Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN - - - - - - - - - - EDITOR

TUESDAY ..... NOVEMBER 26, 1912.

The smallest act of charity shall stand us in great stead.—Atterbury.

SIMPLIFYING CITY GOVERNMENT

A good deal of the talk of "educating the electorate up to commission government," we fancy, is indulged in by people who have themselves only the vaguest idea of what municipal commission government is. When Governor Frear some weeks ago announced that he would propose commission government for Honolulu in his message to the legislature, there were plenty of well-educated and intelligent haoles in this community who seemed to think that Frear meant an appointive commission, and that in some mysterious way the inauguration of this form of government was the beginning of "control by Washington."

It was well brought out last night at the dinner where the governor outlined his plans, that a more efficient government in Honolulu will be the vital factor in averting control of affairs here "by Washington," or by a military commission.

If there is much dissatisfaction in a survey of the last four years of municipal administration here, there is the satisfaction of knowing that as a whole the citizens have come closer and closer to the point of thinking for themselves and not in terms of party bosses or political catch-words. If county government in Honolulu has had it since 1905, has done nothing else, it has tended to teach every citizen that the mistakes and the waste in public affairs directly concern him and directly injure him and his business. He has learned that there is a direct connection between waste or inefficiency and poor roads, between laxity and poor policing; between factional politics carried into city administration and delay in effecting public improvements. And this knowledge gained through bitter experience is the preliminary to active participation in government by every citizen. Touch the citizen's pocket so that he feels it, and he will manifest his sentiments at the polls.

As to educating "up to" commission government: The short-ballot system, or government by an elective board or commission, is much simpler than Honolulu's present form of government. It is the simplest municipal government yet devised, for it puts responsibility in a few hands and concentrates powers and duties. It is as obvious as building a stone wall block upon block. Its fundamentals are easily grasped. The basis of commission government for cities can be expressed in one sentence: government of cities by a small elective board which shall handle the city's business, with the aid of such assistants as this board may appoint to handle detail.

The main "education" needed is to sweep away the false, the misleading, idea that government by commission takes away control of governmental affairs by the people. The principal misconception that seems to have existed in Hawaii is that this "commission" is a strange and probably hostile body of men whose interests are not tied up in Honolulu's interests.

The unanswerable truth is that every advocate of commission government for Honolulu who has raised his voice since this issue arose, believes in electing the board from the sterling men we have right here in this community,—men that we all know, and respect, and admire. This commission would be made up of men who have lived their lives in Honolulu and whose homes and business are here, and they would be more responsive to the wishes of the people than any supervisor, any mayor, any other public official Honolulu has had in office since county government began.

WHY NOT STIR UP THE MEN IN OFFICE?

The president of the Inter-Church Federation takes issue with the Star-Bulletin because this paper urged that territorial and municipal authorities who have to deal with the enforcement of law and order ought to be given an opportunity to meet with the other invited citizens of Honolulu who will gather in massmeeting next Sunday night to discuss the prevalence of crimes against women and children. The Star-Bulletin did not, as Bishop Restarick seems to think, urge that the public officers be "examined", but that they be counseled with. If the laxity in office is so plainly recognized that a massmeeting is called, is it not true that the people who need stirring up are the men in office as well as the men out of office? The very aim of the massmeeting ought to be to arouse the public authorities as well as the citizens.

The trouble with too many of the sincere movements for public good in this city is that they are not carried directly home to the public authorities. There is a meeting, committees are appointed, desultory meetings are held, after months of delay a report is forthcoming. In the meantime, public attention has gone on to something else. The whole effect of the original movement is lost. That has too often been the history of Honolulu's citizen activities.

The time to bring the gravity of the situation home to the men charged with enforcing the laws is next Sunday night, when the massmeeting is held. Personal contact with the earnest men and women of this city will stimulate active work as no committee report two weeks or two months from this time will do.

We are all agreed on what we want; there is no difference of opinion on that score. Let's have frank discussion of how to get it, without rancor if we do not all agree on detail. It is a work for all of our best efforts,—this work of so governing a great city that it is clean and wholesome and safe and guarded to the darkest alley and the outermost street.

CLEWS IS OPTIMISTIC

Optimistic Mr. Henry Clews, who can find larger silver linings in darker clouds than almost any critic of national and international finance, thus comments on the tariff situation in his latest bulletin:

> In two weeks Congress will reassemble. It will be but a short session, and no important legislation affecting business is to be expected. The business world has had enough of "trust-busting" and "tariff-smashing." Reform may be necessary in both these directions, but it should come gradually and not violently. Systems and tendencies which have been at work for years cannot be overturned in a day without injury to all concerned. Some effort may be attempted at banking reform, which, if carried out on sound and non-sensational lines, should be encouraged. We have had altogether too much trifling with banking institutions for political effect, and the sooner our politicians learn the danger of playing with credit the better for all concerned. Nothing is more sensitive than credit. The tariff problem will, of course, remain for adjustment by the incoming administration. President-elect Wilson has not yet announced his decision as to the calling of a special session. He is wisely waiting for the consensus of public opinion on this subject. In all probability the balance will be largely in favor of reasonably prompt action. Nothing so embarrasses merchants and manufacturers as uncertainty. Tariff revision is a certainty, hence manufacturer and merchant alike desire to know when and how far revision will go. If Mr. Wilson's wishes are obeyed revision will be moderate and of a character least disturbing to established industry.

