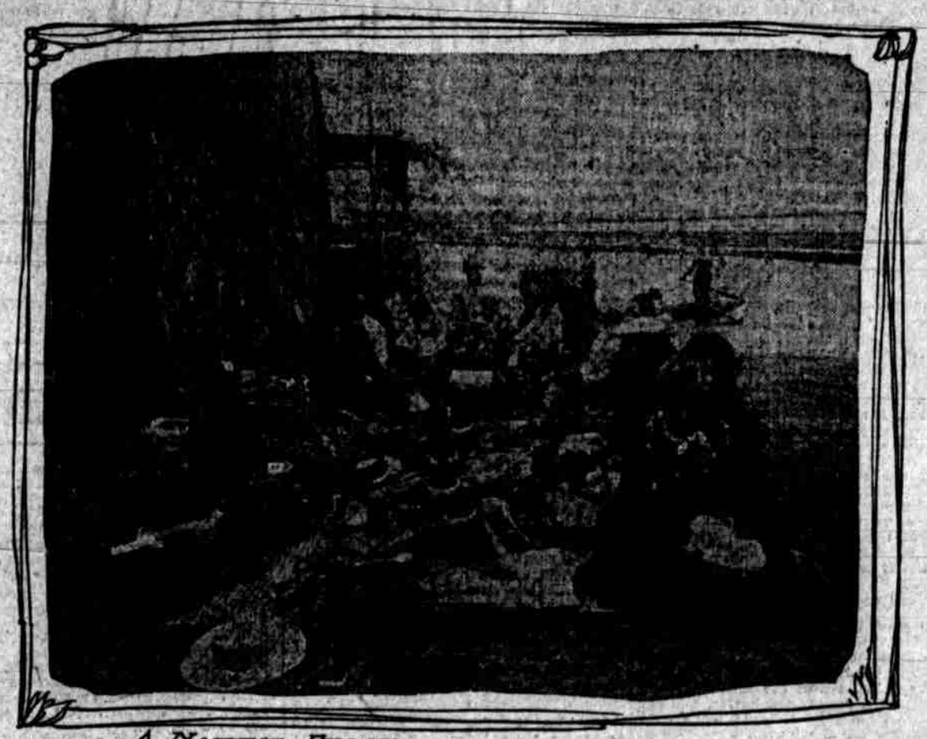
THE PEOPLE OF HAWAII

HAWAII STATE DANCERS

KING STREET HONOLULU

HONOLULU HARBOR

CATHOLIC MISSION



A NATIVE FEAST

No country in the world has so heterogeneous a population as Hawaii. Its inhabitants are made up of elements differing so widely in origin, physical and mental characteristics, speech and religion, that there is no prospect of ultimate fusion of the various races. Strangely enough, the natives are the least resistent to such a movement. They have ever displayed a willingness to mix with strangers and a receptiveness to foreign influences. The women of the islands have married freely with every alien race, and a native strain runs through almost every prominent family in the territory. The population of Hawaii is somewhat in excess of 150,000. It is composed of five principal elements: 1, American, British, Germans, etc., who number about 13,000; 2, Japanese, exceeding 60,000; 3, Chinese, 25,000; 4, Portuguese, 16,000; 5, Kanakas, or native Hawaiians, 37,000. The remainder consists of negroes, Filipinos, Malays and various other Pacific islanders.

The origin of the people of this Polynesian group is obscure. Their traditional history, which is wonderfully reliable, considering that it lacked the vehicle of a written character, places the first settlement of the islands at a period about 500 years before the birth of Christ. The claim of Gaetano, the Spanish navigator, to the discovery of Hawaii appears to be well founded, but he states that he found Spaniards and Norsemen among the people. These foreigners, the victims of shipwreck, were happily domiciled in that natural paradise, and declined the explorer's offer to carry them back to the western world. More than 200 years elapsed between the visit of Gaetano and that of Captain Cook, the accredited discoverer of the Sandwich islands, as he named them. Shortly after Cook's ill-fated sojourn, British and Yankee traders began to touch at the islands, and during the nineteenth century English and American influence grew powerful in the affairs of the islands and developed a bitter rivalry. As early as 1789 two seamen named Davis and Young, the sole survivors from the massacre of the crew of an American brig, settled down amongst their captors, married and were raised to the rank of chiefs. From these first American Hawaiians two of the most prominent families of Hawaii sprang, and marriages between whites and native women have even since been of common occurrence. A white woman has never, however, been known to marry a Kanaka.

