

AROUND THE WORLD WITH WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN

Events of One Day's Visit at Honolulu and Surrounding Country, Where Mr. Bryan and His Party Were Accorded a Hearty Reception by Officials and Citizens

By WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN

(Copyright, 1906, by Joseph E. Howles. Copyright in Great Britain. All Rights Reserved.)

HERE is rest in an ocean voyage. The receding shores shut out the hum of the busy world; the expanse of water soothes the eye by its very vastness; the breaking of the waves is music to the ear; and there is medicine for the nerves in the salt sea breezes that invite sleep. At first one is disturbed—sometimes quite so—by the motion of the vessel, but this passes away so completely that before many days the dipping of the ship is really enjoyable and one finds a pleasure in ascending the hills and descending the valleys into which the deck sometimes seems to be converted.

If one has regarded the Pacific as an unknown or an untraversed sea, the impression will be removed by a glance at a map recently published by the United States government—a map with which every ocean traveler should equip himself. On this map the Pacific is covered with blue lines indicating the shortest routes of travel between different points, with the number of miles. The first thing that strikes one is that the curved line indicating the northern route between San Francisco and Yokohama is only 4,536 miles long, while the apparently straight line between the two points is 4,791 miles long—the difference being explained by the curvature of the earth, although it is hard to believe that in following the direct line a ship would have to climb over such a mountain range of water, so to speak, as to make it shorter to go ten degrees north. The time between the United States and the Japanese coast has recently been reduced to less than eleven days, but the northern route is not so pleasant at this season of the year, and we sailed on the Manchuria (September 27), going some 20 degrees farther south via Honolulu. This route covers 5,545 miles and is made in about sixteen days when the weather is good.

The Manchuria is one of the leviathans of the Pacific and is owned by Mr. Harriman, president of the Union and Southern Pacific railways. The ship's crew suggests the orient, more than three-fourths being Chinese, all wearing the queue and clad in the national garb. There is also a suggestion of orient in the joss house and opium den of the Chinese in the steerage.

Day Lost Forever

In crossing the 180th meridian we lost a day, and as we are going all the way around we cannot recover it, as those can who recross the Pacific. We rose on Saturday morning, October 7, and at 9 o'clock were notified that Sunday had begun and the remainder of the day was observed as the Sabbath (October 8).

According to the chart or map referred to above there are three centers of ocean traffic in the Pacific. Honolulu, the most important of all, the Midway islands, 1,160 miles northwest of Honolulu, and the Samoan islands, some 2,200 miles to the south. The Society islands, about the same distance to the southeast of Honolulu, and Guam, some 1,500 miles from the main land of Asia, are centers of less importance.

Honolulu and Hawaiian Islands

Our ship reached Honolulu early on the morning of the sixth day out, and we had breakfast on the island. The Hawaiian islands (inhabited) number eight and extend from the southeast to the northwest, covering about six degrees of longitude and nearly four of latitude. Of these eight islands Hawaii, the southernmost one, is the largest, having an area of nearly 4,200 square miles and a population of nearly 50,000. Hilo, its chief city, situated on the east shore, is the second Hawaiian city of importance and contains some 7,000 inhabitants. The island of Oahu, upon which Honolulu is situated, is third in size, but contains the largest population, almost 60,000, of which 40,000 dwell in or near the capital. The islands are so small and surrounded by such an area of water as to remind one of a toy land, and yet there are great mountains there, one piercing the clouds at a height of 14,000 feet. Immense cane fields stretch as far as the eye can reach, and busy people of different colors and races make a large annual addition to our country's wealth. On one of the islands is an active volcano which furnishes a thrilling experience to those who are hardy enough to ascend its sides and cross the lava lake, now grown cold, which surrounds the present crater. Each island has one or more extinct volcanoes, one of these, called the punch bowl, being within the city limits of Honolulu. On one of the islands is a leper colony, con-



WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN.

taining at times as many as a thousand of the afflicted. During campaigns the spellbinders address the voters from boats anchored at a safe distance from the shore.

Salute and Welcome Ashore

As the Manchuria lay at anchor in the harbor all day the passengers went ashore and, dividing into groups, inspected the various places of interest. By the aid of a reception committee, composed of democrats, republicans and brother Elks, we were able to crowd a great deal of instruction and enjoyment into the ten hours which we spent in Honolulu. We were greeted at the wharf with the usual salutation, Aloha, a native word which means "a loving welcome," and were decorated with garlands of flowers for the hat and neck. While these garlands of leis (pronounced lays) are of all colors, orange is the favorite hue, being the color of the feather cloak worn by the Hawaiian kings and queens in olden times. The natives are a very kindly and hospitable people, and we had an opportunity to meet some excellent specimens of the race at the public reception and at the country residence of Mr. Damon, one of the leading bankers of the island.

