concerned, and has settled down to routine operation.

The Marsman Safety Competition, details of which are announced in this issue of the Marsman Magazine, is planned to stimulate this safety work by introducing the element of competition. Campaigns of a similar nature

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RALPH KEELER, Editor and Business Manager

have been outstandingly successful in the United States and other mining countries, and there is every reason to expect that this new one will be equally successful in the Philippines.

Organized first aid and safety work, as introduced under the supervision of Mr. Jarrett in the Baguio district and Mr. Strong in the Paracale-Mambulao area, has effected a very considerable decrease in accidents in both districts. The workers are taking a real interest in the training; practically the entire populations of both areas turned out at

the annual safety tournaments held last year.

Safety training is, of course, primarily planned for the prevention of accidents in the mines. It is also of great value in training for citizenship; for the worker who learns to be careful at his job will carry that training to his home and outside life.

Mr. Marsman, in starting this safety campaign, is continuing the policy that has marked his activities in the Philippine mining industry—a policy of initiative in projects for the advancement of the industry.

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