

PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC NEWS  
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF  
INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC.

American Philatelic Society Affiliate No. 54  
American First Day Cover Society Chapter No. 24

1069 Vito Cruz, Manila

P. O. Box 437 Manila, Philippines

Vol. 2 No. 1

January - February 1976

PHIL. HEART CENTER FOR ASIA

**PAG-IBIG AT KALUSUGAN...**

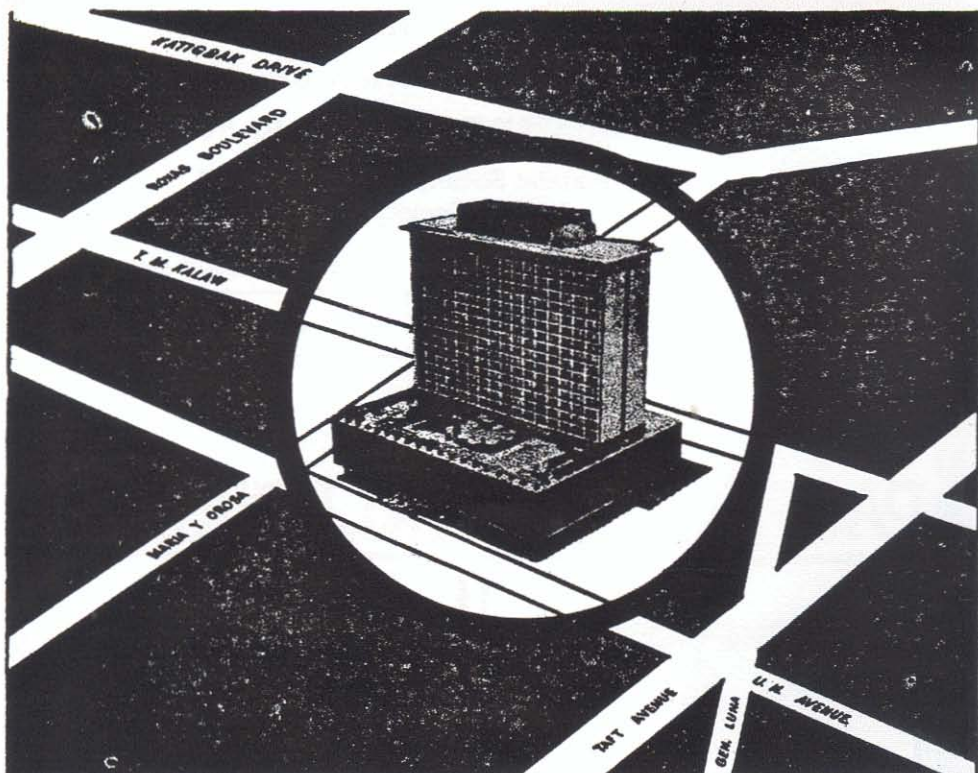


IMELDA ROMUALDEZ MARCOS

**...SA PUSO'Y NAGSISIMULA"**

1976 PHILIPPINE MEDICAL PHILATELIC  
EXHIBITION

Souvenir Issue



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# PHILMEDPHEX '76

PHILIPPINE MEDICAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION  
Philippine Heart Center For Asia  
Quezon City, Philippines

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PHILIPPINE PHILATELIC  
NEWS

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Volume II No. 1

Jan-Feb. 1976

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The Philippine Philatelic News is published bi-monthly by the International Philippine Philatelic Society P O. Box 437, Manila, Philippines. A non-profit non-stock, educational organization the IPPS was incorporated in the City of Manila on Sept. 24, 1974, as per SEC Registration No. 58004.

Opinions expressed in various articles in this publication are those of the writers and not necessarily endorsed by the Society and/or this publication.

A year's subscription is included in the membership in the IPPS.

Manuscripts for publication and for review may be sent in; those which are not considered for publication will be returned.

Manuscripts should be typewritten, double space on one side of the paper only.

Editor assumes no responsibility for losses or damages of any manuscripts or publication materials sent in.

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Membership fee: Philippine residents — P35 00/year; P1,000 — life; Outside the Philippines — US \$7.50/year; and US \$150 00 life.