Interesting Sights in the City

When the islands were discovered in 1778 by Captain Cook the natives lived in thatched huts and were scantily clothed, after the manner of the tropical races. They were not savages or cannibals, but maintained a degree of civil order and had made considerable progress in the primitive arts. In their religious rites they offered human sacrifices, but they welcomed the white man and quickly embraced Christianity. American influence in the islands reaches back some seventy-five years, beginning with New England missionaries, many of whose descendants have made permanent homes here. Some of these, mingling their blood with the blood of the natives, form a connecting link between the old and the new civilization. Foreign ways and customs soon began to manifest themselves and long before annexation the native rulers built public buildings after the style of our own architecture. The capitol building, erected twenty years ago for the king's palace, is an imposing structure, and the judiciary building is almost equal to it. The parks and public grounds are beautiful and well kept, and the business blocks commodious and substantial. In short, Honolulu presents the appearance of a well built, cleanly and prosperous American city, with its residences nestling among palm trees and tropical plants. God hotels are abundant; the Alexander Young hotel is built of stone imported from the states and would do credit to a

city of 500,000. The Royal Hawaiian hotel, even more picturesque though not so large, and the Moana hotel, at the beach, vie with the Young in popularity.

Drive to the Pali Cliff

The program for our day's stay began with a seven-mile automobile ride to the Pali, the pass over which the natives crossed to the farther side of the island. The road is of macadam and winding along a picturesque valley rises to a height of about 1,200 feet. At this point the eye falls upon a picture of bewitching beauty. Just below is a precipitous cliff over which a conquering king, Kamehameha the First, about 110 years ago, drove an opposing army when he established himself as ruler of the islands. To the east from the foot of the cliff, a thousand feet down, stretches a beautiful valley with an endless variety of verdure; and beyond, a coast line broken by rocky promontory around whose base the waters reflect from their varying depths myriad hues of blue and green. There are ocean views of greater expanse, mountain views of more sublime and agricultural landscapes more interesting to a dweller upon the prairies, but it is doubtful whether there is anywhere upon earth a combination of mountain, valley and ocean—a commingling of the colors of sky and sea and rock and foliage—more entrancing. Twice on the way to the Pali we passed through mountain showers, and were almost ready to turn back, but the members of the committee, knowing of the rare treat ahead, assured us that Hawaiian showers were of short duration and "extra dry." When we at last beheld the view we felt that a drenching might gladly have been endured, so great was the reward.

On the Great Sugar Plantation

The committee next took us by special train on the Oahu railroad to one of the great sugar plantations of the island, a plantation outside of the trust, owned and operated by a San Francisco company. The company has built an immense refinery upon the plantation and the manager showed us the process of sugar making from the crushing of the cane to the refined product, sacked ready for shipment.

The stalks, after passing through the mill are dried and carried to the furnace, thus saving some 65 per cent of the cost of fuel—an important economy when it is remembered that all the fuel for manufacturing is brought from abroad. Until recently several hundred thousand dollars worth of fuel was brought from Australia, but California oil is now being substituted for coal. The refuse which remains when the sugar making process is completed is returned to the land as a fertilizer. The economies effected

in fuel and in fertilizer, together with the freight saved on impurities carried in the raw sugar, amount to a considerable sum and to this extent increase the profit of the business. While at the sugar plantation we were shown an immense pumping plant used in the irrigation of the land. The water is drawn from artesian wells and forced to a height of almost six hundred feet, in some places, and from the summits of the hills is carried to all parts of the plantation. Some idea of the size of the plants can be gathered from the fact that the pumps used on this plantation have a combined capacity of 60,000,000 gallons per day.

Queer Freak of Rainfall

Speaking of irrigation, I am reminded that the rainfall varies greatly in different parts of the island. At Honolulu, for instance, it is something like thirty inches per year, while at one point within five miles of the city the annual rainfall sometimes reaches 140 inches. The sugar plantation visited, while one of the largest, is only one of a number of plantations, the total sugar product of the islands reaching above 400,000 tons annually.

Next to the sugar crop comes the rice crop, many of the rice fields lying close to the city. Pineapples, bananas, coffee and coconuts are also raised. Attention is being given now to the development of crops which can be grown by small planters, those in authority recognizing the advantage to the country of small holdings.

