

The Language Of Romance

BY WILBORNE HARRELL



Now that the spotlight has been turned on Hawaii by admission to Statehood, much interest and some curiosity has centered on these islands of romance. Not the least of this interest is directed on the proper pronunciation of the word "Hawaii." Should it be Hawaii, with the "W" sound, or Hawaii, with the "V" sound? It seems that the correct pronunciation will be Hawaii, with the "W" sound, as the most universally accepted pronunciation.

If you write letters to your friends in Hawaii, don't abbreviate the new State in your address—don't shorten Hawaii to Haw. or Ha., as Va. for Virginia or N. C. for North Carolina. The Post Office has decreed that you should spell out Hawaii and not abbreviate.

We have to learn to speak Hawaiian in our relations with our new sister State? Since English is already universally spoken in the Islands, there is only one reason or necessity for learning the Hawaiian language, or some of it, at least. And that reason can be summed up in these words: romance and glamor.

There are few places on earth that is more romantically attractive than the Hawaiian Islands. And nothing can express this romance and glamor better than the Hawaiians themselves in their own language.

The early missionaries to the Islands are largely responsible for introducing to the Hawaiians many innovations which we have come to believe as strictly Hawaiian. For instance, the guitar came from Spain and the Portuguese introduced its little brother the ukulele. The language was no exception—the missionaries simplified the Hawaiian language into only 12 letters: A, E, I, O, U, H, K, L, M, N, P and W. The Hawaiians use only these twelve letters today.

The pronunciation is not too difficult, if you break the words into syllables with the accent usually falling on the next to the last syllable. Honolulu is pronounced HO-NO-LU-LU, with the accent on the third syllable. Every visitor to the Islands usually picks up several words of Hawaiian, with which to amaze his friends back home. Here are a few of the most used and best understood. "Aloha," ranks first among Hawaiian words and has many shades of meaning, from "I love you" to "lend me ten dollars."

Of course, the latter meaning is an exaggeration, and is used to emphasize the fact that the meaning of the word "aloha" depends largely on the circumstances under which it is spoken, and to whom. If you are seeing your friend off on a trip aloha means "goodbye"; if he is returning, it means "hello"; if you kiss your girl in the moonlight under the palms and whisper tenderly, aloha, it means "I love you." Roughly translated the many shades of meaning of aloha carries a general friendly, warm overtone.

Here are a few more words you may add to your Hawaiian vocabulary: Lei, a wreath of flowers; lanai, porch or veranda; luau, a feast; kamaaina, old-timer or long resident of the Islands, as opposed to malihini, a new arrival or tenderfoot. Aloha nui is a common greeting and pilikia means grief or trouble. Wahine means wife or woman, and kane means man or husband. Wai means water; kope, coffee; hokele, hotel and on and on.

The Hawaiian language is a very interesting study, and to add spice and interest to your visit to the new State (if you are ever so fortunate as to visit the Islands) you will no doubt pick up quite a few of the more commonly used Hawaiian words. But as the Hawaiians pride themselves on their English, don't overdo it. And if you use any Hawaiian words, be careful, get them right, for Hawaiians resent any mispronunciation of their language. Aloha — goodbye to you.

The Holy Ghost is come upon you . . . (Acts 1:8). Certainly this is the crying need of the Christian Church today: POWER. Indeed, we have everything else: beautiful buildings, inspiring music, impressive rituals, polished sermons, fine organization, good programs and well-oiled denominational machinery. But when it comes to accomplishing work for God that really counts, we are impotent, powerless. We add numbers to our church rolls, but I wonder how many we add to the Lamb's Book of Life? We build churches, but do we build lives? Our religion, I fear, is often like our beauty, only skin deep. Let the church speak out boldly on some moral issue, and the world will pay no attention whatever. Let some minister take a stand for Jesus Christ, and someone will come up to him and threaten to run him out of town if he doesn't shut up. Let a church take a stand against worldliness and compromise and



RAPID ADDITION—Hawaiian dancers Iwaoni Demena, left, and Meaoli Horoi, appearing in New York, pose with one solution to the problem of where to put the 50th star in Old Glory's field, now that Congress has voted approval of statehood for Hawaii. Star has been tacked at right, third row from bottom, to 49-star Alaskan-moist flag. More likely solution: five rows of 6 stars each, alternating with four rows of 5 stars each, but it's anybody's guess until an official commission rules on the flag's make-up.

half its members will quit in anger. In the midst of everything we have nothing. We are like a Cadillac that is out of gas: in the midst of all our finery and machinery we are powerless. And power will only come as individual Christians, like you and me, receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

Certainly we are a needy people. And the first step toward receiving anything from God is to realize our need, and our utter inability to meet that need. The second step is to believe that God is willing and able to meet our need. Jesus said, "If ye, then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" (Luke 11:13). Indeed, we are commanded, in Ephesians 5:18 to

Be filled with the Spirit." What must we do to be filled with the Holy Spirit? First of all, let it be understood that the Holy Spirit already indwells every believer (Romans 8:9). Being filled with the Spirit does not mean that we "get" the Spirit, for we already have Him. Neither does it mean we get more of Him: the Holy Spirit is a Person, not a substance; a He, not an it. Being filled with the Spirit means simply that the Holy Spirit receives more of us. We are filled with the Spirit when we yield full control of our lives to the indwelling Holy Spirit. We are filled with the Spirit when we

examine ourselves, empty ourselves of all that is contrary to the express will of God, and ask Him to fill us. The result of being filled with the Spirit is the power of God in our lives, to live and to serve Him. Jesus, fill now with Thy Spirit Hearts that full surrender know. That the streams of living water From the inner man may flow. Channels only, bled by Master. But with all Thy wondrous power Flowing through us, Thou canst use us Every day and every hour.

