

The *Journal*, with this issue, introduces a new section, "Notes and Queries." We encourage readers to submit responses to previously published articles, statements on Hawaiian and Pacific history, or queries for information that will assist research.

Notes & Queries

Robert L. Cushing's "The Beginnings of Sugar Production in Hawai'i" (*HJH*, vol. 19, 1985) omitted two primary sources for the history of Ladd and Company's first successful sugar operation at Koloa, Kaua'i. They are the "William Hooper Papers, 1831-1871," two feet on manuscript materials including fiscal records and a great number of letters between Hooper and his partners William Ladd and Peter Allen Brinsmade; and "Diaries in the Handwriting of William N. Hooper, 1835-46." Both are available at the Hamilton Library, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, as is Frances Jackson's master's thesis, "Koloa Plantation Under Ladd and Company, 1835-1845" which drew heavily on the Hooper letters.

"*The Folio* of 1855—A Plea for Women's Rights," by Helen G. Chapin and David W. Forbes (*HJH*, vol. 19, 1985), mis-assigns the Fair of 1854 as a benefit for the Honolulu Sailor's Home (p. 127). This fair was probably for the benefit of the local chapter of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The first fair for the benefit of the Honolulu Sailor's Home Society was held in 1855. For additional information see "The Honolulu Sailor's Home," by Jean B. Martin and Frances Jackson (*HJH*, vol. 20, 1986).

Submitted by Frances Jackson
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Charles Bouslog's vignettes of the Mānoa trolley and Jens M. Ostergaard in the 1986 issue of the *Journal* (vol. 20) elicited reminiscence and comment from Dr. Otto Degener, botanist and Hawai'i

resident since 1922. Dr. Degener arrived in Honolulu after graduation from the Massachusetts Agricultural College to spend a summer "touristing and botanizing" in Hawai'i. He was so enthralled by Hawai'i's endemic biota that he enrolled as a student at the University of Hawai'i, earning his master's degree the following year.

Dr. Degener remembers Jens Ostergaard, laboratory assistant in his University of Hawai'i classes, as "outstanding in explaining Nature . . . and with great, infecting enthusiasm." Degener recalls Mr. Ostergaard fondling a pet yellow-brown moray eel, kept in a wooden trough at the Waikiki laboratory. Degener's recollection was that Mr. Ostergaard fondled it especially when visitors were around, proudly praising it for never having bitten anyone. "He was quite depressed when it did bite him" (Degener, *in litt*).

A letter written to Ostergaard by Degener January 19, 1924, evokes something of the friendship that had sprung up between the two men and their common interest, not only in Hawaiian natural history but in the theory of evolution. Early in 1922, William Jennings Bryan (1860-1925), the Democratic presidential aspirant and on three occasions and Secretary of State under Woodrow Wilson, had joined the movement to drive Darwinism from the nation's public schools. Degener had sent Ostergaard a book by Henry Fairfield Osborne, a biologist much more moderate in his views of evolution than Bryan, and Degener suggests "that book may come in handy for you when you talk to students on *your good friend* Wm Jennings Bryan. I only wish they had printed his ridiculous article in the same book."

Dr. Degener also knew Mr. Ostergaard as conductor of the trolley which ran up to Mānoa past the Pleasanton Hotel, opposite Punahou School, where Degener lived. According to Degener, gossip had it that the wives in Mānoa would rise early and fix breakfast for their husbands who about 8 a.m. took the trolley to their businesses in the center of Honolulu. In mid-morning, the Mānoa matrons, in turn, boarded the trolley to do their marketing down town. In those days shirtwaists were hooked shut in back. With no one at home, some of the ladies on the trolley would timidly ask Mr. Ostergaard to hook up their shirtwaists. Mr. Ostergaard, ever the gentleman, obliged.

Submitted by E. Alison Kay
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Some "Firsts" that weren't

This journal and earlier HHS publications have run since 1965 a series of articles, written by the present author, listing various "firsts" in Island history. Inevitably, further research has uncovered earlier claims to some of the "firsts" cited. A few of these—the earliest adding machine, the first Hawai'i-made movies, the earliest windmills—have already been noted in *HJH*.¹ The others are reported now in alphabetic order.