Here is the Democratic party's position on the tariff, and the reader may while away a dull hour by searching it for "free sugar". It may be the hot spot will be found at "articles entering competition with trust-controlled articles":

"We favor the immediate downward revision of the existing high and in many cases prohibitive tariff duties, insisting that material reductions be speedily made upon the necessaries of life. Articles entering into competition with trust-controlled products and articles of American manufacture which are sold abroad more cheaply than at home should be put upon the free list.

"We denounce the action of President Taft in vetoing the bills to reduce the tariff in the cotton, woolen, metals and chemical schedules and the farmers' free list bill, all of which were designed to give immediate relief to the masses from the exactions of the trusts."

Some of the Democrats who are trying to force Fire Chief Thurston out of office because he happens to be a Republican, would have been enlightened last night at the men's league dinner had they heard the burst of applause from men of all shades of political belief when Thurston's good work was commented upon in the course of discussion of city conditions.

"If we have a good charter act before the legislature, don't allow any butting-in by outsiders with an axe to grind," is the sound advice in pungent English given by W. T. Rawlins at the Men's League dinner last night. In other words, keep the lobbyists where they belong—out of the capitol building.

Some of our worried holders of sugar stock act as if they are afraid there isn't going to be a war in Europe.

What we would like to know is whether it is going to be charter revision downward!

Apparently the supervisors are going to cut everybody's salary but their own.

Taft's gout is now offset by Wilson's indigestion.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

SECRETARY MOTT-SMITH (on being asked when he will be able to get out of office)—Only God, Taft and Frear know!

GOVERNOR FREAR — Commission government for Honolulu would give the people more direct control of their public officials than they have now.

H. GOODING FIELD—Chief Thurston runs his department without any politics interfering with its efficiency, and it is absurd to talk of ousting him because of his political affiliations.

M. T. SIMONTON—There is a difference between bravery and foolhardiness. I thought some of the firemen at the Lemon lane fire last night exposed themselves to danger unnecessarily.

T. J. RYAN—It may be called "Tammanyizing Honolulu" if you please, but any Democratic member (elect) of the board of supervisors who votes for retaining Fire Chief Thurston will be remembered along about next convention time in a way that will not do him much good. Thurston acted the part of an offensive Republican partizan in the late election and the Democratic party can get along without his services.

C. F. MERRILL—Sir Thomas Lipton claims that the boat he must build to stand the Atlantic trip and carry insurance is not such a racing machine as can be constructed by the New York Yacht Club, which will have no 2000-mile stretch of sailing and possibly heavy weather to contend with before the race. Can Sir Thomas give any good reason why he cannot have the challenger built in America or Canada? He might bring over his own builders, and, besides, the majority of the material used in construction comes from this side of the pond.

PERSONALITIES

MRS. H. G. NOONAN was numbered among the returning passengers in the Matson Navigation liner Wilhelmina.

A. M. NEWELL of the Sugar Fators Company with Mrs. Newell were passengers from the coast in the Matson Navigation steamer Wilhelmina.

W. W. CRIBBINS, who recently visited Honolulu and during his stay addressed the Honolulu Ad Club, has been elected president of the Oakland Advertising Club.

H. J. HOLMES of H. Hackfeld & Company, accompanied by Mrs. Holmes, returned from an extended trip to the mainland this morning. They were passengers in the Matson liner Wilhelmina.

MR. AND MRS. J. R. WAKEFIELD, from the mainland where several months were spent on business and pleasure, are back as passengers in the liner Wilhelmina. They arrived from the coast this morning.

MR. AND MRS. P. C. BEAMER, of Hilo, having completed an extended tour of the mainland, including the eastern cities, returned to the islands today as passengers in the Wilhelmina. Mr. and Mrs. Beamer will depart for Hilo in the Kilauea tomorrow morning.

MR. AND MRS. W. D. TENNEY, who have been absent from the islands for a number of months, returned as passengers in the Matson Navigation steamer Wilhelmina this morning. Mr. Tenney looked after his many and varied business interests while away.

