NATIVE LIFE IN MANILA

The Funny Things One Sees in Smiling Round the World

By MARSHALL P. WILDER

(Copyright, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

The native women of Manila still wear gay skirts, with a separate piece of dark goods folded over them like paniers, or a long wide apron of satin, richly embroidered.

At first I thought wide-striped skirts were worn in imitation of the American flag, until told that it was a fashion that had prevailed for many years.

The women of the poorer class go barefoot, and their skirts are abbreviated in every way, their waists generally slipping from one shoulder, and their hair untidy when it is not hanging altogether loose, in thick, black masses. The women of all classes are constantly smoking cigars or cigarettes. They carry the children astride on one hip, instead of on the back as in Japan and some parts of China.

One of the funniest sights I ever saw was a scantily clothed Filipino woman carrying a boy about three years old astride of her hip. He wore a tiny green shirt, his only garment; on his head an old derby hat was jammed down to his ears; and, to complete the picture, his mother took a cigar about eight inches long from her mouth, while she chaffered with a shopman, and put it in the boy's mouth for safe-keeping.

The men are taking to foreign customs more rapidly, and numbers of them wear regular shoes and put a gauze undershirt beneath their outside airy one of jusi. Some of these exquisite jusi shirts are so fine they are a mere thought, and must certainly be worn for ornament only, for they serve neither as a protection or covering. So delicate is the thread that, in weaving, it is protected by gauze from the gentlest breeze.

The Chinese are the only industrious portion of the population and practically control the retail trade among the natives. Many of them are married to Filipino women, who make them good Catholics before they consent to marry them. A native woman who gets a Chinese husband is very lucky, for she will then be assured of a living, as he will work for her and his children, something a Filipino cannot always be depended upon to do.

Water carriers are constantly going about the streets, and the most of them carry the water in the ubiquitous Standard Oil cans, slung from a bamboo yoke laid across the shoulders. In every part of the orient, beginning at Honolulu, through Japan, in far Cathay, not stopping at India's coral strand, but all the way around to Egypt—the traveler will find the Standard Oil can used for every conceivable purpose. The Kanaka boys in Honolulu bail out their canoes with them, they are water cans everywhere, lanterns are made from them in Japan, utensils in China, cut up for ornaments in other places, and in Egypt used to pack dates in! Hundreds of thousands of these cans are sent east—filled with Standard oil—truly, the light of Asia!

Filipino men seem to incline toward the bootblack trade, there being more stands than there is seemingly a demand for. The opportunities between customers for rest in the chairs is the attraction that commends this trade to the ease-loving Filipinos.

Their greatest pleasure in life is cock-fighting, and there is no little shack without its petted and pampered rooster, tied by the leg and tenderly watched and cared for. If the family goes out for a little jaunt, or an hour's recreation, the woman may see to the children the best she can, while the man goes tenderly along, nursing the precious fowl in his arms.

If the house catches fire a native will first save his rooster, before he even thinks of his family. On every harbor boat, where families live, the rooster, the most important member of the family, may be seen tied to the mast, and at sunrise Manila is a very pandemonium of crowing cocks. Everyone gets up early, for sleep is impossible.

The people are passionately fond of music and their ear is marvelously true. There are 150 native bands in Manila, not more than a half dozen members out of the whole number being able to read a note of music. They play by ear entirely, like our negroes of the Southern states, yet their instruments are always in perfect tune and their playing is harmonious and beautiful.

We had been told such alarming things about Manila, and warned so earnestly against indulging in various edibles, that we entered the city in fear and trembling, but we found the drinking water delicious, the little Bay View hotel comfortable and the table quite good, considering the limitations. At least there was good butter and delicious bread, two things that are not always found in places more pretentious.

Mosquitoes were troublesome at night, but canopies over the beds were ample protection, while the trade winds, constant the year around, proved the assertion of the Manilians that nowhere do people enjoy more sound or refreshing sleep.

In the houses which have sliding screens instead of windows little lizards take up their homes, flitting along the walls and calling to each other with a peculiar chuckling cry. They are harmless little creatures and no one seems to mind them in the least.

Housekeeping is rather hard for Americans, for the servants are both incompetent and lazy. Marketing has to be done by the head of the household and everything chaffered over has to be taken home afterward, for nothing is delivered. This, together with the strain of being constantly on the watch against thieving, is trying to the nerves of the newcomer.

The Spaniards used to soundly whip their Filipino servants, engendering in them, as they believed, a wholesome fear and respect. They have no fear of corporal reproof from the Americans, consequently are lazy, saucy and worthless to the last degree.