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PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER FOR ASIA  
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PHILIPPINES



## M E S S A G E

On the occasion of the International Philippine Philatelic Society's Stamp Exhibition scheduled for the 14th of February, 1976, I am extending my warm congratulations to its organizers and staff.

Very timely set the exhibit performs more than just a rich cultural role. To the general public, it is an interesting and informative experience that brings to the focus, more significant areas of the Medical field.

In behalf of the Philippine Heart Center for Asia, I wish you all success and thank you for joining us during this Philippine Heart Month, in the dissemination of medical history uniquely through this exhibit.

AVENILO P. AVENTURA, M.D.  
*Director*

1976 PHILIPPINE MEDICAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

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## PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER FOR ASIA — A Story of Compassion

In late 1971 a woman afflicted with rheumatic heart disease needed open heart surgery to survive. She did not have enough money to defray the cost, so she sought the help of the V. Luna Medical Center cardiac team which agreed to do the operation. However, some problems still remained: a few basic expenses related with the operation but beyond the scope of the cardiac team.

A member of the cardiac team broached the matter to the First Lady, knowing she takes keen interest in matters that mean helping the little people a bit more.

The woman was saved. The First Lady, on the other hand, found yet another of her people's enemies to fight against: heart disease.

Aware of the growing menace of heart diseases to the lives of many Filipinos, the First Lady gathered the country's top heart specialists, prominent businessmen and government officials together to map out the campaign against heart diseases. It is barely known that many of the victims of heart diseases come from the low-income majority who, without enough money, cannot afford the needed heart care.

Out of this meeting was born the Heart Foundation of the Philippines, a private, non-stock and non-profit organization. The Foundation was launched at Malacañang Palace on February 14, 1972 Valentine's Day, a fitting occasion to start a campaign to combat heart disease. The launching ceremony was witnessed by Madame Tien Soeharto, Indonesia's First Lady. The fund-raising campaign which was started on the same day, brought in some two million pesos worth of donations — one million pesos more than the targeted amount — from the government and private sectors as well as civic-minded individuals. On the same day a team led by Dr. Avelino P. Aventura performed a successful open

heart surgery at the V. Luna Medical Center, seen nationwide via colored television.

The Foundation has a threefold objective, namely:

### 1. Patient Care

a. To extend the best and most effective heart care to needy patients, including heart surgery. To this end, the Foundation shall give financial assistance primarily to cases needing surgical correction by open heart technique, and shall set up, eventually, its own Heart Center.

b. To develop methods of diagnosis and treatment which are suitable to Filipino heart patients

### 2. Cardiology Education

a. To plan, initiate and develop appropriate post-graduate teaching programs to broaden the knowledge of doctors and paramedical personnel.

b. To organize an information campaign, in coordination with other interested agencies, in order to enlighten the public on heart care and diseases of the heart. To this end, February shall be set aside as the "heart month" in which an intensive information campaign is to be conducted through the mass media, including heart forums and seminars, for the lay public.

c. To provide specialized training in cardiology to young Filipino doctors by providing them with fellowships.

### 3. Research in Heart Disease

a. To conduct more accurate surveys of heart diseases in the Philippines in order to determine its magnitude and its identifying features than are presently known.

b. to verify and identify any peculiar features of various types of heart disease which may be particularly relevant to diseases affecting Filipino subjects.

c. To develop methods of control and prevention of the types of heart diseases which can be put under control and perhaps totally prevented.

d. To encourage and support basic research in heart disease, particularly those types which are more prevalent among, if not peculiar to, Filipino subjects and environment.

Because of the increasing number of people who suffer from heart disease, the Foundation felt it was not only necessary to give financial assistance to heart patients unable to pay their way through a much-needed heart care and/or heart surgery, but it also felt it was important to provide a continuing health education for the masses. Many of the patients who die of heart disease are ignorant of its symptoms and the proper health care.

The Philippine Heart Association, therefore, together with the Foundation and the Department of Health petitioned his Excellency, President Ferdinand E. Marcos to set aside one month of every year for cardiology education. President Marcos issued Presidential Proclamation 1096 in which he declared February of each year as the Philippine Heart Month. He decreed that this month is to be devoted to "the task of effecting the highest possible degree of health care among our people through intensive encouragement of research, experimentation and study of the human heart and its affliction, as well as community involvement in the task of nation-building for a healthier citizenry by extensive mass continuing education.