The children of such unions are generally an improvement upon the native stock, but seldom up to the American standard, physically or mentally. The half-white girls appear to be more favored than their brothers. They are more vivacious, have greater intelligence, better features and stronger constitutions. Of the various kinds of half-castes in the islands the Chinese-Hawaiians are the most promising and apparently superior to all others in physical and mental equipment. The first generation of them is approaching manhood and bids fair to make its mark in the community. Indeed, it is more than probable that some of them will eventually become prominent figures in our national life, for these young hybrid shoots, are American citizens. All the good qualities of each race seem to be retained, whilst the undesirable traits are eliminated. The children are the best scholars, intellectually and morally, in the public schools. The boys are clean, manly fellows, with keen ambition and a wholesome pride in their citizenship. They respond readily to the efforts of their fathers to thoroughly Americanise them. This element of the population, although numerically small, will surely become an important factor in the future development of the territory.

The introduction of foreigners in large numbers has been in response to the great demand for labor to work the sugar plantations. The Kanakas, whilst physically capable, are disinclined to hard or sustained labor, and no amount of remuneration would induce them to do the work that is performed by the Portuguese and Orientals. The field hands have been imported at great expense and they are paid the equivalent of $30 a month, so that the natives had they been willing might have earned large wages.

The fact is that the Kanaka is practically useless. He is heavily handicapped by indolence and lack of all ambition. He would rather loaf through life after the manner of his forefathers than secure the luxuries and advantages of civilization at the expense of ordinary toil. A robust exterior belies his weak constitution, a heritage from ancestors whose lives were one long round of animal indulgence. His moral fiber, too, is of the poorest quality. Education benefits him little, if at all. Indeed, if possible, it renders him less fit for the struggle of life. Aliens are pushing him to the wall and he is clearly doomed to extinction. The one great native industry was the cultivation of taro, the national food. That is now monopolized by the Chinese. The only occupations left to the Kanakas are those connected with the sea. The native Hawaiians are fine seamen and the calling is to their liking, but the opportunities for following it are very limited. Many of them work as stevedores, an occupation which suits them admirably on account of its frequent intervals of rest, where a port may be devoid of vessels for days at a time. A stranger seeing a gang of Kanakas unloading a ship would imagine that they were the most energetic of mortals, for they can and do work hard by spurts, but the incentive to effort always lies in the prospective spell of dolce far niente. The educated native seeks clerical employment or engages in some branch of trade, but seldom with success. In neither capacity can he compete with the Chinaman, who is altogether his superior, more efficient and more reliable. The Kanaka is a thorough child of nature, following the lines of least resistance and dallying with the simple pleasures that delight his heart. He lives as the lilies of the field, a harmless, useless, but picturesque figure, and perhaps the kindest fate that can befall him is to be permitted to drift in his own happy fashion out of a world which has no longer a place for him.

The Hawiians are very susceptible to contagious diseases, and when leprosy was introduced by the Chinese in 1863, it immediately took root and spread rapidly among the natives. They do not entertain any fear of the disease and seldom take any precautions to avoid contact with sufferers. Indeed, the work of the health officers is often impeded by the disinclination of families to have leprous members taken away from their homes. The disease has being vigorously combated ever since its introduction to the islands. The authorities believe that at present it is completely under control and that it will be stamped out in this generation. There are very few, if any, infected persons at large in the territory. In 1866 the government set apart a small peninsula at the northern end of the island of Molokai as a leper settlement. This neck of land, which is called Kalawao, is cut off on the inner side by a precipice more than 2,000 feet in height. It was amongst the loathsome inhabitants of this reservation that the saintly Father Damien labored for 10 years, and in their midst he died of the foul disease that links them together. Everything possible is done for the comfort of the unfortunate wretches who are forever cut off from the world from the moment they set foot on Kalawao. They are well housed and fed and have churches, clubrooms and libraries. Government physicians visit them at regular intervals, but strangers are rarely allowed access to the peninsula, and mere curiosity-hunters are rigidly excluded. The colony at present numbers somewhat more than 1,000 souls. Ninety-five per cent are natives; three fifths of the remainder are Chinese, and fewer than 20 whites. The average life at Kalawao is less than five years, and the lepers seldom suffer much physical pain. The mental anguish of these miserable outcasts is probably greater than we can conceive. Some of them have been persons of wealth and refinement. There was a notable case of a rich Hawaiian, who, suspecting that he was contaminated, submitted himself to the health officers for examination. They decided that he was a leper, and this native, with a noble sense of duty, calmly accepted the verdict and proceeded to Kalawao, where he devoted the remainder of his life and ample means to the amelioration of the suffering of his fellow-prisoners.

