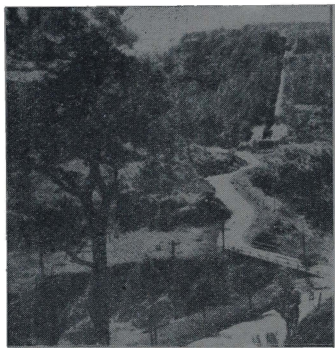


LITTLE STORIES FOR LITTLE PEOPLE

MOUNTAIN BOYS IN THE LOWLAND

By SALUD AMOR



Their home was in the Mountain Province.

NANDING AND ACOY are two brothers who have always lived in the Mountain Province. Nanding is ten years old and Acoy is twelve. These boys had never been to the lowland—that is, until this year.

Their parents live on a small farm near Baguio, where their father raises vegetables which he sells. Nanding and Acoy help their father care for the beans, carrots, peas, lettuce, cabbage, onions, radishes, *pechay*, and *camotes* which they sell in the large, well-kept market at Baguio. The boys also look after a bed of strawberries from which they pick many delicious berries. These they also sell in the market.

One day in April, shortly after the close of school, the boys' father received a letter from his brother who is a foreman on a large *hacienda* in Negros. The un-

cle invited the boys and their mother to spend a month on the *hacienda*.

"Oh, father! May we go?" both boys asked as soon as the letter had been read. "We would like to see a sugar central and a large coconut grove. We have studied about them in our class, but we have never seen them because we have never been out of the Mountain Province."

"I will think about it," said the boys' father.

In a few days he told them that they and their mother would start to Negros in a week.

How happy the boys were! And such preparations! There was much planning to be done and many things had to be made ready. But before the week was up, everything was prepared.

In a few days they were at the *hacienda* in Negros where their uncle is a foreman. There were several boys living on the plantation. They were of the same age as Nanding and Acoy. These boys took the visitors all over the big farm.

Nanding and Acoy were interested in seeing the coconut groves and the big cartloads of ripe coconuts. They liked to look at the coconuts as they were carried along the chute by the rapidly moving water. They liked to watch the workers as they cut open the coconuts, removed the meat, and placed it in the sun to dry. Then it would be called *copra*, and the oil pressed from it would be used in many ways.

The boys enjoyed seeing the laborers cut the sugar-cane. They liked to see the

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MOUNTAIN BOYS

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sap squeezed out of the cane. When it was being boiled into brown sugar, they sometimes had a taste of the thick molasses.

The month went by all too soon, and it was time for Acoy and Nanding to return to their home in the Mountain Province. They said goodbye to their boy friends, and in a short time were back in Baguio.

"What did you like best?" their father asked them when they returned.

"I liked to drink the milk from a young coconut," said Nanding.

"I liked to eat molasses made from sugar-cane sap," said Acoy.

"Did you enjoy your stay in the lowlands?"

"Yes," replied the boys, "but Negros is very different from our home in the Mountain Province. It is very hot in Negros—not cool like Baguio. And just think! We didn't see a single pine-tree!"

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

1. Where did Nanding and Acoy live?
2. Is it cool or hot in Baguio?
3. What did the boys' father do?

4. What things did he grow?

5. What fruit did he grow?

6. Can those things grow in the hot lowland? Why not?

7. Is sugar-cane grown in the Mountain Province? Why not?

8. Are coconuts grown in the Mountain Province? Why not?

9. Do pine-trees grow in the Mountain Province? Why?

10. Do pine-trees grow in the lowland? Why?

11. Where did the boys go to visit?

12. What things interested them on the *hacienda*? Why?

13. Have you ever been in the Mountain Province?

14. If not, would things there interest you?

15. Have you ever visited an *hacienda*?

16. If not, would things there interest you?

17. Did you like this story? Why?

18. Do you know the elevation above sea level of Baguio and other parts of the Mountain Province? (Baguio, 5,000 feet. Other parts of the province from 5,000 to 8,000 feet.)

19. What are the different Filipinos of the Mountain Province called?

20. What can you tell of the Mountain Province?

TERRIFYING EXPERIENCE

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Why?

15. What did the keeper say after the men told their story?

16. How many of these East African animal stories have you read?

17. Can you tell what each was about?

18. Do you enjoy them?

19. Do you want more to be published in THE YOUNG CITIZEN?

20. Have you learned things from these stories?

21. Why are many large wild animals found in East Africa?

22. Make a list of the large wild animals found there.

23. Write a paragraph or tell as much as you can about each one.

24. Which of these wild animals are found in other parts of the world?

25. Which are found only in East Africa?

26. Have you ever seen pictures in the movies of any of the wild animals of East Africa?

27. Did such pictures interest you? Did you learn anything from them?

28. Where are some of these wild animals kept in captivity? (In the "circus" and in the "zoo.")

29. Does the East African government protect any of these animals? Why?