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Honolulu Star-Bulletin

NEWS AND FEAT
FOR ALL THE FA

HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 1934

IS ADAMANT
N NAVAL RATIOS

Premier Okada at his first conference with the press after he was appointed. Across the table from the premier is Glenn Babb, Associated Press veteran now stationed at Tokyo. On Mr. Babb's right is Leslie Nakashima, formerly with The Star-Bulletin and now with the Japan Times. Although not in this picture Raymond Richards, also once with The Star-Bulletin, was at the conference.

THE MAKING OF OAHU

—By NORAH D. STEARNS—

(This is the 13th of a popular series Dr. Stearns is writing on the geology of Oahu.)

THE SACRIFICIAL STONE OF KOLE KOLE PASS

"Gone the old gods, gone the fierce ones,
Only shadows in the sunset,
Only voices in the trade winds,
a- a- auwe—"

—Blanding.

High up on the steep Kolekole pass of the Waianaes, that looks upon the Schofield plain to the eastward and upon the huge valley of Lualualei on the westward, is the Sacrificial Stone.

Standing errect in soldierly posture, beautifully fluted and grooved, it is with puzzled wonder the stranger looks upon it.

Vague stories of dark portent cling to it—of Hawaiian gods, of chants, of sacrifices. Some tell in matter-of-fact tones that it is a pana stone, a stone that marks the boundary of lands, the end of one, the beginning of another land area. It is here, they say, in olden time, the natives laid their tribute of fruit and taro, of pig and goat. Some with quick catch-of-breath whisper of things of deeper meaning, things that are warp and woof of early Hawaiian life, things that belong to ceremonies, dance and song, and deep meanings of life and death—

I have wondered about these things—and one day I took the winding road in back of Schofield Barracks, up to the windy gap in the Waianaes. I wanted to see—and hear—

The Pass

The pass is a windy gap, a low place in the mountains where the east and west draining streams had met in combat and the victorious west draining streams took as plunder the upper tributaries of the valley draining toward Schofield. A road leads up to the pass and a trail winds down the Lualualei side, too rough and steep for auto.

The wind blew a gale through the gap, now shrieking and howling, now wailing and crying, as it rose and fell in the cadence of a song. As I lay back in the rippling grass on the western slope, gazing at the fleet white clouds on the deep ocean-blue of the sky, gazing across the stretch of Lualualei valley to the vague white line of surf and distant pale blue of ocean, I listened to the geologic story of the pass and the Sacrificial Stone as a melody played against the undertone of wind—winds beating against the mountain with an actual throbbing movement, winds tearing through the gap with sobbings and sighings, with rumblings and mutterings, winds hard and strong and heavy and fierce, as the old gods of combat; winds soft and caressing as the old gods of love and kindliness. And withal winds with a sad note as of longing for the bygone happier days. I wondered as I lay there and listened to the modern precise scientific story of geologic facts whether there was not another story, olden, vague, and legendary, which I was hearing in the winds—

Go there yourself—lie still in the grass below the Sacrificial Stone—and listen. Listen to the wind. Perhaps you, too, will hear something of what I heard that day—

Geologic Story

I was told that the head of the lovely Lualualei valley—largest

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This photograph shows an ancient carving in Guatamala, a carving which apparently represents a blind man suffering from filiariasis. The investigator is T. T. Waterman. The neighborhood where the carving stands has recently contributed to Hawaii two friendly insects, a minute wasp and a wire-worm, which are being bred at the HSPA experiment station.

Guatemala Offers Aid To Hawaiian Industry

By T. T. WATERMAN

A region of no little interest from every point of view is now contributing to the life of Hawaii.

This region lies on the Pacific side of the republic of Guatemala in Central America. It has supplied some very sensational carvings dating from the time of the ancient Aztecs and Mayn, who have occupied this neighborhood for centuries.

It once gave the knowledge of a peculiar and serious disease to modern medical science.

More recently still, it is contributing two insect parasites to Hawaii, parasites which promise to play a part in the local war against the so-called sugar cane root grub and the Japanese rose beetle.

To take up the first point first, the carvings from this region seem to show that blindness was exceedingly common in ancient times, and has, moreover, been common up to quite recent years. That this condition of blindness is shown in the monuments, remains partly a matter of guesswork.

