

# HILO SUGAR NEWS

## Hilo Sugar History Has Beginnings In 1851



THE FACTORY AT HILO SUGAR COMPANY is shown standing on the shoreline of Hilo Bay. The millyard crane is seen at the left of the line of buildings feeding the cleaning plant. The mill is capable of crushing about 65 tons of cane per hour to produce approximately 780 tons 96 degree sugar per week. In 1957, a new turbine replaced the No. 4 mill at a cost of \$50,000. In 1958, replacements were made of six new low grade centrifugal machines, six mill rollers and a boiler was improved at a cost of \$135,000, \$12,000, and \$20,000 respectively.

Hilo Sugar has seen itself through the Hawaiian Monarchy and the Territorial status. It now enjoys its place in the new State of Hawaii.

It is interesting to note that our plantation dating way back to around 1851 was a merger of many little sugar mills and plantations along the outskirts of our City of Hilo.

A brief history of Hilo Sugar shows as follows:

"Hilo Sugar Company occupies land on which some of the earliest ventures in Hawaiian sugar production took place. As early as 1851 a Chinese named Ah Kina raised cane at Amaulu and had a crude mill on the Wailuku River.

"The Ah Kina property was purchased by Thomas Spencer and named it Amaulu Plantation. He had a mill in Amaulu run by water power. In 1886 Spencer added the Hoon Sing plantation to his property.

"Another plantation at Wainaku was founded by John Costa. It had a mill run by steam.

"The Amaulu and Wainaku Plantations were merged by William G. Irwin and Claus Spreckels in 1884. This marked the birth of Hilo Sugar Company and John A. Scott was engaged as manager.

"To grind the crops of these two plantations, a new mill, regarded as one of the finest in the Islands at that time, was built at Wainaku.

"Early in the 1900s the Hawaiian Milling Company built a mill in Hilo and the Kaiwiki Mill Company's mill commenced grinding in 1916. Both mills were short lived and by 1920, Hilo Sugar acquired control of all cane land in the Hilo area.

"In 1920, production was up to 18,000 tons. At present, annual production is over the 30,000 ton mark.

"Hilo Sugar's best year was in 1955 when 33,274 tons of 96 degree sugar were produced with a yield of 9.62 tons of sugar per acre."

### Loyal Service Precedes Asakura Retirement

A familiar figure on the plantation bowed out from active service on September 1, 1959.

That was the day SHIKAZO ASAKURA, 65, of Wainaku Camp 2, started on his retirement after 46 years of service.

Spending the entire 46 years at Hilo Sugar, he waited for this day with much anticipation. He is set on taking it easy and maybe keep a small vegetable and flower garden near his home.

Mr. Asakura is a citizen by birth. He was born at Hakalau and grew up at Wainaku Camp 2. He attended Haaheo and Hilo Union Schools and began working for Hilo Sugar in 1912—first with the wahine gang. Later he was assigned as a mule driver in the cultivation department. Thereafter, he was sent to various other jobs such as carpenter, canecutter, switchman at the mill, etc.

He recalls having served under six Hilo Sugar managers. They are A. Scott, A. Fraser, C. R. White, A. T. Spalding, L. S. McLane, and



Shikazo Asakura

M. J. Black, our present manager.

Mr. Asakura has four children and 7 grandchildren. Shigeru, the eldest, is with Hilo Transportation & Terminal Company. Mrs. Hisako Yoneda lives at Waimanalo, Oahu. Mitsuo is a metal lathman in Los Angeles, and Kuniko works at Kamehameha Garments.

During World War I (1918 to 1919) he served with the First Hawaiian Infantry. He was attached to Headquarters Company at Fort Shafter in Honolulu.

### Ainako Subdivision Proving Popular

Hilo Sugar Company's Ainako subdivision is proving very popular with our employees. This fine subdivision was first opened for sale in 1947. Almost every lot is with a view unequalled elsewhere.

During the last six months many lots have been purchased and Ainako is enjoying a boom in house building activity. The new Ernest B. DeSilva Elementary School which opened in September is located within the area. The closeness of the school has influenced families with children to locate there.

Employees and former employees who have homes in Ainako are Richard M. Smith, Edward P. Sevcik, Mrs. Emi Goya, Charles K. Ikeda, Kazuo Endo, Peter L. Pacheco, and Robert McGill.

Others who have house lots but as yet have not built a home are Herbert Ishibashi, Mrs. Helen Young, Glenn Shura, Anastacio B. Luis, Earl Nielsen, and Tooru Okubo.

