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Hawaii offers an escape for Idaho Falls resident

By BEN J. PLASTINO

Post-Register columnist

The Hawaiian way is the way to go while snow and ice grip Idaho.

Hawaii is made up of eight islands situated far out in the Pacific. Only four are popular stopping places for vacationeers from the mainland. They include Oahu, where the capital Honolulu is located, the big island of Hawaii, Maui and Kauai.

There is also Molakai, but it is mostly bypassed and was once a leper colony.

A recent trip to Hawaii shows how the scenic and balmy islands have grown compared with 15 years ago

cal setting and huge plantations are located.

Along the coastlines are the blue and green waters of the Pacific. It offers some of the most beautiful scenery in the world. The warm sun sends temperatures soaring to the 70s and 80s. Perhaps comparable is the Amalfi coastlines south of Sorrento in southern Italy.

In Hawaii, there are, of course, the occasional rains, which keep the tropical trees and bushes in the green primeval state.

The steel and iron Capitol building is situated in the center of Honolulu, contrasting with the Tahitian,

cane plantations and factories have been severely crippled. That's due to the cheap labor in the Philippines and other far eastern countries able to grow and process pineapple and sugar cane at far cheaper prices. Many of the Hawaiian plantations and factories are now idle or reduced drastically from their former prosperous state.

Excellent airline flights are provided among the islands when tourists arrive at Honolulu International Airport.

On Oahu, of course is world-renowned Waikiki Beach. It is usually jammed with swimmers on the hot sands, anxious to get away from the ice and snow of the northern tier of states in America.

But there are many other attractions. They include Paradise Park with its exotic birds, Sea Life Park where fish perform acrobatic numbers, and Punchbowl National Cemetery where more than 7,000 veterans of the Pacific war are buried. Here, also, is the grave of the famous war correspondent, Ernie Pyle, who was killed in the last days of the war.

Then, there's Pearl Harbor for an inspiring look at the historic stronghold of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. Here is seen "battleship row," the sunken USS Utah, and the USS Arizona left in the wake of the Japanese attack Sunday morning, Dec. 7, 1941, which plunged America into World War II. More than 1,100 men are still entombed in the hull of the Arizona and 58 in the Utah. Memorials are located at both sunken ships, the Utah with overturned hull and the Arizona settled in 40-foot of water.

One of the outstanding attractions

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C-9

and during World War II. There are now four-lane highways, skyscrapers along famous Waikiki Beach and an increasing number of tourists.

There is one thing that is thankfully missing — billboards and advertising signs. These are prohibited in Hawaii except for modest unlighted signs set flush against buildings.

Honolulu at this time of the year is teeming with tourists, mostly from America.

The real Hawaii, however, can be best appreciated in the outlying islands rather than Oahu because that's where the lush greenery, tropi-

Hawaiian and Polynesian architecture of early days.

Hawaii, the 50th state, is now headed by Democrats. They include Gov. George Ariyoshi, a congenial executive who has appeared in many Western Governor's Conferences, including one in Sun Valley. There is also the congressional delegation of U.S. Sens. Daniel K. Inouye and Spark M. Matsunaga and Congressmen Cecil Heftel and Daniel K. Akaga.

The growing tourism industry saves Hawaii from economic disaster. That's because the once thriving industries of pineapple and sugar



Famous Waikiki Beach attracts many sun worshippers from around the world.

on Oahu is the Mormon-owned Polynesia Cultural Center, Mormon Temple and the BYU campus in Hawaii along the northern shore. There can be seen on the 42-acre plot of the Tongan, Tahitian, Samoan, Hawaiian, Fijian and Maori villages that have been built in exact duplications of their home islands.

A cast of some 150, most of them BYU students, perform the songs and dances of their islands to help retain the Polynesian culture.

On the island of Hawaii is the awesome view of the Volcano National Park. Here is seen Kilauea,

the world's most active volcano. At the nearby city of Hilo are seen the colorful Rainbow Falls and the Black Sand Beach. Also for view are forests of giant trees, ferns, lava tubes, steam vents and sulphur banks.

At Maui, in many ways perhaps the most beautiful of all the island, can be seen the Iao Needle. This is a volcanic freak which towers 1,200 feet above the valley floor. Adjacent is a rock cliff which carries a resemblance of President John Kennedy.

Also viewed are the sugar cane fields to the historic old whaling

town and first Royal Capital of the islands, Lahaina.

At Kauai is offered a pleasure cruise on the Wailua river. Not far on the western shore is the Waimea Canyon, which is three quarters of a mile deep. Also on the island is Wailula Falls where some scenes of "South Pacific" were filmed.

Offered are the many luaus, with their shows of Hawaiian dances and songs that lend a festive air.

Such a trip, indeed, is a soothing cure from the winter blues of eastern Idaho.