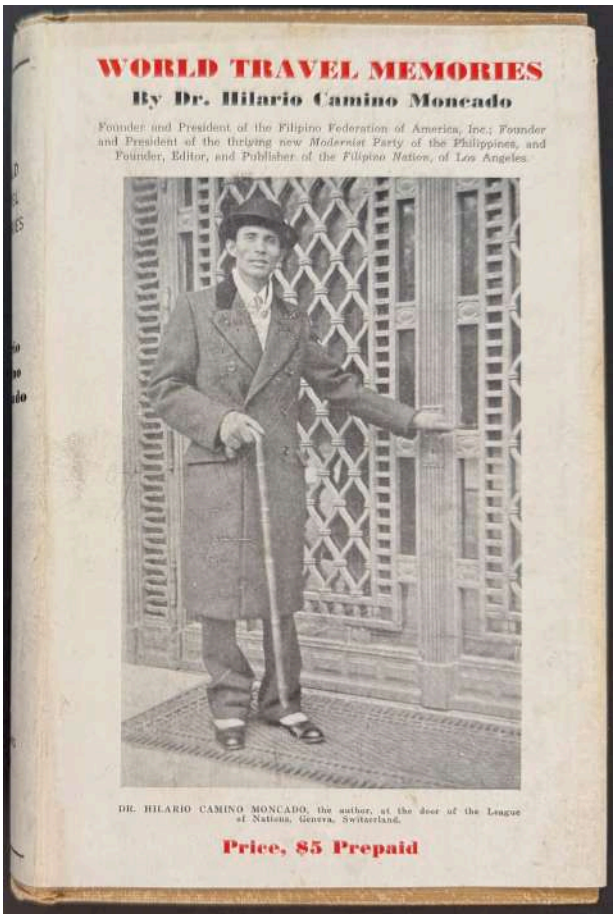
BOLERIUM BOOKS Est. 1981
2141 Mission St #300, San Francisco, CA 94110 (415) 863-6353

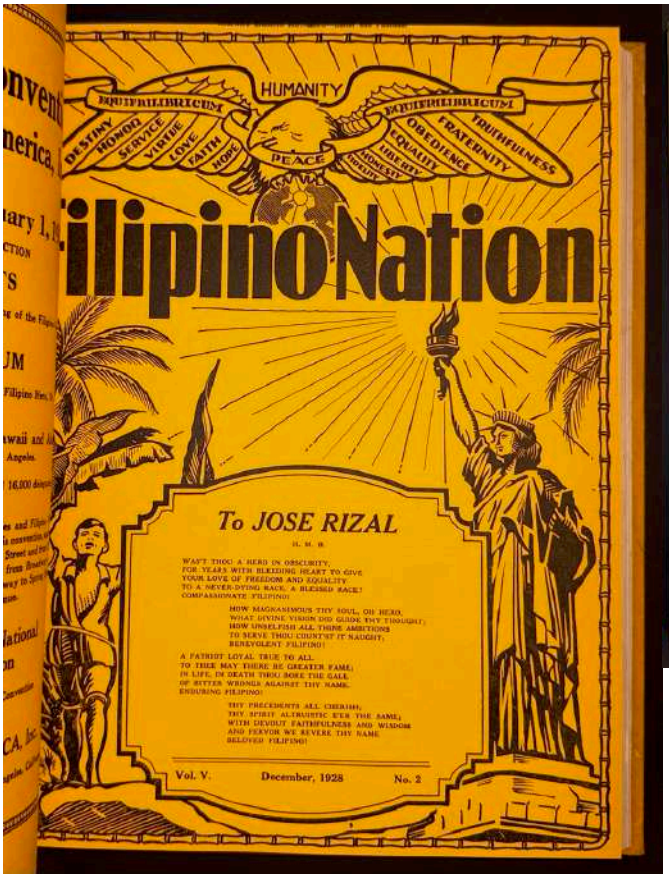
Hilario Camino Moncado –
Filipino community activist, Messianic leader

