

a certain extent in the school gardens. They grow quite well but there are so many pests, insects, storms, etc. that not many of them reach maturity.

We live in a very comfortable seven-room house. While it is not as substantial a structure as the houses in America it is quite suitable for this climate. The rooms are large and airy most of the outside wall space being converted into windows which are opened and closed by means of sliding board panels. The walls are of one thickness of board and are painted white on the inside. The roof is of nipa. The floors are of dark colored wood and are polished with petroleum. Instead of rugs or carpets we use mats made of a grass which grows here. All of the houses are set up on posts the first floor being ten feet or more above the ground.

Servants can be obtained very cheaply. I am becoming more and more of the opinion however, that they are well paid for the amount and quality of service rendered. They are naturally indolent and are incapable in many ways. The best cooks are paid from 20 to 25 pesos (10 to 12 1/2 dollars) a month with board and house boys (muchachos) from five to eight pesos with board.

My work is in the Provincial High School, which is located here, Tacloban being the capital of the province of Leyte. A high school here means the intermediate grades five, six and seven, with as many years of high school as the province can afford.

I teach housekeeping and cooking in grades five, six and seven, having in all one hundred and eighty girls, grouped in eight sections. They range in ages from ten to twenty four years. The oldest of them are when compared with American girls, mentally like children. However, they are very eager to learn American ways and the work with them is extremely interesting. A domestic science class their knowledge of cooking consists in knowing how to cook rice and fish and not even these in an appetizing way. Their knowledge of housekeeping is nothing at all.

We have a one-room building apart from the rest of the high school. You would naturally think that this line of work would be disagreeable here on account of the heat, but this is not the case. Our building is made of nipa, has many windows and is by far, the coolest place on the campus. The cooking is done on native stoves, which are nothing more or less than open fires built on beds of earth. These fires do not give off as much heat into the rooms as an American stove does. For baking, we use clay ovens, similar to the dutch oven. A fire is built on top as well as underneath this oven when food is to be browned. At first, the stove problem worried me but I ceased to worry on seeing what good results could be gotten out of these seemingly crude equipments.

The high school building and the girls' dormitory are made of concrete and are better than many high school buildings in the United States. The enrollment this year is more than 600. The teaching force consists of twelve American and six Filipino teachers. The courses offered are agricultural, teachers and trade school for boys and housekeeping and teachers for girls. There is a chorus of sixty voices, the instructor being

a graduate of the Philippine Normal School at Manila.

Mr. Wolvington is supervisor of the Tacloban district. This district consists of five towns and several barrio or country schools. He has fifty Filipino teachers working under him. The government furnishes him a motorcycle which enables him to go to his most distant town and return in the same day. The roads over which he travels are as smooth as paved city streets.

As to conveniences, we have at least one mail boat a week, often two or three of them. There are grocery stores where we can buy in tins almost anything in the grocery line except yeast cakes. There is an ice plant here and ice can be bought for 2 centavos (one cent) a pound.

There are in all forty Americans here, most of the men being engaged in either army or other government service.

You will know from all I have written that I am very favorably impressed with the Philippine Islands.  
BESSIE ROBERTS WOLVINGTON, '12.

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### AQUATICS

Much Interest Has Been Shown By Girls In Swimming Courses.—

Y. M. C. A. Pool Used This Season.

THIRTY GIRLS ENJOY SPORT.

For two seasons in past years, women's classes in swimming were held at the Lincoln Sanitarium plunge. These classes were open to Physical Educational Normals only. This year, however, the sanitarium was not available for their use. Therefore, a number of Lincoln women, who were very much interested in swimming, among whom were Mrs. Lambertson, Miss Louise Pound, and Miss Ina E. Gittings, interviewed the city Y. M. C. A. board in regard to obtaining the use of the Y. M. C. A. plunge for the girls. Their efforts were successful and as a result the girls have enjoyed the plunge every Thursday from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m. all winter and spring.

About ninety girls availed themselves of this opportunity to learn to swim and have found it a great pleasure. They look forward to it from week to week with joyful anticipation. By no means is pleasure the only benefit derived from this sport. All authorities agree that as a form of good exercise and a means of attaining health and grace, swimming is unequalled.

The regular season as first planned closed last week, but in view of the fact that so many of the girls desired a longer time, the season has been extended through May with special May tickets, at the regular single admission price.

As matters were finally arranged, the plan for the season's swimming has proven very economical. We are anxiously looking forward to the time when the University gymnasium will have a plunge as every up-to-date and well equipped gymnasium should have.  
E. S.

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