

PROMISED IMPROVEMENTS OF STREETS NEEDED



MILLER AND KINAU STREETS.



MILLER STREET.

Residents along the slopes of Punchbowl have for a long time had a grievance against the Street Department because of what they considered the manner in which their district was neglected by that department. The Advertiser prints today a plaint from one of the dwellers in that district together with pictures which show in what condition those streets have been. With this is published a statement from Supervisor Marston Campbell of the Street Department in which he outlines some of the work which is being done and which is in hand for the improvement of the district. During the past week Mr. Campbell sent out notices to all residents along Miller and Punchbowl streets between Beretania and Kinau streets directing them to put in stone curbs so that the contemplated macadamizing of those streets might begin at once.

EDITOR ADVERTISER:—In a recent issue of a local newspaper, mention was made of the fact that Road Supervisor Campbell is just about to start in to construct a fine boulevard which is to skirt along the beach beyond Diamond Head. It was also stated that he intends to employ a hundred men to do the work and is going to make things hum.

Now seeing that Mr. Lansing, the Treasurer of the Territory, has but recently announced that there are not sufficient funds to pay the outstanding Treasury warrants, does it not appear rather strange that the Road Supervisor can at this moment find the money to spend in building a boulevard situated six miles or so out of town, where no people live and planned simply for the benefit of a few land speculators? It would seem a better state of affairs if the Road Supervisor were to devote his entire time and attention first of all to giving the community good roads in the business part of the city and to fixing up the roads in the districts where the mass of the people live. When that is done, he may then be at liberty to devote his surplus energy and funds to giving us wide boulevards in the vicinity of Koko Head or Moanalua.

The Road Supervisor, or his superior in office, the Superintendent of Public Works, seems to forget also that there is a part of Honolulu, except Punchbowl, which is not quite six miles from the Postoffice or from the office of the Bureau of Roads and Bridges. He is possibly not aware that since the fire swept away Chinatown, Punchbowl district is the most densely populated part of the city. If he has forgotten this fact, he might look up the figures



A PUNCHBOWL BOULEVARD.

of the census taken at the time of the plague. Punchbowl is mentioned, because it may be confidently asserted that not even Palama or Kalihi has been more shamefully neglected by the Road Department than that portion of Honolulu lying on the slopes of Punchbowl.

In the last legislature a specific amount was inserted in the appropriation bill, providing for the macadamizing of Kinau street from its junction with Alapai street to where it crosses the Pauoa stream, but when the third reading of the bill took place, the item was coolly dropped and never heard of any more.

Again, when the Council of State was sitting in the spring of this year, Mr. Young who was then Minister of the Interior, was endeavoring to have an appropriation passed for the roads in Honolulu district. Mr. M. A. Gonsalves, a member of the Council, drew the attention of the Minister to the horrible state of the roads and the entire absence of sidewalks in Punchbowl district. Mr. Young thereupon promised, if the Council would kindly pass the

appropriation he asked for, that among the very first jobs that his newly imported Road Supervisor would attend to would be Kinau and Miller streets, Minister Young got the money he asked for, but up to this date not a single stroke of work has been done on the above mentioned roads, and instead, the taxpayer's money is being frittered away on building ornamental boulevards to please a select few who evidently have a considerable pull with the powers that be.

In order to show the state of the so-called roads in Punchbowl that reminds one strongly of the winding tracks in Hawaii, I enclose photos taken recently on Kinau and Miller streets and on the road leading to Lishman's quarry. These may serve as a sample, but there are others equally choice. On Miller street are situated the Portuguese Protestant church, a kindergarten attended by a great number of small children, and at the foot of the street is situated the most frequented entrance to the Queen's Hospital. Excluding Punchbowl street it forms the only road leading from Punchbowl to town, between

Emma street and Alapai street, or in other words it is the only thoroughfare used by about 3000 working people in going to and returning from their daily work down town.

The Territory of Hawaii is the owner of the Ahupuaa of Auwalolimu which includes the slopes of Punchbowl and consequently according to Chapter 47, see 11, 12 and 13 of Session Laws of 1892, the Government is liable as owner for the cost of putting down sidewalks. All the streets running through the upper portion of Punchbowl have been open sufficiently long to become public roads and should be repaired and upheld by the Government.

