

The whirlwind of Manila, on June 13, 1926

(added for Jud. "Equipment" but not both)

The storm that visited a section of the Walled City on Sunday morning, June 13, 1926 at about 4:55 a.m. may be considered a whirlwind or moving vortex of exceedingly small diameter. All the evidence that could be gathered seems to indicate that the whirlwind came from a point close to the entrance of the Pasig river, with feeble intensity. It crossed the southern sector of Fort Santiago, and turning to the SE while passing between the Ayuntamiento and Santo Tomás University, it swept over the block bounded by the Solana and Magallanes streets.

The winds from the northwest blew the galvanized iron of the NE and SE corners of the patio of Oriente Hotel. One of the plates was thrown with great impetus against the wires of the Meralco and gave rise to the glaring light reported by Patrolman Larew. The light moving at high speed was not the storm, nor any missile from the clouds. The motion of the cone of light was not through calle Real and by jumps from house to house, but only a gliding motion along the wire until blocked by the lighting arrestor.

The southeast wind of the vortex struck the roof of Palma de Mallorca tearing off several sheets of galvanised iron from the northwestern sector of the patio. The wind was blowing then with great fury. One iron sheet was thrown with such force that it was imbedded in a stone wall. A gust of wind entered a room from Calle Real with such pressure that a heavy door and its jamb were forcibly separated from the framework of the building and thrown several yards away.