It was never the idea of the First Lady to found a philanthropic organization merely to raise funds and provide 'free operation, medication, hospitalization and

rehabilitation' to deserving heart patients. Her goal was to set up a center which would provide the setting for just that kind of campaign. A heart center, therefore, was necessary to serve as base from which the activities of the Foundation were to emanate.

The goal of the Heart Center was outlined by the First Lady: "While the Heart Foundation attended to the shorter range goal to extend medical aid to those in urgent need of it, the Heart Center was envisioned to formulate and implement the longer range program for further researches on heart diseases for their prevention and eventual cure.

Fourteen months later, the Philippine Heart Center for Asia stands as a magnificent symbol of hope for the millions of cardiac sufferers, the temple — in the words of the First Lady — "where the passing medical scientists can offer the stricken the healing power of his art and of his heart."

Designed by Architect Jorge Ramos, the Philippine Heart Center for Asia is believed to be the most modern heart hospital in this part of the world, containing the best features of leading heart hospitals in the United States and Europe. The Heart Center is made up of the Medical Arts building and the hospital proper. The eight-storey Medical Arts building houses among others, executive offices, doctors' offices and research laboratories.

*Facilities for Patient Care.* The four-story Heart Hospital contains the most advance medical facilities for the treatment of heart patients.

The first floor of the hospital, for instance, contains modern X-ray facilities, an Out Patient Department equipped with modern diagnostic apparatus, cardiovascular laboratories, a well furnished room for cardiac rehabilitation, a fully equipped emergency room and a pharmacy.



The Heart Hospital has four fully equipped operating rooms on the second floor where the Intensive Care Unit and the recovery rooms are located. A hatchway facilitates the transfer of a patient from his room to the operating room.

The coronary care units and the pediatric units are found on the next floor. The conference room is fully equipped with audio-visual facilities.

Medical and research laboratories where scientific investigations on heart diseases and related fields of interest will be conducted constitute a very important section of the Heart Hospital. These laboratories are equipped with up-to-date scientific apparatus to meet the demands for increased scientific inquiries.

The Heart Hospital has a bed capacity of 128. Each floor of the hospital is conveniently divided into what are described as Petal A, Petal B and Petal C. The patients' rooms are distributed according to this petal-shape arrangement and are within view of the nurses' station where the conditions of heart patients are constantly monitored. Each private room is equipped with modern apparatus. Another equally important function of the PHCA is to serve as a heart research center for the Philippines and, hopefully for Asia.

In general, the research efforts of the Heart Center are geared toward the Asian heart: the effects of Asian climates, diets, life habits, risk factors prevalent in the region, related diseases and other factors which influence cardiac conditions in Asia. In particular, the Heart Center will engage in a three-prong research activity: clinical research, basic research and bio-engineering. This is inspired by the fact that today's scientific problems require the coordinated efforts of medical scientists, biochemists and engineers. This interdisciplinary approach will be useful in combatting heart diseases, in teaching and in developing medical equipment.

*Education and Training.* Another important activity of the Heart Center is its program of continuing education. The Heart Center hopes to be the meeting place of scientists, physicians, surgeons and educators where exchange of information on the human heart, particularly the Asian heart, may be fruitfully carried out through a series of congresses, conventions, seminars and conferences.

In addition, it hopes to be the place where scientists and heart specialists may meet to share knowledge about the human heart, and so educate the people in preventing cardiac disorders and to tell them where and when to obtain treatment when such disorders occur. The Heart Center hopes to be the source of information on the heart, heart care and prevention of heart disorders.

When she summed up the rationale behind a heart information drive more than a year ago, *Mrs. Imelda Romualdez Marcos* could very well have spoken of the reasons for a heart center. She said:

"The concern for human life is the philosophy behind our concern for the human heart. Each single one of our citizens is of great value not just to himself or his kin, but also to human society to which he belongs. It is the spirit of the times that brings to us this awareness."