An American who has fairly good servants, whom he has had from four to seven years, was asked how he managed it, and he said he resorted to the old custom of whipping them, with the result that instead of the contempt most servants have for their indulgent American employers he has their respect and affection, and nothing could drive them from his employ. Some reformers might throw up their hands and indulge in protest against this, but the Filipino mind seems to work on those lines, believing it more comfortable to adapt oneself to existing circumstances.

Native life in the suburbs of Manila is the most unreal and fantastic I have ever seen. It looks as if everything were arranged for exhibition and nothing real or permanent. The little nipa houses, smothered in groves of banana trees, seem merely temporary ornaments. The women leaning from their windows, cigarettes in mouth, look as if posing for their pictures, and all the sights and sounds are so theatrical and brilliant that it seems as if there should be a sign up reading, "For this occasion only!"

One of the most interesting figures of Filipino life I failed to see. I refer to Emilio Aguinaldo. This famous character has emulated Cincinnatus, beaten his sword into a plowshare and retired to farm life at Cavite.

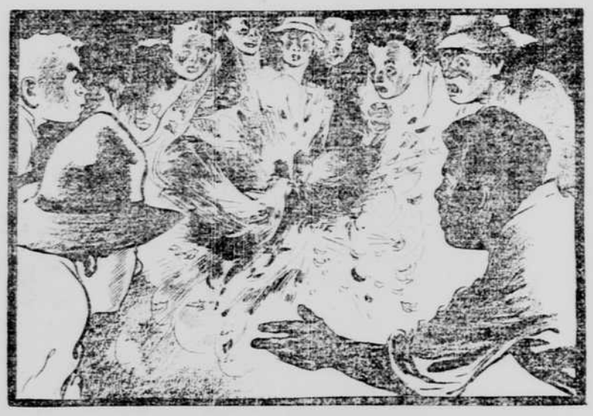
Much criticism has been rife in the States as to Aguinaldo's treatment by the government. The opinion was almost universal that a man who had cost the United States so much in lives and money should have been executed, or at least punished severely.

When one sees the Filipino people and hears the opinion of wise old residents it is apparent that the government could have done no better and had handled the matter with the most far-sighted diplomacy. Had he been executed, in accordance with the cry of numerous hot-headed stay-at-homes who demanded it, he would have immediately assumed the proportions of a martyr in the eyes of the people; his blood, like dragon's teeth, from which would have sprung arms and war, and a struggle indefinitely prolonged. The emotional, irrational people would have gone crazy with patriotic zeal, their blood fired by the heroic death of a martyr, and the consequences would have been too far-reaching to be counted.

But the commonplace, humdrum farmer at Cavite does not appeal to them in the least, for very little of a hero, according to their ideas, can be made of a man who ends his theatrical career so ingloriously.

Shorn of all attraction Aguinaldo is gradually losing his admirers, if he has not already done so, and the whole matter seems quietly dying out.

The policy of the government was most wise, and though closely watched there need be no fear, for his wings are clipped and he will soar no more as a hero in the eyes of the people of the Philippines.



THEIR GREATEST PLEASURE IN LIFE IS COCK-FIGHTING.

Chinese in Demand as Husbands.

JAUNTY COSTUME

Gun-metal gray pongee has been made up into this jaunty little costume. The jacket is a tuxedo pony model, with the vest of gray and black striped taffetas. The under-arm seams curve in sharply at the waist line, and large silver buttons and loops of gray silk cord ornament each side of the front; small flat silver buttons fastening the vest. The collar and three-quarter length sleeves are trimmed with deep cream-color embroidery edging. The skirt is a seven-gored model, side plaited at the front and hips, and closing under an inverted box-plait at the center-back. Two bias bands of the striped taffetas are set on as a trimming above the hem. The model is an excellent one for voile, mohair, Panama cloth, heavy linen, chambray, or homespun.

For a miss of 15 years the jacket requires 3⅛ yards of material 20 inches wide, 1¾ yard 36 inches wide; 1½ yard 42 inches wide, or 1¼ yard 54 inches wide; as illustrated, ⅞ yard of contrasting material 20 inches wide, 1 yard of braid and 1⅛ yard of applique band.

For a miss of 15 years the skirt requires 7½ yards of material 20 inches wide, 4¼ yards 36 inches wide, 4 yards 42 inches wide, or 3 yards 54 inches wide; 1¾ yard 20 inches wide, 1 yard 36 inches wide, ⅞ yard 42 inches wide, or ¾ yard 54 inches wide, extra, for bias bands.

