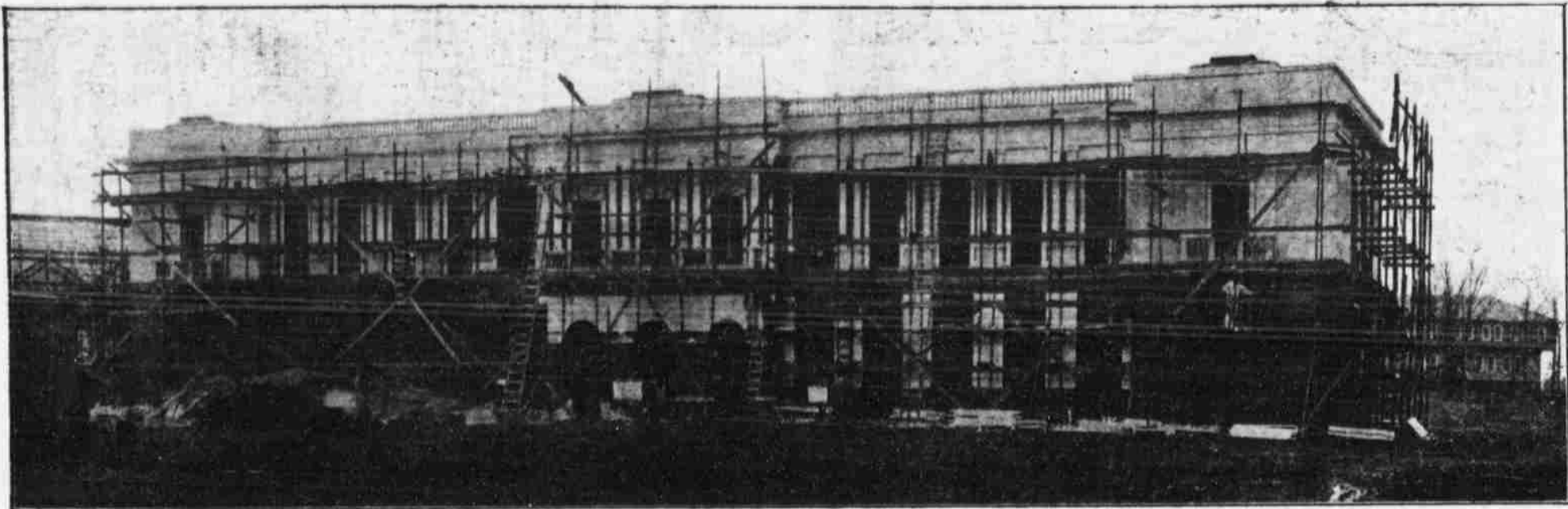


The Brownie and the Bolo



FILIPINO GOVERNMENT BUILDING—REPRODUCTION OF THE AYUNTAMIENTA IN MANILA AT THE WORLD'S FAIR

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 12.—(Special Correspondence.)—Perhaps the most novel sight to be seen in America these midwinter days is that of the native Filipino carpenters hard at work in building their city at the World's fair at St. Louis. The word carpenter suggests hatchet and saw, auger and plane. The Filipino carpenter uses none of these tools. With only his bolo—which some persons facetiously term a cornknife—he constructs complete houses, roofs, walls, floors, partitions and all. Yes, there is one other tool that he uses occasionally, and that is a small hammer with which to push home his hand-made bamboo nails.