## DR. JOSE P. RIZAL, OPHTHALMIC SURGEON

by Geminiano de Ocampo, M.D.\*



*(Dr. Jose P. Rizal, the Philippine National Hero - the greatest Filipino hero and martyr - has been depicted in many stamp issues of the Philippines. A noted scientist, doctor of medicine, philosopher, sculptor, reformer, historian, novelist, poet, journalist and polyglot, Rizal was pronounced as the greatest and most versatile genius ever produced by the Malayan race and truly, a citizen of the world.)*

(This is a digest of an article written in 1961. Its purpose is to throw more light on the phase of life of Rizal as an eye surgeon.)

*Deciding on A Career and Purpose in Specializing in Ophthalmology.* Ponciano, the elder brother of Dr. Rizal, influenced him very much to take up medicine and ophthalmology. On July 16, 1885, he wrote Rizal "You said in your previous letter that you intend to go to Germany to take up ophthalmology. Now you say you are going to England. You can do as you choose, because this specialty would be useful to the family and in this country few or none practice this specialty."

No doubt the failing sight of his mother influenced Rizal in taking up ophthalmology. "The determination to study medicine was motivated by the fact that his mother lost her sight the previous year so that when he returned home during the Christmas vacation of 1879, she could not recognize him except after much effort."

*Undergraduate Medical Studies.* Rizal took his first to fourth year medicine at the Santo Tomas University from 1878 to 1882 when he decided to continue his studies in Europe at the Central University of Madrid. His record as a student of medicine was honorable but not brilliant. He received his Licentiate in medicine on June 21, 1884. Although he finished the seventh year medicine (1884-1885) and was entitled morally to the degree of Doctor of Medicine, he was not legally a doctor of medicine because he did not read his thesis for doctorate. He obtained thru the help of Dr. Baldomero Roxas a duplicate of his degree of Licentiate in Medicine only in March 1892 in Hong Kong, after he decided to practice ophthalmology there.

*Post-graduate Studies in Ophthalmology* He took up post-graduate studies in ophthalmology for two years (1885-1887) in France, Germany and Belgium. In Paris, he was under Dr. L. de Wecker. In a letter of Rizal dated December 4, 1885, from Paris, Boulevard As-

jo 65, he related his first days with de Wecker "I go every day and I learn enough every-time a new operation and a new disease presents. The professor made him visit his house besides the clinic on Sundays." Then he mentioned that practicing with de Wecker was costing him much money which may be useful to him someday. He added that the instruments were costly. In Paris, he also studied under Dr. Sulzer and Dr. Galezwosky. In Germany, he worked under Dr. Otto Becker at Heidelberg. In a letter on February 24, 1886 from the Augen Klinik of Otto Becker at Karls Strasse 18, he wrote, "Becker is not as famous nor as great an operator as de Wecker of Paris but in Germany he enjoys much fame and has written much. Here we donot do as many operations as in Paris (with a population of 2,000,000) while Heidelberg at Baden has only 24,000 people. It is the Sole Eye Clinic here but in Paris there are plenty of ophthalmologists. Half of the day I study German and other half I dedicate to the study of eye disease." In Berlin, he was under Dr. Karl Theodore Schweigger.

*Where Rizal Practiced Ophthalmology.* He practiced ophthalmology mainly in three places: in Calamba and Dapitan of the Philippines and in Hong Kong, although according to a few, he treated some patients in Manila for a short time. Rizal mentioned in his diary, from Dapitan to Barcelona, he treated eye patients in Dumaguete, Iloilo and Cebu during the stop overs of the boat at these places. Rizal also operated on one eye of a patient, Lorenzo Tuazon, of Malabon in Madrid, sometime between 1888-1891.

He practiced in Calamba for seven months - from August 1887 to February 1888. He was known there as Doctor Uliman having recently come from Germany. One of the first cures he made in Calamba was the operation for cataract extraction on his mother.

In Hongkong, he established an Eye Clinic. Through circumstantial evidences and the declaration of relatives, we could point out that Rizal operated on successfully the first eye of his mother in Hong Kong in 1892. He was called the Spanish Doctor in Hong Kong.

It is however in Dapitan where he stayed "four years and thirteen days and a few hours" (1892-1896), where he had most of his ophthalmological practice.