MUST SUIT THE FACE.

Time Well Spent Over Arrangement of Proper Coiffure.

There are no hard-and-fast rules governing hair dressing save the great fundamental one which so few professional coiffeurs observe—namely, that the outline must be neither stiff nor conventional. The hair must be arranged to suit the face, which, if it chance to be of the fashionable Greek type, may be somewhat drawn back from the brow, preserving the straight line of the profile. That same profile line governs the position of the knot at the back of the head and should be carefully studied with the aid of the hand glass. But if the nose be short and the face rather broad, the coiffure must be arranged in different manner on the top of the head, although not necessarily in the extravagant form of pompadour which has absolutely gone out of date. The hair may be puffed above the brow so as to meet the big coil at the crown, and if there are vacant spaces, the ribbon may be arranged to fill them. The thin-cheeked woman whose profile lacks the straight Greek line requires fluffy locks to soften her features, and the crown braid to give the desired breadth. She would better wear the ribbon to show at the sides and the back.

To Clean Brown Felt Hats.

Very dark brown felt hats may be freshened by brushing with a brush slightly dampened with solution of ammonia. Light brown or fawn felt is best cleaned with fuller's earth, made hot and applied with a flannel, or fuller's earth and oatmeal, or even oatmeal alone.

Slightly soiled gray felt hats may be cleaned with warm bran, but if more than soiled, the best method is to make a solution of pearlash and water and clean the hat with it.

This solution may be used for freshening red felt hats also, but if the color is not fast it is best to try the solution on the interior of the hat or a part that may afterward be trimmed over if the color should fade.

LEGHORN WITH PINK ROSES.

A beautiful model of dyed leghorn with white hydrangea, pink roses, and an aigrette adorning the crown.

TO REDUCE THE WEIGHT.

Systematic Exercise and Diet the Two Main Requisites.

If you want to be the flat front figure you must learn how and when to exercise. It is useless to take exercise at night when you are tired, and just as useless to exercise before a meal.

English women are slim because they keep their homes cool. Women who fill their rooms with fresh air are slimmer, as a rule, than those who sit in an overheated atmosphere. The lungs do better work under the circumstances.

In India the stout person takes the mind cure as well as the physical cure. She says to herself: "I am not hungry." After she has repeated this she takes a walk and engages in something to occupy her mind. So she lets a meal slip by.

In Denmark when a lady gets too stout she is urged to get out upon the hills and tend the sheep. She has fresh milk to drink and she also eats fruit and herbs, but no fish nor flesh nor fowl. She lives in the open and she loses weight.

The so-called Colorado treatment consists in sleeping out of doors in a sleeping parlor built with sides of Japanese matting to keep the wind from blowing upon you. Only two pieces of bedding are required. There must be a German feather bed to place upon the floor of the sleeping parlor and another feather bed to be drawn over the sleeper.—Exchange.

Exercise Is Necessary.

The body which is not exercised gets flabby and weak and degenerates in any number of bad ways. Double and triple chins, horribly misshapen busts and abdomens, flat chests, lank waists and other unlovely features of many unfortunate women's frames are the creatures of no exercise. Exercise rids the body of many shortcomings which might be retained as deformities for ever. The overplump, the overslim and the beautifully proportioned—in fact, every woman—need it if face or figure are to develop or preserve beauty.

Grenadine again the Fashion.

Grenadine after years and years of absence has returned. It is the greatest novelty of the season and is treated like the shantungs, twills and satins with flowered borders—made to resemble insertions bordered on each side with garlands of flowers. Others with borders of satin and large dots, others, again, striped. The flower designs are evidently taken from designs for silks in fashion in the early '50's of the last century, and some, too, from the Louis XV. epoch.

The Thin Kimono.

The dressy kimono is made with a deep lace yoke in the front and back, with lace sleeves. To this is attached a net flounce, ruffled with net around the bottom and down the front. It is worn over a pretty pale silk slip of the same shape, made separate.

White allover is a neat material for plain kimonos, trimmed with embroidery insertion. White lawn needs only a few tucks and pretty Valenciennce lace to give the desired touch.

Perfect Trust.

Browning: In some time, His good time. I shall arrive.

SANDY ATE THE "PARRITCH."

But He Had to Play Mean Trick on Himself to Do It.

An old gentleman in a village not far from Glasgow breakfasted every morning on porridge, and, in order to save fuel, cooked a whole week's supply every Saturday. One Friday morning the stuff seemed very cold and very salt, and he felt he must abandon the struggle to eat it. But his stubborn nature forbade any such thought. So he fetched the whisky from the cupboard, poured out a glass and placed it before him on the table.