There are still a few lots available. According to Mr. Sevcik an employee can purchase these on very favorable terms.

### Summer Fun Program Ends

The department of parks and recreation summer fun program ended on July 31.

Approximately seventy-two youngsters from Mill Camp and Wainaku Camp 2 areas congregated daily at the Haaheo School campus for the 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. sessions.

Activities include Hawaiian arts and crafts, other arts and crafts, games, swimming, participation in parades, picnics, and field days.

Leaders were Marjorie Bergin, Carl Halleck, Mrs. Yoriko Shimooka, and Joan Yuhas.

### Haaheo UE Meets

Members of the Haaheo U.E. Club met at the home of Mrs. Margaret Kahapea for the July 14 meeting.

The lesson for that month was "Preservation of Fruits". The dos and don'ts of jelly, jam, and marmalade making were discussed with Mrs. Jessie Kaukali, the demonstrator, for the evening.

Door prizes of fruits and

### Caneland Is Now Available

The following plantation cane land is now available for lease to persons interested in entering into an independent grower tolling agreement with the Hilo Sugar Company, Limited.

Field 17, Lot 4—0.50 acre

Field 19, Lot 1 — 0.52 acre

Field 20, Lot 3 — 0.25 acre

Field 20, Lot 6 — 0.28 acre

Kaiwiki Lot 8—2.75 acre  
Interested persons may obtain further information by contacting the Hilo Sugar Company office.

home grown vegetables were given to the lucky winners.

Hot dogs and coffee were served.

**HILO SUGAR NEWS**

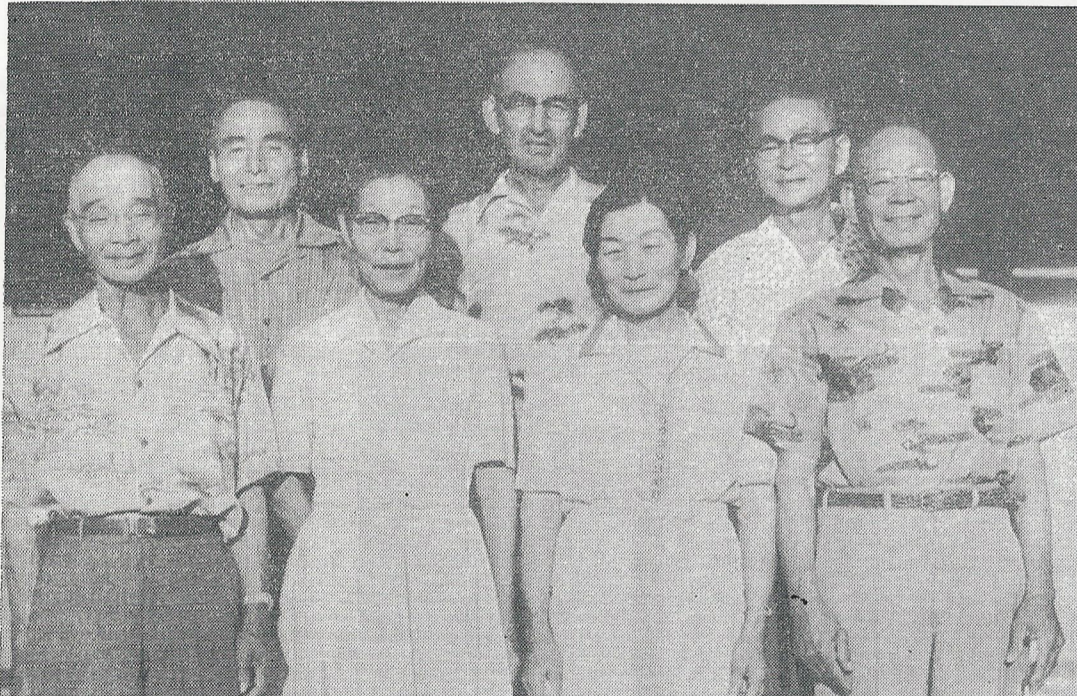
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# 34 To Become Citizens Under Statehood



**PROUD WOULD-BE-CITIZENS** from Amaulu Camp 1 are (l to r) first row, Tsuna Hayashi, Yojiro Toma, Tameyoshi Hashimoto, Yuri Kubota, Ichi Tsuchiya, Zeichi Tsumazawa; second row, Bunnosuke Sato, Sakuichi Kubota, Sayo Hamane, Ayame Hashimoto, Tomokichi Hamane, Torakichi Watanabe; third row, Sentaro Nakamura, Tokushiro Toyama, Sueno Nakamura, Haru Tango, Miya Toyama, and Sue Nakaoka. Missing from photo are Kanayo Yahata, Yoshitaro Yahata, Shima Yamasaki, Rokuyoshi Ymasaki, and Shizue Tsumazawa.



