

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

THURSDAY MARCH 27, 1913

Our country's welfare is our first concern.—
Havard.

LET HAWAII COME FORWARD!

Hawaii's heart has been touched—where is Hawaii's pocketbook?

The Star-Bulletin today opens a fund for the relief of the uncounted thousands who are victims of tornado, flood and fire in the stricken middle western and southern states. Two contributions of five dollars each opened the fund this morning. Two men, one a victim of San Francisco's fire, one a native of Ohio,—that state upon which the full fury of the disaster has fallen,—came to the Star-Bulletin office today. Letters and telephone calls already had urged this paper to open a subscription list. And the fund is opened.

As soon as arrangements can be made, details of the handling of the fund will be announced. Now, Hawaii, it is up to you—up to your known generosity in any righteous cause!

President Wilson has asked the nation for assistance. Governor Cox of Ohio has appealed to the president and congress for federal aid. The residents of a hundred ravaged cities and a thousand torn and ruined towns and villages cry aloud for relief. The need is gigantic. Will there be response?

Every dollar helps in this cause, and every dollar will be forwarded at once.

The people of this territory have given thousands for famine and flood victims in India or in China; thousands for missionary work in foreign lands; a few months ago some \$2500 was raised for Duke Kahanamoku and the purchase of a house and lot for the swimming champion now being completed. Hawaii is ever at the front in time of need.

Cities and towns and communities all over the United States are responding to the call for help for the states in dire distress. Our own flesh-and-blood is suffering today. What is the response?

THE NEXT STEP—BETTER AUDITING SYSTEM

The fight for complete and untrammeled investigation of Hawaii county's financial tangle was won, so far as action in the legislature is concerned, when the lower house passed the Senate Bill 78 yesterday afternoon.

It was a hard fight, a hot fight. The Star-Bulletin, while consistently supporting the senate bill and arguing against serious amendment of it, is not among those who captiously criticize the seven representatives who finally voted against the bill. In common with the great majority of the people, we give these gentlemen credit for sincerity in their attitude, for belief that the bill should be amended. Dr. Irwin's amendments were presented, we are disposed to believe, in good faith. But the emergencies of the situation seemed to demand speedy action on the bill, and, taking into account all considerations, this paper feels that the house did a wise thing in passing the bill virtually as it came from the senate and thereby checking possible disagreement with the upper house.

There should not be any bitterness among the factions that fought with such lively interest yesterday. For the work of straightening out county financial affairs has just begun, and it is a work in which is needed all the intelligence and determination shown on both sides in the late battle of wits and forces. This work means reconstruction of the financial systems of all the counties,—Honolulu as well as Hawaii. It means reconstruction of some phases of the territorial accounting system. The ideal to be attained is that of complete cooperation between territorial and county government in a model system of bookkeeping and handling of funds.

Few businessmen of this territory, we venture to say, realize the laxity, the lack of business system, with which Hawaii county affairs have been carried on. The Audit Company of Hawaii, in its report to the senate hold-over committee, said:

"As the auditor does not appear to be responsible to anyone for the performance of his duties and is not required to make a report to anyone as to whether, or to what extent, he has checked the treasurer's books, there is no means provided for ascertaining whether or not there has been a proper administration of the funds of the county if the auditor neglects his duties.

"We consider that the auditor's duty (as his name implies) should be to audit and check the administration of the county affairs. Under the present system, the auditor is really one of the bookkeepers in the county office and the county disbursing officer, the treasurer being the depositary of the county funds. There is nothing except the honesty of the

men in charge to prevent a similar condition of affairs as found by us on Hawaii existing in the offices of the territory and also of the other counties."

And right in that last sentence there is pointed out the vital reason why the legislature of 1913 must provide a new system.

The senate hold-over committee is now at work, we believe, on plans for such a system. It is said that the bank examiner's duties will include some auditing. But will this go far enough? The report from which the above quotations are taken plainly shows the wisdom of a system that will audit the auditor's books as well as those of other territorial and county departments. This fact is well recognized by the Audit company, which, in its report, says:

"On account of the great importance attaching to the office of auditor, we recommend that the auditors for the various counties be appointed by the governor, or that a general auditing bureau be created."

