

MRS. FULLARD-LEO, GUEST AT LOCAL SWIM MEET, TELLS STRANGE STORY OF WONDER ISLES

JOHNNY AND THE DUKE



These two American aces in the Olympiad during the exhibition in New Brunswick, on June 11.

body. She is now on the ocean, en route to Paris to attend the Olympic games. She has with her Miss Mariechen Wehselau, from Honolulu, who competed in the local meet.

"The territory which I was instrumental in having annexed to the United States is Kingman's Reef in the Pacific," Mrs. Fullard-Leo told us. "This was in 1922. Previously it had been regarded as a dangerous shoal and avoided. No one knew what it actually was. It is on the route to Palmyra, and from certain observations I had made I was sure that it was not a dangerous shoal at all. I advised its annexation, which was formally made by Lorin A. Thurston, the owner of the Honolulu Advertiser.

"With the annexation of Kingman's Reef the United States has acquired a harbor big enough to hold the entire United States Navy. This is particularly advantageous, because it could be used as a base in wartime. Kingman's Reef has an interior lagoon. Everywhere is a mass of living coral of many species, shells and brilliant hued giant anemones. There is no trace of human beings ever having been there.

Discovered in 1802
"It is the Palmyra Islands, however, in which I am personally most interested. They were discovered in 1802 by the American vessel Palmyra and were named for it. In 1859 they were taken possession of for the United States by Dr. G. P. Judd. But little was known of them, however, until they were brought by my husband and myself.

"I have lived in fourteen countries. I am a British subject, but was born in South Africa. I am a Boer. My husband is an Australian. For three years I lived in New York.

"When I came to know what Palmyra was, I wondered how I ever stood those three years in a city like New York. There are people live like rabbits in their holes. They remind me of so many ants. Why do people go on living like that when they can buy an island in Palmyra?"

"The Palmyra islands are what God made before the devil got his ticks in. There are no mosquitoes. The climate is ideal. It rains every day, but your clothes dry immediately. You do not need even shelter. We expect eventually, however, to build a regular house for my husband, my son and my-

self and two or three servants on one of the islands, which we have called Leo. We have named all the islands for ourselves and our friends. One is even named for our dog.

"We have a steadily increasing copra business. The copra, from the coconuts, is shipped by us from the islands to Honolulu, where it is marketed.

"Lonely? No! And soon we are to have a radio on the islands.

"You know the heliotope which grows in your gardens? On the islands are trees of it forty feet high. There are also palms and ferns and hibiscus. What you cultivate in your gardens are our weeds, which we have to cut down. Some of the islands have such dense vegetation that they cannot be penetrated. Year after year the coconuts ripen and fall to the ground there and rot.

Crabs Two Feet High

"The coconut crabs there are enormous. They are about two feet high and two feet wide and they climb the coconut trees. They are not dangerous, however.

"Palmyra is really a bit of paradise. It is all that is left of the South Seas as they have been portrayed in fiction. They are not on the high road of commerce and today they are untouched and unspoiled. No one can land there, except with our permission. Every boat which comes is fumigated because we want to keep all pests from the islands. There are no natives.

"It is said that there is buried treasure on the islands. When the Spanish were driven from South America they tried to take what treasure they could to the Philippines. They were stranded on the way, however, and it is understood that some of it was buried there."

When Mrs. Fullard-Leo was chosen to represent Hawaii at the Olympic games some person raised the point that she was not an American subject. Refusing to her defense the Honolulu Advertiser printed an editorial in her behalf. That editorial shows what Honolulu thinks of this most remarkable woman. It reads in part:

"I do not care whether Mrs. Fullard-Leo is an Eskimo, a Hot-tentot or a South African Boer by birth—which latter she is. She is a bonafide resident of Honolulu, thoroughly identified with Hawaii and its staunch and whole-souled American athletic interests.

"She has, at her own expense, worked and boosted at home and abroad for the progress and prestige of athletics in general, and particularly in Hawaii and in America at large."

Now isn't that just what you might expect?

Every time you're looking for stardust all you find is sawdust.

Every time you're out for ambrosia you get the apple sauce.

That's the way it is this time.

There came to New Brunswick on June 11 Mrs. Elicia Fullard-Leo offering to sell New Brunswickers any one of her fifty-two of the Palmyra Islands in the South Seas some 1,000 miles south of Honolulu. Every one of these fifty-two islands is personally guaranteed by their present owner. Every one of 'em is absolutely and unconditionally up to snuff according to motion picture, short story and novel traditions.

If you're trying to escape conventions—Democratic, Republican and otherwise—you can do it on any one of the tropical fifty-two.

In Mrs. Fullard-Leo's pack of fifty-two every one is an ace, but—

And but and but and but—
Here's the hitch—

Beware of U. S. Laws

Any young things planning to spend their lives there all by their 'wosomes will promptly go to jail. Probably you didn't know it, but according to Mrs. Fullard-Leo it is against the laws of the United States government, under whose jurisdiction are these islands, to allow two persons, male, female or mixed, to live together on a desert isle. Two may be company and three a crowd, but when it's a question of the South Seas and the U. S. A. a crowd is all that is legal.

"You didn't know that?" asked Mrs. Fullard-Leo of us in surprise. "Of course two persons can not live on an island alone. They might try to kill each other."

It was at the Olympic swimming meet in the Rutgers pool on June 11 that Mrs. Fullard-Leo imparted this interesting information, along with much else about herself that seems more like fiction than fact. Fact it is, however, every bit of it, and because it is so Mrs. Fullard-Leo is one of the leading citizens of Honolulu, where she is temporarily making her home while her husband, who is a contractor, undertakes the development of their islands to the south.

Mrs. Fullard-Leo's claims to fame are numerous.

Lived in 14 Countries

Mrs. Fullard-Leo enjoys the distinction of being the only woman to bring about the annexation of United States territory. She has lived in fourteen countries. She is the inspiration of the Hawaiian Association of the Amateur Athletic Union and the only woman on the Board of Governors of the national