

Polyps of Coral and Guano Gave Us Howland

POLYPS OF CORAL—patriotic partners of American aviation—laid foundations on which will be constructed part of the aerial bridge from Hawaii to the Antipodes. Centuries ago they started building Howland Island for us and they have not ceased their constructive labors.

Mighty hosts of seabirds followed to deposit *guano* that lured our first merchant marine ships there. Captain George E. Netcher, of New Bedford, reported the existence of Howland to the world—September 9, 1842. That was the year the French flag was hoisted over the Marquesas—just about thirty years after Captain David Porter of the American frigate *Essex* had raised the Stars and Stripes over Nukuhiva of the same group.

The flag of the United States went up over Howland Island in 1857. The American Guano Company's fine schooner *Liholiho* (Captain John Paty) sailed from Honolulu on Christmas Day of 1856. Charles H. Judd and Arthur Benson were aboard. Arriving at Howland Island on February 5, 1857, they raised the American flag, erected a hut, brought off a sample of *guano*, left some implements of business, and a general *caveat* against all intruders. They sailed Hawaiiward the next day. Years passed—the polyps of coral never ceased construction.

Conquest of Pacific Air has transformed its vast area into a theatre of perplexing potentialities. Hawaii will be the storm center of it all.

American aviation roared westward from California to China via Hawaii. Air travel over that route is routine.

And now—Hawaii to the Antipodes. The Pan-American Airways' chartered steamer *North Wind* is helplessly strike-bound in Honolulu Harbor; but the United States Government carries on with Cutters of the Coast Guard.

In the Spring of 1935 the First Expedition, on board the Coast Guard Cutter *Itasca*, visited the American Equatorial Islands of which Howland is one, raised the American Flag and left Hawaiian schoolboys as American colonists with the mission of securing air data. The Eighth Expedition sailed from Honolulu on January 13, 1937 on board the Coast Guard Cutter *Duane*.

Kingman Reef and Jarvis Island already had come into headlines before Howland Island received world-wide pub-

licity on the fourteenth of January. The Associated Press on that date broadcasted from Washington that the Works



Kou Trees on Howland Island (upper photo)
Upper Air Observation, Jarvis Island (lower photo)

Progress Administration had allocated about three thousand dollars and earmarked thirty-six thousand dollars for immediate construction of an airport on Howland Island to provide an air base between the United States and Australia and New Zealand. Also that President Roosevelt had approved the project the preceding week.

Two days later the Associated Press at Washington re-

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American Flag and American Buildings on Howland Island

After Mr. Foster's death, his wife Mary E. Foster, maintained and improved the garden. She carefully preserved the old trees realizing that they afforded a unique opportunity for study and education to the people of Hawaii. Upon her death in 1930 the Foster Garden was left to the City and County of Honolulu to be preserved as a public park and botanical garden.

Through the cooperation of the Park Board and the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, and with the enthusiastic support of the Hawaiian Botanical Society, the Foster Garden is now being cared for and developed.



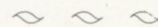
RICE FARMING IN HANAIEI VALLEY

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Plates of cakes and fruits are offered respectfully to the moon, then taken indoors placed on tables from which they are eaten and enjoyed.

Ching Ming or Decoration Day and *Siu Yee* or Burning-Clothing-to-the-Dead, are also observed by the Chinese in Hanalei. Other residents of the valley enter with the Chinese into the spirit of their observances and are welcomed at the feasts.

Hanalei Valley, beauty spot of Kauai, has been the stage for changing scenes of activity. A hundred years ago the Hawaiians garnered from chequered *taro* fields their staff of life. The Chinese came and changed the picture to waving fields of grain. Only a few of them are left now. Rice farming in Hanalei is nearly all that remains of a great industry which formerly flourished in the Islands. We wonder what may be the next scene in that valley.



