

# BEACH BOULEVARD SCHEME OF BOARD IS TALK OF TOWN

Cost While High Would Come  
Back To Territory Business  
Men Think

(Concluded from Page 9)

and they retain it in their possession. Brighton Beach in England is known all over the world as a playground for the people. Under the law no individual is allowed to encroach upon the public domain, and the mere suggestion that any person could take for himself any part of it, as has been done in Honolulu, would be laughed at.

In the meantime, the Territory is confronted with the immediate task of forcing propertyowners along Waikiki beach to remove the many obstructions to travel up and down the beach. That the board of harbor commissioners has the authority to order such obstructions removed, and to enforce its orders, there appears to be no question, notwithstanding the strange reluctance of the attorney-general's department to go on record in the premises.

## New York Clears Beach

As related in The Advertiser yesterday, the authorities of New York a few months ago forced the removal of the countless bathhouses, pavilions and other buildings at Coney Island that projected out over high tide and obstructed travel along the beach. And they didn't have merely a few picket fences, concrete retaining walls and a couple of illegal bathhouses to remove, as is the case in Honolulu. Many of the structures were large and costly and huge sums of money were involved. But the New York authorities didn't wait for a procrastinating Governor to make up his mind what was to be done, nor did they listen for a moment to the clamorous objections of the propertyowners concerned. They said the obstructions must be removed, and removed they were.

At Brighton, New York, the great Brighton hotel had a pavilion extending out over the water. It started above high tide and did not in reality prevent travel up and down the beach. But the supporting piles interfered to some extent with bathers. The expensive pavilion was ordered down—and it came down.

Similar action was taken in Massachusetts at all the resorts along the coast. At Nantasket, for instance, every pavilion, every bathhouse and every other structure that extended beyond high water mark was removed by order of the authorities. The same thing happened at all the other Massachusetts beach resorts.

And yet the attorney general's department of Honolulu can't express an opinion as to whether or not the board of harbor commissioners, which has control of the entire waterfront of all the islands, has the authority to order removed a picket fence which blocks travel up and down the beach!

## Board's Mind Made Up

But the board of harbor commissioners has made up its mind that Waikiki beach shall be restored to the people, picket fence or no picket fences, and its scheme goes far beyond removing existing obstructions. It is expected that before the end of the week the conference proposed to be held with the Governor to talk over the project advanced by Commissioner Wakefield will be held and a definite line of action outlined.

The commissioners have already a nucleus from which to work. In addition to the public baths, which are territorial property under the care and management of the city, there are Ewa of the Cunha property at Waikiki, six lots on the beach which belong to the Territory. At present they are under lease, but the leases expire in 1919, and the last legislature passed a bill making them upon the expiration of the leases, part of Kapiolani park. That will bring the park down to the sea in two places.

Acting Superintendent of Public Works and chairman of the harbor board Wilbur C. Woodward said yesterday that he was enthusiastically in favor of the project suggested by Commissioner Wakefield and would do everything in his power to help it along. It is known that the sentiments of Charles R. Forbes, superintendent of public works and chairman of the harbor board are in favor of projects of similar nature and it is expected that upon his return from his trip to the mainland he will enter heartily into the advancement of the proposition.