Isidro Canlas and Long Beach in 1910

In His Own Words

Eloisa Gomez Borah, researcher
Who is Isidro Canlas?

“I was only 10 years old when the American soldiers came to our country and my racial prejudice was against the Yankees … I learned to love the cause for which they fought”.

Born: May 15, 1887
Bacolor, Pampanga, Philippine Islands

Arrived in Buffalo, NY in 1905
Moved to Denver, CO in 1906
Moved to Long Beach, CA in 1910

Died: October 22, 1969, Long Beach, Calif.
Buried: Sunnyside Cemetery, Long Beach, CA
In 1905, “I went to work at Buffalo, New York, for Mr. Fuller, who is now a banker.”

George H. Fuller was the founder and editor of the first English-language newspaper in Manila, *American Freedom*. Through Fuller, who was a soldier in the Philippines, Canlas came to America.
“In 1906 I went to Denver, where I secured employment from George M. LaShell, …”

George M. LaShell was also a former soldier who served in the Philippines. LaShell owned a building supplies company.
Canlas is also a student, in Denver, living in his own rented rooms.

- Ballenger & Richards 36ed. Denver City Directory, 1908. p.277 (research provided by Nora Mercado, Filipino-Am Community of Colorado)
In the 1910 Census, Canlas is listed at address: 251 E. 29th St., Denver, CO.

He was 20 years old.
He was single.
He was a renter.
He was employed as a laborer.
Where Canlas Lived in Denver

Sources:
- 1908 Denver City Directory
- 1910 U.S. Census
I “came with him [LaShell] to Long Beach in 1910 and am working for him yet”. Canlas was a muleskinner, a teamster. Canlas fed, groomed, and drove delivery mules for George M. LaShell.
Canlas Registers for the Draft - 1917

“If Uncle Sam needs me I shall feel honored to bear arms for the Stars and Stripes that set my people free.”

-Long Beach (CA) Press, June 5, 1917, p.3, col.3

Canlas makes news -- wakes up at 3 a.m. to be first to register for the WW1 draft in Long Beach, 1917.
Canlas gets his wish, Registration Card No. 1 in Precinct 19, Long Beach.
Canlas Marries - 1917

“I wish I might have left the money in our own country; I say ‘our own’ country and I mean it. This is my country, even though the clerk at Los Angeles figures me out as unfit to marry a girl from Mexico.”

Canlas and Lydia Davalos go to Tijuana to get married, cost $40, because California laws then prevented inter-racial marriages.

-Long Beach (CA) Press, July 5, 1917, p.2, col.2
In the 1920 Census, Canlas is listed at address: 1225 Saint Louis St., in Long Beach.

He was a renter.
He was 29 years old.
His wife Lydia was 22 years old.
He was a Laborer in Wholesale Industry.
Canlas address was 1330 Rose Ave., Long Beach.
He then owned his own home.
His house was worth $7,000.
He was a Foreman for a Cement Plant.
He then had a daughter, Virginia, 8 years old.
Canlas died in Long Beach - 1969

CANLAS – Isidro, age 82 of 1330 Rose Ave. Passed away Wednesday. Survived by wife, Mrs. Lydia M. Canlas; daughter, Virginia Kipp. Funeral Service Saturday 2:30 p.m. in Chapel of B. W. Coon Funeral Home 10th & Obispo.

Canlas died in Long Beach on October 22, 1969.
His daughter, Virginia Kipp, was already married. -Long Beach (CA) Press-Telegram, Oct. 23, 1969, page C6
Where Canlas Lived in LB

1330 Rose Ave. (1930-1969)

1235 St. Louis St. (1920)

1039 Appleton St. (1917)

Sources:
1917 LB Press article
1920 U.S. Census
1930 U.S. Census
1969 LB Press-Telegram obituary
He is buried in the Sunnyside Cemetery, on Willow Street in Long Beach, California. His gravesite is just inside the main gate, turn to the left, look under the first Magnolia tree on your left.

Plot: Myrtle, Section 30, Grave 5

Source: www.findagrave.com
References

- *1908 Denver City Directory*, page 277
- *Long Beach (CA) Press*,
  June 5, 1917, p.3, col.3 [WW1 register]
- *Long Beach (CA) Press*,
  July 5, 1917, p.2, col.2 [marriage]
- WW1 Draft Registrations
- *1910 U.S. Census* [in Denver]
- *1920 U.S. Census* [in Long Beach]
- *1930 U.S. Census* [in Long Beach]
- *Long Beach Press-Telegram*,
  October 23, 1969, page C6 [obituary]
- California Death Index, 1940-1997
- Social Security Death Index
- www.findagrave.com