Hawaii Worries Flag-Makers

By REED MARTIN

Although Alaska and Hawaii has been recently received into statehood with great celebration and applause, no one seems to have considered the practical problems, that this expansive outburst will cause. Consider, for example, the map of the United States.

Pregnant Trapezoid?
School children until now have drawn the "48" as a slightly pregnant trapezoid. Now those without the gift of spatial relations will be shamed as they incorrectly estimate the position of our 50th state in the vast expanse of the Pacific ocean.

Not only will the pseudo-patriot have to locate these sunken volcano tops, but he will have to know their names: Oahu, Aloha, Buenos Noches, Hula, and Harry Bridges.

Think Of The Mapmaker
And consider the mapmaker and the quadrupled paper expense from doubling map size north to include Alaska, and doubling westward for Hawaii. These problems could of course be solved by a map insertion in place of some insignificant state like California.

And The Flagmakers
A greater problem faces flagmakers. Imagine the man who has sunk all of his money into a get-rich-quick scheme of being the first producer of 49-starred flags. Of course, in a few years these flags may be worth money as collectors' items.

Puerto Rico Too?
However it is just as risky to produce flags with 50 stars as it was to produce those with 49, for now Puerto Rico is auditioning for a guest spot as state-of-the-week. Many suggestions have been made for the new flag pattern. How about 49 stars clustered around a pineapple, or 50 stars on a field of sugar cane spelling out Aloha?

Long and Thin
The plan for a long thin flag with 50 stars in a straight line has been definitely rejected. Probably the best idea is to keep the present flag and sell extra regulation size and weight white stars suitable for pinning. This is flagmaking with a future.

The Frontier: Where?
Several problems on a more practical level have occurred. The story of the passing of the Great American frontier will now have to be revised. On quiz shows, no longer will Penasse, Minnesota be the most northern point of the United States.

Scrap The Songs
And all those songs with lines like "in all the forty eight" will have to be scrapped unless something suitable rhymes with "in all the fifty." Of course there will be merging of private investments previously unheard of. Grass-off weed killer will threat-