I did not intend to bring politics into this letter, but you will pardon me for saying that it is no wonder that the majority of Portuguese voters seem inclined to vote the Democratic ticket at the forthcoming election when they think how their interests have been so utterly neglected and scorned during the past seven years by the same parties who now stand forth as leaders on the Republican side. No road repairs, no sidewalks, no street sprinkling, no

street sweeping, no free garbage delivery system, no street electric lights, nor water mains mauka of Kinau street; these are some of the grievances of the Punchbowl district.

When the Superintendent of Public Works has finished getting the curves about the Capitol rounded off to his satisfaction and has experimented sufficiently with the laying of cement sidewalks round the same building and in the vicinity of Thomas Square he might be good enough to devote a little attention to the Puowaina district. Never mind cement sidewalks, earthen ones are good enough for those living on the heights of Punchbowl.

W. F. WILSON.

What Campbell Says.

The matter of the storm drainage of the City is under consideration by the Street Department and in a few more months it is hoped that the business portion of the City will be provided with storm water sewers that will carry off all possible flow even in the heaviest rains. "The principal reason of the large over-

flows during the last storm," said Supervisor Marston Campbell yesterday, "is one that the majority of people do not understand. During the past few years Honolulu has built up so rapidly and many of the busier streets have been permanently repaired with macadam that there is now a largely increased stretch of territory in the City where the water will not absorb the water in case of heavy rain.

"Honolulu has no streets which are provided with storm water sewers. There should be on every important street, as soon as possible, especially in the business centers, and the streets leading to Punchbowl. The Street Department proposes to at once begin the work of laying these sewers. On Kukului street some of the pipes are already on the ground and more are being made right here in the City by Honolulu laborers, and we hope to have the whole sewer in in a few weeks. The sewer will drain the storm water through a low section adjacent to the Nuuanu stream, which has always been flooded hitherto in case of heavy storms.

"Fort street has been surveyed for storm water sewer and as soon as we get at it it will be laid. I will guarantee that when this sewer is laid you will be able to walk across Fort street any day after any kind of a storm without getting more than the soles of your shoes wet. It will be made of 27-inch pipe and will be capable of carrying off the water in any kind of a storm.

"Improvements were needed on Miller street and the whole street ought to be macadamized as soon as possible. Punchbowl street needs attention and will receive it as soon as we can get at it. The little wooden trough which runs along Punchbowl street is not nearly ample to carry off the storm water and it is to be replaced with a cement drain. Streets in the Punchbowl district and planned the new grades as they will be established very shortly we shall get at the work.

"During the big storm of last week was out on the streets looking at the drainage and noting where the great part of the flood water came from. I have a pretty good idea where we need to begin in putting in the storm sewers. In larger streams I followed up to the sources and located them on a map, so shall know when the work goes on to show large the sewers need to be and proper place to begin the work of laying them and where work is needed at an age than I had at first thought. I only completed on Monday the work of clearing off the debris from the streets and, in my men have removed 1,500 cubic yards of material which had been washed down the streets by the storm. That shows how much storm sewers are needed here. The initial cost will be considerable but it will be more than made up by the saving the streets. Such a storm as that of last week does an immense amount of damage to the streets besides bringing down on them, for it washes off the superfluous mud and dirt. To be sure, the cost of laying sidewalks is progressing all over the City. In many districts beyond the limit established by McCandless sidewalks are being laid property owners and if the work continues Honolulu will have a fine system of sidewalks all over the City."