The Portuguese, who came originally as laborers in the cane fields, are now for the most part engaged in the cultivation of coffee on their own account. They are very thrifty, and it is their practice to make every member of the family earn a wage. In this way most of them saved sufficient money to purchase a small patch of land and start a coffee plantation. The Portuguese keep pretty much to themselves, and take little part in the social and political life of the islands.

The Japanese are the most numerous of the many nationalities that make up the population of Hawaii. On this account, and because of their aggressiveness, they are the subject of a great deal of concern on the part of the whites, many of whom express the fear that the territory will eventually become Japanized. There does not seem to be ground for apprehension, however, for, although the Japanese are numerically strong enough to attain a dominating position in the insular politics they do not display any inclination to exercise the ordinary privileges of citizenship. Very few, indeed, of those entitled to vote do so. On the other hand, there is ample evidence that the Japanese aim to control the labor situation, and every reason to believe that they will succeed. At present the sugar industry is dependent upon their labor, and there does not appear to be any available substitute for it. Almost every kind of white labor has been tried in the fields, with satisfactory results only in the case of the Portuguese. They are no longer available. The cost of their importation is at the present time almost prohibitive, and they have now no inducement to emigrate in the prosperous state of their own country.

In this connection Governor Carter, of Hawaii, said: "It has for many years been necessary to promote immigration of field hands to the islands, and many countries have been drawn from. There has been regularly conducted emigration from Germany, Galicia, Norway and Sweden, Azores, Madeira, Portugal, China, Japan and Porto Rico, besides which British, Americans, Italians and negroes from the United States have come in small numbers. Today there are no white men laboring in cane fields here. Those who have tried it have never stayed by it for any length of time, and abundant evidence exists that the white man cannot and will not stand the work of tropical cane fields." Some years ago the largest plantations in Hawaii tried an experiment with American farmers. Fifteen families from the west were brought to the islands. All their expenses were paid. They were settled in comfortable houses, each with a garden patch and the use of pasture land. Each family was given a certain area to cultivate in cane, and every assistance in the way of plowing and preparing the ground was afforded to them. The experiment proved a complete failure. The work was beyond the endurance of the Americans, and 12 months after their arrival not one of the emigrants remained in the fields. It was clear then that the planters must rely on the Japanese, and the latter thoroughly appreciate the situation. They are a rough lot, difficult to keep in hand. Most of them have been drawn from the cities of their native land and many are criminals and unruly characters. Violent outbreaks and riots have been frequent among them and on more than one occasion very serious trouble has been averted only by the interference of their own government. They have formed labor organizations and are striving to unite all their countrymen engaged in the cane elds in one union. Should they succeed the sugar industry will be entirely at their mercy. Extensive strikes have already occurred, which have been the cause of enormous losses. There are a number of educated and intelligent Japanese engaged in trade in the various centers, and these are reckoned among the most valued citizens of the territory. Hundreds of Japanese, both men and women, are employed as domestic servants, and in this capacity they have no superiors.

In marked contrast to the Japanese are the Chinese. Originally drafted into the fields they worked well in their stolid fashion; never took part in the agitations of their fellow-laborers and gradually left the plantations with their savings. They are now engaged in trade, or in the cultivation of taro lands. With hardly an exception they are forging ahead by the exercise of commendable qualities. Hawaii has no better citizens than its Chinese, and none more prosperous. In 1901 there were upwards of 1,100 Chinese paying taxes on real estate assessed at $1,320,084, and nearly 13,000 of this race rated as owning personal property valued at $3,287,802. In the same year the Caucasian taxpayers owning real estate numbered 3,365, assessed at $19,890,011; and the Caucasian personal property taxpayers, 7,251, assessed at $5,270,584.

