

Magazine SectionFrajahaw (by Cathy Porter)

Let us set sail to the "crossroads of the Pacific".

Hawaii is a string of more than 20 beautiful tropical islands in the Pacific Ocean. It has beautiful scenery, brilliantly coloured flowers, graceful palm trees and warm blue seas.

All the islands were formed by volcanoes pushing up from the ocean floor. Honolulu, on the island of Oahu, is the capital and largest city. Hawaii "The Big Island" was built by fire volcanoes. Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa are the highest peaks in the Hawaiian group. Mauna Loa erupts every few years. Kilauea is the only other active volcano in the Hawaiian Islands. The sight of bubbling lava in Kilauea's craters draw thousands of tourists. Silvery waterfalls drop from the cliffs along the northern and eastern coasts. Waikiki Beach sweeps across Honolulu's waterfront in a golden crescent of shimmering sand. Diamond Head's dormant crater protects the beach from storms. The "barking sands" on Kauai Island cover a beach that is so dry it makes a "barking sound" when stepped on. The spouting horn on Kauai Island is a natural tube in the rocks along the coast where ocean water spouts upward in a geyser-like fountain. Some of Hawaii's beaches have black sands caused by crumbled lava that has hardened.

Kauai is called "the garden island" because of its rich natural greenery and beautiful gardens.

Lanai is called the "pineapple island" because it consists entirely of one pineapple plantation owned by the Hawaiian Pineapple Company.

Maui is known as the "valley island" because of high mountains at each end of the island that tower over a central valley of sugar cane and pineapple plantations.

Molokai is called the "friendly island" because it is friendly to visitors. Oahu is called the "gathering place."

Women wear colourful printed muumuus with sandals. Men wear brightly coloured aloha shirts with knee-length shorts. Leis are worn on special occasions. They are garlands of flowers strung together.

Sports like swimming, boating, fishing and surfing are enjoyed in the sparkling waters along sandy beaches.

Some Hawaiian foods are poi, laulau and haupia. A luau or feast features roast pork and a variety of other Hawaiian foods.

Hula is the Hawaiian word for dance. Each graceful movement of a dancer's arms and body has a special meaning. The grass skirts worn by hula dancers did not originate in Hawaii but came as a gift from the Chief of Samoa to the Chief of Hawaii.

One of Hawaii's best loved musical instruments is the ukulele which means the "jumping flea." Hawaiian songs have a gay lilting musical sound.

The Aloha tower rises above the piers where departing tourists can take a last longing look at Hawaii.

Sail into the golden sunset and have a golden time Aloha and Mohalo!

Shadow River

- E. Pauline Johnson

A stream of tender gladness,
Of filmy sun and opal tinted skies;
Of warm mid-summer air that lightly lies
In mystic rings,
Where softly swings
The music of a thousand wings
That almost tones to sadness.

The little fern-leaf bending
Upon the brink, its green reflection greets,
And kisses soft the shadow that it meets
With touch so fine,
The border line
The keenest vision can't define;
So perfect is the blending.

O! pathless world of seeming!
O! pathless life of mine whose deep ideal
Is more my own than ever was the real.
For others fame
And love's red flame,
And yellow gold; I only claim
The shadow and the dreaming.