**PROUD WOULD-BE-CITIZENS** from Wainaku Camp 2 are (l to r) front row, Shigenori Hamachi, Tsurue Sakasegawa, Yosue Hamachi, Kashin Takayesu; back row, Kiyoshi Nakayama, Hajime Shimizu, and Hikoichi Sakasegawa. Missing from photo are Hotaro Higa, Katherine Higa, Matsu Kina, and Ushi Kina.

## New Home Numbers And Streets Are Named For Rainbow Camp

Everything in general is warm and friendly up at Wainaku Camp 2.

With the sale of houses at Hilo Sugar, roads were repaved to accommodate the housing areas. New names were given to these roads.

The road at Rainbow Camp has been named Anuenue Street which literally means "Rainbow" in Hawaiian. The roadway that leads into the new subdivision from William DeCoito's home is called Pono Street ("Good" Street).

The road that most appropriately describes the area is Aikane Street. This street, meaning "Friendly", is being reconstructed by Iwashita Contractor at Sankai Camp. A loop will be built within the Camp and it will be called Aikane Loop.

The County Engineer's office, except for the houses at Sankai Camp, has already assigned street numbers to the respective houses.

A letter regarding this change has been sent to employees liv-

ing at Wainaku Camp 2. It is suggested that old house num-

### Smiths Return From Vacation

Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Smith returned recently from their vacation trip on the mainland.

Purchasing a volkwagon in San Francisco, they motored all the way to Ladysmith, Wisconsin, where the Smiths grew up and met. They also had a grand reunion with their parents and made frequent trips to neighboring cities and towns to visit friends.

Along the way, to and from Ladysmith, they visited Yosemite, Grand Canyon, and Yellowstone National Parks. They also journeyed to Oregon on the way back to take in the Oregon Centennial.

Mr. Smith said, "It was a long but worthwhile trip. We enjoyed every moment of it."

bers be removed and the new house numbers be prominently displayed.

Also it is suggested that the Post Office be notified of the correct street and mailing address.

### McGill Returns To Hilo Garage

The garage gang is pleased to see a familiar face in the person of Robert McGill, former heavy equipment superintendent at Hilo Sugar.

Mr. McGill is substituting for James Bailey who is presently on reserve training at Camp Perry, Ohio.

Said Mr. McGill, "It is nice to be back with the garage boys and Hilo Sugar."

He will be with us until September 8, when Mr. Bailey will resume his duties as headman at the garage.

Hours of intensive studies in American history and government will finally bear fruit for thirty-four Japanese oldsters on the plantation as they will be sworn in on September 11, to become the first group of aliens to be naturalized as American citizens under our new State of Hawaii.

The ceremony to be performed by Lumen N. Nevels, Judge, Third Circuit Court will be held at Hilo High School auditorium at 5:00 p.m. And a reception is to follow at Hale Nani Police Academy honoring these people and others from Hilo.

Almost all of them were born in Japan. Some of them were born in Hawaii but lost their citizenship by virtue of marrying aliens. They hailed from all sections of Japan—from the southernmost tip of Kyushu, Kumamoto ken, to the northernmost prefecture in Honshu. Majority of them came from farming areas. They came to the Islands to make their fortune. All of them succeeded in rearing a good sized family—some of the children growing up to become doctors, lawyers, engineers, businessmen, and other walks of life into good solid Americans.

They have strived hard to become citizens of their adopted country. They have succeeded.

The following are the names and ages of these would-be-citizens: From Amaulu Camp 1—Sayo Hamane 61, Tomokichi Hamane 68, Ayame Hashimoto 72, Tameyoshi Hashimoto 74, Tsuru Hayashi 58, Sakuichi Kubota, 75, Yuri Kubota 72, Sentaro Nakamura 79, Sueno Nakamura 73, Sue Nakaoka 67, Bunnosuke Sato 64.

Haru Tango 57, Yojiro Toma 72, Miya Toyama 65, Tokushiro Toyama 75, Ichi Tsuchiya 65, Shizue Tsumazawa 62, Zeichi Tsumazawa 78, Torakichi Watanabe 72, Kanayo Yahata 60, Yoshitaro Yahata 70, Shima Yamasaki 60, Rokuyoshi Yamasaki 70.

