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A Debt Is Due

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A Debt Is Due

by Marilyn Heu and Lillian Nakamoto

Education Senior

Education Senior



LET US FACE FACTS — America owes a debt to Hawaii. This small island territory has, since her acquisition by the United States, contributed a full share to the advancement and welfare of the United States. But she has received little recognition for her efforts.

What recognition could the United States offer but statehood — a full membership in the United States of America. More than a half century ago, President McKinley said, "We need Hawaii just as much and a great deal more than we did California. It is manifest destiny." Since that time, the subject of statehood for Hawaii has been kicked around by numerous sessions of Congress but with little concrete action.

War contribution

Hawaii has earned this recognition in many ways, not the least of which is her contribution to the war effort during World War II. Despite the terrific pounding in the Pearl Harbor raid, Hawaii bounced back to become the most important link in the long, slow fight back to Tokyo. Without Hawaii, it cannot be denied that the United States war effort would have been seriously impaired.

Industrial contribution

Hawaii has contributed in other ways. In later years, Hawaii has been building up her own industrial capacities and is now preparing herself to process many of her raw materials. The surface has not been scratched as far as Hawaii's industrial potential is concerned. "Nowhere in the world have scientific methods been applied to agriculture on the scale that prevails in the sugar and pineapple production of Hawaii."

Hawaii has contributed financially to the United States. She has paid her full share in taxes, more than as many as 10 states in any 1 year. She has assumed her full share of financial responsibilities to the United States. "The politically inferior status of a Territory for a progressive, popular American area which pays more into the Federal Treasury than do 10 of the present states, and has a population greater than four of them, is a contradiction in our position of moral and spiritual, as well as material leadership in the world."

What of the peoples, the vast numbers of non-Caucasians living in Hawaii? Before World War II, there was skepticism among the islanders and their American counterparts on the mainland, as to the Americanism of the non-Caucasian islanders. During World War II and during the Korean conflict, the islanders demonstrated their loyalty to the United States in such a manner as to provoke these comments from the Senate Committee Majority Report and the Senate:

"It is submitted that if the ultimate test of loyalty and patriotism is the willingness to fight and die for one's country, then Hawaii has nobly met this test also.

"More immediately impressive today than facts of history or cold statistics of population and economic attainment is the heroic record of Hawaiians in fighting for, and shedding their blood for, the ideals of American democracy. In Korea, as of April 17, 1951, Hawaiian battle casualties totaled 681. This represents a casualty rate of 1.36 per thousand of Hawaii's population of roughly half a million. Casualties of the United States as a whole totaled a ratio of approximately .4 per thousand. Thus, Hawaii's battle casualties in the Korean fighting are something like three and a half times those of the rest of the country."

What is more, the inhabitants of Hawaii possess the liberal racial tradition that has made Hawaii a byword for tolerance and understanding among peoples of varied racial background.

U. S. debt

In the light of these arguments, can you deny that Hawaii should have statehood? The facts are there!

Let us consider for a moment what might happen should Hawaii be denied statehood within a reasonable amount of time. In our changing world, it is not difficult to consider that much could happen. Under the guidance and protection of the United Nations, it is now possible for very small areas of the world to assume an independent status.

The United States, through her support of the United Nations, would be legally bound to back any

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An Invitation to the U. N. TEA

by Jane Hammerly

Technical Journalism Junior

ON NOV. 5, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., the Institution Management Tea Room will be a scene of gaiety, decorated with flags and souvenirs from foreign countries for the United Nations Tea. Women students from 20 countries besides the United States will be honored at that time by the rest of the Iowa State women.

For the fourth year this tea, sponsored by Home Economics Council, will be a fall welcome to the students of other countries by the women from all divisions of the college. This informal get-acquainted tea is a small part, but a very definite part, of the international feeling of striving for friendship among nations.

Varied menu

The menu for the tea includes coffee and spice tea as well as cookies and pastries made from recipes collected from across the sea. The food will be made by the catering class and served by the United Nations Tea committee.

Clever decorations

But besides the food, the room itself will have a distinctive flavor as it is to be decorated with an international feeling. The serving table will have a pyramid of small United Nations flags as centerpiece, and the individual tables in the tea room will be decorated with souvenirs owned by the guests from many lands. Some of the guests will be in their native costumes, adding to the informal gaiety of the day as they walk from group to group making new friends.

Large flags representing the member countries of the United Nations will be in the halls of Home Economics Building on the day of the tea to remind you to come down to the tea room and join in the fun.

Student friendships

When you enter the tea room Nov. 5, you will see it's another world, a world of international peace and friendship where the students of many lands have come to get acquainted and exchange ideas on many subjects they have in common, but in particular, their college education at Iowa State.

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plea for independence by a small territory. Hawaii has been eager to join the United States. Much money, time and effort has been spent on her part. If Hawaiians continue to receive no encouragement, it is possible that they might consider another approach; this approach, a request to the United Nations for independence. Such a request could cause much embarrassment, to say the least, to the United States. Certainly, we can ill-afford to lose Hawaii, either as a strategic military base of operations, or as an industrial link in the chain.

At the time of this writing (Sept., 1953), there are signs of unrest among the people. A newspaper reporter was ousted from a meeting which allegedly dealt with the statehood question, discussed in the light that Hawaii does *not* want statehood. But most Hawaiians do not want independence. They want statehood—a fair recognition of their contributions to the United States. For the future welfare and security of Hawaii, as well as the United States, America should see that Hawaii gets statehood at the earliest possible date.

Ref: Senate Report 314, 82nd Congress.

Stop in for the

U. N. TEA

I. Mgt. Tea Room

Nov. 5, 1953

4-5:30 p.m.

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Homemaker

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