*His Patients and Clientele.* When he practiced in Calamba, "Rizal's fame as an eye specialist attracted him many patients from the whole district and even from Manila." In Hong Kong, he built a good sized practice. His patients in Dapitan came not "only from all over the Philippines," but even from abroad. It was because of this that Rizal met Josephine Bracken (who later became his wife), the foster daughter of George Traufer, a blind American engineer from Hong Kong. If as it is usually done, cataract lenses are given at least two to three months after operation, the first cataract extraction which restored the sight of his mother was done in Hong Kong in the early part of 1892, because in Rizal's letter of July 16, 1892, before going to exile in Dapitan, he wrote, "If my mother receives the pair of glasses for her eyes, cover with a piece of paper the right lens, so that when I return I shall operate on her so that she will have both eyes with very clear sight".

Rizal operated on the right eye of his mother in Dapitan in July 1894. Rizal wrote: "I have operated on mother for cataract with much success and she could see with much clearness immediately after. The post-operative course went well for three days but encouraged by this, she did not like to follow my instructions and she get up and lay down along, removed and put back the eyepad; always telling me that nothing was going to happen, until her eye became so inflamed (she suspected that during the night she received a blow) and now it is very bad. I do not know if I can improve her condition. The operative would gaped, the iris prolapsed and now there is a violent inflammation. Nothing can quiet her and she reads and goes to bright lights and rubs her eyes. It is unbelievable what has happened. Now I can understand why it is prohibited for one to treat members of his family".

*His Ophthalmological Instruments.* The ophthalmic and ophthalmological instruments of Rizal are of the highest quality. He took good care of them. In a letter to his sister Josephine, he stated, "you must keep my library clean and proper, my instruments also, in order that they may not get rusty." His set of operating instruments with ivory handles in a leather carrying case was obtained from Mon Charriere Collas, Paris. While in Dapitan, he used to order his instruments from France. On April 18, 1894, De Maisson Cretes of Paris sent him suture needle. V. S. Quitzon described in an issue of *Revista Filipina de Medicina y Farmacia*, two of Rizal's instruments - the "Pigmometer" for distilling and preparation of collyria and his wooden operating table

*His Operations and Operative Skills.* His most frequent operation and that which gave him fame and income was for cataract. 'As an oculist he became the wonder of people wherever he went and many marvelled at his deft fingers, which with simple scissors he would operate in no time on the cross-eyed. He had done enucleations, squint and glaucoma operations grantage for granular conjunctivitis, pterygium and other ophthalmic operations. He had all the qualities that would make an ideal ophthalmic surgeon, a keen and analytical intellect, lightness of touch and artistry of a painter, courage and imperturbability (his pulse was normal even when he was facing the firing squad at Luneta) a broad and deep knowledge of medicine, ophthalmology and non-medical things and last but not least, he had been properly and adequately trained by master ophthalmic surgeons.

The more we drive into the life of Rizal as an ophthalmologist, the more we realize his greatness, his genius and his loftiness of character that is truly inspiring to any medical student, physician, and ophthalmologist.



Dr. Geminiano de Ocampo is a Sir Knight Commander, C.J.R.; Professor of Ophthalmology, University of the Philippines; Director, De Ocampo Eye Hospital; Past President, Philippine Ophthalmological Society.

## THE PHILIPPINE ORTHOPEDIC ASSOCIATION STAMPS

By Deogracias J. Tablan, M.D.



DR. D. J. TABLAN

On the occasion of the Silver Anniversary of the Philippine Orthopedic Association which was observed on December 11, 1974, the Bureau of Posts issued a commemorative stamp on March 17, 1975

The Philippine Orthopedic Association came into being on December 11, 1949, although at that time it was known as the Philippine Society of Traumatic Surgery and Orthopedics. The first officers were: Dr. Jose V. de los Santos, President; Dr. Ambrosio F. Tangco Vice-President; Dr. Augusto S. Besa, Secretary-Treasurer and Dr. Rodolfo Gonzales, Board Member.

Through the 25 years or more of existence, the Association has contributed to the nations need for better care for the thousands of disabled Filipinos thru its program of research, conferences both national and international, and in the training of young doctors in the specialty.

The idea of commemorative stamp was proposed by POA Past Pres. Dr. Deogracias J. Tablan of the board of Directors headed by POA President Dr. Jose Pujalte. The proposal was accepted and Dr. Tablan was authorized to make representations with the Bureau of Posts. Postmaster General Felizardo R. Tanabe and the Chief of Stamp and Philatelic Section, Mrs. Teofila L. Garcia, were very cooperative and it was their decision to issue a commemorative stamp. It was also decided that the stamp shall depict the mural showing the history of orthopedics in the Philippines. This mural can be viewed at the lobby of the National Orthopedic Hospital.

