

From Wallace Simensen, Received by Ed Rhodes

Sternberg General Hospital,
November 9, 1930.

Dear Ed:

Imagine that you will be more or less surprised to hear from me away over here.

Before telling you about the Islands I must tell you that I met an old timer here, who has been here for the last twenty five years or more. He claims to know you. His name is James Bass. His family at one time ran a hotel in Wahpeton or Breckenridge and later they moved to a ranch out near Jamestown. He remembers Leal the best, and your Dad. He said that you were just a young fellow at the time that he knew you and Orion. Do you remember him? You must write and let me know. He also knows the people that have the hotel in Binford. I can't just remember their names now.

As for the Islands, all that I can say is, they are a good place to stay away from unless you have plenty of money and can be a civilian. A soldier's life here is h—.

Manila, of course, is the leading city, while Cobu, Iloilo, Logaspi, Aparri and Zambonga are large but of minor importance. The Islands themselves are very beautiful as for scenery but the climate is really too much for a white man. We soldiers are allowed to stay here only two years at a time.

Upon entering Manila bay we first sight the small island of Corregidor, which is a military fortification, and no civilians other than those connected with the government are allowed. I am stationed on this island. This place is armed with the large twelve and fourteen inch guns, of which you have heard so much, and I must say that when they are fired, which is once a year they sure make plenty of noise. In fact the whole island shakes. Last year every window in our quarters was broken during target practice, from the concussion. To the casual observer going by on a large liner it seems to be just a small island without habitation, because every thing is concealed. But really that island guards the entrance of Manila bay and the city of Manila itself. We even have our own ammunition plant there. No enemy could ever enter the bay during war.

Then after entering the breakwaters and tying up at the dock we are met by huge throngs of natives, mostly wharf rats, all dressed in their native dress.

About all the poorer class of men wear is a dirty shirt and a pair of pants cut off at the knees. The women wear a slip-over dress and a big wide hat made of bamboo. Of course the better class of people dress more or less the same as the Americans or Spaniards.

Then after elbowing your way through the crowd, you find yourself on the Taft boulevard, where you are met by hundreds of Carrametta drivers. A Carrametta is a small two wheeled cart., with a small top, and

drawn by a little pony, much resembling a Shetland but of much hardier breed. It is very amusing to ride in these affairs and hear the driver continually yelling at the pony to go faster. Many of the ponies are so old that they can hardly stand up to say nothing of pulling the cart. Driving along the street it is hard to become accustomed to the left hand traffic. All vehicles keep to the left here. The streets in the old part of the city

[Continued on back page]

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Error Helps Thief

Newark, N. J.—Edgar Kille was getting the best of a burglar with whom he was struggling in the dark until Mrs. Kille arrived on the scene to help him. Swinging a potato masher with great might, she brought it, by mistake, squarely down upon the head of her husband. The burglar escaped.

Wreath From Pets

Epsom, England.—A wreath inscribed "To our beloved master, from all his pets," was included among those at the funeral of Charles Richard, tin master, here.

Six Boys Sentenced to Get a Paddling

Evansville, Ind.—Sentences of six Evansville boys for looting automobiles required them to be locked in their rooms every afternoon for two weeks.

Acting Juvenile Judge Charles LaFollette adding court "costs" required the boys' parents to administer an "old fashioned paddling"

Men May Have Blue Mondays, Not Women

Bristol, England.—Prof. Sargent Florence, in a paper read at the economic session of the British association meeting in conference here, claims that women are not only more efficient in every walk of life than men but women have no blue Mondays and that, given equal opportunity, they always show higher intelligence.