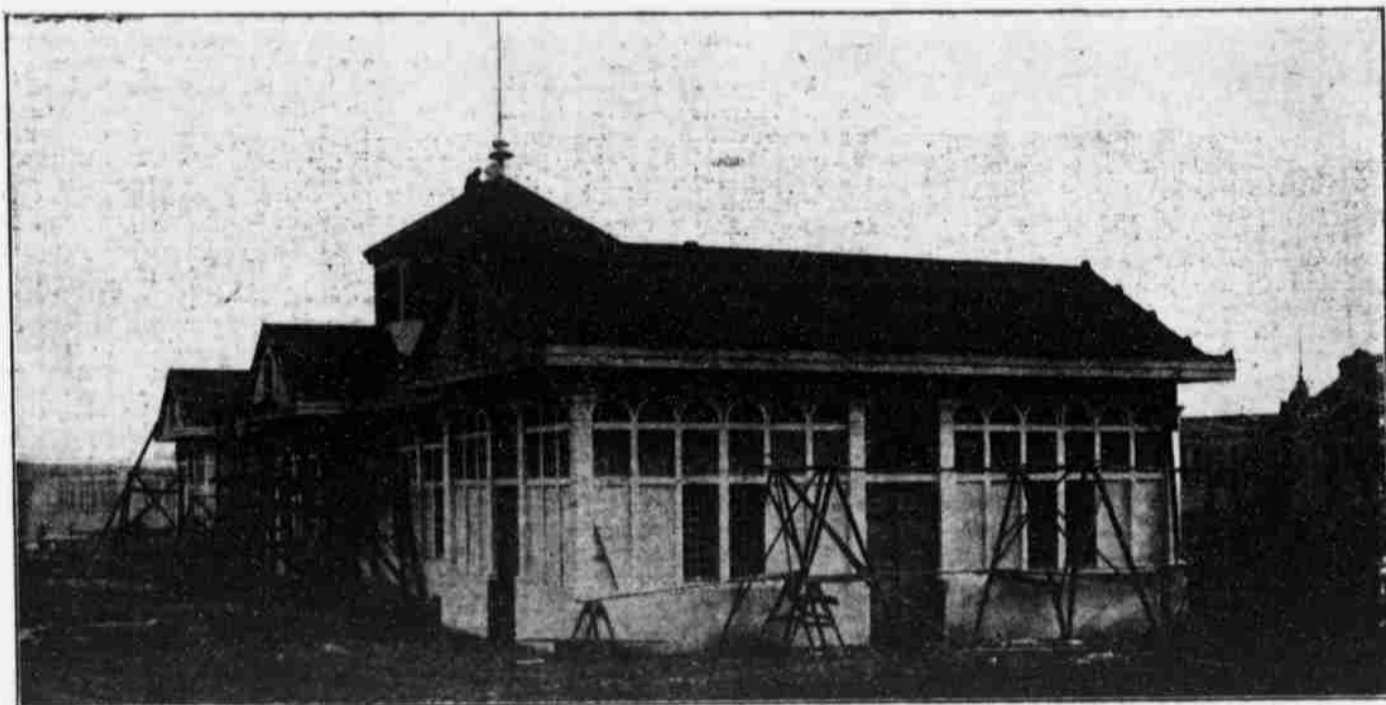
It is interesting to watch the half a hundred Filipinos now at the World's fair grounds, doing their part of the work of constructing the scores of buildings that will house the Filipino exhibit, including the 1,500 Filipino natives who are to be brought over for the exposition period. A number of the houses are being built entirely by the Filipinos, while for others they furnish only the roof of nipa leaves and bamboo lattice work. The Filipino buildings, covering a tract of forty acres, are more than three-fourths completed.

Months ago many carloads of bamboo and nipa from the Philippine islands were delivered on the ground. Then the brownie got out his bolo and set to work. It was merely necessary for him to yank his bolo from its sheath, or scabbard, which he wears belted to his waist as an American army officer wears his sword. A Filipino without this bolo scabbard at his waist would feel like a Missouri river catfish in the Sahara desert. This short, thick, sharp knife is his constant companion. Its blade is about ten inches long and has two edges. Sometimes the hilt is handsomely carved, for the Filipino takes as much pride in his bolo as does the Mexican in his sombrero. The bolo is the Filipino's badge of citizenship.

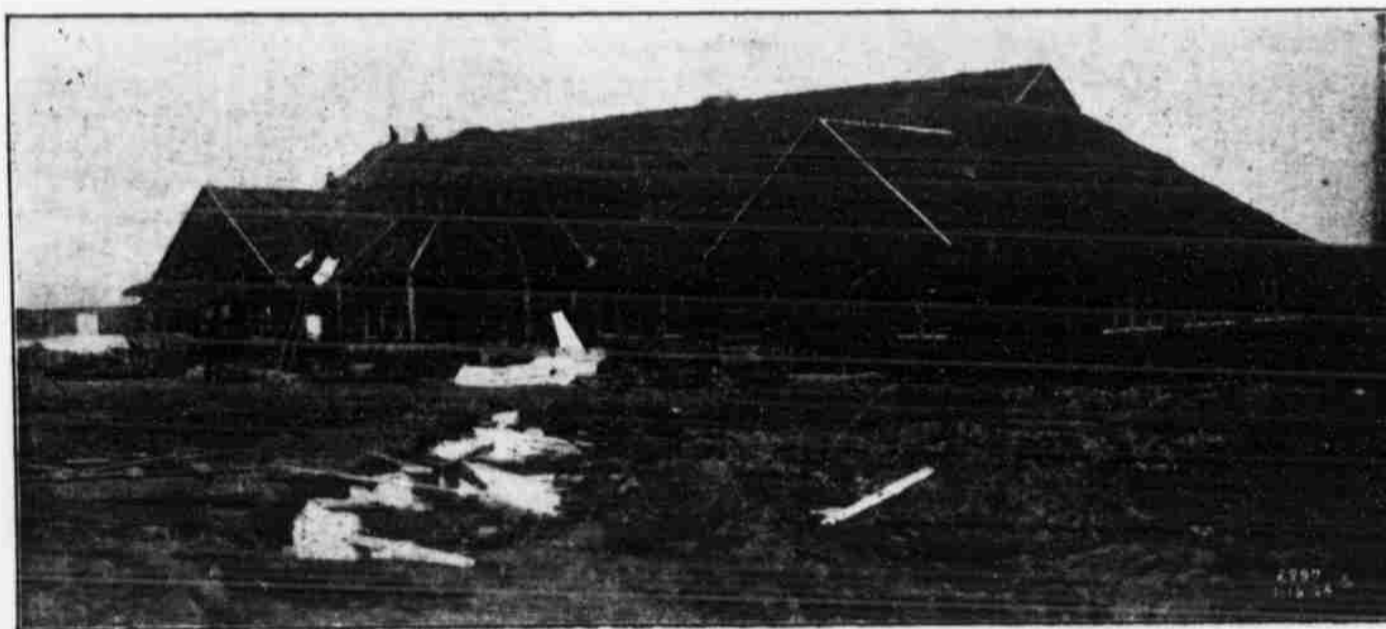
Long trunks of bamboo trees lie in stacks on the ground. They are slim poles, jointed here and there, some thick enough to make stout supports, others so thin that they are easily pliable and can be bent and tied into knots.