POLYPS OF CORAL GAVE US HOWLAND

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ported government officials as predicting that land planes as well as seaplanes would fly on commercial routes from the United States to Australia and New Zealand, and suggesting that the new landing field to be built on Howland Island would be for land planes. Further, that William T. Miller of the Department of Commerce, was quoted as saying that the Howland Island field "will be open to any flier, American or foreign, who wants to make a pioneering flight," and that "everything ought to be ready soon."



HAWAII'S FRUIT FLY PROBLEM

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of foreign parasite introductions, expeditions went to East and West Africa, South America and the Orient. The average length of time spent in the field by the different expeditions was about eight months. Interesting data on fruit flies and their parasites and predators were obtained by all the expeditions.

The East African expedition was the only one which failed to get through living material to Hawaii and that was because of the great distance over which the parasites had to be transported. The plan to use air transportation for covering the extra-long distances speedily proved unworkable for the most part. All the parasites that were introduced alive were personally conducted either all or part of the way. Only a few predators were successfully shipped all the way by plane.

Two lots of larval parasites were introduced from West Africa, comprising 12 species, 750 individuals, one lot from South America comprising 2 species, 151 individuals, one lot from the Orient comprising 2 species of larval parasites, 174 individuals, 2 species pupal parasites, 200 individuals. In addition from South America came useful predators—staphylinid beetles. These and two pupal parasites have been increased by rearing under glass and liberated from time to time as the stock became over-numerous. The larval parasites were liberated too: sometimes directly, sometimes after confinement in cloth bags stretched over fruit-bearing branches.

It is too early to say what the result of these introductions will be in terms of established species. Some of them appeared to possess distinct advantages over the species already established here, particularly in hardiness, fecundity etc. and again, in length of ovipositor (a long ovipositor would enable the parasite to reach with its eggs worms deep in the pulp as stated before). The hope of finding an egg parasite ended in disappointment again. This desideration was constantly kept in mind by the different members of the expeditions but nothing was found of this nature. However, some unexpected information came to hand just as the expeditions were getting underway. In Fiji a predaceous bug was discovered sucking fruit fly eggs and assisting materially in keeping populations to a very low point. Unfortunately, there is some evidence that the bug is not strict in its habits, so it is unlikely that its introduction here will be attempted so long as there is question on this point. But the mere discovery of an efficient fruit fly egg-destroyer lends encouragement to our hope of someday attaining a really effective natural control of the fruit flies, when fruit and vegetables can be raised here with a minimum of spoilage from worm infestation and rot.

The writer participated also in this second attack on the problem, being assigned to investigate the fruit fly enemies reported by the veteran collector George Compere, who visited the coastal region of Brazil in 1904 and wrote glowing accounts of the valuable fruit fly enemies found there, which he transferred to West Australia.

The writer spent seven months, October 1935 to April 1936, in Rio de Janeiro and surrounding country studying the fruit fly but without adding greatly to his store of knowledge of the fruit fly control problem. The work was done in cooperation with the Federal Department of Agriculture of Brazil and the *Instituto de Oswaldo Cruz*, Dr. Angelo M. Da Costa Lima, Director. Dr. Costa Lima is an eminent authority on American fruit flies and I enjoyed my association with him very much.

It is true that Brazil is able to grow and market in England and France a very valuable citrus crop in spite of the presence of the Medfly but it has to be taken into account that it is fortunate in all circumstances surrounding this trade, *e. g.* accessibility of markets not skittish about fruit fly, with opposite seasons, government supervision to ensure minimum infestation of fruit.