Anyone who looks at the cut above, probably can convince himself that the man pictured is a blind man.

BEFORE DAYS OF SPANISH CONQUEST

The date of this carving remains somewhat uncertain, but it comes from the days before the Spanish conquest.

That the carving is beautiful would hardly be maintained, but it is beautifully done. The photograph shows the writer lining in the carving with charcoal, to bring out the detailed features of the work.

The subject of the carving not only seems to be blind, but is apparently suffering from a vicious headache, as shown by the lines on his face, particularly by the furrows between his eyes.

In a very curious way, the courtyard of the estate where these carvings were found in 1923, was the scene of a discovery by a Dr. Robles, son in law of the proprietor, that the blindness which has long characterized the region was due to a parasite, a minute worm called Filaria or "Guinea worm."

This worm lodges in the scalp, being introduced into the human system by the bite of an insect. It causes the most painful symptoms. A swelling containing some of the worms soon forms on the scalp, and as a result, in some mysterious way, the eye pupils of the patient are subsequently contracted to pinpoints. The whole eye revolves on its axis so that the pupil is directed toward the nose. The sufferer in this condition can not tell daylight from darkness.

SURGERY PROMPTLY HEALS THE PATIENT

Dr. Robles cut the swellings out of the scalp of an Indian, and found some weeks later that the man's blindness was completely cured. Nobody in the region has been blind from the presence of guinea worms since Dr. Robles made his discovery, for the disease is cured by cutting out the minute tumor.

It is striking that several representatives of the experiment station of the HSPA have recently found in this same vicinity, a wasp called Elis, the eggs of which hatch out into forms which eat a well known pest in Hawaii. The pest is known as the Anomala beetle, or sugar cane root grub. The station has also introduced a wire worm from the same region. Thus the experiment station is setting insect forms to preying on other insects. The wasp from Guatemala is now more or less at home in the territory of Hawaii. It is closely similar to the Scolia wasp which has been fighting the root grub in the fields for a good many years. The Scolia was imported from the Philippine Islands.

The experts at the station hope that the Elis wasp, newly imported, will reduce the numbers of the root grub to the point where they will no longer be troublesome. Some of the wasps have already been liberated, to make themselves at home and increase by natural propagation.

There is no place on earth where a troublesome pest, as the root grub unquestionably is, is as thoroughly controlled as it is in Hawaii. The grub still causes some losses, in restricted neighborhoods, however.

DOZENS OF EGGS ARE HATCHED OUT

It was in an effort to reduce its depredations still further that the Elis wasp was imported from Guatemala. The whole project has just been worked out, some dozens of Elis eggs having been hatched out in the station within the last few weeks.

When all these wasps have been liberated, and when they have increased in number, a diminution in the number of the root grubs is hopefully looked for.

It is striking that a neighborhood in far Guatemala, which gave the world the data about a puzzling disease, should now in 1934 give us two parasites in the control of sugar cane enemies in Hawaii.

Abandons Stage Career To Adopt Missionary Role

(By The Associated Press)

PARIS, Aug. 25.—Mlle. Maryse Wendling, young comedienne, has deserted the stage for missionary work in Africa as a nun, the third French actress to take the veil within two years.

Friends denied reports that failure to attain stardom in the boulevard theaters caused her to enter the convent at Venisieux, near Lyon, where she is serving her novitiate. It is a case, they insist, of religious devotion triumphing over a worldly career.

Yvonne Hautin and Suzanne Delorme are the other two youthful actresses who have retired into convents, each after having played leading roles on the stage.

Pelicans Become Drought Victims

(By The Associated Press)

MILLER, S. D., Aug. 25.—When adding up the number of deaths due to the devastating heat that has been sweeping the country, be sure to include 15 pelicans.

Flying unsteadily low over the farm of A. J. Schaeffer near here, the birds flopped into a field and collapsed.

All were dead the next morning.

MUTE FINGERPRIN
NEMESIS OF FE

A rolled impression of a man's left thumb, showing, No. 1, the core and No. 2, the delta. The cores and deltas are the fixed points of an impression and make their appearance only in such patterns as loops, whorls and composites; neither of them appearing in arches, or tented arches. The core is the inner terminus or central point of the fingerprint pattern; the delta is the outer terminus.