From Wainaku Camp 2—Shigenori Hamachi 64, Yosue Hamachi 59, Hotaro Higa 53, Katherine Higa 47, Matsu Kina 60, Ushi Kina 56, Kiyoshi Nakayama 64, Sueno Nakayama 58, Hikoichi Sakasegawa 68, Tsurue Sakasegawa 66, Hajime Shimizu 62, and Kashin Takayesu 64.

### Beckers Are New Residents Of Camp 2

Mr. and Mrs. George Becker, recently of Pahala, are now the new residents in the former McGills' home at Wainaku Camp 2.

Mr. Becker until a few days ago was factory superintendent at Hawaiian Ag. Prior to that he held a similar position at Hakalau Sugar.

Presently, he is on a short leave of absence from Hawaiian Ag. because of an eye ailment.

The Beckers love the climate and weather here in Hilo. They marvel at the clean air and fresh breeze that abounds at Camp 2.

We welcome them—the two new members in our community.

## Gacusan Has Much "Aloha" For Hawaii

It is important to know who your fellow worker is at Hilo Sugar.

What he is, what he does in relation with what you do, and how both of you are interdependent to each other as members of our great Hilo Sugar team are important, too. We feel everyone in our company has a place on our roster. Each member is a wheel running to smoothly operate a huge machine.

Therefore, this month we have taken a man at random from a list of names to see what part he plays on our team.



Froilan S. Gacusan

Froilan Sanchez Gacusan lives at Wainaku Camp 2. Born at Candon, Ilocos Sur, Philippines on October 5, 1905, he was brought up in a rice farming area. His brother, Serafin, and two sisters—Augustina and Caridad—are still living in that city.

Mr. Gacusan left the Philippines and arrived in the Islands on September 22, 1927. He was 22 at that time and had great hopes of earning and saving sufficient money to return to the Philippines some day. Upon his arrival he was first assigned to Hakalau Sugar. He worked there for about three years then moved to Pepeekeo Sugar for about 6 years before coming to Hilo Sugar in 1937.

At Hilo Sugar he worked as a cane cutter, juicepan man, mill oiler, field aid, liliko man, and rat control man.

Presently he is a road broomer with the harvesting gang. His job is to sweep the County roads of all canestalks dropped by our trucks. He is seen on Waiuanue Avenue, Kaumana Drive, Wailuku Drive, Amaulu Road, Wainaku Avenue. The belt road, and Kaiwika Road during harvesting seasons. He has been at this work for almost two years.

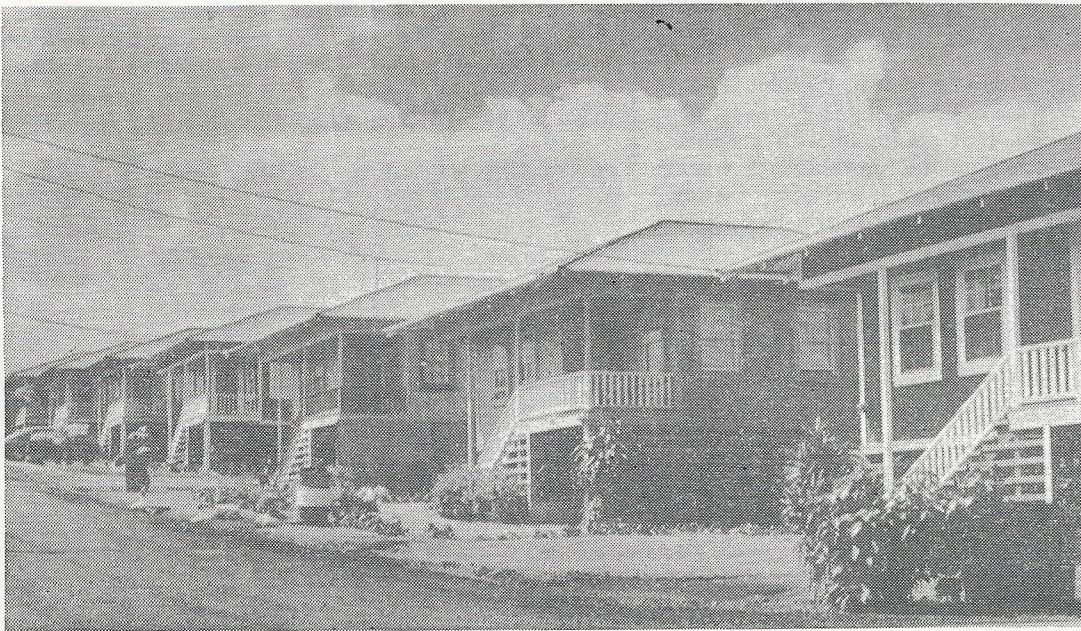
You can readily pick him out as he wears a red shirt and is always seen with a pitchfork. He claims he walks about ten miles per day—up and down, back and forth—and covering both sides of the road.