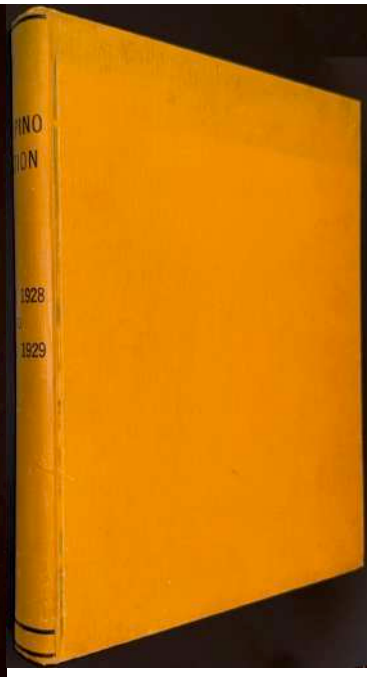


Hilario Camino Moncado established the Filipino Federation of America in 1925 in Los Angeles, California. (It was also known at various times as the Filipino World Federation and the Filipino Crusaders World Army.) As one of the fraternal organizations appealing to the then-small but growing Filipino immigrant community, the FFA distinguished itself from competitors by accentuating "clean living" and rules of moral conduct, also suggesting a vegetarian diet. Moncado earned a law degree and sought to portray the immigrant community as responsible and healthy, in contrast to the then-prevalent depictions of uneducated gamblers.

Much less publicly, the FFA developed a set of religious teachings that held Moncado to be the reincarnation of Jesus Christ by way of José Rizal, the Filipino patriot executed in the waning days of Spanish rule. (Moncado's birthday was changed to make him appear to have been born after Rizal's death, so that his identity as Rizal's reincarnation would be more plausible). The theological dimensions of the FFA were developed by Lorenzo Delos Reyes, a longtime collaborator of Moncado's in California. The FFA deployed the mystical number 12 in many ways, including its organization of twelve divisions comprised of twelve lodges, each ideally containing twelve members. The organization appealed to many sakadas (working-class immigrants, often agricultural or manual laborers) with its mixture of ethnic solidarity and indigenous ritual beliefs. In public-facing publications, the FFA focused on the political side of Moncado's work, including advocacy for Philippine independence and the highlighting of noble cultural aspirations. Inward-facing publications, by contrast, often included allusions to Moncado's divinity and the spiritual role of each member in his religious mission. After the achievement of Philippine independence, and limitations on immigration, the FFA turned almost entirely to spiritual rather than political objectives. In the Philippines there is still an active sect venerating Moncado as a religious figure.

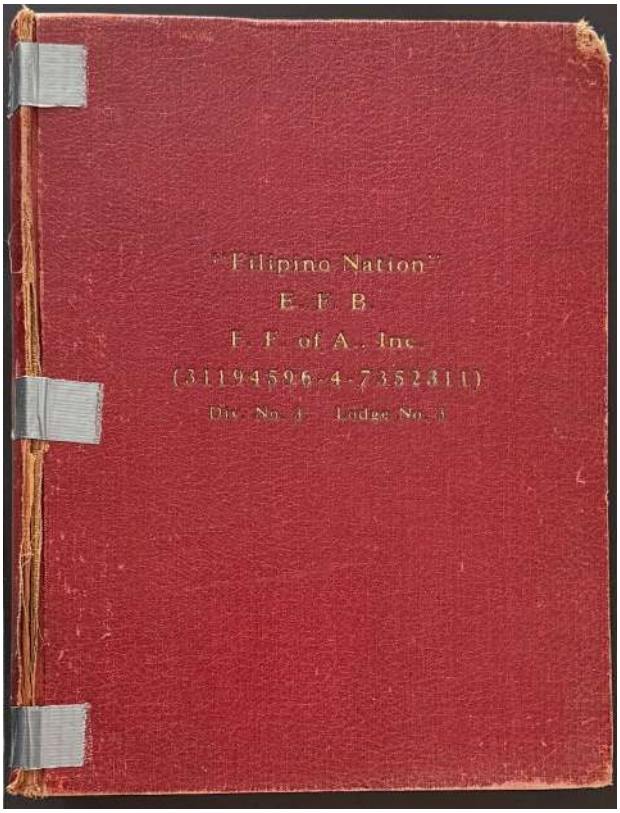
TERMS: We reserve titles ordered by email (reds@bolerium.com) or phone for 10 days. Individuals may remit by check, PayPal, or standard credit cards. Credit cards are accepted for phone orders; please have your card number and expiration date available when ordering. Catalog prices do not include postage. For domestic mail, add $6.50 for the first item; for multiple items we charge at the approximate cost. If you prefer delivery via other methods, we will strive to comply; actual postage cost will be charged. Foreign first class international or priority shipping will be charged at actual cost. California customers please add applicable sales tax. Libraries may request items to be shipped and billed, or we are happy to hold items awaiting Purchase Orders. Foreign customers may remit in US dollars with a check drawn upon a US bank, or by credit card.