Our Filipino carpenter squats himself upon the ground—with a padded plank under him these chilly days. He selects from the pile a bamboo pole and gets to work with his bolo. Diligently he scrapes and shaves, turning out curling shavings that in his own land he would use for the making of mattresses. With tedious care he continues scraping and shaving with his sharp knife until the bamboo is reduced to a strip which bends double under its own

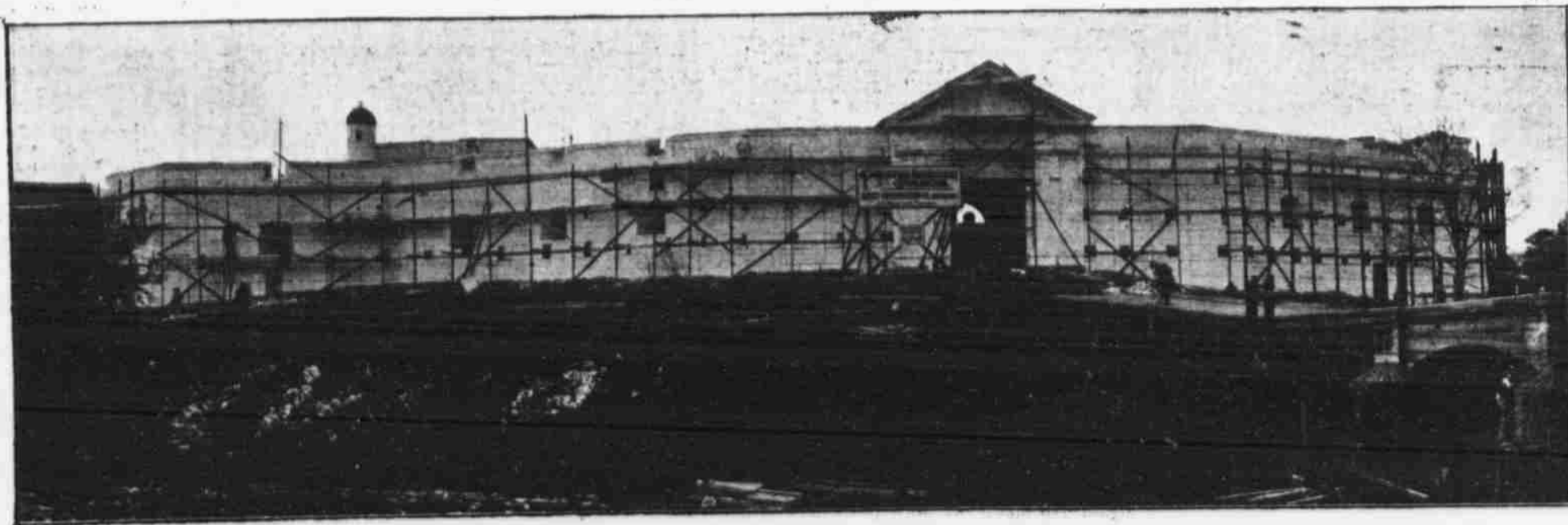
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FILIPINO EDUCATIONAL BUILDING—REPRODUCTION OF MANILA NORMAL SCHOOL AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.



FILIPINO AGRICULTURAL BUILDING, NATIVE CONSTRUCTION, THATCHED WITH NIPA GRASS, AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.



REPRODUCTION OF THE WALLED CITY OF MANILA, OR "INTRAMUROS," AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.