"Now, Sandy," said he, "if ye eat that parritch ye'll hae that whisky, an' if ye don't ye won't."

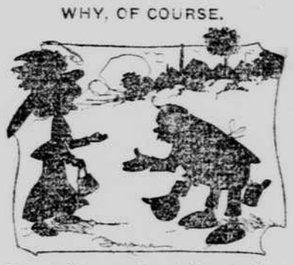
He stuck again at the last spoonful, but keeping his eye steadily on the glass of whisky, he made a bold, brave effort, and got it down. Then he slowly and carefully poured back the whisky into the bottle with a groad grin, as he said to himself: "Sandy, my lad, I did ye thot time, ye ould fule!"

BUYING PAINT BLINDLY.

Many people look upon paint buying as a lottery and so it is, the way they do it. It is not necessarily so, however. Pure White Lead and linseed oil are the essential elements of good paint. Adulterants in white lead can be easily found by the use of a blowpipe. Adulterations in linseed oil can be detected with a fair degree of certainty. See that these two elements are pure and properly put on and the paint will stay put.

National Lead Company, Woodbridge, Building, New York City, will send a blowpipe outfit and instructions for testing both white lead and linseed oil, on request.

WHY, OF COURSE.



Weary Waggs—Say, lady, would yez mind lendin' me a dime fer car fare? I'm de Duc de Chilblaines in disguise, an' I'm on me way to keep an appointment with a heiress!

Starch, like everything else, is being constantly improved, the patent Starches put on the market 25 years ago are very different and inferior to those of the present day. In the latest discovery—Defiance Starch—all injurious chemicals are omitted, while the addition of another ingredient, invented by us, gives to the Starch a strength and smoothness never approached by other brands.

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There is a certain point of proficiency at which an acquisition begins to be of use, and unless we have the time and resolution necessary to reach that point, our labor is as completely thrown away as that of a mechanic who began to make an engine but never finished it.—P. G. Hamerton.

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

In Use For Over 30 Years.

The Kind You Have Always Bought.

Through Struggle to Repose.

Struggle and anguish have their place in every genuine life, but they are the stages through which it advances to a strength which is full of repose.—Mabie.

It Cures While You Walk.

Allen's Foot-Ease is a certain cure for hot, sweating, callous, and swollen, aching feet. Sold by all Druggists. Price 25c. Don't accept any substitute. Trial package FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

Life More Than a Treadmill.

Life ought not to be a treadmill, and when it appears to be such there is something wrong.

Every Woman in this vicinity will be glad to know that local grocers now have in stock "OUR PIE," a preparation in three varieties for making Lemon, Chocolate and Custard pies. Each 10-cent package makes two pies. Be sure and order to-day. "Put up by D-Zerta Co., Rochester, N.Y."

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From your druggist, or the Garfield Tea Co., Brooklyn, N. Y. 25c per bottle.

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Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

Some people are always looking for an excuse to make an excuse.

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FOR ALL KIDNEY DISEASES

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The elder's wife was seriously ill, and the doctor advised rest and quiet. But the lady was very devoted to church work, and worried herself into hysteria because she could not attend services and hear her favorite pastor preach.

"She must not leave the house," warned the doctor, "but you can easily arrange to have her hear the sermon by telephone."

The elder grasped the suggestion and made the necessary arrangements for transmitting the sermons into his wife's room.

At noon on the Sabbath the doctor called and asked: "How did it work?"

"Fine," declarel the elder, rubbing his hands gleefully, "ten minutes after the sermon began she fell sound asleep."

He Wanted Pie.

William J. Ryan, president of the supreme council of public hackmen of New York, said the other day that the winter panic had reduced the hackmen's receipts considerably.

"We'll have to come down to English rates—12 cents a mile instead of 50 cents—if we have many more such panics," Mr. Ryan said. "Everybody felt the pinch. I overheard a tramp grumbling in a public square.

"'The trade ain't like it used to be,' he said. 'Here ten times running to-day I've asked for a bit of bread, and what do they give me? Why, durn it, just a bit o' bread.'"

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"Complete restoration to health means so much to me that for the sake of other suffering women I am willing to make my troubles public.

"For twelve years I had been suffering with the worst forms of female ills. During that time I had eleven different physicians without help. No tongue can tell what I suffered, and at times I could hardly walk. About two years ago I wrote Mrs. Pinkham for advice. I followed it, and can truly say that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Mrs. Pinkham's advice restored health and strength. It is worth mountains of gold to suffering women."

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Skin Soap

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