

PHILIPPINE BOOKSHELF

BEFORE BATAAN AND AFTER. By Frederic S. Marquardt. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1943. 315 pp. \$2.50.

WHEN Japan invaded the Philippines, something happened which was unparalleled in the Orient and in the history of colonial government. While the subject peoples of the neighboring countries did not fight nor resist the invader, in the Philippines the Filipinos rose as one man in defense of American sovereignty and the American flag, and fought the enemy to the bitter end in what is now known as the epic of Bataan. Many reasons have been advanced for this record performance. In fighting for the American flag, the Filipinos were also fighting for their own country and their own freedom. They were loyal to America because America had won their undying friendship and affection. But this friendship certainly did not mushroom overnight. Behind it is a long story—a unique experiment in human relationships and government collaboration untried elsewhere in the history of the world. *Before Bataan and After* tells that story from a personalized viewpoint. In its fine presentation of Philippine-American relationships, it explains the epic of Bataan.

Mr. Marquardt's thesis is that the American experiment in the Philippines paid high dividends when the final test came in Bataan. Only an author with a fine perspective of contemporary Philippine history could have immediately sensed such significance in the Philippine campaign. Mr. Marquardt was born in the Philippines; his parents were among the first American teachers to inaugurate the so-called Philippine experiment. As pioneer teachers, the older Marquardts came on the *Sheridan*, arriving in the Philippines two months ahead of the famous *Thomas*, considered the *Mayflower* of American teachers in the Philippines, which reached Manila on August 23, 1901. Young Marquardt spent his boyhood in the Philippines, got his education in this country, and returned to the islands to make his home. From 1928 to 1941 he was associate editor of the *Philippines Free Press*, a position which gave him excellent opportunities to view from the front seat the kaleidoscope of events in the Philippines and

to mingle with the participants both high and low. Luckily, when the war broke out, he was on vacation in this country.

Of course, in any personalized account such as this, extending over four decades of contemporary history, involving a number of personalities, many of whom are still living, and written at a considerable and forced distance from the setting where the basic materials are to be found, a number of slips are likely to be made, obviously not because of ill intentions but because of natural limitations such as the difficulty of getting access to all the facts, particularly at a time like the present. Thus, it has come to my attention recently that among other things, it should be noted that Teodoro Kalaw was the third member on Quezon's trip to Russia, not Ramon Avancena (page 71); Lieutenant Miller, commander of the garrison at Mariveles, received Quezon's surrender, not Roy Squires (page 211). Elsewhere some statements assume the form of what properly may be called versions. They naturally call for the other side of the story before they can be accepted as final. Thus, for example, Justice Frank Murphy, the last governor-general and the first high commissioner, is pictured as having been badly lambasted by Americans and Filipinos alike when he left the Philippines (pages 180-181). While it is true that he had detractors, the Filipino people through their leaders have never lost faith in him and they still regard him with respect and affection and as one of the best friends they have ever had. Then, too, in the matter of civilian defense for the Philippines, President Quezon is shown as having wanted to leave the responsibility to High Commissioner Sayre (page 219). Other sidelights of the story, however, would point to the other direction. President Quezon was for organizing civilian defense, and his insistence on this point, as the author correctly surmises, brought about one of those occasions where the charge of dictatorship was levelled against him. These details, however, do not detract at all from the intrinsic value of the book which remains so far the best explanation of what happened on Bataan.

Projecting the Philippine experiment as a pattern in postwar planning for the rehabilitation of all colonial possessions in the Pacific, though likely to meet with opposition in its practical details, should nevertheless merit serious consideration, especially at this time when human values, above all things, are at a premium. —S.V.A.

Selected Current Literature

Books and Pamphlets

1. *The People's Peace*; by representatives of the United Nations. New York, George W. Stewart, Publisher, Inc., c1943. 271 pp. \$2.50. (The Philippines is represented by a statement from President Quezon and an address by Resident Commissioner Elizalde on "The Meaning of a Pacific Charter".)
2. *Philippines (Commonwealth)*. Commission of the Census. Census of the Philippines: 1939. Volume IV—Reports for Economic Census. Washington, D. C., 1943. 678 pp. \$6.00 postpaid.
3. United Nations Information Office, N. Y. War and Peace Aims; extracts from statements of United Nations leaders. New York, U.N.I.O., 1943. 136 pp. 25c.

Periodical Literature

1. American Library Association. The United Nations; a bibliography. The Booklist, June 1943, v. 39, no. 18, part II, pp. 398-417.
2. Kcayne-Gordon, Philip. The Lesson of Corregidor. (Condensed from a broadcast over the Mutual Broadcasting System). Newsdigest, June 15, 1943, v. 2, no. 9, pp. 77-78.
3. Osmeña, Sergio. The United States (should be "United Nations") and the Philippines. (Speech at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Political and Social Science in Philadelphia, on April 10, 1943.) The United Nations Review, May 15, 1943, v. 3, pp. 211-212.
4. Porter, Catherine. Japan's Blue-print for the Philippines. Far Eastern Survey, May 31, 1943, v. 12, no. 11, pp. 109-112.
5. Quezon, Manuel L. The Pacific Situation. (Statement issued on April 15, 1942.) The United Nations Review, May 15, 1943, v. 3, pp. 210-211.