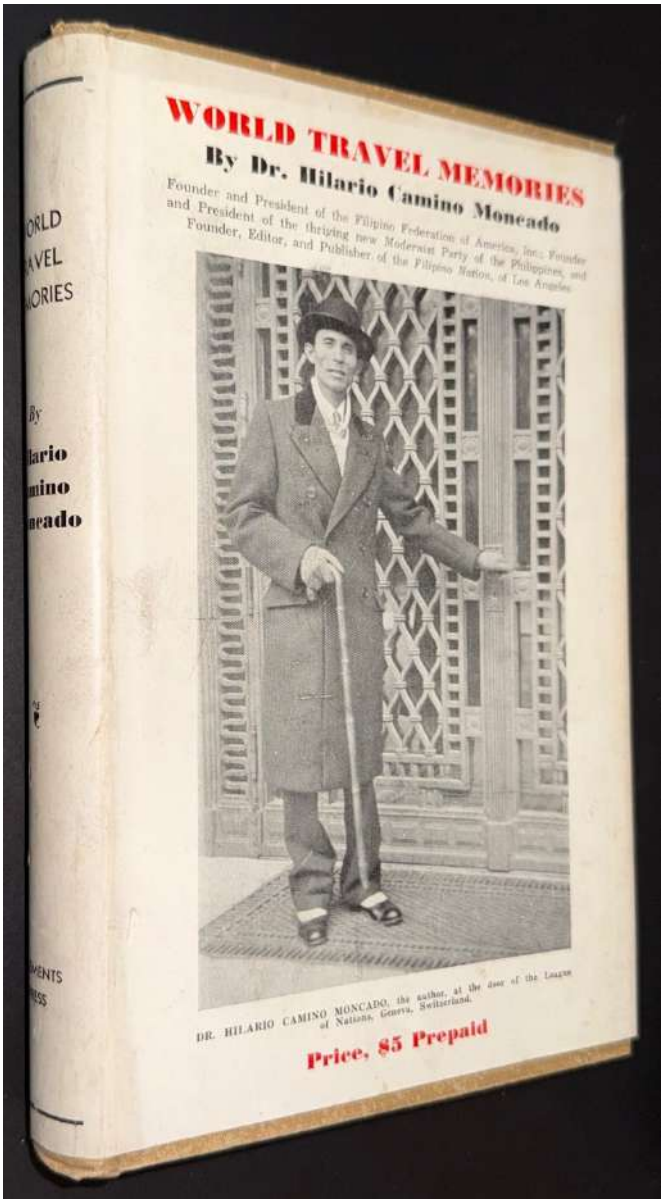
1. Filipino Federation of America. Filipino Nation [bound volume containing 19 issues, vol. 4 no. 7 to vol. 6 no. 2]. Los Angeles: Filipino Nation Publishing Company, 1928-1929. Publisher's hardcover binding containing individually paginated monthly issues, bound with covers intact; the boards are lightly rubbed and dust-soiled, interior clean and unmarked. (#339435) $750.00