In the hill towns of Petropolis and Teresopolis, near Rio de Janeiro, peaches and apples are grown in a small way, and knowing the predilection of the Medfly for peaches I made a point of examining these fruits carefully. Even in November (corresponding to May in the northern hemisphere) these fruits were so badly infested as to be utterly

Paradise of the Pacific

HAWAII'S ILLUSTRATED

MONTHLY MAGAZINE

CABLE ADDRESS
"PARADISE"

P. O. BOX 80



PARADISE OF THE PACIFIC
BUILDING

424 BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII
U. S. A.

E. A. LANGTON-BOYLE
Managing Editor and Proprietor

Established
January, 1888

EDWIN NORTH McCLELLAN
Editor

Entered as second class matter July 1, 1903, at the Postoffice at Honolulu, Hawaii, under the Act of March 3, 1879
Subscription price, \$4.00 per year

VOL. 49

HONOLULU, HAWAII, U. S. A., FEBRUARY, 1937

No. 2

KAUAI COUNTY FAIR

Kauai County Fair will be held April 16 and 17 in the Lihue Armory and Park. A budget of \$2,400 is set and Fred R. Frizelle is Fair Director. Those two mid-April days will be fine dates to keep in Kauai.

"THE FRIEND" FOR JANUARY

Our friend *The Friend* appears in its January dress—comforting, sympathetic and interesting. The leading editorial sets forth "Our Aim—1,500 subscribers in 1937." The Rev. Horace H. Leavitt, D. D., Editor, and Emil A. Berndt, Business Manager, must feel that, with the able assistance of the correspondents—Rev. W. E. Rowan (Maui), W. C. Moore (Kauai), Rev. T. D. Preston (Hawaii), Rev. F. B. Withington (Oahu), Rev. N. C. Schenck (Young People), and Rev. John P. Erdman (Territorial)—this aim will be realized.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

The President's Inaugural Address, listened to by practically every person in this American Territory, is the greatest Americanizing factor ever to operate in Hawaii.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AND OAHU

A very significant announcement concerning national defense was that of Louis S. Cain, Superintendent of Public Works, reported in the daily press, that the Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department, U. S. Army had disapproved the use of federal aid funds for the construction of a highway around Kaena Point on the ground that it would be a detriment to the military defense of Oahu.

WAR IN PEACE

Nations prepare for war in peace. A considerable part of this preparation is the securing of information about possible enemies. Various methods are followed in carrying on this war during peace-time. Some are considered honorable, others dishonorable. It is the duty of every American citizen to take care that anything he innocently says or writes does not serve to injure his country.

AIR AND WATER TRANSPORTATION—LIFE OF HAWAII

Hawaii humbly bows before the Gods of Water and Air. Merchant-marine of water and air is her lifeblood. It all started in 1778 with James Cook. Eleven years later the first American merchantship—*Columbia*—arrived and departed with Hawaiian goods. For over a century Hawaii's economic life was sustained by sea-trade. Sailingships, steamships. Airships are added. An interruption of this commercial communication is similar to closing an individual's windpipe. To produce sugar and pineapples below a certain cost is not enough—they must be transported to markets. Dollars of Tourists require transportation. The interruption of our water transportation with the American Mainland and other parts of the world adversely affects not only Hawaii but the entire United States both economically and from a national defense viewpoint.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HONOLULU

The Annual Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of Honolulu was held January 21 at the Alexander Young Hotel. Officers and Directors elected or previously elected are: Judge Alva E. Steadman, President; Sherwood M. Lowrey, First Vice President; Donald L. Ross, Second Vice President; John A. Hamilton, Secretary; Directors: Lawrence M. Judd, George P. Rea, Randolph Sevier, Briant H. Wells, Addison E. Kirk, Dr. A. L. Dean, F. B. Herman, Leslie A. Hicks, M. R. Levey, C. E. Nolan (*ex officio* President, Retail Board), L. David Larsen, James A. Pell, Dr. Forrest J. Pinkerton and LeRoy C. Bush. We congratulate the Chamber upon its selections of leaders for the coming year.

DREAMS

Honolulu the Aviation-Center of the Pacific—with daily planes between Hawaii and American Mainland and weekly planes to Asia and Antipodes.

University of Hawaii football team a member of the Pacific Coast Conference, playing an intersectional game in the Honolulu Hibiscus Bowl on New Years.

Solo-Nonstop Air Hop across the Pacific from San Francisco to Canton.

Pan-American Airways on strike—a nightmare.