The mural is 3 meters by 5 meters. In the center is the painting of a young lady in white extending with her left hand a "leaf of hope." Behind her is a small sapling tied to a bamboo post symbolically depicting that deformities in children can be corrected if done early enough and therefore, a bent twig can be made straight again. This small sapling and the bamboo post is the adopted symbol of both the National Orthopedic Hospital and the Philippine Orthopedic Association. The rays of the sun behind the tree shows the numerous services provided by the National Orthopedic Hospital which includes three major areas, namely: traumatic surgery for accidents, orthopedic surgery, and rehabilitation of the disabled. Pictured along the edges of the painting are the old beliefs of our ancestors in the powers of the bone-setters or herbolarios, the superstitious and religious influences. And lastly, we can see the effects of modern orthopedic surgery to our way of life eventually leading to the economic and industrial progress of the nation.

The painting was made by Salvador Tulentino Juban of Angono, Rizal, a protege of "Botong" Francisco a very famous Filipino painter. Mr. Juban was commissioned by the National Orthopedic Hospital Nurses Association and two donors who prefers to be anonymous and the painting was finished in June, 1972 Selection of the painter and the design of the painting was made by Dr. Jose Locsin, Assistant Chief of the National Orthopedic Hospital.

Details of the commemorative stamp is as follows: Souvenir Sheet form with over-all printing area of 54 x 92.5 MM, depicting the mural; Divided into ten equal parts measuring 27 x 18.5 mm each perforated on all sides. The denomination and quantity are: 45 centimo 9,250,000 (perforate) and 750,000 (imperforate), or P4.50 for the Block of Ten. Printing process is by Offset-Litho in one color. Printer is the Government Printing Office, Manila Philippines.

The stamp is the first of its kind in the history of Philippine Philately. It is called setenant block of ten. Due to the nature of its issue and design, in due time, it will become one of the most valuable stamps of the Philippines.

## THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RED CROSS ON PHILIPPINE STAMPS

By: L. Stanfield

On August 30, 1905, Miss Mabel T. Boardman, Secretary of the Central Committee of the American National Red Cross, organized a group to act as the Philippine branch of the American National Red Cross. The objective was "To take charge of disaster relief within the Philippines and administer American Red Cross relief funds sent from the United States".

August 30, 1955 marked the fiftieth year of continuous Red Cross service in the Philippines; however, the stamps commemorating this event was not issued until the following year, August 30, 1956.



Designed by Nemesio Dimanlig, Jr., the stamp features Martino Abellana's winning Red Cross poster. It was printed by the American Bank Note Co. of New York.

There were only two values issued, comprising a set, both of the same design: the 5 centavos in lavender color with 300,000 copies; and the 20 centavos in gray-brown color with 200,000 copies only. Of course, the Red Cross emblem in red is depicted on the upper left hand corner.

Today's Philippine National Red Cross is actually the same organization established in 1905. When independence was granted to the Philippines in 1946, in a span of less than a year, the PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RED CROSS was created when the late President Manuel A. Roxas signed Republic Act No. 95; this time, it is no longer a mere branch of the American National Red Cross but an independent Philippine Society.

The PNRC immediately applied to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland; Recognition was granted on March 28, 1947, and on April 15 it was inaugurated by Pres. Roxas with Mrs. Aurora Aragon Quezon as its first chairman.



Fittingly enough in 1972, when the PNRC marked its 25 years of service to the country, a set of three stamps were issued by the Bureau of Posts. Issued on Dec. 21, 1972, the stamp measures 33 x 48 mm. and are in the following denominations: 5s and 20s with 2 million copies each; and 30s with 1 million copies only. Printed in five colors by Heliogravure process by Job Enschede En Zonen of Haarlem, Holland. Again, the stamp was designed by veteran artist Nemesio Dimanlig, Jr., and features

Pres. Roxas and Mrs. Aurora Quezon, the Phil flag and the Red Cross emblem.