BLANKET BALLOT EVILS

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir:—Apropos of the lucid and forcible exposition of so-called Commission Charters for city governments, given by Governor Frear before the Men's League of Central Union Church, I ask you to give space for the following from the New York Nation, of Nov. 14th.

M. M. SCOTT.

"A marked feature of the election was the widespread embarrassment caused by the 'big' ballot. Voters from the Atlantic to the Pacific were confused and impeded in the registration of their choice by ballots both unwieldy and puzzling. In Pennsylvania eleven party tickets helped to swell the ballot to proportions which gorged the boxes long before the polls closed. Mayor Blankenburg of Philadelphia, who voted about midday, was forced to 'stuff' the box by the judicious use of a poker. In Chicago the ballot was said to be the largest ever voted anywhere. In the state of Washington the official paper measured no less than thirty by forty inches; and the fact that thirty-eight measures were presented for the ratification of the people of Oregon, in addition to the names of national, state, and local candidates, necessitated a huge ballot in that commonwealth also. Indeed, it was but a slight exaggeration for one of our Chicago contemporaries to remark that the problem of the voter was to get himself and his ballot into the booth at the same time. The evils of such a condition are manifest. There is ground for hope, however, that the extent of the annoyance this year may prove an effective argument for the short ballot in the future."

SEE THE VALUE OF DENIO TELEPHONE ALARM

That the DENIO TELEPHONE FIRE ALARM Company, which was incorporated in October and which is at present installing its system of fire protection and notification in this city is to be added to the list of successful business operation in the Territory is a well assured fact. This is proven by the following partial list of prominent citizens who have signed contracts for the installation of the system in their places of business or residences.

The installation of this system of fire protection in this city will prove of great mutual benefit to all citizens, and should be a decisive wedge in the cause of lower rates of insurance for those having the installation on their property.

The operation of the alarm being handled by the Mutual Telephone Company gives the subscribers to the system ample proof that the efficiency will be maintained at a high standard while the business of the Territory as a whole being handled by prominent citizens who are interested in the company, financially assures both the stockholders of the company, and the subscribers of the installation of a SYSTEM that will be operated HONESTLY in every way.

A. N. Campbell, 1616 Pilkoi St.; W. R. Farrington, 1807 Anapuni St.; F. E. Steere, Beckwith St., College Hills; T. H. Hughes, 768 Kinau St.; Gustave Rose, 1067 Likelike St.; Oliver Lansing, 1261 Laukahi St.; F. C. Atherton, College Hills, T. Odo, No. 20 School St.; S. Shoba, Kalihi Road, mauka; Hawaii Shinpo Sha, 1020-4 Smith St.; H. Hamano, Smith & King Sts.; K. Yamamoto, 6th Ave.; City Mill Co.; Kekaulike St.; Kurakami Store, 32-34 Hotel St.; Fred L. Waldron, College Hills; Fong Inn, 1153 Nuuanu St.; Warehouse and shipping; Honolulu Iron Works, shop, Kakaako; C. Hedemann, 601 N. Judd St.; Nippu Jiji Co., Hotel St.; T. Ah Moi, 1237 Nuuanu St.; Dr. T. Mitamura, 50 N. Vineyard; Hustace Villa, Waikiki Beach; Waikiki Inn, Waikiki; Mark P. Robinson, 2261 Nuuanu St.; J. Lawrence Robinson, 52 Robinson Lane; F. O. Boyer, 1618 College St.; Mrs. R. M. Allen, 1041 Alakea St.; Honolulu Jap. Sake Brewing Co., Booth road, Pauao; Market Hardware Co., 191-3 King St.; Ching Shai, 24 Beretania St.; Seiseido Drug Co., 195 Hotel St.; T. Iwanaga, R. 1471 Christley Lane, Fort St.; S. Kimura & Co., 1152 Nuuanu St.; H. L. Kerr, Pacific Heights; C. Q. Yee Hop & Co., 135 King St.; C. Q. Yee Hop, Beretania opp. Smith; Sun Yin Wo, 1122 Smith St.; Sing Loy Co., 316 Beretania St.; Kwong Chong Lung, King & Maunakea St.; Sheu Hung Co., 142 King St.; C. Apau & Co., 146 King St.; J. K. Rocha, 1142 3rd Ave., Kaimuki; Nagao Store, 215 King St.; Narumiya Store, 235 King St.; M. Obta, 636 Hotel St.; W. F. Frear, 1424 Punahou St.; S. Toshima, Hotel & Smith Sts.; J. Yamanaka, 50 Hotel St.; Mrs. Julia H. Afong, Nuuanu & School; Mrs. Julia H. Afong, Nuuanu Valley; Albert F. Afong, Nuuanu Ave.; Mrs. S. E. Halstead; 1634 Makiki St.; Mrs. L. B. Evans, 1030 S. King St.; Y. Ishii, 53 N. Vineyard St.; Japanese Charity Hospital, 1529 Liliha St.; Dr. I. Kasuki, 1326 Keeaumoku St.; K. Matsumoto, Moiliili, nr. baseball park; Dr. K. Haida, Beretania, nr. Aala; Rev. J. Imamura, 1429 Fort St.; D. Yonekura, 1057 Beretania St.; R. W. Shingle; W. C. Peacock, 88 Merchant St.; Dr. M. Asahina, 1474 Nuuanu St.; Rev. G. Motokawa, King & Kalakaua Ave.; R. Niki, 729 King St.; Kapiolani Est., Ltd., King & Alakea; John F. Colburn, 1062 Kinau St.; B. Hayashi Store, 168 Beretania St.; Aala Saloon, Beretania & River Sts.; Hong Kee & Co., 1039 Aala St.; W. G. Lee, 372 E. Lelea Lane; Kiushuya Hotel, Aala, nr. Beretania; Yorozuya Store, 136 Beretania St.; Oliver G. Lansing, 119 Bates St.; Sanitary Steam Laundry, Kawaihao, Wright, Hustace, Ltd., King St.; J. A. Cummins, Alexander & Bingham; Geo. C. Beckley, 1523 Beretania St.; W. D. Alexander, 1508 Punahou St.; Chas. H. Atherton, 706 Kingsley; A. L. Castle, A. C. Montgomery, The Villa, 1269 Fort St.; A. C. Montgomery, Nau Tree Hotel, Waikiki; American Brokerage Co., Ltd.; 93-95 King St.; Manufacturer's Shoe Co., Ltd., 1051 Fort St.; Chas. C. L. Hommedieu, 15th Ave. & Palolo; A. Henry Afong, cor. Beretania & Artesian; E. A. Douthitt, 1020 13th Ave.; Honolulu Wire Bed Co., Ltd., 1252-60 Alapai St.; Lorrin K. Smith, 2847 Lower Manoa Road; Honolulu Cracker Co., 108 N. King St.; F. B. Damon, 1536 Thurston St.; F. B. Damon, 1536 Thurston St.; River Mill Co., 163 Pauahi St.; Territory Stables, W. Collman, 548 S. King St.; H. B. Giffard, 1731 Keeaumoku St.; Hustace Peck Co., Kewalo; W. Larsen, cor. 8th & Palolo.—Advertisement.

