



# update 81

Polynesian Cultural Center

## Souvenir Issue Feb. 1981



**Prophet Embraces Spirit of Laie**

## viewpoint vernice

*On walking with kings without losing the common touch.*

We who work here at the Center treat our guests as VIP'S. It matters nothing to us what their station in life is back in thier home towns, for, as long as they are among us, gospel-style, they are "important persons." This weekend we felt honored to have President Spencer W. Kimball in our community. We saw him, as always, as the VIP whom we wanted to treat with perfect kindness, courtesy, and love.

Hopefully, we were there when he spoke and heard his precise comments on life's priorities. Perhaps we were of those who found ourselves in the back of the crowd, so far away that the larger men surrounding him dwarfed his entrances and exits. We were probably not numbered among those who sat with him in closed meetings and who enclosed him with their care at public appearances. We may not have had the privilege of seeing his ready smile nor even the distant wave of his hand. We most certainly were not the recipients of his Christ-like kisses or embrace.

For his part, President Kimball wanted to visit us without fanfare. He wanted to enjoy our performances without any special accomodation. He wanted to meet and speak with us without restriction, and wherever possible, he insisted on doing just that. It isn't difficult to recognize him as a prophet who can walk with kings without losing the common touch. Perhaps this is because he knows each of us as sons and daughters of the king of all. Our heritage of godhood makes us all VIP's in his sight. He treats each of us equally, knowing that each of us is of royal birth, and hoping that we will walk tall in that heritage.

His example is clear to all of us. Can we treat each other any less? Are we able to see the divinity in each other as we work and grow, learn, and progress together? Do we make distinctions with each other -- counting some as VIP's and others as not? Do we go out of our way to be courteous to those with "important" jobs and ignore those we consider unimportant? What job is not important in the Lord's church that the Center represents?

Scripture teaches us that "inasmuch as ye do it unto the least of these my brethren, ye do it unto me." When we treat individuals with charity, with kindness and compassion, with perfect courtesy, putting their needs and desires at a priority, we are fulfilling the scripture. We know how it feels to want to do this, for it is the way we wanted to see President Kimball treated while he was with us. It is the way we each treated him in our hearts -- even if we sat in the back of Stake Conference and were never able to be near him. It was the gifts in our hearts that we brought to him which tell of our devotion. It was our deep personal concern for his health and well-being. It was the prayer for his safety we uttered on our knees on that stormy Sabbath morning as we individually prepared ourselves for Stake Conference.

Inasmuch as we found these feelings in our hearts, we offered, them to both President Kimball and the Lord. President Kimball may not have been aware of the embraces we would have liked to give, the touch we would have offered, the flowers we would have gifted. We were not able to, for sound reasons, but in desiring these things we gifted them anyway, and true to scripture, the Lord accepted them, for "the Lord looketh on the heart."

May the great reverence we felt for President Kimball govern our dealing with each other, and may we, like him, recognize the royalty of each other's birth, for we are all VIP's in the sight of our Lord and Father. Therefore, let us, with perfect courtesy, assist each other in walking tall in our heritage, for we are sons and daughters of God who are brothers and sisters of a royal family. If we can accomplish this, we too, like our great prophet, will be able to walk with kings without losing the common touch.





Olive Mack daughter of Pres. and Sis. Kimball



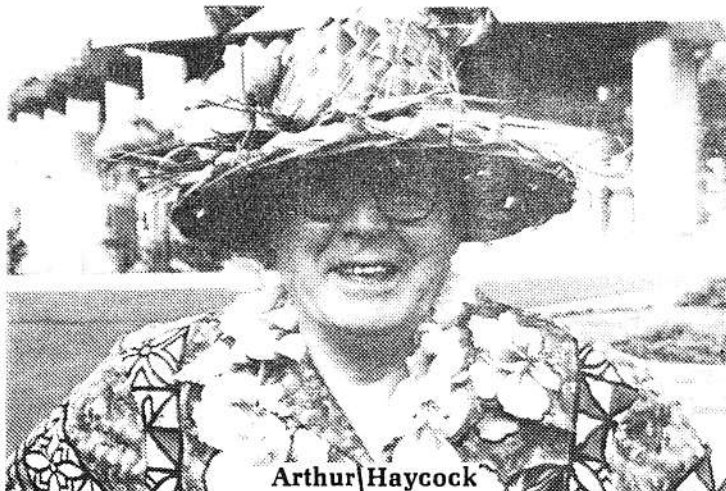
Camilla Kimball wife of Prophet



Hinckleys wave from PCC cart.



Elder Packer addressing audience.



Arthur Haycock  
Getting into the Aloha Spirit! Former Hawaii Mission  
President now secretary to President Kimball.



Elder Boyd K. Packer