1926

The Philippine Housewife in America

Elsie Ann Guthrie
Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker
Part of the Home Economics Commons

Recommended Citation
Guthrie, Elsie Ann (1926) "The Philippine Housewife in America," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 6 : No. 9 , Article 3. Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol6/iss9/3

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Publications at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Homemaker by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
The Philippine Housewife in America

By ELSIE ANN GUTHRIE

WHEN Jacob Rees said that one half the world does not know how the other half lives, he referred to the different situations and conditions within our own country. We may also apply this to people geographically, which may explain the reason for the interest shown in the customs and life of people in other lands. In the Lincoln Apartments located on Lincoln Way resides the Capistrano family consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Severo Capistrano with their two young sons Julio and Edmondo. These people came from Manila of the Philippine Islands, by way of Vancouver and through Canada, arriving at the opening of the college year. Mr. Capistrano is a graduate student in Agricultural Economics, while Julio and Edmondo are enrolled in the kindergarten at Welch school. Mrs. Capistrano would like also to attend college classes but so far her homemaking does not permit her to do so.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Capistrano speak English quite well since it is widely used by "foreigners" in the islands. Spanish is spoken in the home so the little boys found it necessary to learn English when they started to school.

Of their home life Mrs. Capistrano says the laboring classes live in grass houses costing about 106 pesos or $50 to build. Because they burn so readily a fire station is located in every residential district. The people of more wealth live in two story houses of wood or cement. Many good hard woods grow naturally on the islands. Plaster is not necessary because of the mild climate but the extensive rainy seasons make it necessary to paint the houses every two years with very good paint. Shell instead of glass is used for windows. It is not transparent but white and thin.

The dress of the Filipinos is becoming similar to that of American people, but for parties, especially dances they like the fuller skirts of their own country. Mrs. Capistrano does not understand why American hats are worn by the ladies there since there is no school of millinery. In Manila the hats are made and sold by a lady who wears the Filipino costume. At an American party in Manila the guests wore the "balindawah" a native costume consisting of two large squares of silk from one to one and a half yards across, one draped across the shoulders and the other about the waist and hips. These are still worn by maids in the provinces. In the cities trails are worn, but are replaced by short skirts in the country. The men wear garments of "pina", a cloth made of pineapple fiber, which bends easily.

Housekeeping in the islands is much simpler than in America. Houses are furnished according to the wealth and taste of the owner. They have good cooks and although they have adopted the Spanish style of food preparation, nevertheless the younger generation uses many American foods.

Mr. Capistrano was connected with the government experiment station at Manila where they try to acclimate foreign fruits, one of them the strawberry. The avocados or alligator pear
The American Housewife in the Philippines

By VIRGINIA ALEXANDER

The American viewpoint of a foreign country is probably far different from that of the American who spends his life among them," said Mrs. Jean Walser, Associate Professor in Mathematics at the University of the Philippines at Manila, who has just returned from the Philippines to the Iowa State College campus. "People living far across the water from a country of which they know little about the actual life there, wonder at the strangeness of the foreigners and in many cases remain completely out of touch with them. The American who journey to the Philippines are just as much a source of curiosity to the natives with their strange dress, short hair, and peculiar American habits and customs.

Mrs. Walser is a graduate from Chicago University and has had a unique position at the faculty at the University of the Philippines for some time, in that she is the only American in the mathematics department and also the only woman.

The American viewpoint of a foreign country is probably far different from that of the American who spends his life among them," said Mrs. Jean Walser, Associate Professor in Mathematics at the University of the Philippines at Manila, who has just returned from the Philippines to the Iowa State College campus. "People living far across the water from a country of which they know little about the actual life there, wonder at the strangeness of the foreigners and in many cases remain completely out of touch with them. The American who journey to the Philippines are just as much a source of curiosity to the natives with their strange dress, short hair, and peculiar American habits and customs.

Mrs. Walser is a graduate from Chicago University and has had a unique position at the faculty at the University of the Philippines for some time, in that she is the only American in the mathematics department and also the only woman. "The American Housewife in the Philippines" was written by Virginia Alexander.

The American viewpoint of a foreign country is probably far different from that of the American who spends his life among them," said Mrs. Jean Walser, Associate Professor in Mathematics at the University of the Philippines at Manila, who has just returned from the Philippines to the Iowa State College campus. "People living far across the water from a country of which they know little about the actual life there, wonder at the strangeness of the foreigners and in many cases remain completely out of touch with them. The American who journey to the Philippines are just as much a source of curiosity to the natives with their strange dress, short hair, and peculiar American habits and customs.

Mrs. Walser is a graduate from Chicago University and has had a unique position at the faculty at the University of the Philippines for some time, in that she is the only American in the mathematics department and also the only woman. "The American Housewife in the Philippines" was written by Virginia Alexander.

The American viewpoint of a foreign country is probably far different from that of the American who spends his life among them," said Mrs. Jean Walser, Associate Professor in Mathematics at the University of the Philippines at Manila, who has just returned from the Philippines to the Iowa State College campus. "People living far across the water from a country of which they know little about the actual life there, wonder at the strangeness of the foreigners and in many cases remain completely out of touch with them. The American who journey to the Philippines are just as much a source of curiosity to the natives with their strange dress, short hair, and peculiar American habits and customs.

Mrs. Walser is a graduate from Chicago University and has had a unique position at the faculty at the University of the Philippines for some time, in that she is the only American in the mathematics department and also the only woman. "The American Housewife in the Philippines" was written by Virginia Alexander.

The American viewpoint of a foreign country is probably far different from that of the American who spends his life among them," said Mrs. Jean Walser, Associate Professor in Mathematics at the University of the Philippines at Manila, who has just returned from the Philippines to the Iowa State College campus. "People living far across the water from a country of which they know little about the actual life there, wonder at the strangeness of the foreigners and in many cases remain completely out of touch with them. The American who journey to the Philippines are just as much a source of curiosity to the natives with their strange dress, short hair, and peculiar American habits and customs.

Mrs. Walser is a graduate from Chicago University and has had a unique position at the faculty at the University of the Philippines for some time, in that she is the only American in the mathematics department and also the only woman. "The American Housewife in the Philippines" was written by Virginia Alexander.

The American viewpoint of a foreign country is probably far different from that of the American who spends his life among them," said Mrs. Jean Walser, Associate Professor in Mathematics at the University of the Philippines at Manila, who has just returned from the Philippines to the Iowa State College campus. "People living far across the water from a country of which they know little about the actual life there, wonder at the strangeness of the foreigners and in many cases remain completely out of touch with them. The American who journey to the Philippines are just as much a source of curiosity to the natives with their strange dress, short hair, and peculiar American habits and customs.

Mrs. Walser is a graduate from Chicago University and has had a unique position at the faculty at the University of the Philippines for some time, in that she is the only American in the mathematics department and also the only woman. "The American Housewife in the Philippines" was written by Virginia Alexander.