In 1955, Mr. Gacusan became a naturalized citizen. He has much love for his adopted Country—Hawaii. Therefore, he spent many hours studying English grammar, American government, and American history to become a citizen.

He is extremely happy and satisfied now that Hawaii has become a state. He considers himself a first class citizen and, "I'm happy now that my vote has a say in Congressional matters," he says.



**NIKAI CAMP AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY**—This photograph, loaned to the News by Hikoichi Sakasegawa, is probably one of the oldest plantation housing pictures in existence. The picture was taken by William B. Pacheco, father of Peter L. Pacheco about 1908. Note the covered wooden bridge in the left background. The seeming maze of pipes throughout the village are bamboolengths attached to the water runway on the right bringing water to each of the small grass houses. No doubt there are people here at Hilo who can still recall swimming in Maile Stream when this camp was still in use.



This new housing subdivision is a sharp contrast to the village shown above.

## Teachers Listed For Haaheo School

Haaheo School opened the new school year with a new principal—Mrs. William E. Henry. Mrs. Henry replaced Kiyoshi Minami who was assigned to Kalihi Kai School in Honolulu.

Mrs. Henry until this past school year was principal at Piihonua School. Born in Honolulu, she was educated in Honolulu schools and the Territorial Normal Training School. She received her Professional Administrative Certificate from the Department of Public Instructions after completing the required credits at the University of Hawaii.

She was first assigned to Honoumuli School. Thereafter, she taught at Kaiwiki, Kapiolani,

and Piihonua Schools. In 1954, she became full principal at Piihonua School.

Mrs. Henry's husband, William, is Probation Administrator at the probation department in Hilo. They have three children—Lorin, LaVanda, and

Lloyd.

Others on the faculty are Mrs. Rose Aquai, Mrs. Gardie Chock, Mrs. Nyit-Wan Chun, Miss Yukino Igasaki, and Mrs. Carmen Zane. Miss Mabel Akim Seu is cafeteria manager.

## Gordon Beaton To Be Married

Mr. and Mrs. Percy H. Johnston, Jr., of Honolulu announced the engagement of their daughter, Mary Louise, to John Gordon Beaton, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Beaton. Mr. Beaton is our factory superintendent.

Miss Johnston is a graduate of Punahou School.

She received her degree in cartography.

Mr. Beaton was graduated from Punahou School and Menlo Junior College. He will be a senior at the Menlo School of Business Administration this fall.

No date has been set for the wedding.

## Non-Exempt Weeks Start

Effective September 6, 1959, we will be on our non-exempt work weeks (weeks in which overtime will be paid after 40 hours of work).

According to the negotiated agreement last year, Hilo Sugar can schedule 20 exempt work weeks this year and 10 weeks can be selected in 1960. Thereafter, we will have no exempt weeks.

## Jr. YBA Sponsors August Social

"See You In September" was the theme of the social gathering sponsored by the Wainaku Jr. Young Buddhist Association. Held on August 29, from 7:00 p.m. to 12 midnight, this affair was their last before school started this fall.

Guests were Jr. YBA members from Pahoa, Olaa, Hilo, Papaikou, Kameula, Honokaa, Honohina, Honomu, Ookala, Naalehu, Pepeekeo, Paauilo, and Papaaloa.

During intermission, the popular teenage group called "The Spotlighters" from Hilo High School sang popular songs.

General chairman of the social was Alex Rodero assisted by Clyde Higa. Committee chairmen were Maile Yoshizumi, invitations; Dorothy Inouye, and Anita Rodero, refreshments; Janet Fujimoto, services; Hazel Hanato, decorations; Anita Rodero, program; and cleanup, Stanley Yoshizumi.

Cookies and punch were served during intermission.

