

Laughing Around the World
With IRVIN S. COBB

The Stranger in the House

By IRVIN S. COBB

THIS little incident dates back a good many years, when a certain well-known publisher of New York was somewhat younger than he is at present. His only daughter, now a charming young matron

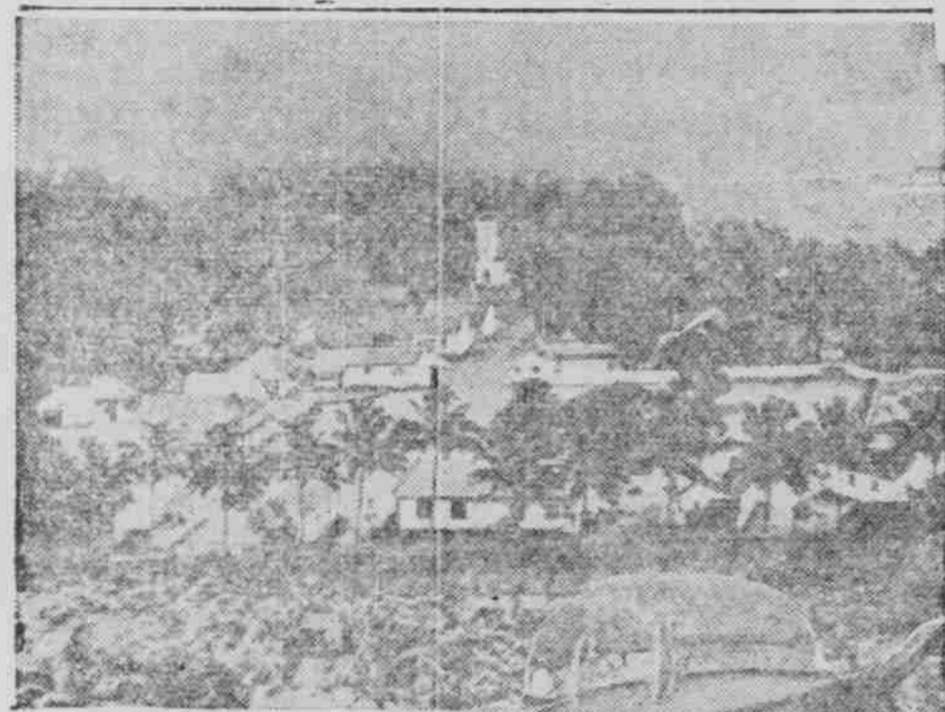


with a baby of her own, had just passed her fourth birthday. Let us call her Clara, which is not her real name. Since before his marriage, the gentleman in question had worn a mustache and whiskered chops. One Saturday night, moved by a whim, he told the barber to give him a clean shave. Then he went home and to bed. Next morning early little Clara came from the nursery to kiss her parents. The mother was awake; her daddy still snoozed. The child was in the act of kissing her mother, when her gaze fell upon the smooth face on the pillow in the adjacent bed. Her eyes widened with astonishment. Leaving her mother's side, the little thing tip-toed across the room and subjected the countenance of the sleeper to a puzzled stare. Then she crept back again to where the wife was. "Mother, dear," she said in an awed whisper, "who is the strange gentleman?"

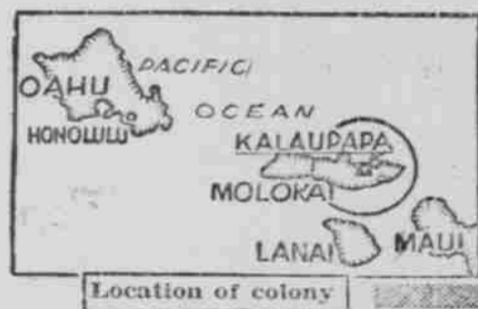
(American News Features, Inc.)

Subscribe for the Journal
Hawaiian Leper Colony
Now Model of Its Kind

Institution Is Monument to Priest Who Gave His Life to Cause



View of Kalaupapa



Location of colony



Father Damien

By GERALD MANNING,
International Illustrated News
Feature Writer

HONOLEULU—Surrounded by all the beauty of Hawaiian springtime, the ultra-modern colony of Kalaupapa, a model for other institutions of its kind, is today one of the most pathetic places in the world.

For there, in rows of spottled cottages, live 400 doomed men and women who will soon fill graves on the long white beach where the great Pacific rollers melt into the sand.

