PAN PACIFIC UNION WORK IS REVIEWED

Organization Does Yeoman Service in Racial Cooperation

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To mention the accomplishments of the Pan-Pacific Union is a difficult task. It called the first Travel Congress in 1911 and sought then to create a Pan-Pacific Travel Bureau. It called and financed the First Pan-Pacific Science Congress in 1920, now the Pacific Science Association. It organized loosely the Hawaiian Academy of Science after months of negotiation with the national organization. It issued a call for a Pacific conference of Young Men's Christian Association secretaries, and out of this preliminary work grew the Institute of Pacific Relations. It called the First Pan-Pacific Educational Congress; the second, also called by the Union, united with the National Educational Association Conference in San Francisco in 1923 and creating the World Federation of Education Associations which has a sectional meeting in Honolulu in 1932. It called and financed the First Pan-Pacific Commercial Conference in 1924, with James A. Patrell (president of the U. S. Steel Corporation) as chairman. Patrell was detained at the last moment but always promised to preside over the next commercial congress held in Hawaii, and will keep his word next year.

The Union conducted two Pan-Pacific Women's Conferences and has materially aided in the creation of the Pan-Pacific Women's Association. It called and financed the First Pan-Pacific Surgical Congress (a part of its plan for a greater Pan-Pacific Medical Congress). The surgical body is now the Pan-Pacific Surgical Association and again convenes in Hawaii in 1933.

GREAT FOOD CONFERENCE

Perhaps the most far-reaching work of the Union was the calling and conducting of the Pan-Pacific Food Conservation Congress, primarily a conference of food and agricultural scientists, the great majority of whom were not members of any of our food research scientists. Out of this conference grew the International Sugar Technologists' Association, that has held two or three conferences since its difficult birth in Java in 1926.

The Pan-Pacific Fisheries Association, another outgrowth of the Food Conference, with Dean Jordan again at its head, which is still publishing through the Journal of the Pan-Pacific Research Institution the check list of the fish of the Pacific —an undertaking that at the beginning Dr. Jordan thought would take a century to accomplish, but which is today, after six years of work, nearing completion.

Dr. Jordan presided at the Pan-Pacific Fisheries Conference and with delegates from the leading Pacific lands remained a house guest at the Pan-Pacific Research Institution while there, he wrote two of his books.

The creation of the Pan-Pacific Research Institution was an outgrowth of the First Pan-Pacific Food Conservation Conference. During its sessions the Castle family offered the use of its old family mansion (the largest private residence in Honolulu) and seven acres of surrounding grounds in Manoa Valley. The Pan-Pacific Research Institution was organized with Dr. Jordan at its head, and every Friday night for seven years running from forty to fifty local and visiting scientists met at the Institution in round table dinner discussions ending with an illustrated science lecture to which the public is invited.

SCIENCE PROBLEMS

Here the outstanding science problems of the Pacific were discussed and plans laid for future conferences.

Science house guests came from every part of the Pacific. Dr. C. Ishikawa of Japan remained for some months and later successfully demonstrated that the Japanese edible oyster would thrive in Hawaiian waters. He experts to return to introduce the cultivation of the pearl oyster in Hawaii. A building was set aside on the grounds where young men from Pacific lands desiring education in science or agriculture might have a home while attending classes at the University of Hawaii. These formed the nucleus of the Pan-Pacific Junior Science group that, twenty or thirty strong, dined weekly at the Institution and developed science photography as well as the use of special cameras in preparing films for visual education work in the schools. Their plan is now being taken up eagerly in Japan and China. It was the chairman of the Junior Science Group, Northrup Castle, Jr., who conducted Dr. Caldcott on his visit to Herons Reef to find the pearl oysters that will grow in Hawaiian waters.

More and more the Pan-Pacific Research Institution promises to become the Wood's Hole of the Pacific. Dr. Joseph Rock will make it his home for several years beginning next winter. He will return to complete his complete his botanical work on the trees of Hawaii. Other distinguished scientists are also planning to make a home during research work at the Institute.

ITS ORIGIN

The Pan-Pacific Union is a growth of the spirit of Hawaii. Its first preliminary pro-natal meetings were held at the Outrigger Club beach in 1907. Here Jack London, S. Sheba, Dr. Katsunuma and leading thinkers of all races in Honolulu met at weekly suppers under the hau tree and discussed international questions. Out of this grew the "Hands-Around-the-Pacific Club," the progenitor of the Pan-Pacific Union.

The first discussion leading to the creation of the Pan-Pacific Union, however, was at the home of J. F. Cooke, Sr. Here after a small dinner party the present director discussed plans in the back of his head with his host, Mr. Cooke, and Frank Atherton. Cooke gave his unqualified approval, and until the day of his death was the most outspoken friend and supporter of the work and from members of his family has always come the outstanding financial support of the Union, larger than that given by the governments. The Castles, Baldwins, Wilcoxes, Athertons and Dillinghams have also been outstanding contributors.

