

Manoa History Project

Interview by Charles Bouslog

S. Lindley

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[Note: Mr. Lindley had just read the Robb/Vicars article on the Castle Home, in HJH XVI (1982), 171-183. References are made to it. Lindley brought with him a picture of student residents at the home.]

SL As a race biologist, Dr. Krause received a small stipend for research and couldn't have carried it on without living there. (Wilhelm W.) Krause was a bachelor from Austria. He was doing race biology here. He was going around measuring the results of inter-marriage between different races. This was a perfect laboratory for his work. But he was sponsored by some European foundation, given only a little bit. He got a little help from local people, but he would eat just bread and salt, and for one meal a day he'd go down to town to eat a twenty-five cent dinner.

CB What did he get for twenty-five cents?

SL Oh, you could get a full meal in Chinese restaurants in town. All the money he could spare, he spent for photographic materials to photograph those people. He photographed Marion (SL's Chinese wife) a lot and her family because he liked that, and he measured them all. He was writing a book, and Marion was typing for him. He has published that book since, and is in California as a professor with some University. but I haven't followed that. Now, another scientist there who wasn't mentioned in the article was named Valentine, and he's just as important as the ones that are mentioned.

CB These came out of only one issue of Pan-Pacific Magazine. That was just intended to be a sampler, not really everything they had.

SL I want to find that place where it said someone was living in the big house.

CB Well, that would come along later because they don't come in until after 1923 when the Pan-Pacific Union took possession.

SL Yes, that's right. One thing that wasn't mentioned here--of course, it's kind of a controversial thing--but the reason that the house was taken over again by the Castle family was that Pan-Pacific Union fell apart after the scandal over the Manchukuo issue in 1932. Manchukuo was set up by the Japanese in 1932, and the State Department of the United States refused to recognize it, so when about 1938, I don't know exactly when, they put out the Pan-Pacific Magazine issue on Manchukuo. It was in effect recognizing what the State Department refused to recognize! That was a mistake which of course made the directors of Pan-Pacific Union embarrassed, and the Pan-Pacific Union just broke up over that.

CB I don't think that is in Valerie Lloyd's book on Alexander Hume Ford.

SL Probably not, because Ford was away. Ann Satterthwaite was running the Pan-Pacific Union all that time. Ford wasn't here.

CB I always heard that Ann (the "cat woman") was the executive secretary who really ran it. Ford was never for detail.

SL She kept it going all the time he was gone. He was a great organizer, but he had to have somebody else carry on. So he came back in 1940, after the trouble was all over. But they

still had the big house. So what happened was that he showed up, you know, once again as the "great organizer". He was going to have a big one of these "Friday Evenings", with okra soup. So he organized it and invited all of his old friends to come up and have soup. I was helping serve that meal--soup, and these people--over a hundred people came--paid \$5 each for dinner, a good sum then. Of course, they did it out of loyalty to Alexander Ford. So I served the soup and then took away the plates. They kept expecting the main dish. That's it, he said, you want some more soup! He took the money he raised from that dinner and bought about 19 or 20 hot plates--waffle irons. He was going to have waffle breakfasts and raise some more money, but nobody came after that fiasco, and all his waffle irons just lay about without being used. Then the war came along soon after that, and he went to Maui to live with the Baldwins.

CB Well, no doubt the Castles were glad to get it back because the real estate value had gone way up, and there is an error there that was supposed to have been corrected, was marked, but never got taken out. In the very end, it says: For the last unit including the house, \$25,000 was paid. I went back and checked the newspapers on that. The Advertiser was the source. It did say \$25,000, but it is obvious when you look at the article that it's a garbled article, that some paragraph had been left out, and the \$25,000 may have been a down payment in lieu of \$250,000 or something, so I tried to, at the bottom of that page where it says \$25,000, to simply strike it out and leave it empty.

SL Yes, better than to be an error. It says here "policy of conservation no doubt."

CB That's the hint that the Castles wanted to get some money out of

it.

SL But "conservation" was also conservative politics because they didn't want Pan-Pacific in there any more after that bad name.

CB Well, I think it's too bad that the Manchukuo matter didn't get mentioned, but it certainly didn't occur to me from what I read.

SL I knew Ford, and I didn't have very much faith in him after that. I thought he was pretty well blown up, you know.

CB How old was he?

SL Oyer seventy. At that time he was about seventy-two, I think. I think he died a few years later, maybe four or five years.

CB He died in '45.

SL Yes, that would be five years later. He was going to grow grapes on Maui and start a winery, which I thought was far-fetched, but people are doing it there today.

CB He was a great starter of things, a true enthusiast.

SL To be able to convince Castle to turn over that home to him just on a spur of the moment, that shows his power.