The inhabitants Kalaupapa, situated on the windward side of romantic Molekai island, one of the Hawaiian group, are lepers—pained persons isolated from society in an effort to prevent spread of the dread malady.

Eight Years to Live!

There they live until they die, realizing on the fact that the average victim lives only eight years after leprosy appears. They cannot swim because salt water burns their skin. They cannot associate with strangers because there is danger of contagion. And, try though they may, they cannot escape, for the disease has wrecked their bodies.

Life at Kalaupapa is not all misery, despite the above depressing facts. Inmates have their own money, food and clothing supplied free by the territorial government. They live in modern individual cottages with surgical treatment available at all times.

Many of the lepers are married and have children who show no trace of infection. To prevent contagion, the children are cared for in

government institutions, only seeing their parents on occasional special days.

Few Taking Treatment

Few of the lepers at Kalaupapa take medical treatment. Injections of Chaulmoogra oil, once heralded as a sure cure, are very painful and of doubtful efficiency. Attempted treatment of severe cases only increases the torture of the declining months.

Political status of the patients approximates that of other Hawaiians. They have the right to vote in territorial elections, choosing delegates to the U. S. congress as well as to the Hawaiian legislature.

Many of the lepers protest their "imprisonment," pointing to the fact that the disease is not considered as contagious as ordinary tuberculosis. In fact, among the "clean" workers who inhabit the colony, only Father Damien, who gave his life to help the colony and one other man ever became infected.

First Segregation Cruel

Segregation of lepers did not begin in Hawaii until a colony was established on Molekai in 1866, during the reign of Kamehameha, V. At first conditions became intolerable, as the victims were left to die for themselves.

Today, however, through efforts of the territorial legislature and missionaries from American churches the colony is considered the finest in the world. Through its influence, the disease is fast disappearing on the islands, and it has served as the model for the United States Marine hospital at Carlisle, Pa., where 350 patients are quarantined.

MURDOCK ITEMS

Oriand Perriott, the beautician, was looking after business matters in Lincoln Monday.

Bryan McDonald was called to Elmwood last Wednesday to look after business matters, making the trip in his car.

Dr. Farmanak was called to Plattsmouth last Wednesday to look after business matters, and also drove into Omaha on a similar mission.

Mrs. W. L. Eisele was hostess to the Ladies Aid of the Murdock church last Wednesday, the usual large number of members being present.

Conner V. Biles, of Ashland, was looking after some business matters in Murdock last Wednesday and was consulting with Herbert Schlieffert while here.

Mrs. Charles Cogman is reported as being very poorly, having been confined to her bed for some time. Her friends are hopeful she may soon be restored to good health.

E. W. Thibang and wife and their little son, Larry, were visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan McDonald last Sunday. Mrs. McDonald being a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thibang.

J. A. McKenzie and T. E. Behn, both of Lincoln, representing the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph company, were looking after business matters for the company in Murdock last Wednesday.

Harvey Backemeyer, of west of Elmwood, was a visitor in Murdock last Wednesday, looking after some matters of business and visiting at the home of his father, Fred W. Backemeyer, west of town.

Fred Stock, who returned from the hospital in Lincoln some time since is getting on nicely and the lacerations caused by the buzz saw are healing nicely. It is expected that he will soon be entirely recovered from his injuries.

The Rock Island railway has recently built a loading platform for the handling of the large amount of machinery which is being shipped into Murdock to take care of harvesting and other farm work, including many tractors sold in this community.

Will Teach Next Year

Miss Irene Reister and sister, Miss Dorothy, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Reister, have signed up to teach their respective schools again the coming year. The former will teach at the Chilson school east of Manley, while Dorothy will again teach at Benson, near Omaha.

Kittenball Results

The Kittenball games were held on the regular schedule last Tuesday evening, the last game being cut short by the approaching rain—in fact many left the field and hurried home before the contest was called. The first game between the Cubs and the Tigers was won by the former by a score of 9 to 7. In the second contest, which only went five innings, the Manley Kids, managed by Lacey McDonald, were leading over their opponents, the Cardinals, 17 to 3 when rain halted the contest.

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank our friends and neighbors for their many acts of kindness extended at the death of our father and grandfather.—Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Ward and Family.

Departed for the West

Alvin J. Neitzel took his father, Louis Neitzel, to Hyannis Tuesday of last week, where they visited at the home of a daughter of Alvin, Mrs. Fred Lowe and family, for a few days, after which Alvin returned to his home here.