A thorough check with Philippine History though could attest to the fact that long before 1905, a so called Wartime Red Cross was organized by no less than Hilaria del Rosario Aguinaldo, the first wife of Revolutionary leader, Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo. Mrs. Aguinaldo voluntarily went out to the battle grounds and administered first aid and relief to the wounded and fallen Filipino revolutionists.

As her group entered Polo, a town in Bulacan province, bringing with them bandages, medicines, and foodstuffs to the camps, the people cheered lustily in complete approval of their violent deeds. Right then and there, the "Cruz Roja" (the first Philippine Red Cross) was formed

At times she rode on horseback and wore dirty clothes to look like an ordinary commuter in Cavite to avoid detection by the Spanish enemy. When she was captured by the Americans she lost her infant daughter Florida Victoria.

Soon after the inauguration of the First Philippine Republic in 1898, the formal organization of its own Red Cross to help the less fortunate countrymen victimized by the war and other calamities, was taken up. With Hilaria del Rosario Aguinaldo as president, the volunteer society became known as the Hiyas dela Revolution.

Recognizing its importance, the revolutionary government readily approved the constitution of the National Association of the Red Cross on Feb. 17, 1899. Soon, branches were formed in the provinces as more women willingly joined and participated actively in its humanitarian work.

Attesting to the great achievements the society rendered in behalf of humanity were the different awards — a diploma of merit, a decoration in the form of a Cross, and a diploma of gratitude given by the King of Spain to the President of the Republic, Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo.



Dr. T. H. P. De Tavera, Center

## DR. TRINIDAD H. PARDO DE TAVERA EXPONENT OF FILIPINISM

By Sol H. Gwekoh

Trinidad Hermenegildo de Tavera, the oldest of the three children of Felix Pardo de Tavera, a Spanish lawyer and government official, and Juliana Gorricho, was born on April 13, 1857 in Manila. He received the degree of bachelor of arts from Colegio de San Juan de Letran in 1873, the degree of doctor of medicine from the Sorbonne University, and a diploma from the Ecole Nationale des Langues Orientales Vivantes for a Malay course in December 1885.

Tavera's scientific studies in Philippine linguistics, medicine, anthropology and orthography brought him membership in the Royal Academy of Languages and the Royal Academy of Sciences, in Madrid. His article on ancient Filipino writing easily qualified him for admission into the Societe Academique Indo-Chinoise in Paris. Back to the Philippines in 1887, he undertook a two-year study of Philippine medicinal plants under a royal grant.

In the revolution, Tavera became a member of the Asamblea Consultativa, then a representative of Cebu in the Malolos Congress in 1898, a professor of medicine and surgery in the Universidad Literaria de Filipinas, and finally the director of diplomacy and later the secretary of foreign affairs in the first Philippine Republic.

As a member of the Philippine Commission he initiated the move to have a government-supported medical school and the adoption of the English language as the medium of instruction in the public schools. Subsequently, the Philippine Medical School was created and became the nucleus of the University of the Philippines (UP). He was in its board of control when he was designated a UP grant in 1908.

On January 23, 1923, Tavera was appointed the director of the Philippine Library and Museum. In addition, he was the head of the UP department of Philippine languages and the lone Filipino member in the board of educational survey of the Philippines. He received two honorary degrees: a master of arts from Yale University and a doctor of laws from UP. He died March 25 1925 at 67.



## PHILIPPINE MEDICAL PHILATELY

by

Dr. Aspren S. Talapian

\* The issuance of purely medical stamps in our country started on 16 Dec. 1953 when the Bureau of Posts issued "Doctor Examining Boy" stamps. This is 2-value postage issue (5¢ & 6¢) commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Philippine



Medical Association, the mother medical association of other various medical societies in the Philippines.... for some medical philatelists, however, they may consider the start of medical issues in our country even during 1906 when the United States issued "Rizal", a 2¢ stamp. We all know, of course that Dr. Jose P. Rizal, is a physician, and therefore, his issuance maybe considered as the start of medical issue in our country. Personally, however, when I say that a stamp is purely medical, I meant it to refer to the purpose and the picturization on the stamp itself.