The appointing of auditors is not a course that under ordinary circumstances should be favored. A far better plan would be to fix the bonds of auditors and treasurers so high that none but men of known probity, character and ability could be elected, and to surround these men with every safeguard of model auditing.

The appearance of the bill amending the present system will be watched with interest. That a separate bureau or department of accounts should be created, to pass on the accounts of all territorial and county departments, seems to be the best solution yet suggested.

It has been quite aptly commented that one of the reasons why Hawaii should have a public utilities commission is to exercise a sort of beneficent and paternal supervision of public service corporations here and see that they live up to the requirements of their charters. The mere fact that these charters were conferred by Congress and the powers lie outside territorial control does not necessarily mean that no supervision is needed. Indeed, the very fact of a control so remote as Washington is apt to breed some laxity in living up to the charter requirements.

Representative W. R. Kinslea of Oahu voted for the Hawaii probe commission bill from first to last yesterday. The Oahu Democrats, with the exception of Kinslea, voted for an amendment to the bill which would restrict the sittings of the commission to the island of Hawaii. Mr. Kinslea had courage and independence enough to stand for what he believed was right even though it meant breaking from his delegation,—and that is the kind of courage and independence that is cordially liked in public officials.

The house judiciary committee is cogitating on a direct primary measure and will probably report out early next week the bills referred to it, with some amendments. Meanwhile, the advocates of the direct primary are getting anxious lest another legislature go its way serenely unmindful of the fact that the party pledges of the members demand the enactment of a primary law.

The board of fire underwriters has to thank largely its own failure to reduce insurance rates for the fact that non-board insurance companies are now entering the local field. It is understood that the board has plans on foot for lowering the rates now, but its policy of caution borders so closely on secretiveness that no exact information is obtainable.

There is really no reason why the lower house should haggle over Bill 119, providing that the revenues from water licenses shall be turned into a conservation fund to be spent in guarding and developing forests and water-supplies. It's a good measure and one that looks a long way into the future.

Legislators are cordially invited to see the active work of the Rapid Transit Company now in making track and paving improvements.

Get your Shakespeares ready. A public meeting is called for tomorrow night on the Rapid Transit franchise bills.

If the job won't come to the gubernatorial Mahomet, the gubernatorial Mahomet will go to the job.

Running for president in Mexico involves that familiar theory of the survival of the fittest.

Wilson hasn't broken a precedent for at least two days.

LETTERS ON TIMELY TOPICS

[The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space to anonymous communications.]

A PROMINENT RANCHMAN GONE.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Sir:—The death of William F. Roy in Kona on the 16th, after a brief illness, came like a shock to the district. A descendant, on the mother's side, of one of the old families of Hawaii, his life was spent on that island and none knew the country better than he. The rough trails of Mauna Loa were to Mr. Roy familiar as garden paths, while to the ranchman's capacity was added a rare kindness of heart, which endeared him to a large circle. The sympathies of all in Kona go out to the sorrowing widow and children. A. M. P.

MORE POSTOFFICE KICKS

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Sir:—I agree most emphatically with "A. W. W." who has a communication in last night's Star-Bulletin regarding the facilities or the lack of the same in the local postoffice, and other conditions ever present that make it a place to be dreaded by those who are compelled to transact postal business there.

There seems to be an utter lack of energy on the part of someone clothed with postal authority to keep up with the times or even to lag a little way behind, which is generally the case with everything that Uncle Sam has to do with in the way of public utilities. It would seem that Honolulu and Hilo are trying to see which can hold on to its prehistoric postoffice methods the longest, and the public be bowed.

It has been voiced time and again in these columns of the very "short" treatment and still shorter answers patrons of the local postoffice have received when they have desired a little help in some postal matter that was outside of asking for their mail; a notable case happened only a short time ago when the complainant claimed that he was handed more than a "short answer" by the post-office employee when he was trying to locate a piece of mail matter. After an investigation the postmaster stated that he could find no evidence of the applicant being abused or even being given a "short answer." Still, I will wager that more people believed the complainant than did the report of the postmaster.

Judging from some of my own experiences, some of the employees of the local postoffice seem to be of the opinion that the Creator's overcoat would not make a vest for them. Furthermore, can the postmaster of our local back-dumb postoffice or anybody else connected with it, or any citizen of this city give any good reason why the city has not a couple of branch postoffices that would go a long way toward progressiveness, to say nothing of bringing postoffice facilities up to a mark enjoyed by the people of cities not near the size of Honolulu.