The grandfather, L. Neitzel, accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Lowe on a business trip to Denver, following the completion of which they will enjoy a three weeks' vacation in the mountains of Colorado. Chas. Kupke is looking after business at the hardware store during the absence of Mr. Neitzel.

Working with Power Company

Carl Buck, Walter Sirov and Frank Dean have been employed by the Nebraska Power company for some time, and now with the need for more men, Otto Buck has been added to the list, thus giving employment to four from Murdock. As there is not an abundance of work anywhere just now, the hiring of that number of local men by the Power company is appreciated, not only by the men employed, but by the business interests of the town as well.

Observes Many Changes
Speaking of the city of Ashland,

W. T. Weddell, who came to that place something over fifty years ago from his old home in Pennsylvania, advised the writer a few days ago that the passing years have brought many changes there. Mr. Weddell went to work for the Railsback Grain company on his arrival there, and remained in their employ for more than ten years. Of the business men of Ashland at the time he came there, the only one remaining today is J. C. Railsback, who was president of the grain company, and is now president of the City National Bank. The passing years bring many changes in the business personnel of a town, but rarely, we believe, is the "turnover" so complete as at Ashland, where only one man who was engaged in business a half century ago now remains.

Injured in Auto Accident

While Frances Lawton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Lawton, and a gentleman escort were returning from a dance, driving along the highway north of Eagle, they met a car, which they state was traveling down the center of the road at a very rapid pace. In order to avoid a collision with the other vehicle, Miss Lawton's escort pulled out to the edge of the road, and in doing so the car turned over and rolled down the embankment into a ditch. Miss Frances was pinned under the car, beneath the motor, and was unable to get out until her escort went for assistance.

Upon removal from the wreckage, she was found to have suffered a severe cut on her right hip, that left a gaping wound and required first aid treatment to stop the flow of blood, as well as a cut behind her left ear, a quite severe cut in her left forearm and laceration of the upper lip, to say nothing of the bruises over her body generally.

Some companions came along, who had also been attending the dance, and took the injured young lady to a hospital in Lincoln, where she is being cared for. At latest reports, her condition remains serious.

The companion of Miss Lawton was not injured very much, which was indeed lucky, as she would have undoubtedly remained pinned beneath the wrecked car all night, had he been unable to summon aid.

Bringing Cars from Factory

Lawrence Race and a number of Murdock car drivers, together with a man from Lincoln, went to Detroit last week, where they are to

pick up a number of new Chrysler cars, which they will drive through from the factory. Most of the cars have already been disposed of by Mr. Race.

Alfred Race, of Elmwood, brother of our townsman, accompanied by his wife and two sisters, also left about the same time for a trip to the east that will take them to many points of interest, including Stratford, Ontario, Canada, where they anticipate a very pleasant visit at the home of the mother of the two boys, as well as with two sisters, who make their home there.

Anticipates Heavy Harvest

Fred D. Lake recently purchased a twelve foot combine and with a new tractor which W. L. Eisele has purchased, the boys expect to be in the fields as soon as the wheat is ready to harvest. The yield this year promises to be very good and they are anticipating their share of work in the harvesting of the crop.

Slight Improvement

Mrs. W. T. Weddell, who is receiving treatment at a Lincoln hospital, where she has been for some time past, has shown slight improvement during the past week. Mr. Weddell was over to see the wife the first of the week and found her cheerful notwithstanding the long time she is being compelled to spend at the institution.

Brother Dies in East

W. T. Weddell received a message last week from Monongahela City, Pennsylvania, telling of the death of his eldest brother, F. J. Weddell from whom he had received a letter only a few days before. The deceased man was 93 years of age last February and had lived in the same house for 63 years. His wife preceded him in death four years ago. They had spent their entire lifetime in that neighborhood and the deceased was employed for many years in a glass factory there.

Obituary Henry C. Bargmann

Henry Christoph Bargmann, born in Hanover, Germany, December 8, 1863, passed into eternity Wednesday evening, May 19, 1937. The life of 73 years, 5 months and 11 days had been largely lived in and near Murdock, over a period of 54 years.

He came to America with his father and mother, at the age of 19 years. Three sisters and one brother remained in the land of his

birth and have all preceded him into the beyond. He lived and worked for some time on a farm northeast of Murdock, as a young man. He there learned to know Jesus Christ and surrendered to Him in the Louisville Evangelical church in that early day.

