

# SGT. L. E. VALENTINE VETERAN OF THE PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION

The following article from The Charlotte News gives experiences of M. Sgt. L. E. Valentine, who made his home in North Wilkesboro for many years and who recently retired from the army after 42 years service:

By REED SARRATT  
Charlotte News Staff Writer

"Proceed at once to Balingaysig," came the terse order to the small detachment of 35 American soldiers stringing a telephone line between Passi and Balingaysig on the Isle of Samar in the Philippines.

At double time the detachment made its way to Balingaysig, a thriving Philippine village of 1,500 inhabitants, where Company "C" of the Ninth Infantry was stationed.



M. Sgt. and the late Mrs. I. E. Valentine

But Balingaysig was no longer a thriving village; it had become a city of the dead. The 25 soldiers found themselves to be the only living beings there. Around them were the mutilated bodies of the men of Company "C", all of them the victims of a brutal massacre.

Among the 26 men who first arrived on the scene of the massacre was T. Sgt. Valentine who was at one time instructor for 105th Engineers, North Carolina National Guard. Sergeant Valentine enlisted in the army on April 4, 1899. Of all his experiences as

a soldier the one which remains most vividly in his memory is that which greeted his eyes at Balingaysig.

On a warm, sunny morning in March, 1901, a detachment from Company "C" of the Nineteenth Infantry, stationed at Passi, was engaged in making a telephone connection with Company "C", stationed 39 miles away. The line had been strung 35 miles, leaving only fourteen miles to go.

This was during the time of the Philippine Insurrection. Every precaution was taken against ambush. While a few of the men worked, the rest stood ready to detach and to resist attack from the Philippine natives.

Suddenly came the order from company headquarters to drop all work and to proceed immediately to Balingaysig. The men traveled the fourteen miles separating them from the objective in two hours. They took it that an attack had been made on Company "C" and that they were to have a re-enforcement.

In Company C there were 130 men. Not a man was alive when the telephone detachment reached Balingaysig. They had been cut to pieces with bolo knives.

Sergeant Valentine remembers the scene very well. Every building in the village was made of leaves and bamboo, with the one exception of a large stone church. The soldiers' sleeping quarters were near the church. A big kitchen and mess hall had been erected nearby.

12 GOT AWAY ONLY TO DIE LATER—

Twelve men of the 130 were able to escape in native canoes. All of them later died, but from their accounts and from the physical evidence of the struggle, the story of what took place at Balingaysig was reconstructed.

During the night Philippines entered the church a few at a time. No significance was attached to this by the sentries, for it was customary for persons to enter the church at all hours of the night. But on this night it was not noticed that many more Philippines entered the church than left it.

The sentries were assisted in their duties by native policemen. The morning of the massacre, each Army sentry was accompanied on the rounds by a native policeman.

At the usual hour, the soldiers left their barracks and went to the mess hall for breakfast. They left their guns in the barracks. When all had entered the mess hall, the church bell rang. Immediately the soldiers wondered at this, because never was the bell rung at this hour.

SOUND OF THE BELL SIGNAL FOR ATTACK—

The ringing of the bell was the signal for attack. From the church poured hundreds of murderous Philippines who had remained there throughout the night awaiting for the moment of attack. Each of the native policemen disposed of the sentry whom he accompanied with one lusty whack with his bolo.

The attack was a complete surprise to the American soldiers. They were surrounded in their mess hall, without guns. The first thing the Philippines did was to seize the guns which had been left in the barracks. The few guns which the soldiers were able to get were thrown through a window to them by a small Philippine mascot. This young Philippine was sent to the United States to be educated as a reward for this service.

The Americans didn't have a chance. They fought with their

hands, or anything they could get. Most of the fighting was hand to hand. Very few men were killed with guns. The heroic fight staged by some was apparent. The cook lay dead with a baseball bat grasped tightly in his hands; around him lay 30 to 40 dead Philippines. At the infirmary, one of the members of the medical detachment was found with a spade in his hand. Around him, too, was a pile of dead Philippines.

All of the native population had fled. They feared the revenge which the American Army would seek. Their fears were well grounded. Brig-Gen. "Jackie" Smith was in command of the district. He issued orders for his men to kill and destroy every Philippine and every Philippine possession across which they might come. Whole villages were razed. All living things were killed, human beings and animals alike. Every native building was burned. For this pitiless order General Smith was discharged from the Army.