PROGRESS.

A DEFENSE OF THE POSTOFFICE

Manoa, March 27, 1913.
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Sir:—The letter of A. W. W. concerning the refusal of the local postal authorities to grant mail delivery to Manoa deserves a reply. Knowing that in the States mail is brought daily to and from even the remote rural districts, the Manoaite may well feel some impatience with regulations that compel the resident of a well-populated district of Hawaii's capital to travel to a post office three miles distant; and this impatience is not lessened when on arrival at the office he finds himself obliged to take a place at the foot of one of two long lines served only by one clerk. He does not grow in good humor, either, when he finds that his papers and magazines are not yet ready for distribution, for the general delivery mail is always the last to be sorted, nor does he find any solace in the unexpected presence of a special delivery letter that has reposed in the office since shortly after the last preceding mail boat. A. W. W. is right; such conditions do not speak well for Honolulu.

Yet, strongly as I sympathize with him, I am not ready to agree that blame should be placed upon the local postal authorities. As a Manoaite who has sought for some time to obtain an extension of mail service to the valley, I am inclined to believe that if anyone is to be blamed that one is the highly respectable inhabitant of our imaginations, Mr. Average Manoa Citizen. A business man, with an office in close proximity to the post-office, he obtains his mail without

trouble, and he hasn't noticed that anyone else is put to great inconvenience. So well is he satisfied with Manoa himself, he has not realized that his indifference has resulted in making the valley somewhat less attractive to others than it should be. He asks, "Who wants their mail delivered, anyway?" I wish to thank A. W. W. for answering this question so forcibly; and I would invite him to attend a meeting of the Manoa Improvement Club to be held at the Manoa Tennis Courts on Monday evening, April 14, that he may reply to the question there. Mr. A. M. Clitzen is already bestirring himself; and it may be that A. W. W. can give him the last prod necessary to rouse him to prompt and efficient action. At any rate, Mr. A. M. C. is not blameless.

It may be, too, that blame should be given to the federal postal authorities, for they, not the local authorities, stipulate the conditions upon which depend the extension of mail service. These conditions are as follows:

1. The names of streets should be shown on signs. (At a meeting of the Manoa Improvement Club held last week the roads committee was instructed to obtain and set up the requisite signs at once).
2. The houses should be numbered. (They are already numbered).
3. The streets should be sufficiently lighted. (Not a great deal will need to be done to meet requirements here, and the committee on electric lights is busy. If Manoa fails to obtain mail service because of insufficient lights there will likely be other letters to the press in which the words "blame" and "supervisors" figure rather prominently).
4. The roads and sidewalks must be satisfactory. (I have been assured that they will satisfy requirements).
5. Receptacles must be provided for mail. (A committee is now working at this problem, and feel confident that after the meeting of April 14, this requirement, too, will be met).

For the information of other Manoa readers, that A. W. W. I should like to explain some of the reasons for these requirements. The first four are imposed chiefly because the postal authorities are required to deliver "special delivery" letters upon receipt. This means that many messages will have to be delivered in the night, and, furthermore, that they will have to be entrusted, not to the regular carriers who are familiar with the streets and houses, but to special messengers pressed into service. Certainly it seems no more than reasonable that these messengers coming at night into what is likely to be to them an unfamiliar part of the city should be able to find the names of the streets, the numbers of the houses and to traverse our streets and sidewalks without the danger of falling over abandoned water pipes or being immersed in mud baths. The letter boxes are not only for the convenience of the recipient of mail; not all houses are always open, and rain, winds and dogs are not wholly unknown in Manoa. These letter boxes may be placed on the lanai if the house is not far from the road or on an elevation above it, or an opening may be cut in a door. In no case need the box be placed directly at the entrance to the grounds, but may be given an inconspicuous location within a reasonable distance of the road.

It may be objected that delivery has been granted to other sections of the city without the exacting of all these requirements. That is true; mail service has in the past been granted on "promises." It is just because of the inconveniences resulting from unfulfilled promises that the federal authorities have found it advisable to refuse service until after conditions have been met. For taking this position the federal authorities deserve not our blame but our commendation. Whatever serves to increase the comfort and convenience of the messengers will serve to increase the comfort and convenience of the residents of the valley and of their guests. Manoa may well be thankful for a special incentive to provide this favored region with all the attractions of a permanent residence.