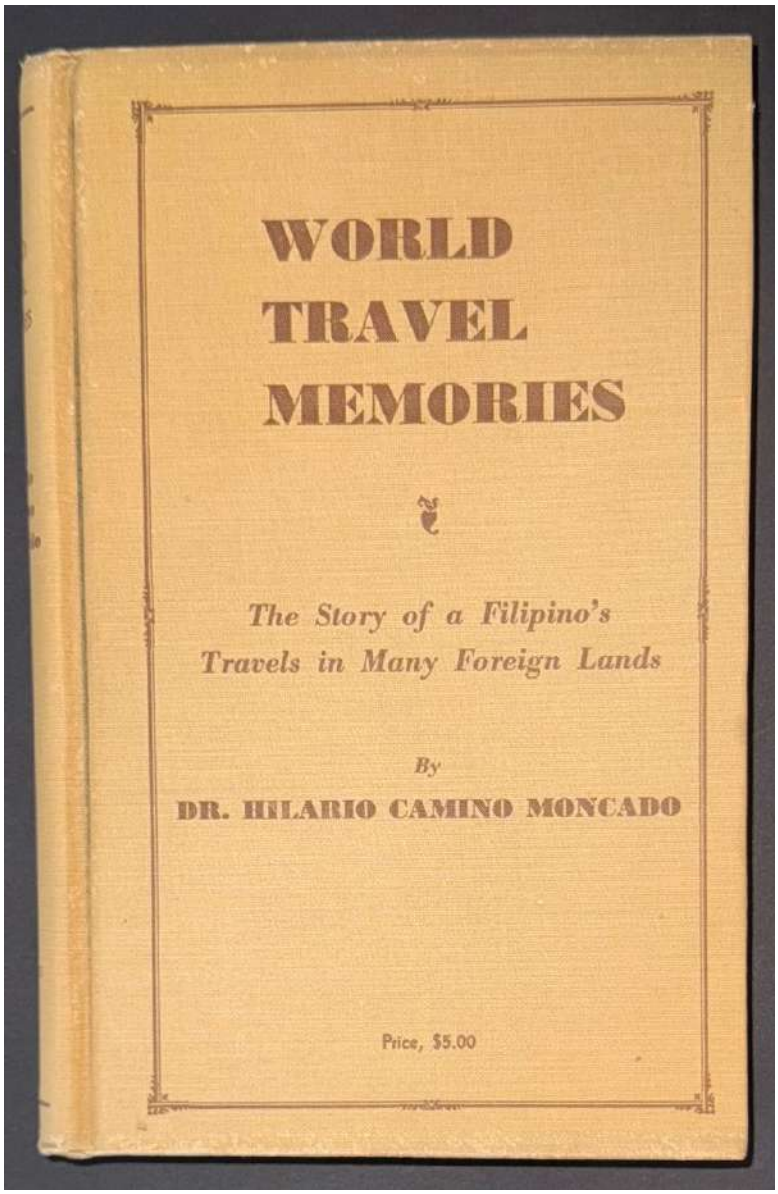
This public-facing magazine focuses almost entirely on the political side of Moncado's work, including the pursuit of Philippine independence. Its pages include poetry and essays highlighting the immigrant community's cultural aspirations, as well as articles about prominent white Americans whose support was seen as vital to the cause.



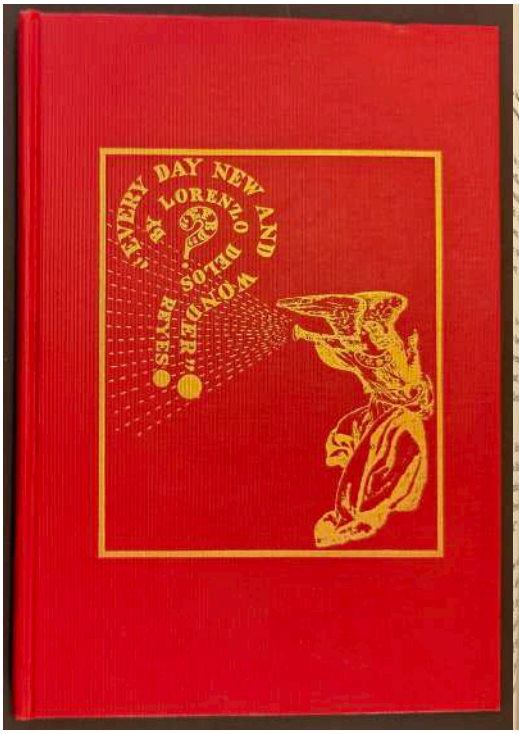


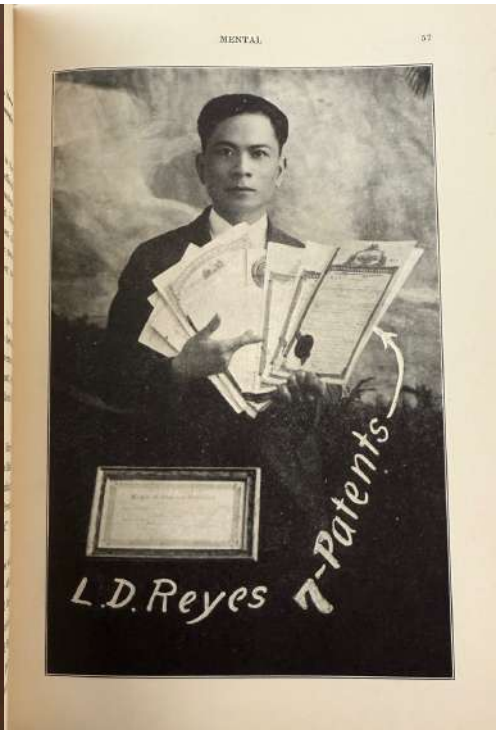
2. (*Another bound volume of the magazine, in worse condition but more substantial.*) Filipino Federation of America. Filipino Nation [bound volume containing 32 issues, vol. 4 no. 6 to vol. 8 no. 2]. Los Angeles: Filipino Nation Publishing Company, 1928-1931. Hardcover volume containing individually paginated monthly issues, custom bound for Div. 3, Lodge 3 of the FFA; the covers are separating from the spine, with old duct tape reinforcement. The bottom of the textblock has some damp-staining. Earlier issues are 8-16 pages, but they soon grew to 50 pages per issue. (#339470) $950.00