The labor problem is the most serious one which the people of Hawaii have to meet. At present the manual labor is largely done by Japanese, Chinese and Koreans—these together considerably outnumbering the whites and natives. Several thousand Portuguese have been brought to the islands and have proven an excellent addition to the population. On the day that we were there the immigration commission authorized the securing of a few Italian families with a view to testing their fitness for the climate. The desire is to develop a homogeneous population suited to the conditions and resources of the islands.

We returned from the sugar plantation in automobiles, stopping at the home of Mr. Damon, which was once a royal habitation.

The present owner has collected many relics showing the life, habits and arts of the native Hawaiians.

Schools and School Children

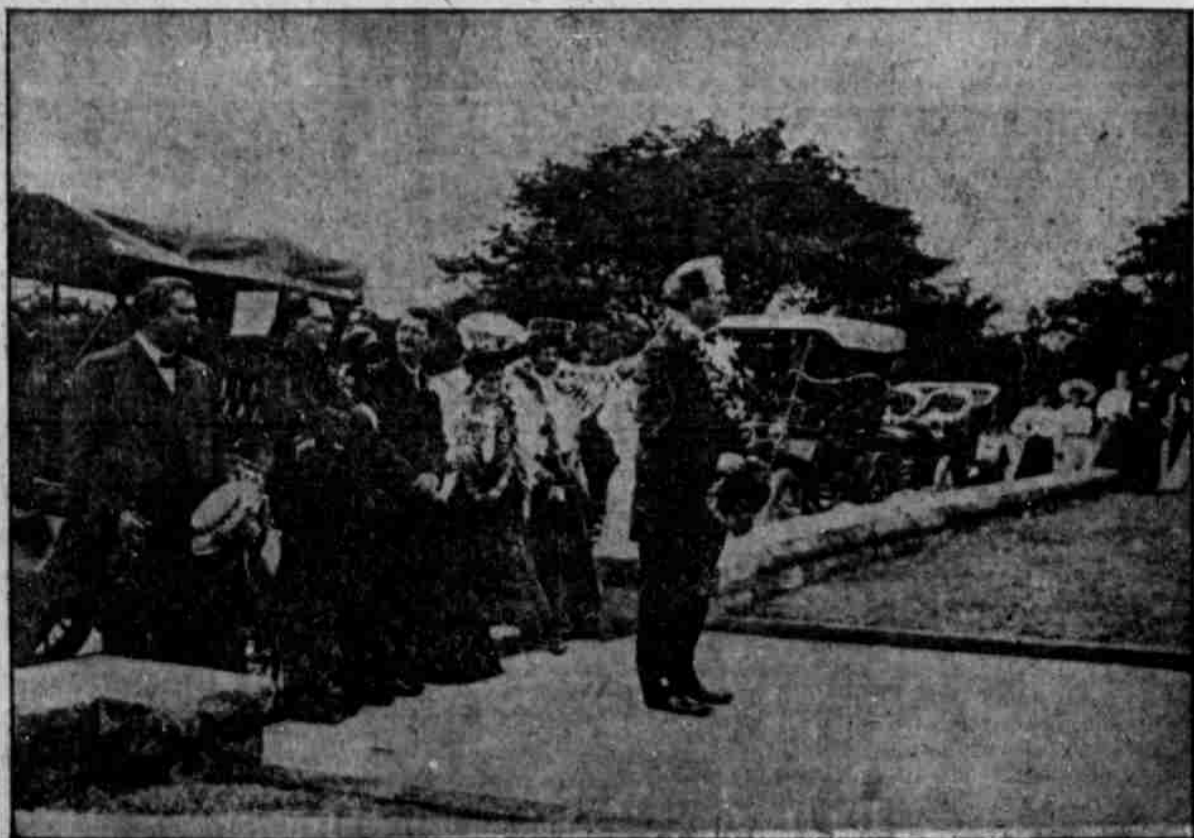
Still nearer the town we visited two splendid schools, one for native boys, the other for native girls, built from the funds left by the native chiefs. The boys and girls were drawn up in front of one of the buildings and under the direction of their instructor sang the national anthem of the natives, now preserved as the territorial hymn. They were a finely proportioned, well-dressed and intelligent group, and are said to be studious and excellently behaved. Nothing on the islands interested us more than these native children, illustrating as they do not only the possibilities of their race, but the immense progress made in a little more than a hundred years of contact with the whites. The museum, the gift of Mr. Bishop, now of California, who married the widow of one of the native chiefs, is said to contain the best collection of handiwork of the natives of the Pacific islands to be found anywhere.