A. L. A.

There will be net practice of the Honolulu Cricket Club next Saturday afternoon at 2:30 on the Makiki ground. It is hoped that all members will attend.

Hawaiian Lodge, F. & A. M., will hold an important meeting tomorrow afternoon at 5 o'clock for the transaction of important business. All members are requested to attend.

The regular meeting of the members of the Hawaii Promotion Committee will be held at the rooms of the committee, Bishop street side, Young Hotel building, on Friday, March 28th, at 3:30 o'clock p. m.

Too often after a man has done his duty it refuses to stay done.

For Sale

We have for sale choice building lots in the best residence sections of the city. We have also for sale a number of residences including some modern bungalows. These are located at Kaimuki, Ocean View, Pawaa, Manoa, Makiki and other parts of the city. Detailed information will be given any one calling at our office.

We have for rent two cottages on the makai side of King street, near Punahou. These cottages are brand new and have never been occupied.

GUARDIAN TRUST CO., Ltd.
SECOND FLOOR, JUDD BUILDING

Celluloid Folding Fans

INSTEAD OF PLACE CARDS, A LASTING SOUVENIR FOR LADY GUESTS.

WICHMAN & CO.

SOLDIER'S JURY BEING SELECTED

The trial of W. F. Hagemann, the soldier alleged to have shot and killed his comrade at Schofield Barracks several months ago, was resumed this afternoon in the U. S. district court. Attorney Lorrin Andrews for the defense and Assistant U. S. District Attorney Bitting for the government took up the examination of veniremen for the selection of a jury. From the number of subpoenas issued summoning witnesses for both the prosecution and the defense, it is evident that the facts incident to the alleged murder will be gone into at length.

Robello, H. P. R. Glade, G. E. Schaefer, G. A. Brown, M. Rocha, F. J. Green, G. E. Macfarlane, H. A. Gilles, G. G. Guild, S. B. Rose, S. C. Kennedy, D. K. Hoapili, J. Mutchins, R. J. Buchly, W. E. Heine, A. T. Silver, B. R. Campbell, M. Q. Souza, M. Phillips, Jr., J. C. Holt, A. W. Van Valkenburg, A. B. Arleigh, W. K. Macpherson.

Would Succeed Hewitt

The second nomination for the election to be held April 21 to fill the place left vacant by the death of the late Senator George C. Hewitt was received at the office of the territorial secretary this morning in the name of Joseph N. Koomoa, home ruler. Koomoa comes from the Kona side of Hawaii and his petition was accompanied by more than the requisite number of signatures. The only other candidate to declare himself so far is Stephen L. Desha, who has entered the lists under the standard of the Republican party. The Democrats have until April 1 to nominate their man, and although they have been saying little it is understood that the powers that be in the party have not been idle. It is given out on good authority that Frank Woods will be the man nominated on the Democratic ticket.

(FILL IN THE BLANK LINES, CUT THIS OUT AND MAIL TODAY)
HONOLULU, MARCH 27, 1913.

Trent Trust Co.

GENTLEMEN:
I'M THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE! HOW CAN I REALLY PROTECT THOSE DEPENDING UPON ME?
MY NAME IS
I LIVE AT
I WAS BORN ON DAY OF 19.....
IF I SHOULD DIE TONIGHT, I DON'T WANT OTHERS TO SUFFER

NAPKIN RINGS

In a profession of design. Have you seen the new hands?
Veira Jewelry Co., Ltd. 115 Hotel St.
Popular Jewelers

WHEN YOU WANT REAL Fresh Crackers

BUY LOVE'S BAKERY CRACKERS

Henry Waterhouse Trust Co., Limited,

REAL ESTATE

One might think from the present activity of the Real Estate market that there are no "good buys" left.

Let us show you the finest view in Honolulu on Reservoir avenue, Kaimuki, for\$5,000

Or a lot in the Lewis Subdivision at Punahou for...\$3,200

Oh a \$12,000 home with large grounds in Punahou district for\$9,500

You will agree that all are "good buys"

Henry Waterhouse Trust Co. Limited,

CORNER FORT AND MERCHANT STREETS