CB Well, also, I don't know whether it's still there, but one of the footnotes hinted slightly that what Ford had in mind with Pan-Pacific Union, and what he was doing with it at its peak in the early 20's really, in bringing people from Australia and New Zealand, and Thailand, and Japan, and China, was what the East-West Center picked up on twenty years after his death. In a sense he was a forerunner in setting the atmosphere here for that, and certainly he was way ahead of his time on rights of women. In the early twenties, he had a conference of women from Asia here, on their role in government. Nobody else was doing

that sort of thing.

SL He was way ahead. There was one thing more. I'm not sure about how they got the three stories of height. The second story had only two bedrooms and one big bathroom. Anyway, how do they count the third floor? There was a big basement, then the main floor as he described it, then the second floor, they had the bedrooms, but "third floor" was only the attic with this one big den.

CB That's where you were, when first married?

SL Not married there, but went there after our wedding. We went on a honeymoon to Kaneohe and then lived there in the third-story tower room for the three months during the summer. Well, you would never know this den or garret was there. This was in the main house, not the stable/carriage building.

CB Oh, so you were the only one in the main house.

SL Yes, the only student. This is the tower in here, and this is all garret, you see. Here's the basement, then the first floor, then the second floor, so it says third floor, but actually this is the second, unless you call this basement the first floor.

CB Yes, depends, the European way. So this is what you mean when you speak of the garret.

SL The garret was huge and full of old stuffed animals and things.

Now, this mentions little houses put on here for the children. Those were all gone when I came, and there was a yardman's house, and up the hill a water tank to collect water from the rain and store it in a reservoir which the Castles had built.

(Now looking at photo on page 174.)

- SL Let's see if I can recognize the gardener.
- CB This looks like the luna here, the big man. Unfortunately, I just took back my big 8 x 10 glossies of this.
- SL Where did you get that?
- CB From Bishop Museum. Some of it from Robert Van Dyke.
- SL You've seen the picture they have enlarged of the Castle home at Paradise Park?
- CB Well, when you were there before the summer when you were in the garret, how long were you up there?
- SL Just one semester in the carriage house. That's where we all lived, and there was a cooperative. We had a dining room, and hired a cook, and John Akau was in charge of the place. You should see him now. He's running this little place by the University where they have a hostel, a youth hostel.
- CB I used to know him, but that was thirty years ago. He's one of the last Hawaiians in the valley still owning land that was acquired at the Mahele.
- SL Akau. This is his cousin, George Akau. He's been in responsible positions in the Board of Health.
- CB Did you go to the Castle place by bus?
- SL Yes. So, coming home at night, I would take the bus to the foot of Cooper Road, go up it, and then a stairway from Manoa Road right up, straight up, to the house, right past the porte-cochere, right up to the carriage house.
- CB Mrs. Vicars showed me where that stairway had been submerged in the land of someone who lives there and it shouldn't have been. It really was an easement.
- SL Once, this Hawaiian fellow, Peter something or other. He was

dead drunk. We had to carry him all the way up from the end of the bus line up to the house. He was heavy!

CB Yes. They were all in the barn. Let's mark that. Do you have a pencil on you?

SL Do you have any use for this photograph?

CB Well, yes, we'd like to have it, and maybe we can get some others. Now, the names you identify are John Akau and his cousin George Akau.

SL This man's name is John Han. He was a student from Korea. He was close to me. Peter something, I can't remember. Peter, it might come to me. I don't know if that's Chanderkant Kapadia. He was my good friend, and I think it is Chanderkant from India. This was the advisor. He was nice to us. He was a faculty advisor.

CB Who is that?

SL He had a German name, and that's all I can tell you. Maybe, I can find out. Now the interesting thing about this cooperative was that no more than 15% of any nationality could be a member. So I had to wait until they had space for another haole.

CB Who is that back there? He looks familiar.

SL I can't remember his name. These are haoles but they are from different countries, like Germany. This one is German.

CB So 15% was per country?

SL Yes.

CB That Ford. Wasn't he something.

SL Seems like it might be worth something to have.

CB Well, I was walking up the street from your house with the dog after I left this with you, and there was Clarence Glick doing

something, and he said, "Say, I saw an article on the Castle home", and I said, "What's your interest?" He said, "Oh, I used to go up there for lunch very frequently." He said, "I used to go up with Andrew Lynn", and he said, "I don't see any mention of Andy in here." I think the authors did not contact any of the University people who were involved.

SL Ray J. Baker was a strong supporter of the Pan-Pacific movement. He was always at the meetings.

CB Clarence Glick has just done a book on the Chinese in Hawaii, from the University Press. Well, get hold of that biography by Valerie Noble. It's not really very good because I knew things that she could have used but she didn't, and I'm scarcely to be described as a scholar on the subject.

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