The public reception at the Royal Hawaiian hotel gave us an opportunity to meet not only the prominent American and native citizens and their wives, but a large number of the artisans and laborers of the various races, and we were pleased to note throughout the day the harmonious feeling which exists between the whites and the brown population.

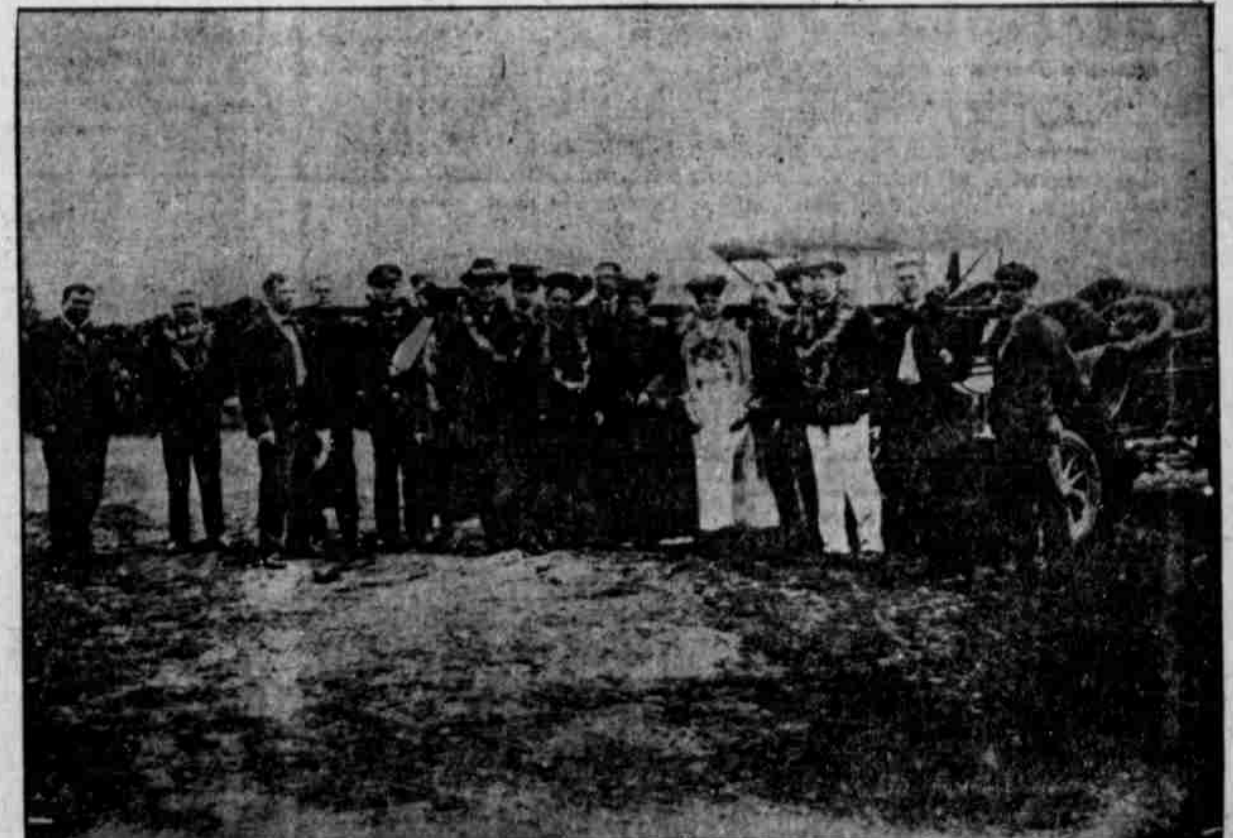
Politics, Princes and Poi

Political convictions produce the same results here as in the United States, sometimes dividing families. For instance, Prince Cupid, the present territorial representative in congress, is a republican, while his brother, Prince Davis, is an enthusiastic democrat.

The luncheon prepared by the committee included a number of native dishes, cooked according to the recipes which were followed for hundreds of years before the white man set foot upon the island. The health of the guests was drunk in coconut water, a nut full of which stood at each plate. Poi, the staple food of the natives, was present in abundance. This is made from a root or tuber known as taro, which grows in swamps and has a leaf resembling our plant, commonly known as elephant's ear. This tuber is ground to a pulp resembling paste and is served in polished wooden bowls, in the making of which the natives exhibit great skill. Next in



MR. BRYAN SPEAKING TO THE STUDENTS AT KAMEHAMEHA.



THE BRYAN PARTY AT THE PALI CLIFF.