Bikini. In 1952, Morris Fox photographed a bikini-clad young woman on the beach in front of the Surfrider Hotel (fig. 1). Fox's candid shot preceded a similar picture made a year later from the Waikiki Tavern, previously thought to be the first bikini sighting.²

Golf course. Moanalua Golf Course was opened in 1898, not 1901.³

Honolulu Symphony Society. The Society was organized in 1902, not 1900.⁴

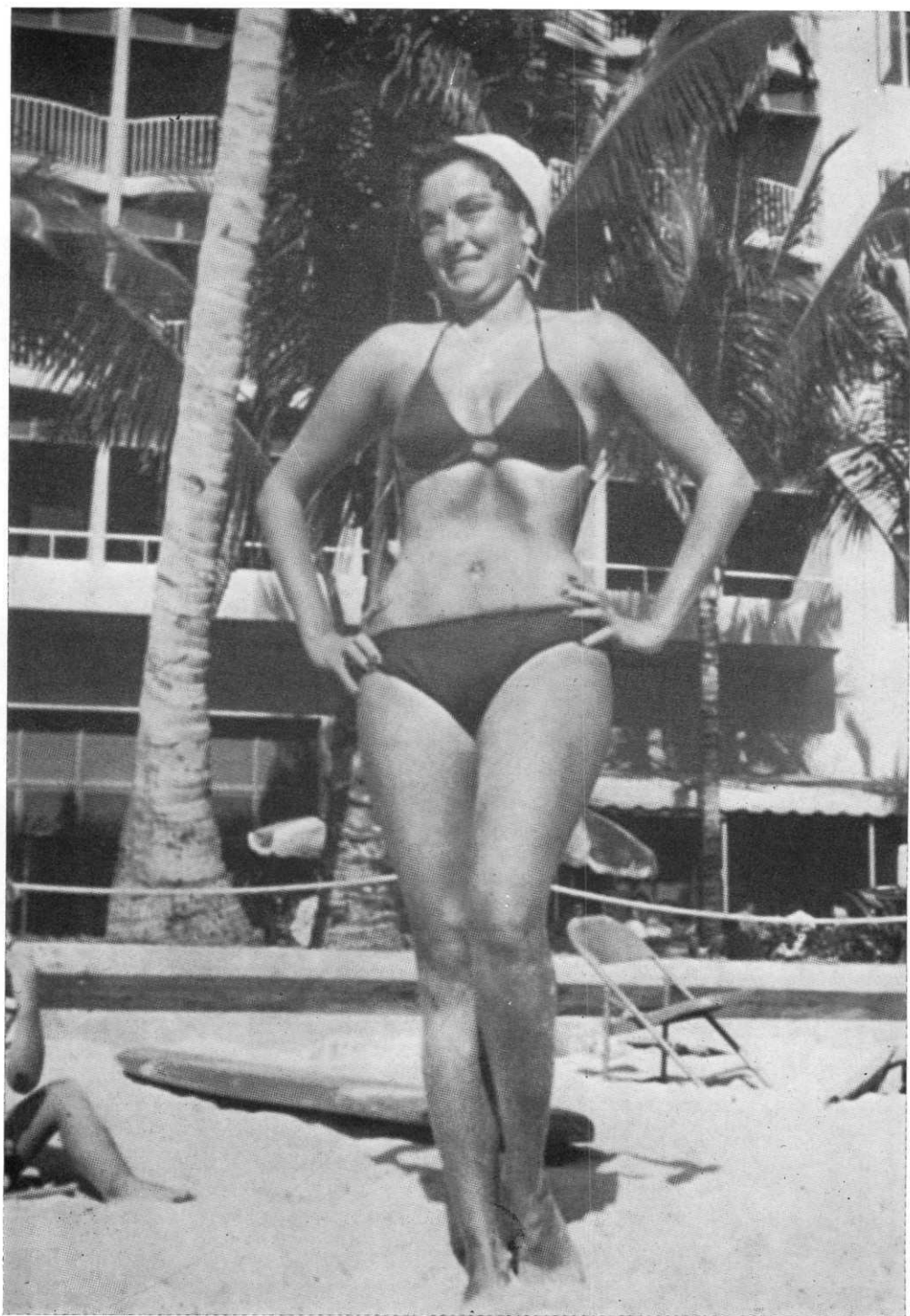
Interisland transportation. Scheduled interisland service was introduced in November 1846, when the 116-ton schooner *Kamehameha III* advertised twice-weekly sailings between Honolulu and Lāhainā. This was five years before the start of a similar service, previously thought to have been first.⁵

