

- English is indispensable if we plan to learn the science, the technology, and culture of America, England, and other English speaking countries.

ENGLISH AND FILIPINO

Can users of English who do not think in English, use English effectively and with profit? Do those who obtain their education through medium of English and yet do not think in English, profit to the full with what they are supposed to have learned? Heretofore, pupils and students were forced to think in English by making them use English all the time, so that they could profit to the full with the education that they were getting through medium of English. Is this still being done in our schools?

Advocates of the propagation and use of Pilipino all over our country would recommend the use of Pilipino in our educational system instead of English. This would be all right if our only aim in education is to propagate and hold on to Filipino culture. But if we would learn, in addition, about the strength and wisdom of other people, if we

would study their culture and more so their science and technology, we must do so through the medium of their respective languages. Translation is almost impossible and practically useless. Consequently, those who would study Spanish culture could do so best through the study and the use of Spanish. Those who would study English culture, science and technology, America's and England's particularly, could do so adequately only by studying English well and using it fully. And this is what we are trying to do. But our efforts will fall short of desirable levels if we do not do our thinking in English as we use it in our schools. And we cannot use English effectively in our daily pursuits if we cannot readily think in it. This we can only do by using English all the time, except when we are studying and delving in things innately Philippine. — *Domingo G. Ampil, Sta. Ana, Manila.*