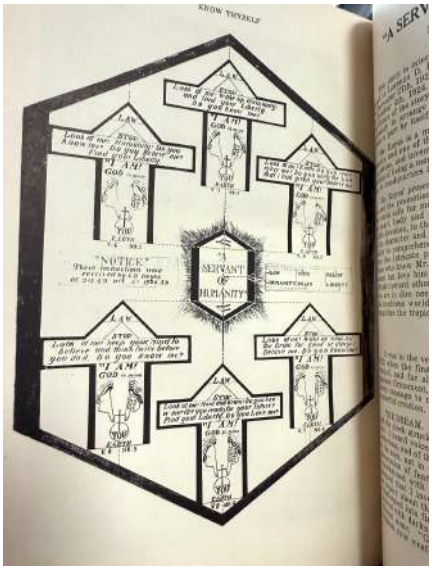




3. Moncado, Hilario Camino. World Travel Memories; being the first series of illustrated travel stories to be published as such in a single volume by any Filipino. Washington DC: C.T. Clements, 1932. 362 pages, hardcover, very good, in mildly worn dustjacket. (The dj is slightly shorter than the book.) (#339468) $600.00
In this travel memoir, Moncado focuses on political and social issues encountered on a trip around the world, conveying an impression of worldliness which burnished his reputation within the Filipino-American community. He includes a chapter on his meeting with Gandhi, described as a personal hero despite his non-Christian faith.









4. Reyes, Lorenzo Delos. Every day new and wonder. [Los Angeles]: [Filipino Federation of America], [1931]. 243p. hardcover, errata slip pasted to verso of title page, otherwise fine condition. (#339430) **SOLD**

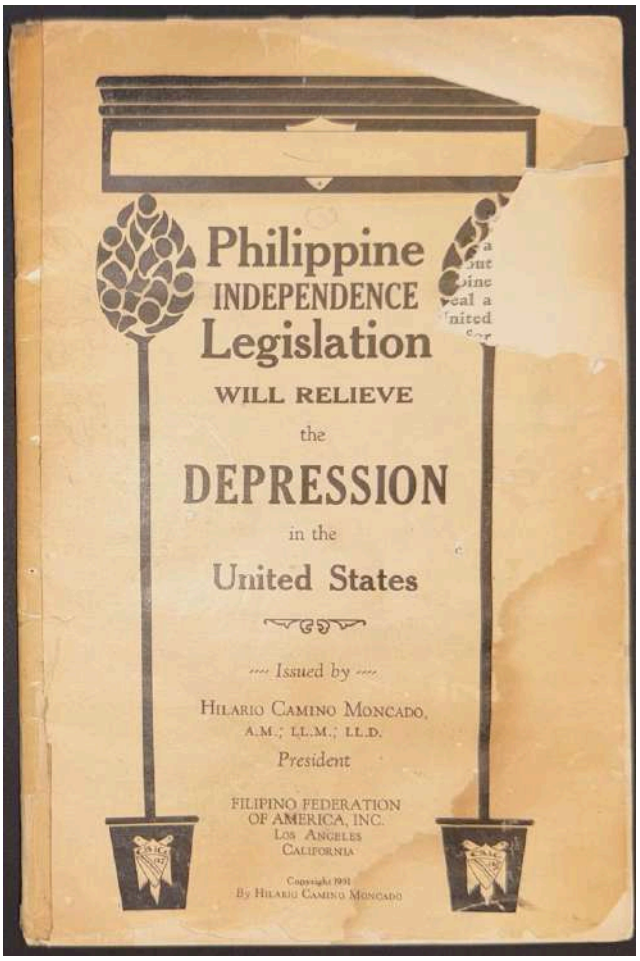
The theological dimensions of the FFA were developed by Lorenzo Delos Reyes, author of this book. He uses imagery depicting Moncado in a Christ-like position surrounded by twelve apostles. The text explains how the Malayan race is "The Light of the World," and that the United States can claim a crown of divine honor by liberating the Filipino people. Physical development was part of the FFA program, as illustrated in this book, and in his later days, Moncado emphasized golf as an ideal sport. Reyes portrays himself as an inventor, showing documentation of his seven patents. Reyes and his role as "spiritual founder" in the FFA are discussed in Steffi San Buenaventura"s article, "Filipino folk spirituality and immigration: from mutual aid to religion."

