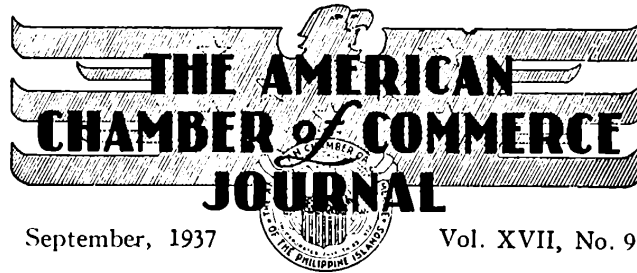


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Just Little Things

● On a day when we thought a good portion of the burden of the world was on our shoulders, F. A. Bowen stepped into the office. His ease dwarfed ours into insignificance. Bowen is getting out a directory of Philippine mines and mining companies. He owns a printing house in Shanghai, and there, but for the spanking Japan decided to give China, his directory would have been off the press this month. But now he thinks the plant is a total loss, or will be before the fighting at Shanghai stops. Its value is \$400,000 and it represents nineteen years of Bowen's hard work. Bowen used to keep this plant busy seven days a week, nights too, save seven hours from Sunday midnight to seven Monday morning for cleaning up. Now everything is idle, and all Mrs. Bowen was able to fetch away with her to Manila on the first ship bringing Shanghai refugees here was the *copy* for the directory, which will now be done at McCullough's. Let it be trusted that every American loss at Shanghai incident to the warfare there will be made good at the instance of the state department. This is not saying which side is to blame, only that blame there certainly is.

● It seems that the advent of desolated refugees from China in Manila provoked an immediate racket in rents. House rents were raised at once. Isn't this a sorry trade? Where it falls on distracted folk from China constrained to sojourn here, it aggravates their distress; and where it falls on regular residents, it makes them pay for the city's hospitality. The most damning fact is that when higher rents compel families of low income to move, they find no place to which to go.

● Hongkong's typhoon of September 2 plowed valuable ships ashore, but not American ships. Sailing time came for the *President Lincoln* as the barometer forecast the storm, and the ship sailed, Captain Kohlmeister just seeing to it that he had maximum engine power to fall back on and that booms

were locked and everything battened down tight. The storm came on as scheduled by the gods, but the *President Lincoln* had scurried along at top speed and so eluded the vortex; and the *President Lincoln* road the storm out at sea unscathed, indeed not badly knocked about at all. By 4 o'clock next morning, passengers opened portholes and put the windscoops in as the ship journeyed on to Manila over smooth seas. It was capital seamanship, capital in all departments. Strangely, another ship, bound for Singapore, which had trailed the American ship out of Hongkong and hung on her stern for a while, though she could have easily passed and been far out of the harmful force of the storm, turned back for some reason to the questionable shelter of Hongkong harbor, a decision that during the night piled her on the rocks. It seems that American maritime officers still know their Pacific. Back in 1917 the old weather-beaten U. S. A. T. *Thomas* did a similar thing; she took it on the nose, but at sea, and kept on going.

● The August earthquake was of just the right type and intensity to teach Manila how best to build downtown buildings and uptown apartment houses and hotels. Really, the city had just well begun building modernly. The quake was therefore timely. While the passing of the Heacock building is regrettable, there was insurance and now Heacock's smart retail shop is going as briskly as ever in the old Watsonal block. Other downtown buildings stand, little scathed if scathed at all. The structural-steel type seems indicated for buildings more than two or three stories high, if not for all. For keep in mind the quake that doesn't swing back and forth, but jolts up and down. The steel I-beam and the rivet driven red-hot and beveled by the pneumatic hammer are superior stress factors in buildings. Concrete is not impregnably scientific.

Service

*in any business is just like
the foundation of a building
which must last . . .*

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