\* There maybe so many stamps which show nothing definite about medicine and yet it is issued for a medical congress, activity of organizational meetings... this to my mind would not fit a purely medical issue wherein the stamps should and must necessarily depict a medical situation (caring the sick, injecting an individual, etc....). However, as in

other issues depicting persons, if such a person is a physician, even if the purpose of the stamps is honoring such person for his being a statesman, inventor, etc... but still he is a physician, then I collect such an issue for it is medical.

The reason is obvious... the person depicted on the stamp is a "physician" ... and that is why, "Rizal" issue is medical, because he is a physician!

Our country, however has not issued many medical issues per se... although, we did have many overprints and/or surcharges. The Rizal issues alone have countless overprints.

"Rizal" issues however have been and is always an inspiration to us Filipino physicians because of not the number of issues but because of Dr. Rizal himself.

In this regard, I am quite happy to inform our readers that I was able to help Dr. A. W. Schwartz, former President and Editor of "Scalpel & Tongue", the medical journal of the Medical Subjects Unit of the American Topical Association, when he made a research-article on "Rizal" which was subsequently published. His article dealt with all the names of our towns and provinces (if any, as he stated)... all named Rizal, and I was able to accomplish this through the help of the Stamps and Philatelic Section of the Bureau of Posts.

\* As I have stated, we have very few medical issues, and I will name and describe some of them. Aside from the various "Rizal" issues that is from the Commonwealth down to the Republic issues, we came out with the following: Dr. T. Pardo de Tavera (4+2¢ Library issue, 1 April 1949); Dr. Eva Macapagal (with the King and Queen of Siam, 3 values, issued 12 June 1965 and with Princess Beatrix 3 values, issued 4 July 1965) Dr. Mariano Ponce (1 value, 30 Dec. 1970); Dr. Pio Valenzuela (1 value, issued 22 July 1974); and Dr. Basilio J. Valdez (2 values, semi-postal, issued 8 July 1974). The last two were printed by our local government printing bureau

and issued both in perforate and imperforate sets.

\* The other issues depicting medical conferences Red Cross, Anti Malarials and anti-TB issues were quite numerous but I would like to comment on some. The Bureau of Posts issued, although quite late, the World Heart Month stamps depicting a sort of 'valentine-like' design. Then we have the Asian Pediatric Congress wherein a map was the central motif with the name of the congress of course, printed. This issue has quite a number of "freaks" like color shifts, missing colors, etc... We also have last year, the issue honoring the Philippine Heart Center for Asia, a project of our beloved First Lady, Mrs Imelda Romualdez Mar-

cos. The design is simple but meaningful enough and the significance is very dramatic. Indeed, the event itself (when the Center was opened) was very significant because almost all well known Cardiologists and Cardiac surgeons all over the world were present, a feat that is not done in other countries, as far as I know!

\* Other purely medical issues were the Gastroenterology issue (2 values issued 11 April 1972) — the stamps depict the gastro-intestinal tract; the Orthopedic issue, which shows a mural of medical history in our country. This issue is being discussed separately by Dr. Tablan in this issue

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## MEMBERSHIP HAPPENINGS

as compiled by Fe A. Carandang

It is our deep regret that we were not able to include the name of our member Paul Woodward in the Membership Directory of our Nov-Dec 1975 issue. We therefore list his name in this issue, with the note that Paul is a member of the IPPS, having paid his dues for three years in advance.

### MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY ....

WOODWARD, PAUL B.

P.O. Box 2003

Culver City, California 90230

PHILS: Stamps of all dominions

OTHERS: Independent countries of Far East; Specialist in forgeries Thailand stamps.

### NEW APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

DR. SFYMOUR L. RUDMAN — 83 Stony Hill Rd., Amherst Mass. 01002; Philippines: U.S. Administration; Others: US, US Possessions and Administrative areas, US Postal Stationery; Member: APS, SPA, ARA; Canal Zone Study Group, Ryuku Philatelic Specialist So., UPSS.

RAY L. COUGHLIN — 5987 Tunrabout Lane, Columbia Md. 21044; Philippines: All areas; Others: Philippine Revenue, commercial overprints Perfina; Member: APS, ASDA.

C.L. HARB — 701 Forest Loop Dr., Port Hueneme, Calif. 93041; Philippines: Occupations, Revenues, overprints; Others: US Revenue, Canada; Member: Trans Mississippi Philatelic So.

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