Time has dulled the picture of the massacre at Balingaysig in Sergeant Valentine's mind. He is glad, for occasionally the full horror of the scene flashes across his memory; the experience is not one of which he wishes to be reminded nor one which he desires to have again.

The WFA through the Commodity Credit Corporation will allow producers until August 15 to repay outstanding loans and redeem cotton pledges under the 1942 loan program.

PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATE OF DISSOLUTION  
State of North Carolina, Department of State  
To All to Whom These Presents May Come—Greeting  
Whereas, It appears to my satisfaction, by duly authenticated record of the proceedings for the voluntary dissolution thereof by the unanimous consent of all the stockholders, deposited in my office, that the Southern Bargain Company of Wilkes, Incorporated, a corporation of the State, whose principal office is situated at Main Street, in the Town of North Wilkesboro, County of Wilkes, State of North Carolina (M. L. Donovan being the agent therein and in charge thereof, upon whom process may be served), has complied with the requirements of Chapter 55, General Statutes, entitled "Corporations", preliminary to the issuing of this Certificate of Dissolution;

Now Therefore, I, Thad Eure, Secretary of State of the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the said corporation did, on the 9th day of May, 1944, file in my office a duly executed and attested consent in writing to the dissolution of said corporation, executed by all the stockholders thereof, which said consent and the record of the proceedings aforesaid are now on file in my said office as provided by law.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereto set my hand and affixed my official seal at Raleigh, this 9th day of May, A. D., 1944.

THAD EURE,  
Secretary of State  
7-10-4t

## Ohio Woman Tries To Locate Sister

The following letter was received by M. F. Bangarner, postmaster at Wilkesboro, from Mrs. Lulu Moore Hinricks, of Dayton, Ohio:

Dear Sir:  
Is there a possibility that you could help me in locating a sister I have not seen or heard of since 1916. My sister's name at that time was Pansy Cleo Foley. She was married that year to a James Marlow of Wilkesboro. They married in Taft, Calif., and he brought her to Wilkesboro to live. He must have been a citizen of Wilkesboro. My own sister was adopted by a Clem Foley at two years of age and naturally retained that name until married to J. Marlow. Of course there is a possibility she is dead or divorced which may make it difficult for me to ever locate her.

As the years go on I long more to see or hear from her. She is my only sister. We have two brothers older; one in Kansas, Iowa, and I am in Ohio, and hope to hear is she is still in Carolina.

We were all separated when just very small children. I located one brother a few years ago after not knowing his whereabouts for 25 years. The other 30 years. I was sure happy to find them. Now my sister would help to complete a longing in my heart to know I've located all of them. My sister's name (maiden adopted name) is Pansy Cleo Foley (Marlow). Any information you can give me I'll be ever grateful to you for. Thank you.  
LULU MOORE HINRICKS  
31 South Garland Ave.  
Dayton, Ohio.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE  
I have qualified as Administrator of the estate of E. C. Allen, deceased, late of Wilkes county, North Carolina, and to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit the same to the undersigned whose address is Ferguson, N. C., on or before the 20th day of June, 1944. This notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This 19th day of June, 1944.  
HENRY WALSH,  
Administrator of the estate of E. C. Allen, dec'd. 7-10-4t(M)

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You Start to Roar!



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**JANE WYMAN**  
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With **ALAN HALE**, **GEORGE TOBIAS**, **ROBERT SHAYNE**  
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Now Showing  
The comedy with a new twist!  
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ALEXANDER HALL'S **One Upon a Time**  
Janet BLAIR, JAMES GLEASON, TED DONALDSON  
LAST-MINUTE WAR NEWS DAILY

NOTICE  
North Carolina, Wilkes County.  
In the Superior Court  
Ruby Parker, Plaintiff  
vs.  
Nylie Parker, Defendant  
The defendant, Nylie Parker, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Wilkes County, N. C., to secure an absolute divorce in behalf of the plaintiff; and,  
The said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of said county in Courtthouse, Wilkes county, at Wilkesboro, North Carolina, on the 5th day of August, 1944, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.  
This 2nd day of June, 1944.  
C. C. HAYES,  
6-24-4tM Clerk Superior Court  
(JAH)

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