The ox-like Chinaman is the most peaceable, industrious and law-abiding member of the community. He is an excellent husband and father and is much sought after by the Hawaiian girls. He is very ambitious for the welfare of his sons, and gives them every educational advantage that the islands afford. There is no caste distinction nor any color line in Hawaii and, therefore, no bar to the social, commercial or political advancement of the young Chinese-Hawaiian. These youths are in great demand by business houses and banks. Government officials and merchants unite in the statement that none better than these young men can be found to fill positions requiring exceptional honesty and intelligence.

In Hawai the Chinaman is appreciated. The whites want more of him. They would like to get rid of the Japanese in the sugar plantations and put Chinese in their places. Several attempts have been made to secure for Hawaii exemption from the Chinese exclusion law, but with little prospect of success. There would be no danger of injury to citizens of other portions of the United States in granting this privilege to the Hawaiians, for the organic law of the territory makes ample provision for the prevention of Chinese from going thence to the mainland.

The woman was taken to Santa Barbara and named Maria, after the little vessel which accomplished her rescue. She was placed in care of a family who did everything possible for her. She was bright and vivacious in disposition, learned some Spanish, danced and sang for her friends and was visited by Indians from various parts of California in an effort to find some one who could understand her. But civilization proved too much for her and she died in three months, one of the most remarkable Crusoes known, as her story is based on actual fact and in its detail is much stranger than fiction.

The interesting mound which the writer examined on San Nicolas was formed during the past centuries by the ancestors of this woman and possesses an intense interest on this account. The island near the landing was 20 or 30 feet higher than the shore and reached through singular wind-worn passes, wind being the sculptor here. Once on

In the meanwhile Hawaiians ask themselves: What is to be the composition of the population of the territory in the future? Is the present preponderance of the Japanese over any other race to be increased, and if not, how is it to be prevented? Of course the most desirable solution of the difficulty would lie in the immigration of Americans. Unfortunately, in this, the most pleasant portion of the United States in which to live, there is very little room for our own countrymen. They cannot work in the fields. There is hardly any desirable land that they may take up and cultivate. There are no openings for them as mechanics or artisans. A few Americans could find a comfortable livelihood in the islands by engaging small capital in the minor agricultural industries, such as fruit growing and perhaps raising sisal or other fiber. The man, however, who goes out to Hawaii must be satisfied to abandon all thought of wealth and accept as compensation a comparatively easy life, free from strife and worry, in a splendid climate and amidst the most beautiful scenery in the world. Hawaii is an ideal country for the pursuit of the simple life, but it no longer affords opportunities for money making.

C. H. FORBES LINDSAY.

ROOSEVELT'S PLAY.

How the President's Family Enjoy Life at Oyster Bay.

President Roosevelt has settled down in his country home on "the hill" for the first actual rest he has enjoyed in five years. It is to continue for three months.

A high stone wall has been erected between the Long Island railroad station here and Sagamore Hill, and secret service men, under direction of Secretary Loeb, hold the key to the only gate. All sorts of gentlemen, crank or crankless, great or little, find it hard to get past. Artists and camera men for newspapers have to run for their lives, says the Cincinnati Post.

The president's day begins early. He may be seen on the veranda of his home at 5:30 o'clock almost any morning, breathing deep the soft, cool air from the sound. After a brisk turn about the grounds a chapter from a library book will engage him until the children begin flocking from their beds, eager for breakfast and a day of rollicking fun. As a rule, the first meal is served to the president's family together.

A game of tennis usually follows the morning meal. While the president enjoys the action of this game he is no expert, and is frequently outpointed by his sons. The secret service men are regular spectators, and it is their opinion that President Roosevelt is too strong for the game. He is wont to bang the ball away out in the grass.

Usually in the forenoon the family take to their horses. This season the president is riding two new mounts—Audrey, a black mare, and Roswell, a bay hunter. They were purchased in Virginia. Rusty, a bay jumper that has been out of service for two seasons because of a complication of ailments, is fit again.

