

Mountain Farmers

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"From the Bontoc region come many ugly and apparently authentic stories of lowlanders' staking claims and registering titles to lands which have been the traditional mainstay of whole villages. Until now the Igorot has not realized that his land could be taken from him by entirely legal processes. He has assumed that because his fathers built and cultivated the terraces they were his; he has not seen the necessity of securing his title by a foolish piece of paper. In consequence he has been exploited, and—if my information is reliable, which I have every reason to believe it is—by men whose duty was to guard his rights. (I could be plainer, but you understand the need of being wary in such statements!) These people will resist their expropriation—and they will be shot down. Other villages, spurred on by their

educated younger generation, are taking warning in time and registering their holdings.

"That is the situation, so far as I can learn. The legitimate, responsible mining companies I have no quarrel with, though my love of the Igorot and my anxiety to help him preserve all the best features of his native life make me hope that gold will not be found in paying quantities round Besao. Much that made his life so admirably distinct has gone beyond the hope of recovery; this includes, I regret to say, his costume. Perhaps I had better qualify this by saying that his costume is going; vestiges still remain, but the gee-string and the tapis and the beautifully woven blankets, all of them so attractively designed and coloured and so sensibly adapted to local conditions, are yielding to cheap cotton imports from Japan. The Twentieth Century is in these mountains, whether we like it or not, and I look on it as my job to help ferry the Igorot across the three to four thousand years

of human history which he must cover in a single generation or period. In the process I try to see that he retains the many admirable features of his own culture and shows some discrimination in what he picks up from the West.

"But the mines, as you pointed out, produce bewildering social changes, and the prosperity they bring also fetters a retinue of harpies, whose object is to separate the Igorot from his earnings. I will close with just one instance to show how vulnerable the Igorot's own customs name him. I refer to the system of trial marriage promoted by what we call locally the 'ebgan' though it is better known by its Bontoc name of 'ulag.' Whether this system was advantageous in the past I cannot say; I do believe that the lack of adequate and livable homes made it practically inevitable, and I think that the family life which the new and better houses

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Non-Status Sugar for Army

One bidder for the U. S. army sugar contract this year, May-June delivery, was the Domestic Sugar Administration. This is the set-up of the Philippine Commonwealth for administration of domestic-consumption and quota-reserve sugar. The army calls for 12,000 bags of sugar 100 lbs. to the bag, a total of 1,200,000 lbs., half to be delivered May 15, half June 15. Bids were as follows:

	Per 100 lbs. net bag
Domestic Sugar Administration (P.I. Government)	P3.56
Juan Ki Cho, foreign sugar, c.i.f. Pier, without sales tax, and without import duty	3.83
Victorias Milling Co., Inc.	5.82
Insular Sugar Refining Corporation	5.75
Fresh Food, Inc., foreign sugar: c.i.f. Pier, with 1/2% cash discount for payment in 10 days	4.28
The Domestic Sugar Administration's	

less 2% cash discount \$0.096

or a net U. S. current price of per 100 lbs. \$4.704

Philippine sugar bid by Insureco, equivalent to, per 100 lbs. \$2.925

Philippine sugar bid lower than the U. S. current net market price (per 100 lbs. net bag) by P3.558, or U. S. \$1.779

Canadian Pacific

The Canadian Pacific liner *Empress of Japan* that left Manila for Vancouver April 12 via China and Japan took from this port the largest number of passengers ever booked for a single departure, 435, the agents report. The Pacific passenger trade could spell prosperity in capital letters with consistent trade of that calibre.



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