

USC HONORS FIRST FILIPINO MISSIONARY

The Society of the Divine Word (SVD) holds the distinction of counting among its members the first Filipino missionary priest to be sent out from his motherland. This missionary, **Rev. Fr. Fernando de Pedro, S.V.D.**, will leave sometime in November of this year for Indonesia where he will contribute his share in the work for the salvation of souls.

On August 15, the University of San Carlos, a university run by SVD Fathers, had two causes for rejoicing. In the first place this day was the celebration of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mother of God. In the second place, the university had a distinguished visitor — Rev. Fr. de Pedro.

At 7:00 o'clock, a.m., a "Missa Cantata" was officiated at the university chapel by the honored guest. At the choir loft, the newly re-organized university choir joyously sang "Misa de San Pedro." In the afternoon a crowd turned in at the San Carlos Quadrangle to attend a literary-musical program sponsored by the College of Education in honor of Fr. de Pedro. While the numbers on the program were being rendered, collection plates were

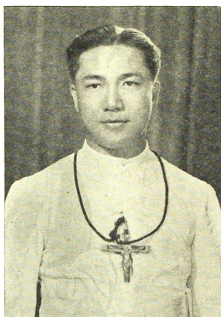
passed through the audience by lady members of the Faculty.

The guest was introduced by **Rev. Father Albert van Ganswinkel, SVD**, USC Rector, who was one of the instructors of Father de Pedro during the latter's student days in the Vigan Seminary. Father Rector proudly praised his former student for seriousness and diligence in his studies.

"Perhaps," Father Rector said, "it was while working on the paper, **Outside the Catholic Church there is No Salvation**, that Father de Pedro was inspired to work for the salvation of others."

The first Filipino missionary to Indonesia thanked the Faculty and students of USC for the honor given him. He said that his visit to this university was "a never-to-be-forgotten memory" which would serve "to dispel the dark clouds that hang over a lonely missionary." He exhorted the audience to pray for the missions.

Fr. de Pedro is a native of Laoang, Ilocos Norte. He pursued the priestly studies in Vigan Seminary. Ordained in 1942, he was assigned organist and in charge of the choir of Vigan. For six years he worked as secular priest in Vigan.



Rev. FERNANDO DE PEDRO, S.V.D.
First Filipino Missionary to Indonesia.

Feeling the call to the missions within him, he applied for membership in the Society of the Divine Word and was admitted into the Christ the King Mission Seminary in 1947. In 1951 he made his perpetual vows as one of the SVD Fathers.

Fr. de Pedro's departure to Indonesia will be a response to a request made by that country two or three years ago for two or three missionary priests. He is to be accompanied by another SVD priest, Fr. M. Villoruz. His station will be in Timor, one of the islands of Indonesia four times bigger than Cebu.

This island has a population of 1 million of which 70 thousand are Catholics.

The guest's parting message to all Carolinians was: "Keep up the good spirit!"

DOORS RECENTLY INSTALLED IN CHAPEL

Beautifully carved wooden doors recently installed in the USC chapel make it possible for students to pass through the corridor on the third floor of the main building crossing the chapel without giving disturbance to the Blessed Sacrament. These doors can be folded to give more space to the chapel during Sundays and least days of obligation.

Meanwhile, the communion rail which has been expected by those who attend Holy Mass in the USC chapel, has arrived from Manila and are already installed.



Carolinians join the NAMFREL. Photo taken at the first Cebu NAMFREL Convention held at Times Kitchen on Sept. 17 last. USC was represented by Messrs. E. de la Serne (Lex Circle Presy.), J. Chung, Jr. (Lex Circle Vice-Presy.), & A. Cimafrance (Law Seniors Presy.). At the head of the table is NAMFREL National Coordinator Col. Jaime M. Ferrer. Other Cebu schools were represented; and the Cebu K. of G. Rotarians, Jaycees & YMCA had each at least a representative in the Convention.