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"And when they had prayed the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the Word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:31). "But ye shall receive power, after

worldliness and compromise and

WISDOM of the Ages

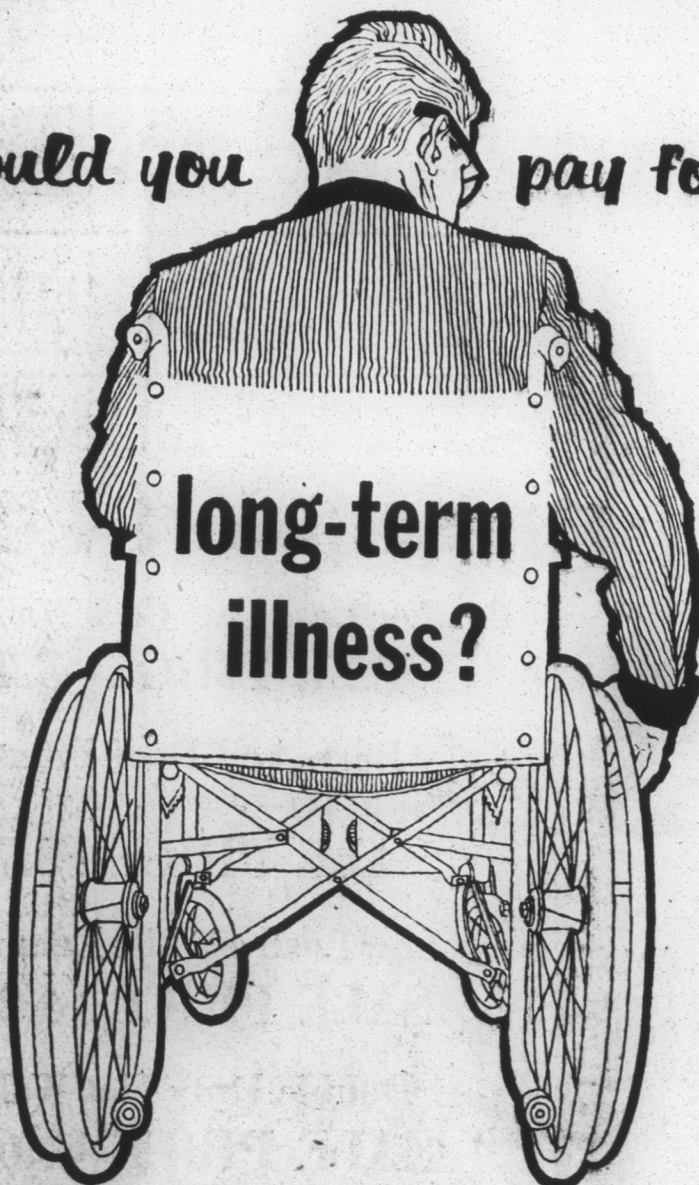


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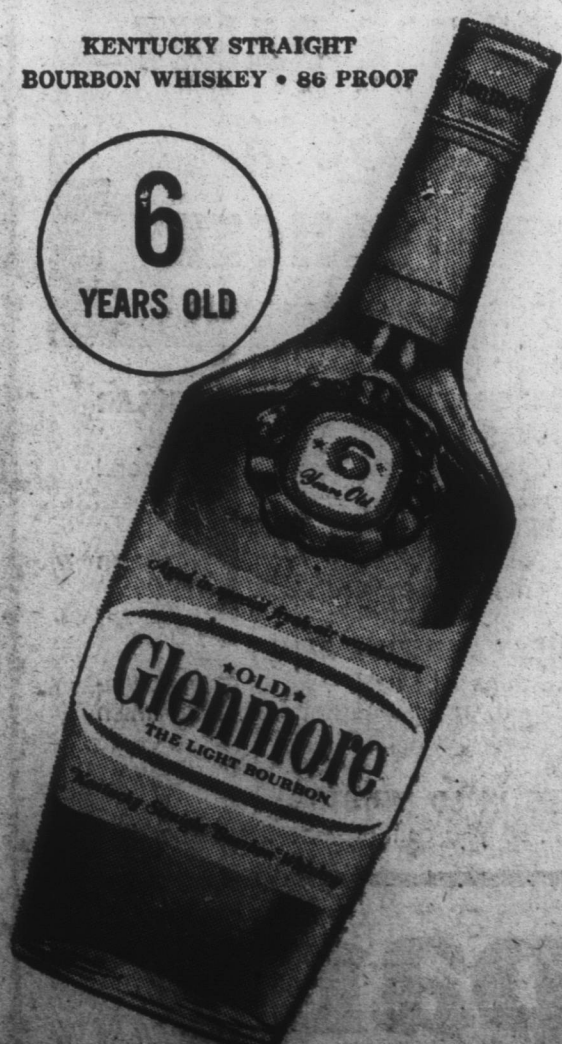


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