Kalākaua bridge. The Kalākaua Avenue bridge over the Ala Wai Canal was built in 1929, not 1924.⁶

Phonograph records. The earliest known records of "Hawaiian" music were two Edison cylinders issued at the end of the 19th century. One was "Honolulu Cake Walk," a banjo solo by Vess L. Ossman, released between late 1898 and February 1900; the other, "My Honolulu Lady," sung by Dan W. Quinn and dated either May 1899 or April 1901. Previously, two cylinders listed in a 1901 Columbia catalog, *Aloha 'Oe* and *Ku'u Pua i Paoakalani*, had been dated the earliest.⁷

Revolving restaurant. La Ronde, acclaimed as "the first revolving restaurant in the United States," wasn't. Earlier examples include a restaurant at the Chicago World's Fair in 1933 and Seattle's Top of the Needle, dedicated May 21, 1961.⁸

FIG. 1. The first bikini worn in Hawai'i, January 1952, by a young woman in front of the Surfrider Hotel. (Morris Fox photo.)



Solar heating. Emmeluth & Co., Ltd., advertised "solar water heaters" in December 1900, a much earlier date than was previously reported for their first appearance.⁹

Supermarkets. The Kaimukī Super-Market, opened September 1, 1938, at the corner of Wai'alae and Koko Head Avenues, was the first to be so named. It preceded the Mānoa-Woodlawn Super Market by eight years.¹⁰

Well. On June 27, 1820, Maria Loomis visited Anthony Allen's house two miles east of Honolulu and noted that he drew his water "out of an excellent well and I believe the only one on the Island." Four months later, on October 21, 1820, she recorded that Captain Daniel Chamberlain "has completed digging a well, and found good water in a bed of coral on eight feet below the surface of the earth. This, with the exception of Mr. Allen's of Witete, is the first ever completed on this Island." Both of these wells obviously came before a well dug by Joseph Navarro around 1822, previously regarded as the first.¹¹

Submitted by Robert C. Schmitt
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REFERENCES

- ¹ 74th Annual Report, HHS, 1965, 20, corrected in *HJH* 14 (1980): 89; *HJH* 1 (1967): 75, corrected in *HJH* 12 (1978): 103; *HJH* 14 (1980): 90, corrected in *HJH* 16 (1982): 150.
- ² Fox showed his photograph (a color stereo slide) to the author in 1982. The original item appeared in *HJH* 12 (1978): 112-113, and later in *Honolulu*, Jan. 1982: 62.
- ³ Thomas K. Hitch and Mary Ishii Kuramoto, *Wai'alae Country Club, the First Half Century* (Honolulu: Wai'alae Country Club, 1981) 160; *HJH* 12 (1978): 111.
- ⁴ Dale E. Hall, "Early Symphonic Music Organizations in Honolulu and Their Conductors," *HJH* 20 (1986): 178-179; *HJH* 12 (1978): 106.
- ⁵ Mifflin Thomas, *Schooner from Windward* (Honolulu: U of Hawai'i P, 1983) 27-29; *HJH* 13 (1979): 100.
- ⁶ *Historic Hawai'i News* (Oct. 1981) 4; *HJH* 20 (1986): 155. The 1924 date was an uncaught typo.
- ⁷ Allen Koenigsberg, *Edison Cylinder Records, 1889-1912, With an Illustrated History of the Phonograph* (New York: Stellar Productions, 1969) xxviii, xl, 87, 146, and 148; *HJH* 12 (1978): 106.
- ⁸ Joseph Nathan Kane, *Famous First Facts*, 4th ed. (New York: H. W. Wilson, 1981) 546; Don Hibbard and David Franzen, *The View from Diamond Head* (Honolulu: Editions Limited, 1986) 164-166; *HJH* 15 (1981): 108.
- ⁹ *PP* Dec. 1900: 44; *HJH* 14 (1980): 92.
- ¹⁰ *HSB* 31 Aug. 1938; *HA* 1 Sept. 1938; Edward J. Greaney, letter to *HJH*, 3 Nov. 1981; *HJH* 14 (1980): 81.
- ¹¹ Journal of Mrs. Maria Sartwell Loomis, 21 Oct. 1819-25 May 1824, ts., 42 and 60, HMCS Library; *HJH* 15 (1981): 106; *HJH* 16 (1982): 150.