5. (***Another example, in slightly lesser condition***). Reyes, Lorenzo Delos. Every day new and wonder. [Los Angeles]: [Filipino Federation of America], [1931]. 243p. hardcover, errata slip pasted to verso of title page, some minor soil to covers, otherwise very good. (#339434) **SOLD**

6. 3rd State Convention / H.R. Moncado again in Stockton / July 3, 4, 5, 6 1929 / Stockton, California [pinback button with attached ribbon which says Welcome E.F.B. Live forever Filipino Federation of America, Inc.]. Stockton, CA: Mfg. by Walter Brunt in San Francisco), 1929. 1.75 inch diameter pin, very good with original manufacturer's paper intact on the verso. This is the earliest Filipino-American pin we have handled. (#339467) $150.00

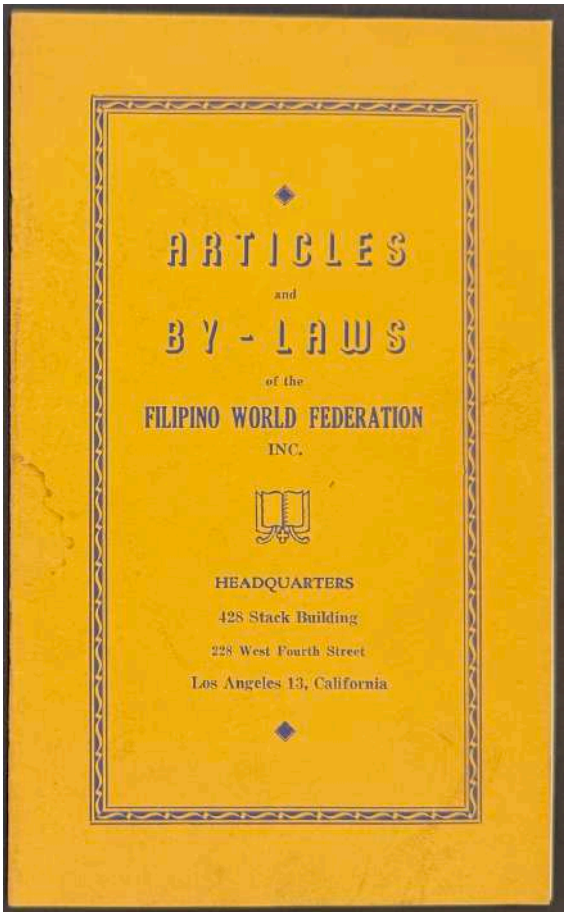


The initial EFB on the ribbon represent pseudo-Latin words in Moncado's religion: Equi ("I am the Way of Equality"), Frili ("I am the Truth of Fraternity"), and Brium ("I am the Life of Liberty").



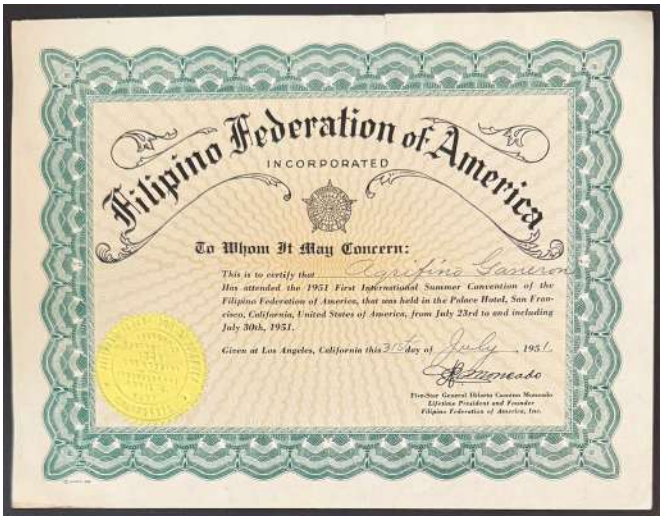
7. Moncado, Hilario Camino. Philippine independence legislation will relieve the Depression in the United States. Los Angeles: Filipino Federation of America, 1931. 29p. staplebound booklet, front cover badly chipped with table of contents on verso affected; dampstained, spine taped. (#339443) **SOLD**

In some other FFA publications the argument was made that the Malay race was favored by God, and the United States would be crowned in glory if it gave the Philippines independence, but this booklet focuses entirely on economic and political arguments for independence.