Mr. Bargmann married Henrietta Brackhage in the Elmwood Evangelical church on February 11, 1897. One son, August, who died at the age of 4 years, and a daughter, Emma, came into that earlier home life.

Today, the daughter, Mrs. Emma Ward and her husband, with whom the departed has lived for the past nine years in Murdock, feel this departure keenly. Likewise, the grandchildren, Wayland, Alleen and Niel Ward. His many friends and neighbors also feel that an honest toiler of the soil and a good neighbor has left them. Our village children will, in the future, realize the absence of his daily sojourn on our streets. We shall all miss him from our community. His wife preceded him in death 25 years ago.

The departed became a full-fledged citizen of this country in 1903, when the final citizenship papers were taken out.

Funeral services were held in the Murdock Evangelical church Sunday, May 23rd, at 2:00 p. m., conducted by the Rev. Harvey A. Schwab. Mrs. Leo Rikli, accompanied by Mrs. Ferdinand Bjekman, sang "One Sweetly Sounded Thought," "Abide with Me" and "Now the Day is Over."

The Horton Funeral Home had charge of the arrangements. Interment took place in the Callahan cemetery near Murdock, in the plot of ground which the deceased gave for a cemetery over fifty years ago.

The sympathy of the community is extended to the bereaved.

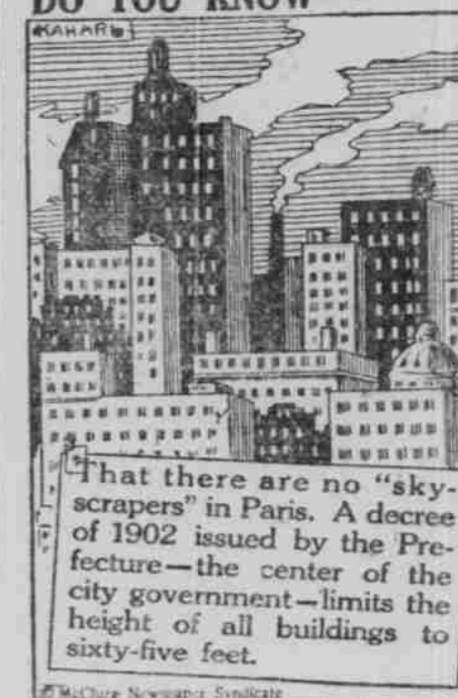
Jacob Ruemelid Laid to Rest

After an illness of several weeks duration, John Jacob Ruemelid passed away at his home southeast of Crab Orchard, Nebraska, on Monday afternoon, May 17, 1937.

The deceased was a son of John and Barbara Ruemelid and was born in Newhausen, Germany, on April 30, 1869. He came to America at the age of twenty years, locating at Sutton. Two years later his parents came to America also, locating at Elmwood. He made his home with his parents until 1894, at which time he was united in marriage to Miss Mary Specht of Syracuse. The marriage vows were read by Rev. J.

Plattsmouth is the ideal large town shopping center for all Cass county people. Values here are the equal of those found anywhere—read the ads for bargain news.

DO YOU KNOW—



That there are no "skyscrapers" in Paris. A decree of 1902 issued by the Prefecture—the center of the city government—limits the height of all buildings to sixty-five feet.

Streicher, a half brother. To this union, five children were born, four of whom are still living, one daughter having died in infancy.

The young couple located on a farm near Murdock, where they resided until the year 1911, when the family moved to the vicinity of Crab Orchard. When a young man, Mr. Ruemelid united with the Evangelical church. After moving to Crab Orchard he transferred his membership to the Methodist church. In 1925 he retired from the farm and moved to Brownville and about two years ago he returned to Crab Orchard. Early last fall his health began to fail. Those who remain to mourn his going are his faithful wife, Mary, his four children, Jake Ruemelid, of Bala, Kansas; Mrs. Fred Cordes of Murdock; Mrs. Albert Schliep of Vesta, and Emil Ruemelid of Crab Orchard. Also, one sister, Mrs. Hannah Panska, of Murdock, and eight grandchildren, of whom he was very fond, survive.

Mr. Ruemelid was a kind, loving husband and father and a helpful neighbor, and he will be greatly missed by those who have known him.

The funeral services were held at the Methodist church in Crab Orchard Wednesday afternoon, May 19, at 2:00 o'clock, conducted by Rev. W. N. Smithram, pastor, assisted by Rev. A. R. Murdock. Interment was in the Crab Orchard cemetery.

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