BISHOP MUSEUM NATURALIST TELLS OF A VISIT TO GUAM

The following is a summary of the observations Professor Alvin Seale, the naturalist connected with the Bishop Museum, made during several months' stay on Guam whither he went for the purpose of collecting specimens for the museum. He returned on the Grant by way of San Francisco and has written the following for the ADVERTISER:

THE ISLAND OF GUAM is the southernmost and largest of the Ladrone group, it being thirty-two miles in length by twelve in width. It is a twenty days' transport voyage southwest of San Francisco, twelve days from Honolulu. I landed on the island from the U. S. A. T. Warren on May 21st. There are no wharf facilities on the island. All passengers and goods must be lightened by small boats about one mile and a half to a small landing place called Peti, a native village of some fifteen houses built in the midst of a fine coconut grove. The most imposing structure in the place is a big warehouse of corrugated iron built by the Western Commercial Company of San Francisco. For the most part, the houses are small, built of bamboo and roofed with coconut thatch. The transportation facilities of the island consist of numerous heavy carts, drawn by water buffalo or oxen, and some ten or twelve miserable-looking Filipino ponies, hitched by an odd assortment of strings and ropes to high-wheeled Spanish carts. For the consideration of one dollar each, the driver of one of the carts agreed to land us in Agaña, the capital of the island, distance about eight miles. One of our party, who had been assiduously studying Spanish during the voyage, thought our dark-skinned driver offered a fine chance for the practice of his unimpaired language, but after

several unsuccessful attempts he was rather mortified by having the driver turn around and remark, "Please speak English, sir."

This eight-mile drive from Peti to Agaña is one of the great attractions of the island. It winds among the shady groves of coconut palms heavy with their fruit; on over three or four streams each with its picturesque old bridge with its Spanish name, past two or three small native villages, where little brown children—true "Moguls," without even a shred of clothing, stand at "attention" and gravely give the military salute as one passes. Farther on we met long strings of creaking buffalo carts crawling their lazy way to the landing.

These carts were all heavily laden with copra, the dry kernel of the coconut, which is largely used in the manufacture of soap and is the only export of the island. Agaña, the capital of the island, is a typical Spanish town with about 6,000 inhabitants. There are 5,000 people on the entire island. These people are a very mixed lot, and while they call themselves Chamorros, and have a distinct language, I was unable to find a single full-blooded native in all the land.

EARLY HISTORY.

The island of Guam was discovered by Magellan about 300 years ago, and was colonized by the Jesuit priests in 1668. At that time, according to the early legends and as recorded by ancient manuscripts of the church which have recently been translated by Lieut. E. N. Safford, U. S. N., the island was densely populated, there being about 15,000 on Guam alone. They were a distinct Micronesian race, probably segregated at an early age from the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands. These early inhabitants wore a primitive dress of grass and lived on fruits and fishes. It is recorded that they caught and dried great quantities of fish. Their religion consisted of a worship of the skulls of their ancestors and of the spirits of the woods. When they cut down a tree they would address this spirit of the woods in this way, "Forgive me, but I need this wood for my house; I leave you a part." They firmly believe when a dog howls he sees these evil spirits passing by.

These primitive inhabitants danced and sang the ancient legends. In war their chief weapon was the sling; oval stones used in these weapons are still occasionally found.

There are, in various parts of the island, a number of ancient stone columns, each capped with a smooth, round stone. These columns are of various heights and sizes but always set in a straight line and in pairs. These are called "monumental stones" but are probably the remains of ancient buildings. They were old when the island was discovered and no legends or history can be found concerning them. While I was endeavoring to excavate one of these monumental stones a native came running to warn me that they were the place where spirits lived, and should I by chance touch one of them a great sickness would come upon me.

MODERN HISTORY.

When Guam was first colonized, the island, like Hawaii, was ruled by chiefs of great power and influence, who naturally did not like to yield up this power to the Spanish. They were accordingly hunted down and killed. Guam became an important stopping point for the rich Spanish galleons sailing from the Orient to Mexico. Mexican soldiers were brought over to help garrison the place. Later the island was made a penal colony for natives of the Philippine Islands. It was also a favorite stopping point for whaling vessels. Consequently the race inhabiting the island today represents a conglomerate mixture of the original Chamorros and the Spanish, Mexican, Filipino and renegade whites.

