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### NOTES AND COMMENTS

In keeping with the theme of the First Annual Sociological Conference, Social Aspects of Community Development, this combined April-July issue of the *Review* again presents a series of articles dealing with Philippine rural life. Certainly such a subject provides a rich reservoir of research potentialities.

The first article by Miss Pañaniban treats of the sociological implications for rural stagnation resulting from the tendency of the more able students in the rural high schools to migrate to the city. It would appear, as Miss Pañaniban points out, that there exists in the present structure and orientation of the present rural high schools tendencies which facilitate this drift to the city. Fortunately there is developing a new awareness and a new resolve to rectify past shortcomings among educational leaders. This article also serves as a timely example of the positive value of sociological research in the nation today.

In the second and third articles by Doctor Nurge and Doctor Huke, respectively, there is a sketching of the socio-economic life of two Visayan villages. Doctor Nurge provides a social anthropological orientation to her study of a Leyte barrio, while Doctor Huke writes of an Aklan village from the point of view of a geographer. Naturally these barrios really cannot be described as truly "representative" of their respective districts; however, they do provide a frame of reference for a fuller appreciation of Visayan rural life.

The Reverend Arens in his article on "Waray-waray" corn ritual carries a step further his discussion of Christian agricultural ritual begun in the January issue. It is significant that a crop (corn) relatively recent in its introduction has already woven itself into the folk practices of the Philippines.

The last section of this issue of the *Review* represents a new departure in editorial policy. Three articles are included from the anthropologically famous "Beyer Collection of Original Sources in Philippine Ethnography." (The status of all branches of the social sciences is so admittedly tenuous in the Philippines today, that the *Review*, while primarily sociological in orientation, does not hesitate to publish relevant articles from the realms of folklore, social anthropology, linguistics, economics and even human geography or archaeology). Through the generous courtesy of Professor H. Otley Beyer, thru previously unpublished studies on Tagalog folklore and social life are being presented. Significantly the most recent of the three is over twenty-five years old. Thus, can be seen a picture of Tagalog life before the ravages of the war and the excesses of rapid modernization and the secularization of cultural values. The article by Mr. Agustin describes Bulacan death ceremonies. (Obviously the social and psychic functions cannot be underestimated). Tagalog folktales from Mindoro are presented by Miss Morente, and Miss Marasigan depicts Batangas fiesta practices.

G. H. W.

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The PHILIPPINE SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW is the Official Organ of the Philippine Sociological Society. Subscription is three pesos a year or one peso for single copies.

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