Every Island Of Group A Maze Of Caves, Tubes

By D. BILLAM-WALKER

PART ONE

The Hawaiian islands are honeycombed with countless lava tubes and caves for which the early islanders found many uses.

The smaller caves and the mouths of some of the larger ones were used as domiciles, workshops and storage places, the larger tubes as places of refuge and sepulture, and the more inaccessible caverns as places in which to hide treasures and the bones of dead high chiefs.

These lava formed caverns and tubes sometimes extend underground for miles and should not be confused with the numerous small caves that may be found dotting the palls and coastal bluffs. To distinguish these latter it would perhaps be best to call them pali niches. Formed by the weathering out of less resistant lavas, these pali niches were frequently used as temporary habitations and as such are technically known as "bluff shelters."

At the outset it will be best to define terms because this subject requires the use of a definite terminology. A "cave" is a hollow place in the earth having only one opening at the earth's surface. A "tube" is a tunnel that has two or more surface openings. An offshoot of a tube that leads to a surface opening is a "branch." A "cul de sac" is any offshoot, either of cave or tunnel, that has no outlet.

A "system" is any definite group of interconnected tubes and branches that have close relationship. It must be understood, however, that two or more systems are sometimes linked together by connecting tunnels.

FORMED BY ACTION OF THE LAVA FLOWS

These tunnels have been formed by the action of lava flows. As a flow meanders down a slope, the lava on the sides and surfaces of the stream becomes relatively cool. This cooling may be thought of as "freezing." When the temperature of the outer part of the flow has become so lowered that its freezing point is reached, the surface and sides solidify.

The interior of the stream is the hotter part and this still continues to flow underneath the crust formed by the freezing action. As the size of the current diminishes, there is left a tunnel having a roof of hardened lava supported by walls of the same material.

Excellent examples of such tunnel forming activities may easily be seen on either side of the Big Island belt road where it passes through some of the more recent flows in the Kau and Kona districts.

Later a new outbreak may send a comparatively light flow of lava coursing over approximately the same path taken by the earlier tunnel forming flow. If the tunnel roof of the earlier flow is of sufficient thickness to bear the weight of the later flow, the later will act as a coating to the roof of the tunne, thereby strengthening it and

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Formosa Wants To Buy Hawaii Sugar Equipment

A curious sidelight on the world-wide sugar business is suggested by the visit to Hawaii of a representative of a big sugar concern in Formosa.

This representative, Y. Nimoto,

Mr. Nimoto

comes to Hawaii to buy second hand steam plows.

A number of sugar plantations in Hawaii own most magnificent steam plows, as large as railroad locomotives, in splendid condition. They are often stored behind the mill somewhere, for they are too expensive to run.

The main difficulty seems to be that these steam plows require too large a force of working people, particularly to haul water. Such plows have been replaced almost entirely by gasoline tractors, which are more economical of labor.

In Formosa, it seems, where labor on the whole is considerably cheaper, the steam plows owned in Hawaii, but rarely used, are regarded as very up to date equipment. Mr. Nimoto came to Hawaii to look over the plantations, and to buy steam plows for shipment to his homeland.

He has been in Hawaii for some weeks, during which time he has been an interested visitor at the HSPA experiment station on Keeaumoku St. At the present he is on Kauai. It is too soon to say how many steam plows he has bought.

It is interesting to see how the mere matter of labor costs, decides whether sugar plantations shall use one type of equipment or another type.

In Hawaii, where labor costs are relatively high, it is cheaper to set new steam plows aside and buy new gasoline tractors to take their place.

Dust Storms Are Responsible For Iowa's Fertility

(By The Associated Press)

IOWA CITY, Aug. 25.—Dust storms, which reddened the eyes of Iowans during the spring drought this year, are believed by geologists to be largely responsible for the fact that Iowa is a rich agricultural region.

Dr. George F. Kay, geologist at the University of Iowa, explains how it happened.

"Fifty thousand years ago," he says, "there were dust storms which covered Iowa with the fine pebbleless soil the farmer is now plowing. The dust brought in by those wind storms covered the less valuable or worthless 'drift' left Iowa by the glaciers with a soil which has made the state famous."

The wind-blown soils cover three fourths of the state, he adds—the best farming and dairying areas.

THE CARTOONIST REVIEWS THE NEWS OF THE WEEK —By Nash Witten