## Five Scouts Receive Badges

During an impressive Court of Honor at Kolekole Park on August 15, five boys of Troop 38, sponsored by Wainaku Meisho, received their tenderfoot and second class badges from Stephen A. Reed, District Commissioner of Hilo District.

Those receiving the badges were Clayton Fujie, Maurice Fujie, Timothy Iida, Glenn Uemura, and Ray Unebasami. A special award donated by Robert Fleischman of the Kilauea Council was presented to Ray Unebasami for his qualities as an outstanding scouter. The special award was presented to Ray because he showed rare leadership and good all around scouting abilities.

The rest of the evening was spent in fellowship and fun between parents and sons. Others who made the trip are Alvin Takesihta, Terry Delfin, Scoutmaster Takeshi Yahata, and Assistant Scoutmaster Isamu Teraoka. Emcee for the evening was Richard Fujie, Committee Chairman of Troop 38.

The Troop remained at the park for the night and returned home the following day.

Another activity carried on by the scouts was a hiking trip to Amaulu Camp 5 together with Troop 23 of Hilo Hongwanji under the leadership of Scoutmaster David Ikawa.

### CARS FOR SALE:

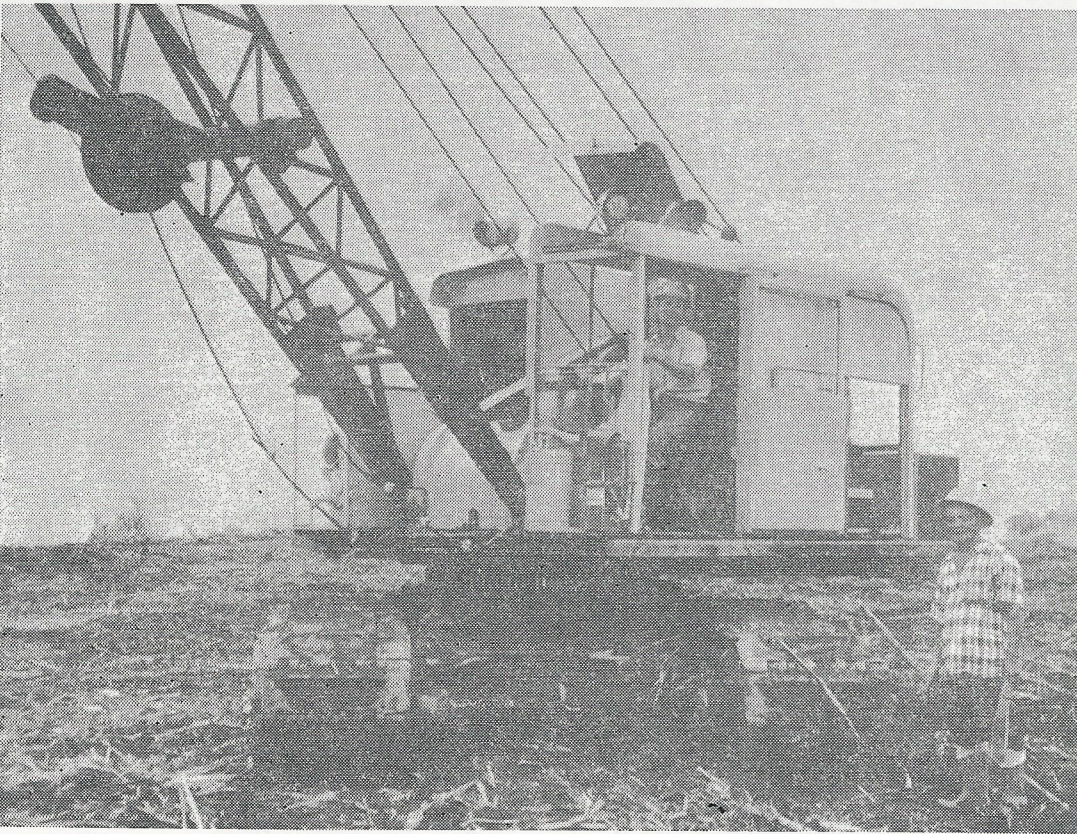
Chevrolet 1952 DeLux 4 door sedan

Henry J. Kaiser 1953 sedan Volkswagon slightly used.

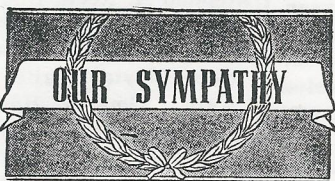
Interested persons may see or call Richard M. Smith. Phone 3978 or 51840.



