

THE MANILA TIMES

March 26, 1965

# Davao: city of promise and tremendous growth

It has been frequently said that the Province of Davao, with its varied and extensive natural resources has paid generous rewards to people with an adventurous and pioneering spirit.

A little more than a wilderness about 60 years ago, the growth in population and in economic development of the province has been rather rapid. Yet the province is still young in terms of potential growth.

## Excellent port

Davao City, with its excellent natural port, logically became the focal point of economic growth. It is the site of the most intensive agricultural development within the province and the center of commercial and industrial activities. With an area of approximately 1,000 square miles, Davao City is rated as the largest city in the world and as the only city "with an explored area" which stands ready for tremendous industrial and commercial development and exploitation.

Latest statistics show that of the 2,481 industrial, commercial and public utility establishments registered for the province, 1,150 or 46% are in Davao City. Out of a total provincial population of over 900,000 persons, 230,000 or 26% are in Davao City. Fifteen bus companies operating 270 buses in the entire province run 60% of them in the Davao City Area. Out of a total of 4,584 vehicles re-

gistered, 3,576 or 78% thereof are licensed in Davao City.

## 450 vessels

Almost all domestic shipping companies list Davao City as a port of call while an average of 450 foreign vessels drop anchor every year. These foreign bottoms load the principal items of exports of logs, hemp, copra, plywood, iron concentrates, corn, copper,

concentrates, rattan poles and lead concentrates in the order of their peso value.

Indeed, Davao City is living up to its name—a city of promise! The influx of great numbers of pioneering-type people including professionals from all parts of the country has resulted in the concentration of substantial investments by large interests in the city.

An admirable and corollary development has been the formation of industry and trade and commerce associations and civic and community service clubs in Davao City. These associations and clubs, such as the Philippine Association of Log Producers and Exporters, Davao Fiber Producers Association, Citrus Growers Association, Mount Apo Coffee Growers Association, Rotary Club, Lions Club, Jaycees and Chamber of Commerce, are the necessary mechanisms through which the orderly growth of the local economy may be planned and expanded and concomitant social problems may find their solutions.