

LETTERS

Frederic H. Stevens
—F. H. Stevens & Co., general
merchants, Manila.

"May it prove a year that will be profitable to you and yours in happiness, health, and worldly goods. Incidentally, I hope I may be the means of assisting you in a small way to have all three of them." (Acknowledgment is made of many year-end favors including excellent calendars, and letters and cards from the ends of the world. The *Journal* tried to be its best last year, will try to be better this year. All its support being voluntary, this is contingent upon its valued advertisers and subscribers. Requests for complimentary copies are more numerous now than formerly, including many foreign addresses: philosophical institutes, libraries, universities. This is a charge upon revenue, for each foreign address, about \$1.60 a year in postage alone. As to advertising, there are merchants, such as haberdashers, whom we can do little direct good: their windows and the daily and weekly papers are their best recourse. But we believe there are few whom we can not do indirect good.)

Ernest H. Oesch
—able manager of a hemp and coconut
plantation at Padada, Davao.

"The cover on the December number was a *huminger*—and the cover is certainly not superior to the meat within the covers. Heartiest congratulations coupled with all my good wishes for your continued success and prosperity. I would like to have a yarn with you regarding many things: I feel that we could propagate the usual arguments, especially after scientific application of *Highland Tongue Oil*. Will be glad if you'll send to the attached list of persons, one copy each of the December *Journal*. If the inclosed 2 pesos don't cover the damage, let me know and I'll make further inroads on the exchequer." (The remittance covered everything including postage. The play on tung oil was irresistible, we just had to print it. There are pleasures more delectable than sitting over a genial cup in conversation with intelligent friends, but they are few.—*Ed.*)

John A. Davis
—chief engineer of the information
division, U. S. Bureau of Mines.

"For a number of years, you have been sending a copy of the American Chamber of Commerce Journal to the Bureau. Would it be possible to furnish us with another complimentary copy?

We find the new section "Mining Review" of special interest to a number of our divisions and would like an extra copy for clipping. Your courtesy will be greatly appreciated. The correct address is Library, U. S. Bureau of Mines, 900 F. St. N. W., Washington, D. C." (Request complied with; and besides, a letter written describing the Philippine gold-field generally and urging the interest American capital ought to have in its exploitation, both lode and placer districts.—*Ed.*)



Hon. Frank Murphy
—American High Commissioner
to the Commonwealth of the Philippines

"Your generous and deftly drawn editorial in the December issue has just been brought to my attention and I hasten to thank you for the singular appreciation which you drew of my efforts in the Philippines.

"Many misinformed people and others who have merely a superficial understanding of the root problems of the Philippines are absolutely certain of the charted course that will bring both countries into a safe haven. I believe the more thoughtful students of the situation and those who are more discriminating in their judgments are not so sure. However, there is one course which we should not hesitate to follow and that is the path drawn by the obligation of meaning what we have said—good faith.

"Not being prophets or the sons of prophets, we may not be wise enough to foresee with serenity the future but there can be enough good stuff in us to keep our word with unbending zeal and also with prudence and kindness and a sense of justice becoming to all the people of both countries that we represent."

M. Farolan

—business manager of the D. M. H. M. newspapers headed by the Philippines *Herald*.

"Phil Crovat of Philippine Education sent me as a Christmas gift a copy of your *Old Mania*. Last night, I read all of it in bed although I took it up without any intention of going through it.

"Now I consider this book a priceless possession. After reading the introduction alone, I felt that I have had a good check up on the little knowledge of local history I had acquired from school books and added to it a lot more. That introduction alone is worth to me more than the whole book and I shall read it again and again if only to enjoy seeing the beautifully vivid pictures that you flash *cine-fashion* to the mind.

"I have been telling myself that I know Manila a bit better than most residents do, but as I read your delightful account, I began to wonder if I really knew my city. It left me with a sense of guilt creeping in on my conscience and I now propose to see a few places again, this time much more intently and carefully. Or should it be in a more leisurely way? But of course, only a master like you, Don Walter, can discover the hidden masterpieces and reveal them to us ordinary mortals who are apt to regard them as commonplace things. Only through your keenly appreciative eye, sensitive soul and inimitable style do we see them as they truly are, with all their beauty and charm, with their deep meaning in tradition and history. And for this unique privilege I am most grateful.

"And of course most of the other chapters contain most interesting stories packed full of historic events and incidents, all of which not only make enjoyable reading but also constitute an important addition to Philippine literature in English of the higher order. Please accept my congratulations and my best wishes for a very prosperous New Year."

T. H. Moll
—Librarian, Pan Pacific Institute,
Amsterdam, Holland.

"I beg to acknowledge receipt of the latest issue of your Chamber's *Journal*, which I have perused with much interest.

"Notice that this publication is on file in our Institute, has been given to visitors and members, and will appear more-over in the next issue of our "Mededeelingen" (Notes). I appreciate and thank you for your courtesy in adding our address to your mailing list and I shall not fail to send you our publication in exchange. Meanwhile I trust that our latest issues viz: Mededeelingen No. 2 of Vol. I (November, 1935) and E. D. van Walree—The Economic Relations of the Netherlands Indies with other Far Eastern Countries, will have safely reached you."