Army and Navy Headquarters. Special rates at the "Pleasanton Hotel," cor. Wilder and Punahou.—advertisement.

For Sale

MANOA—Residence Lot 22,500 sq. ft. $2250
NUUANU—40,000 sq. feet in the upper, cool part of the valley $1750
OCEAN VIEW—Modern Home with all conveniences $8500
ANAPUNI ST.—Modern 1½ story house $4500
New Bungalow $4850
YOUNG ST.—Residence lot, 12981 sq. ft $2,000
PAWAA—Modern 1½ story house $4500
AULD LANE—3-Bedroom House and lot $1750
PACIFIC HEIGHTS—Choice Home $8000
COLLEGE STREET—3 Bedroom House and 2-Bedroom Cottage $6,000
OCEAN VIEW—Several choice lots, also acreage—cheap

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The Thanksgiving Dinner Suggests

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Other suggestions are:

Handsome Carving Sets

Coffee Percolators

Sheffield and Sterling Vegetable Dishes and Platters

Sterling and Cut Glass Candle Sticks

WICHMAN'S
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Snow to the depth of 16 inches has already fallen in certain parts of France.

There is some talk of holding the ninth Vanderbilt Cup race on Long Island.

Houses For Rent

Furnished

Tantalus .....
Kaimuki .....
Kahala Beach $50.00
Nuuanu Avenue .....
Pacific Heights .....
College Hills .....
Waikiki .....

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Pua Lane .....
Waipio .....
Wilder Avenue $55.00, $60.00,
Kaimuki $15.00, $20.00,
Ala Moana and Ena Rds. .....
College Hills .....
Kalihi ..... $ 6.00, $12.00,
Alewa Heights .....
Pawaa Lane .....
King Street .....
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You may consider yourself lucky if you are invited to Kaimuki for Thanksgivingg dinner. The cold, bracing air reminds you in every way of Thanksgiving Day "at home." The turkey seems better, the apples look redder and the plum pudding tastes sweeter.

We have the following property for sale in this district:

House and two lots, Palolo Hill $3500.00
House and two lots, Wilhelmina Rise $2500.00
House and lot, Park Ave., Kaimuki $2600.00
House and lot, Sixth Ave., Kaimuki $2700.00
3 lots, cor. Kaimuki and Eighteenth Ave. $1450.00
Claudine Ave. lots ..... $ 400.00
Lot on Palolo Hillside ..... $ 550.00

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