THE SIX TEMPORARY HIRES added to our work force on July 10, are (left to right) Henry Marantan, Dennis Pavao, Bernard Pacheco, Kenneth DeCoito, Calvin Pacheco, John Pacheco (former employee) and August Moniz (supervisor in charge). The boys were doing stumping work when the above photo was taken.



OUR NEW \$42,000 LOADER is shown being operated by Sadao Shimasaki. Filemino Yabo, liliko man, is standing by. This Thew Loraine Model L-50K has a GMC series 71 diesel engine with a 40 foot boom and 6,000 pounds lifting capacity. It is equipped with a Kohler operated power plant to produce electricity for night illumination. The turntable lock, travel clutch, steering, and pawl lock are air controlled. One of the most significant safety feature is that if the travel clutch should disengage, the pawl lock locks itself automatically to prevent the machine from travelling.



Mrs. Kita Takeshita of Wainaku Camp 2 passed away at her home on July 11.

Officiated by the Rev. Ryuchi Fujii of Hilo Hongwanji, funeral services were held at the Hawaii Funeral Home followed by cremation at Homelani Crematory.

Mrs. Takeshita was 87 years old. Survivors include her sons Kita, assistant to the boiling house superintendent at Hilo Sugar, Susumu of California, Masaru and Motoki of Honolulu, and daughters Mrs. Mitsuru Nakayama of Wainaku Camp 2 and Mrs. Yotsuru Taniyama of Honolulu.

Our sympathy also goes to the Yasuto Yoshiokas of Kaimana whose father passed away recently.

Mr. Yasutaro Yoshioka was 82 years old at time of death. He was a retired cane planter.

He is survived by his wife, Takano; six sons—Yasuto, Tsugito, Tetsuo, all of Hilo; Mitsuto and Masuo of Los Angeles; Tsumi of Honolulu—and one daughter, Tamae of Hilo.

## July Production Summary

The following is a brief summary of the production score as of the last pay period—June 29 through July 26—as compared with that of the same period last year:

	1959	1958
Acres Harvested .....	2,232.43	670.54
Tons Net Cane Ground .....	2,187.57	657.94
Tons Sugar Produced (96 degree) .....	205.05	64.42
Average Tons Cane Per Acre:		
Plantation .....	99.39	101.66
Growers .....	95.59	93.32
Average Tons Sugar Per Acre:		
Plantation .....	9.32	9.92
Growers .....	8.96	9.18
Days Grinding .....	157	51
Hours Grinding .....	3,399.67	1,107.25
Grinding Time of Total Time .....	94.27	95.25

## Scouts Enjoy PH Trip

Life Scouter Leonard J. Costa, II, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Costa went on a trip to Pearl Harbor on August 24, with five of his fellow Sea Scouts. They are Keith and Hilyard Tallet, Carl Braun, George Bettencourt, and Leonard Unea.

June Kawamura, 46, of Wainaku Mill Camp passed away at the Hilo Memorial Hospital on August 12.

Mr. Kawamura was our I.C.E. mechanic at the garage before he asked to be placed on sick leave.

He is survived by his wife, Yoshie, and four children — Ernest, Roy, Cheryle, and Leslie.

Ship 52 is sponsored by the St. Joseph's Church. The Explorers are under the leadership of Brother Duane, skipper, and Paul Tallett, assistant skipper.

While at Pearl Harbor, the sea scouts will take a short cruise on a ship. They will also learn the basic fundamentals of sailing and everything dealing with the sea.

## Written Referral Needed For Specialist Care Under Medical Plan

### Bailey Competing In Coast Rifle Matches

James Bailey, mechanical equipment superintendent, who holds the rank of first lieutenant in the Army Reserve, left for Camp Perry, Ohio on Monday, August 10. He will attend the Reserve Summer Camp and compete in the rifle matches to be held from August 14 through 29.

Robert McGill, C. Brewer associate automotive engineer will take over Mr. Bailey's duties during his absence.

Mr. Bailey has been competing in these rifle matches at Camp Perry since 1955. All military personnel from Europe to the Far East have gathered at the Army Post to show their shooting skill. According to reports, Mr. Bailey is pretty good with his shooting iron.

He will also travel to Clearwater, Florida to visit with his parents. He is expected back on September 9.

### "Maui" Home From Hospital

Maui Boteilho, our garage foreman, underwent surgery on July 29, at the Hilo Memorial Hospital. Dr. Harold Lewis performed the operation.

Mr. Boteilho is recuperating at home.

