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## **Huk Story: The Philippine Answer to Communism by Alvin H. Scaff**

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the first Filipina Mason. Certainly Villaruel's retraction throws revealing light upon this aspect of his life. Villaruel says: "I also repent having belonged to Masonry, having dedicated myself to its spread in these islands and having been a fanatical Mason who went so far as to oblige my two children to enter this society, which I execrate, advising my children... to renounce it."

Rosario, his daughter, followed his advice and retracted Masonry. The retraction exists in her own handwriting and is also reproduced by Cavanna in photostat (p. 275): "I, Rosario Villaruel, sincerely declare that I belonged to the Masonic sect, deceived by some who told me that Masonry was only a beneficent society and that Pope Pius IX had been a Mason and that the Queen of Spain was a Mason."

Space does not permit us to pursue this subject further, but there are a number of other lives and personages in the book who will only be fully understood in the light of the facts reproduced in Cavanna. Mr. Manuel's failure to avail himself of this source and of the references cited therein has led him to publish some portraits which must be adjudged substantially defective.

The book is well printed by the Benipayo Press; the typographical errors are few. Unfortunately the English is rough in many places. It is perhaps too much to expect that the talents of a research scholar and a nice ear for style and idiomatic usage should be found in the same person. In subsequent volumes the author would be well advised to have his manuscript gone over by a style committee.

The price of his volume is ₱40.00, which, considering the prices charged for other local publications, is a bargain. Every reference library will wish to possess it. We look forward to the other volumes, and congratulate Mr. Manuel on this excellent reference work.

LEO A. CULLUM

## HUK STORY

THE PHILIPPINE ANSWER TO COMMUNISM. By Alvin H. Scaff. Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 1955. Pp.ix-165. \$4.00.

Dr. Scaff was sent to the Philippines in 1940 by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions to teach at Silli-

man University. In 1945 he returned to the United States but was back in the Philippines in 1953-54 on a Fulbright Fellowship for the purpose of studying the Huk movement. The present book is the outcome of that study.

The work begins with a good historical survey of the Communist movement in the Philippines. In fact this is the first time, to this reviewer's knowledge, that many of the inaccuracies connected with the history of Communism here have been corrected. The usual account starts with Tan Malacca. This is a mistake and Dr. Scaff corrects it by inquiring into the person or persons responsible for bringing Malacca to the Philippines. The Party had made contacts with the Philippines in 1924 when an American, William Janequette, invited certain labor groups to send representatives to Canton. Dr. Scaff does not supply us with the other alias of "Janequette" which was "Girunus" nor does he seem to be aware that "Janequette" was really the famous Harrison George. In passing, it might be noted that Antonio (sic) Ora should be Antonino Ora (p. 149). In order to get much of his information on the beginnings of the Philippine Party Dr. Scaff very wisely contacted Cirilo Bognot (now dead) and Domingo Ponce, probably the one man now living in the Philippines who knows most about those beginnings. Although most of the book is taken up with the EDCOR as the answer to the "Huk problem" yet the treatment of the origins of Communism here is not an inconsiderable contribution. The same can be said of another section of the book (pages 106-129) which treats of Huk propaganda and the reasons why Filipinos joined the Huks. Dr. Scaff has made a careful inquiry into motives and his conclusion is that "in the ranks and among the mass of followers the bread-and-butter promises, fear of the Constabulary, coercion by the Huks, and accidental association were the primary moving forces... No single motive, not even the agrarian issue, accounts for more than a small minority of those who joined the Huks... The agrarian problem is adroitly handled by the Communists to give the revolutionary conspiracy a righteous and high-sounding tone."

The main portion of the book is concerned with explaining "The Philippine Answer to Communism." The author sums up that answer in two words: Magsaysay and EDCOR. Perhaps Dr. Scaff might have titled his book "The Philippine Answer to the Huks" for the reader not acquainted with the Philippines might get the impression that with the containment of the Huks the

solution of the Communist problem has also been found. This, of course, is far from true. In one sense the Communist problem in the Philippines is worse than ever precisely because we are not met with an external threat but have to be on our guard against a very real, albeit hidden, Communist infiltration.

Dr. Scaff conducted more than ninety interviews with ex-Huks who eventually found their way to the army's EDCOR (Economic Development Corps). How these people were brought back to democracy, how they were persuaded to settle in Mindanao, the difficulties of pioneering, how the army helped solve these difficulties, more important, how the ex-Huks helped themselves, what problems EDCOR still faces, all these things make an interesting and inspiring story. Dr. Scaff tells that story well and accurately. An index, a good set of photographic illustrations, some six charts on the national organization of the CPP and twelve pages of carefully edited notes give the scholar's touch.

ARTHUR A. WEISS

## HUMAN MIND

OUTLINES OF EMPIRICAL PSYCHOLOGY. By Joseph Goertz, S.V.D.  
University of San Carlos, Cebu City. Manila: Catholic Trade School, 1955. Pp. 126.

When we speak of "Empirical Psychology" we mean a special scientific methodology applied to psychic events. Empirical Psychology observes all psychic events either spontaneously occurring or purposely provoked under laboratory conditions (experimental psychology) and from the positive data of such observations draws conclusions in the form of theories and eventually of laws.

Since the positive (measurable) data which can be obtained from the observations of psychic events are frequently insufficient to describe the whole process of the event, especially when the higher faculties are involved, empirical psychology remains a limited science which has to be coordinated with other more comprehensive approaches to the problems of human conscious or sub-conscious behavior.

A course of purely empirical psychology is always a part of a more complete study either philosophical or merely psychological