

READING TIME FOR YOUNG FOLKS

A Disobedient Boy

By MISS MARGARITA SANTOS

"PEDRING, come here," shouted Jose, his playmate. "Look at what happened to this boy who played with firecrackers. Read what is said about him. He would not be able to use his left eye again. Let us not play with these firecrackers any more. We might be like him."

Pedring took the newspaper and threw it away. He said, "That happened to that boy because that was the first time he touched firecrackers. But I, I know how to light them. To-night, you just see how I shoot them off."

That night Pedring called all of his playmates. At about eight

o'clock firecrackers could be heard everywhere.

Bang! Bang! "Pedring, Pedring," shouted his mother, "is that you playing with the firecrackers again?" Pedring did not hear his mother.

Bang! Bang! Bang! The explosion was louder than before. Mother looked out of the window. She saw something strange. Many boys were crowding around Pedring. There were others rushing to him. Pedring could not say anything. His face was distorted with pain. One thing was sure. His right hand was badly burned.



Just a Cold

Ha . . . ching!"

"Pepito, you must stay in bed. You have a cold. I shall prepare some hot tea for you."

"O Mother, does a sneeze make a cold? I am going out to play. I am not sick," and the boy skipped out of the house.

"Pepito! Pepito-o-o-o! Where are you?" Mother shouted. But Pepito was gone.

After a while, the boy crept into his room and wrapped himself up in a thick blanket. Mother found him doubled up in a heap on the bed.

"Now, my boy, what is the matter?"

ENLARGE YOUR VOCABULARY

By MISS MARGARITA SANTOS *

I. On the left-hand column are expressions which are italicized. From the words on the right-hand column select the word that has nearly the same meaning as the word in italics.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| 1. <i>appropriate</i> title for | strong |
| the story | |
| 2. mother <i>consoled</i> me. | tired |
| 3. the <i>sturdy</i> acacia tree | clear |
| 4. <i>huge</i> animal | cheered |
| 5. the <i>mischievous</i> boy | big |
| 6. the <i>weary</i> traveler | suitable |
| 7. <i>vivid</i> description | naughty |
| 8. <i>tremendous</i> earth- | splendid |
| quake | |
| 9. her <i>response</i> was clear | terrible |
| 10. <i>pompous</i> ceremony | reply |

II. Fill the blanks with words selected from the left hand column:

* Teacher, Emilio Jacinto Elementary School.

"I feel very, very cold." Pepito's teeth were chattering.

"Ah, my boy, you have a chill."

By and by Mother came. She made Pepito drink a cup of hot tea with plenty of lemon juice. Then she sent for their doctor.

Pepito was laid up in bed for a whole week. Even when he had no more fever he was not allowed to go out. He heard the boys shouting and laughing on the ground, but he was too weak even to laugh.

1. We saw a —— elephant in the circus.

2. They were, —— after the journey.

3. My dress is not —— for the dance.

4. I do not like to play with —— boys.

5. A —— streak of lightning flashed.

6. She gave no —— to my question.

7. The —— mango tree was uprooted.

8. We —— the old woman.

9. The —— wedding celebration lasted for two days.

10. A —— flood visited the town.

(Please turn to page 27 for the answers.)

"It was only a cold, Mother, why did I become very sick?"

"A cold is a very bad thing to have, my child. You have to rest to get rid of it. You cannot cure yourself by not paying attention to it."