We wish him a speedy recovery.

Many members of our medical plan believe they can go to a specialist anytime they want. This is not so, unless the member is willing to foot the bill himself.

The contract states: "The company physician shall have the sole responsibility for the determination of the necessity of calling on a specialist and for the selection of the specialist . . ." In other words a plan member must first ask our plantation doctor for referral to a specialist if he wants the plan to pay for the services of the specialist. This referral is usually in writing. If this procedure is not followed, the plan member will pay the bill himself.

If our company doctor approves the members request, the doctor will determine the specialist.

The plan provides, however, that a member may insist on the services of a specialist by going through the grievance procedure provided in Section 4b of the Medical Plan. In this case, one-half of all fees and expenses will be paid by the member and one-half by the company.

So, before you go to a specialist, be sure you have a written referral from the company doctor, unless you intend to pay the bill yourself.

(Ed. Note: In the next issue we will discuss Emergency Care under the Medical Plan.)

## Boys Land 42 Oopus

Summertime is fun time for youngsters.

Three young companions—George DeCoito, Paul Rapoza, and Gilbert Pacheco—got their fishing gears together one day and went "oopu" fishing down the Nikai River. They used worms for bait with a number 8 hook strung on a six foot bamboo pole.

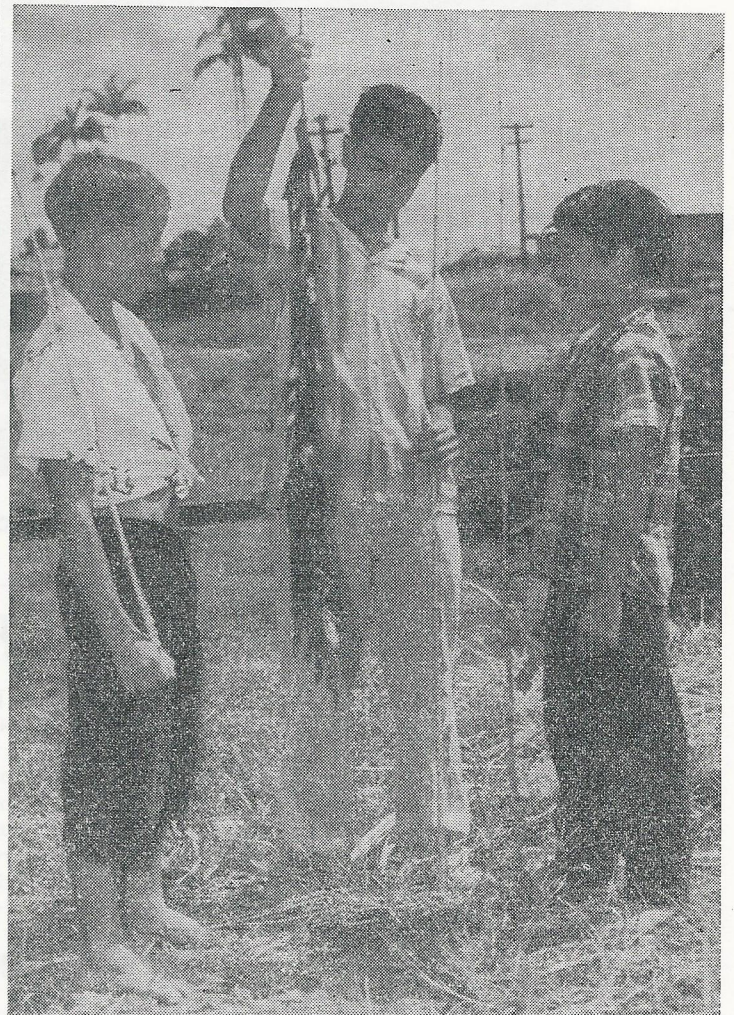
Two hours of fishing with an

occasional dip in the stream to freshen up brought the boys forty-two "oopus" weighing about four pounds.

★ ★ ★

Quite a feat for these youngsters. And they were going into business, too, as they were planning to sell their catch for \$2.00.

Clever, too! they used their fun time to make money.



TRIO OF YOUNG FISHERMEN-BUSINESSMEN, who are admiring their catch of "oopus". Left to right are George DeCoito, son of Mr. and Mrs. John DeCoito; Paul, son of Mr. Alfred Rapoza of Honolulu; and Gilbert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Manuel V. Pacheco. George and Gilbert are from Wainaku Camp 2. Paul is visiting the Rapozas for the summer.