

# FINDS BRIDGE IS NOT SUITABLE TO IMPROVEMENTS

## Collins Writes Letter Showing Need of \$10,000 Structure on Kalakaua Avenue

That the bridge over Apukehau stream which flows between the Moana hotel and the Outrigger Club is in poor condition and unfitted for the permanent construction which will be put over it in the paving of Kalakaua avenue and although not exactly unsafe at present is likely to be in the future, is the startling information contained in a letter from George Collins, city and county engineer, to the board of supervisors.

Collins' letter announcing the poor condition of the bridge says in part:

"The abutments are in poor condition and consist for the large part of irregular coral blocks of various sizes neatly pointed up on the stream face.

"Although there is no evidence at present of any failure, it is a very easy matter to work these blocks loose. The present type of construction is altogether unsuited to the permanent character of work being done on Kalakaua avenue. The bridge proper spans a distance of 25 feet and is a monolithic structure.

"Although the concrete along the bottom of 15 of the girders has fallen away from the reinforcement the bridge shows no sign of failure. It cannot, however, be considered a permanent structure.

"The reconstruction of this bridge will involve the expenditure of about \$10,000 and I would recommend such expenditure be made if the funds are available. If not it will be necessary to leave joints at such distance from the abutments as to permit reconstruction at some future date. The cost of concrete pavement which will be destroyed in this event will be about \$300.

"The only argument against reconstruction is that the plans for the reclamation of Waikiki swamps which include the diversion of the stream at some point mauka of Kalakaua avenue would make a bridge at this locality unnecessary."