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# THE VOLCANO LETTER

A Weekly news leaflet to the Hawaiian Volcano Research Association

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July 19, 1928

## KILAUEA REPORT No. 860

WEEK ENDING JULY 18, 1928

Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, U. S. Geological Survey  
R. M. Wilson, Temporarily in Charge

Conditions have not changed at Halemaumau. Rock-falls are infrequent, and steaming is slight.

The seismographs of the Volcano Observatory have recorded but seven earthquakes during the week ending July 18. This is the smallest number for any week since June, 1927.

Tilt has accumulated slightly toward the east.

## LASSEN REPORT No. 17

R. H. Finch, Associate Volcanologist

U. S. Forest Service Ranger W. J. Brokenshire and other Forest Service officials found a considerable quantity of lava in the top of a fir snag when it was felled during a forest fire in the latter part of May, 1928. The find was made on Sugarloaf Mountain near some fresh looking lava flows that are just to the east of Magee Peak. The lava specimens are covered with sulphate deposits, and some pieces contain charcoal. The snag, which appeared to have been dead for many years, was about 30 inches in diameter. A volcanic explosion may be offered as a possible explanation for the location of the lava specimens.

## THE PAVLOF VOLCANO EXPEDITION

In Volcano Letter No. 183, June 28, 1928, there were notes on the progress of the Pavlof Volcano Expedition of the National Geographic Society, based upon letters from Dr. Jaggar dated May 15 in Alaska. At that time the party was organized in camp, and work was just beginning.

Another letter dated June 13 has just been received telling of the exploration accomplished up to that time. The amphibious autoboat "Honukai" is proving itself most practical and useful. Its weight is about the same as the "Ohiki," but it is more protected against weather and does not leak. The experiments with the "Ohiki" of the Hawaiian Volcano Research Association (see Volcano Letters Nos. 156 and 165) here in Hawaii furnished experience which has proved of the utmost value in handling the "Honukai" in Alaska. The woven steel mats first used with the "Ohiki" are being used with the "Honukai" frequently and with great profit. These mats when placed under the wheels of the vehicle allow it to be taken over soft sand and muddy places without difficulty. The "Honukai" is

doing full duty both on land and water in hauling freight and passengers, firewood and camp material, in trolling for fish, and in bringing down from the foothills such game as is shot; Dr. Jaggar speaks of using five bullets to kill a 10-foot bear. As a boat it is not particularly fast, but has been found very seaworthy in heavy seas and in strong currents and tide rips, and has been found able to land successfully through fairly heavy surf. On land it is taken along the beaches and over the tundra quite easily. It makes excellent sleeping quarters for two men whether on land or on sea.

Mr. C. P. McKinley, the topographer furnished by the Geological Survey, had mapped 600 square miles of the mountain country on a scale of 1:180,000. He has used the mules to make topographic side trips up into the mountains. The rest of the party have been collecting and pressing plants and sea weeds, and at the time the letter was written had already taken about 150 excellent photographs.

Dr. Jaggar states that the geology of the region is very interesting. Some fossil leaves and shells have been found. A mountain north of Canoe Bay which is 4,300 feet in elevation has been identified as a new volcano. It has a large crater and a lake in its summit and Dr. Jaggar proposes to name it Dana Volcano.

The weather had so far been good, and on some days the temperature reached almost 70° in the sun. At that time of writing, the expedition was preparing to start on a somewhat pretentious overland trip with the "Honukai" across the foothill country on the east part of the Pavlof Bay-Bering Sea isthmus. The object was to get into a chain of lakes on the Bering Sea side.

It was expected that wild flowers would soon be out in great profusion. Specimens will be collected, and many color photographs will be taken. Already 1,500 feet of motion picture film have been taken and shipped out.

R. M. W.

## LAVA SLICKENSIDES

In the New Zealand Journal of Science and Technology, Vol. X, No. 1, May, 1928, is a brief description of an igneous dyke recently exposed in a quarry at Auckland. The faces of the dyke show striations, which were apparently formed when the mass was still soft, and was being forced up into the volcanic debris and scoria in which it was found. The writer suggests that had striated blocks from such a dyke been found in a talus deposit, or in less obviously associated surroundings, they might easily have been taken to be of glacial origin.

R. M. W.

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