On June 20, 1898, as is well known, the U. S. S. Charleston steamed into the little harbor and fired a shot at the antiquated old fort. The Spanish Governor sent out his regards and thanked them for the honor of the salute, and apologized for not being able to return the courtesy, for they were out of powder. That Governor was the most surprised man ever on the island when he was informed that he was a prisoner. Thus Guam became an American possession. The remaining twenty-three islands of the group were sold to Germany. They are practically worthless, as they have no harbors.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS. The climate of Guam is hot. From 10 in the morning until 3 in the afternoon the heat is so great that a white man will sooner or later fall a victim to the sun if he is constantly exposed during those hours. Rain falls in frequent showers, usually at night. Heavy rains accompanied by strong gales of wind occur during the late summer and autumn months, and occasionally a typhoon of terrific violence sweeps over the island. These typhoons are expected at least once in every three years, or as an old resident remarked: "Whenever there is an exceptionally good yield of mangoes."

SOIL AND VEGETATION.

The soil of the island is very fertile and with the exception of the northern end, where lack of water is a serious drawback, the whole land will grow most of the tropical fruits in abundance—coconuts, breadfruit, mangoes, pineapples and white coffee, tobacco, sugo, rice, yams, corn and sugar cane can be grown in many localities. There is enough sugar cane land on the island to make one good plantation of about 1,000 acres, perhaps. This cane land, however, is all owned in small farms by the natives and is very hard to buy. A native considers it a disgrace to part with land that has descended to him from his

ancestors, and consequently will not part with such land for many times its real value. Good coconut land, however, may be bought for from two to five dollars per acre.

With the exception of a few low mountains in the southwest, the island is comparatively level, and covered with jungle or tropical forest, in which there are several species of hardwood trees of value, but these are too scattered to make lumbering profitable.

FLORA AND FAUNA.

My object in visiting the island was to make a thorough study of its flora and fauna and to make a scientific collection of the same. The report on this work may be obtained from the Bishop Museum, Honolulu. There are about twenty-five species of native land birds on the island, the most abundant being a beautiful red honey-sucker, closely allied to the well-known "Apapawa" of Hawaii. There is also "Jajakwag," the swift that builds the edible nests, and "Sehig," the kingfisher. One has forgotten how to catch fish and no lives on lizards and grasshoppers. Gorgeous colored fruit pigeons are common. Game birds are fairly abundant. The Ladrone duck (a species of mallard), the Asiatic golden plover, two species of rail, a curlew and "bing-bing," the pigmy quail, can be found on the island during the entire year. Many species of water fowl visit the island during their migrations.

There are very few mammals. The Philippine deer, the fruit-bat, a small cave bat, a species of rat, and two varieties of mice comprise the entire list. About 100 species of fish were secured, several of which are new to science.

Land and marine shells of many species are abundant. I secured 2,500 specimens. Insects are very abundant, and mosquitoes are a pest. There are four species of reptiles on the island, but no snakes. Centipedes and scorpions are very abundant and can be found in almost every

A complete collection of all the plants of the island was secured. The number of species was disappointingly small, while the number of exotic plants was wonderfully large.

CIVILIZATION.

The chief civilizations of the place are the companies of American marines, and the city of Agaña and the U. S. post office. There is also a branch of the Honolulu Mission Society in Agaña, and Catholic churches are abundant. In addition to the above there are in Guam just four white civilians—one American woman—the plucky "Chickadee" school teacher of the island, Mr. Romburg of Indiana. To be sure, there are several Spanish families of good blood who constitute the "societies" of the place. There is also a family of Hawaiians, native of Samoa, and a village of Caroline Islanders.

There is about ten miles of good road on the island, the energy of the Leary in making the natives work on the road tax. The remaining roads of the place are very bad; in fact, are no trails. In the city of Agaña there are a good substantial stone buildings, and four or five very good stores. At the American store the Western Commercial Company one can buy any ordinary object of use.

The ordinary house all over the island is a small bamboo structure with the floor about three feet above the ground. The floor is always made of a material pig, tied by the hind leg, and a number of dirty brown children, who are very picturesque and all that, as it were, by according to the people who proceed about the Orient, but it would probably make a New Englander long for a scrub brush and a good hose. A native gravely informed me there were two pigs of pigs in Guam, and I wondered what was making a pun on the children, but