8. Articles and By-laws of the Filipino World Federation Inc. Los Angeles: Filipino World Federation, 1933 (?). [12p.] staplebound booklet, faint stain at middle of spine, some oxidation to staples; interior clean. (#339438) **SOLD**

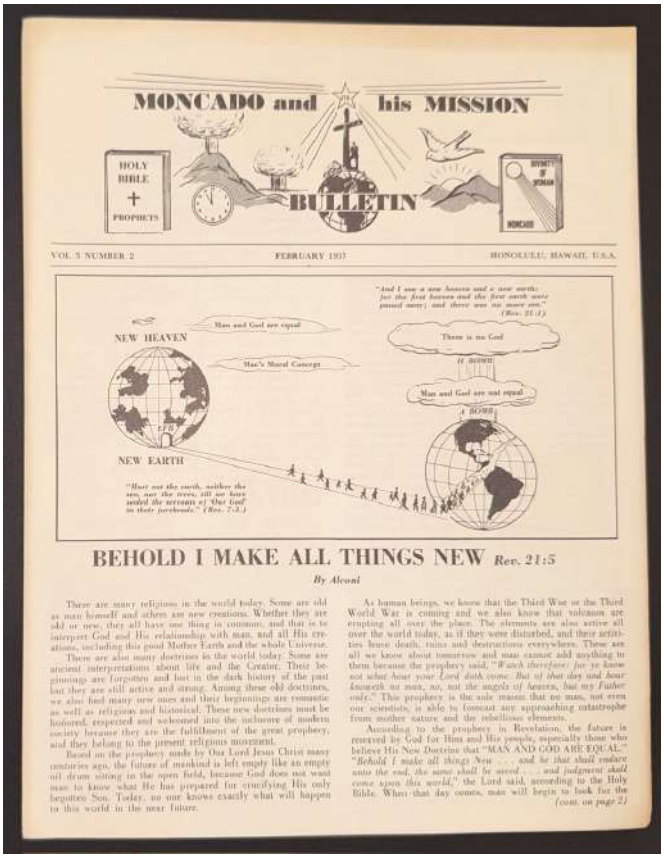
The sacred role of Moncado is omitted in these straightforwardly organizational rules. They were notarized in 1933, though this could be a later printing.


Filipino Federation of America
INCORPORATED
To Whom It May Concern:
This is to certify that Agrifino Ganeron
Has attended the 1951 First International Summer Convention of the Filipino Federation of America, that was held in the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, California, United States of America, from July 23rd to and including July 30th, 1951.
Given at Los Angeles, California this 31st day of July, 1951.
Moncado
Five-Star General Hilario Camino Moncado
Lifetime President and Founder
Filipino Federation of America, Inc.

9. Filipino Federation of America Incorporated [certificate of attendance at a convention]. Los Angeles: Filipino Federation of America, 1951. 18.5 inch certificate, signed by Hilario Camino Moncado, to certify that Agrifino Ganeron had attended the first International Summer Convention of the FFA. (#339465) $125.00
This certificate cites Moncado as a "Five Star General" (he later claimed to be a Six Star General).

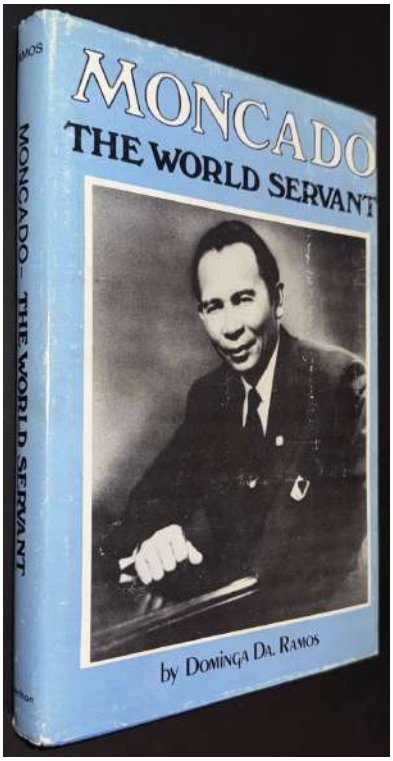

Federation National
BULLETIN
FIRST QUARTER, 1954
THE 1953 CONVENTION
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