Frank Atherton spent some years abroad but finally returned to Hawaii and became vice president of the Pan-Pacific Union, resigning only to become head of the Institute of Pacific Relations, but remaining an advisor of and contributor to the Pan-Pacific Union.

Much of the development of the ideas of the Institute took place at the monthly "twelve-twelve-twelve" dinners given by the Pan-Pacific Union. At these gatherings there were twelve outstanding men of each of the leading races in Hawaii—Europeans, Chinese and Japanese. Their discussions were most intimate and not reported.

Frank Atherton, Lorrin A. Thurston, the Castles, C. K. Ai, C. C. Wong, Dr. Ian Mort, S. Sheba, Dr. I. Katsuki, Lloyd Killam, Charles Loomis, K. C. Leebrick, W. R. Farrington, W. F. Frear, and in fact all the men who later created the Institute of Pacific Relations were participants in these remarkable round-table international discussions.

EARLY DISCUSSIONS

One of the first questions to come up for discussion was the control of the language press. The legislature had passed a bill that would practically confiscate the newspapers published in the Japanese and Chinese languages—it was an unjust bill. Lorrin A. Thurston and Lorrin Andrews and his son, and they said the Pan-Pacific meetings to bring out the round table international discussion. It was Thurston who suggested that the Japanese presenmen themselves draw up a bill that would be satisfactory to them, but would correct the abuses. They did so; I think Soga of the Nippu Jiji was the leader, and the bill was so fair that the unjust bill was withdrawn and that of the Japanes presenmen substituted. There has been no trouble since with the Japanese press.

The next question before the "12-12-12" gatherings of the Pan-Pacific Union was that of the control of the language schools. When the act of the Japanese was called in and a bill satisfactory to both sides drawn up, presented to the Legislature and became a law.

A most vital question at this time was that of dual citizenship of the Japanese youth. Thos. Consul-General Yada pointed out that dual citizenship was forced on Japan, and Hawaii by American agreements. However, he took the matter up with Prince Tokugawa, president of the Imperial Diet and honorary president of the Union for Japan, with the result that the Japanese Diet went to remarkable lengths to permit boys born in Hawaii of American parents to become at birth American citizens, legally so declared.

DISPUTES SETTLED

It was proved at these gatherings that international disputes might be amicably settled and the friendly round table, and this method has been of great service since, both to the Institute and the Union meetings.

The Institute is the child together of its own members biennially, the Union calls meetings of others than its own members to form a local committee for some particular plan of understanding among the peoples and helps them to create permanent organizations for perpetuating their work and continuance.

Locally in Honolulu the Pan-Pacific Club is the offspring of the Pan-Pacific Union. It has grown and grows until now it has its own club house, its social center in Hawaii. I believe, where it gives a home to some forty interracial societies, clubs and organizations.

Out of our Hands-Around-the-Pacific Club branch in Sydney grew a great clubhouse in that city which is now the home of the Millions Club of New South Wales, our affiliated Australian club. In Shanghai and in Kobe we shall have clubhouses, and in Tokyo there are plans for a million dollar Pan-Pacific clubhouse, and they will be carried out.

The foundation of the Pan-Pacific Union has been laid in Hawaii. Some day a great Pan-Pacific Peace Palace will grace our ocean Crossroads City, but much work with the several governments must be done before that consummation is brought about, and that is the present work of the director of the Union.

The time has come now to broaden the work of the Pan-Pacific Union and perhaps have it taken over officially by the governments of the Pacific. A committee to formulate ways and means of bringing this about has been requested.

ITS FUTURE

The great work of the Pan-Pacific Union lies in the future. For a decade in Japan and in America plans have been progressing forward a great Pan-Pacific Medical meeting, a Pan-Pacific Agricultural gathering, and one of the bonanzas of the Pacific has been promised. These three are linked together in unison and may hold their gathering co-jointly.

It was hoped that this great gathering might convene in Hawaii, but other countries are asking for these conferences. As planned, the medical men were to gather from every country (with the aid of the botanists) the medical herbs of each, and every Pacific land, and these were to be brought together in Hawaii for study. The botanists and agriculturists were to send plants of every clime, and the experiment of planting them on the varying zones of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa tried out. It was a great undertaking to create a vast experimentation garden in the Pacific, so vast that it would probably take the combined effort and financial support of many Pacific lands. This great project has received the approval and backing of a number of research institutions, and is up for further discussion and planning.

The future conferences of the Pan-Pacific Union will probably be on a larger scale than those that have gone before. The effort now is to secure government backing and funds for the calling of these conferences and carrying out their projects. Plans are being outlined to bring this about, and as the director of the Union is busying himself in the lands about this the greatest of oceans.

Fort Street in 1891, Showing King Kalakaua's Funeral Procession



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