Mrs. Roosevelt is also riding a new mare named Molly and from Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt ride through the shaded roads of the country, sometimes accompanied by Theodore Jr., who is delighted with his new mount, Gray Dawn, a western cayuse of excellent action and spirit, and the most showy animal in the Roosevelt stable.

Algonquin, the sturdy little calico pony which was Archie's boon companion for several seasons, has now descended to young Quentin. Archie has a new and larger pony named Betsy.

It is one of the principal sights of the town to witness the charge of the Roosevelt youngsters, in miniature rough-rider costumes, through the quiet streets of the town on their little steeds. Quentin rides like his father, giving his mount full rein and scattering the sand dust as he flies.

Secretary Loeb arrives at Sagamore Hill at 11 o'clock with the president's mail and the New York morning papers. The secretary has become an expert horseman within two years. He has a new horse from North Carolina, Skoot, the horse that Captain Seth Bullock presented to Loeb, went daffy and was retired after he had thrown the president's secretary twice while in the throes of insane fits. Loeb carries the mail in large saddle pouches.

If there are no visitors to luncheon the president rattles through his correspondence in less than two hours, and is free for recreation. His farm runs to the bay, the swimming beach being about 15 minutes' walk from the house.

No curious eyes are permitted to peer upon the chief executive when in striped bathing suit he plunges into the deep. The signal is a heavy breaker dashed upon the opposite shore. The hot July sun served to put a red tan upon the countenance of the chief executive in less than a week.

Cherry pie is the dainty morsel just now in favor at Sagamore Hill. The president has it hot at noontime and cold in the evening.

Two hours of the afternoon are spent in reading and writing at the broad library table or on the veranda.

In the rear of the house the president is helping his farm hands to bring in a bumper crop of oats. The hay has not yet been taken in. He expects to take in from three to three and a half tons of timothy from his hillside meadow.

Mrs. Roosevelt is busy in the afternoon with her large flower garden, and she has called upon the president frequently to assist her in the heavy work.

Enough garden produce is cultivated on the place to meet the requirements of the household for the summer. To the west of the house the president has cut down several trees which encroached upon the private road. Gipsy moths are withering hundreds of trees in and about the town. Only a few on the Roosevelt place have been attacked, however.

The evening meal brings the family together again. The president frequently reads or talks to the boys in the evening. The mosquitoes are coming in droves this year, and folks keep indoors after the sun goes down, well protected by netting.

Nine o'clock at night finds Sagamore Hill slumbering.

NEGRO FADING TO WHITE.

Full-Blooded, Born in South, He Bleaches in Massachusetts.

Leslie Green, a full-blooded negro, 30 years old, is turning white, and according to physicians the disappearance of certain properties in the pigment of the skin will ultimately leave him a white man, says a North Adams (Mass.) dispatch.

Green was born in North Carolina, and when he came to North Adams seven years ago, to quote himself, he was as "black as the ace of spades." The pigment began to fade from the skin on the right side of the body four years ago, but this did not reach Green's face and hands until recently. He visited a hospital in New Jersey to see his mother recently, and his appearance aroused the curiosity of the hospital physicians, who volunteered an examination.

Green suffers no ill effects from the bleaching process, which has made him the envy of the colored population of North Adams.

TEACHER STILL UNHUGGED.

Ridgefield, New Jersey, Folk Recent Finding in Case of Schoolmarm.

Miss Alice King, the public school teacher of Ridgefield Park, New Jersey, remains officially unhugged. The findings of the second hearing of the board of education last night repeated the verdict of the first, says the New York World.

Principal George M. Lasell, whom the young woman accused of two hugs in three minutes, was exonerated by a vote of five to four.

But the excitement of the situation is by no means over. Ridgefield Park has swelled to the possibility that the board of education, while skilled in Latin declensions and square roots, may not be able to construe a hug. Therefore a committee of 30 citizens has begun to consider this matter, yesterday being the heavy of three to Principal Lasell to convince that this was the psychological moment for his resignation. He was unseated, then, by the board, and might, with propriety, act as the best interests of the school demand.

Washington Not Weather Wise.

From the Ellensburg Capital.

It is hard to preach temperance to men with lemons for noses.