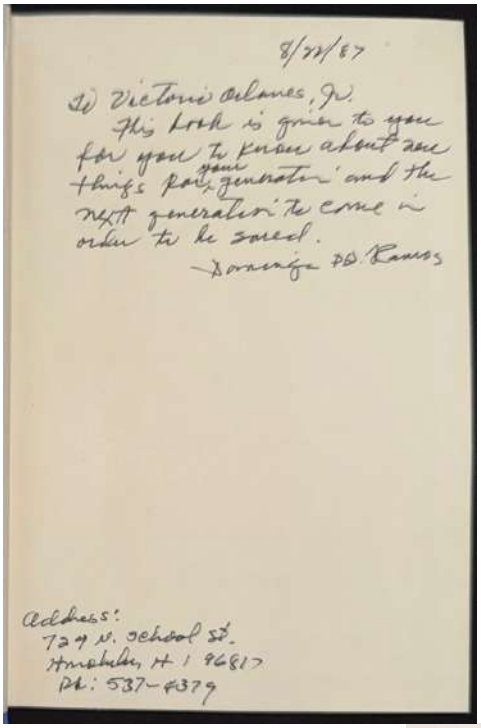
10. Federation National Bulletin. Vol. 1 no. 1. Los Angeles: Filipino Federation of America, 1954. 4p. newsletter, 8.5x11 inches, minor edge creases. (#339464) **SOLD**
This newsletter omits religious discussion, instead highlighting the political issues of importance to the Federation near the end of Moncado's life, such as support for Hawaiian statehood, and fighting communism. Moncado had also decided that golf was the ideal sport, and there is significant coverage of FFA golf activities. The last page features a photo of a new statue of Moncado at the FFA's village near Honolulu.


MONCADO and his MISSION
HOLY BIBLE + PROPHETS
BULLETIN
VOL. 3 NUMBER 2
FEBRUARY 1957
HONOLULU, HAWAII, U.S.A.
NEW HEAVEN
NEW EARTH
BEHOLD I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW Rev. 21:5
By Alconi

11. [Moncado, Hilario Camino]. Moncado and his Mission Bulletin. Vol. 3 no. 2 (February 1957). Honolulu: Supreme Council of EFB Students, 1957. 4p., 8.5x11 inch newsletter, very good. (#339444) $75.00
After the achievement of Philippine independence, and limitations on immigration, the FFA turned almost entirely to spiritual rather than political objectives, and even sent missionaries back to the Philippines where there is still an active sect venerating Moncado as a religious figure. This newsletter was issued after Moncado's death, summarizing the tenets of his faith. In his later days, Moncado emphasized golf as an ideal sport, and there are small photos of him "Fighting Communism through Golfing."


FIGHTING COMMUNISM through GOLFING
"In my deep study of golf, I have discovered that golf can be played scientifically when applying the principles of geometry and physics.
AND
"My whole fundamental theory of the 360° power swing of the club head is to keep both arms and hands away from the body" . . . General Moncado.
SOMETHING TO REMEMBER HIM . . . 1948





12. Ramos, Dominga Da. Moncado, the World Servant. New York: Carlton Press, 1985. 207 page hardcover, very good, in mildly rubbed dustjacket. Inscribed by the author. (#339469) $95.00
This hagiography was written by a disciple who had helped during Moncado's unsuccessful run for the Philippine presidency in 1946.

13. [Photograph of Hilario Camino Moncado]. n.p., 1981. 8x10 inch photograph, reprinting a much earlier group shot taken by Bataan Photo Studio in San Francisco. The verso is dated April 1981, with the Sharpshot logo. (#339466) $25.00



14. Filipino Federation. Since 1925 [visor]. Mfg. by Port Authority Signature, n.d.. Visor with adjustable strap, probably ca. 1990s. (#339471) $25.00
Later in life Moncado advocated golf as an ideal sport, and this may well have been intended for wearing out on the links by members of the organization long after his death.

