

NOTES ON »THE LITTLE GUGU FROG«: AN AFTERWORD
TO LOUIS ADAMIC'S *LUCAS, KING OF THE BALUCAS*

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Louis Adamic's story of the »King« of the Philippine Negrito tribe called The Balucas was first published under the title »Philippine Interlude« in the magazine *Plain Talk* for March, 1930.¹ During the next two years, *Modra ptica* printed the story in a translation by Griša Koritnik; and L. Mattersburger's translation appeared in *Der Wiener Tag*.² In March of 1935, Arthur Whipple also published Adamic's Philippine story as the small book *Lucas, King of the Balucas*. Whipple's edition, bound in boards, quarter cloth, was approximately 6 × 7 inches (8 vo), printed on »Strathmore Wayside Text: USA« paper, and paginated [1—5] 6—22 [23—25]. On p. [25] was the information that Whipple had made 350 copies of the work at Los Angeles and that the »woodcuts,« which appeared on pages [5] and [23], had been executed by »Eizzil,« a name sounding like the word *easel* and created from the name of the artist, Elizabeth Whipple. The front inside fold of a dust wrapper for the book described Adamic's work as »The Story of a Curious Monarch« and gave the price of the volume as \$ 1.00. In 1986, a Slovene version of the Whipple edition, translated by Tine Kurent and illustrated by Marijan Amalietti, was published by Prešernova družba in Ljubljana under the title *Lucas, Kralj Balukov*.

Adamic had become associated with Arthur Whipple in 1933 when Whipple decided to begin a small press in California and sought texts from friends and others linked to the Los Angeles area.³ It was specifically for Whipple's venture that Carey McWilliams wrote *Louis Adamic and Shndow-America*, and that arrangement led Adamic to send Whipple the material that became *Struggle*.⁴ Whether Adamic gave Whipple the Philippine story at the same time he sent *Struggle* or provided it later in exchange for Whipple's allowing Tomorrow Publishers in New York to reprint *Struggle* in

¹ Vol. 6, 303—08.

² »Kralj Lukaš,« 3 (1931—32), 257—63, and »Philippinsches Zwischenspiel,« 17. June, 1932, resp.

³ *Doctor Aurelius Vanderdonk* by Wilbur Needham, foreword by Paul Jordan-Smith (both acquaintances of Adamic), which Whipple announced for 1935 publication is an example of material the search produced.

⁴ McWilliams (Los Angeles: Arthur Whipple, 1935). Henry A. Christian, »Adamic's *Struggle*: The International History of a 'Radical' Pamphlet« in Janez Stanonik, ed., *Louis Adamič: Simpozij: Symposium* (Ljubljana: Tiskala Univerzitetna tiskarna, 1981), pp. 323—44, gives details of the publication.