

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

FRIDAY JUNE 13, 1913

Things at the worst will cease.—Macbeth.

PAYING FOR PROPERTY BENEFITS

A correspondent in this paper yesterday brought up the question of the wisdom of a recently-enacted law providing for the opening or widening of public roads by the "local improvement" or assessment-on-abutting-property plan. The correspondent argues that most of the roads to be thus opened will be suburban roads and comparatively little used for traffic by the property-owners who must pay the expense of opening them. He concludes from this that the law is inequitable.

The Star-Bulletin does not at all agree with him, and it is easy to point out the reasons why. If the majority of property-owners in any section do not feel like standing the expense of having roads opened or improved, they may effectually prevent it under the new law, for an adverse petition, signed by 55 per cent of the affected property-owners, blocks the proposed improvement. Sixty per cent of the affected owners must sign a petition in favor of the improvement to cause its adoption.

Another safeguard against inequitable operation of the law is provided in a section which allows the city and county to stand any part of the expense of the improvement. Property-owners who feel themselves unable to stand or unwarranted in standing the total burden of expense may ask the city and county to assist them, and if the plea is a good one, a fair board of supervisors ought to allow it.

We grant that suburban residents use the roads for comparatively little traffic, and that principally foot-traffic, but this is a small part of the benefits new roads will bring to them. The roads will increase property values generally; will make their homes more accessible to the butcher's wagon, or the iceman's cart; will aid in developing that American convenience, the corner grocery,—and after good roads will come street-cars. All of this is a direct benefit to the suburbanite, and he pays for it when he meets his road-assessment.

In practical operation, a section that does not want a new road does not have to have it. A section that wants it, can get it on the principle of the initiative.

This plan is the fairest that has yet been devised for American municipalities. The chief expense of improvement falls on the people chiefly benefited, and if they do not consider themselves guaranteed sufficient benefit, the improvement cannot be forced upon them.

HONOR AND FAIR DEALING IN SPORT

What's the use of trying to claim false records for Duke Kahanamoku?

He broke one world's record last Wednesday and only one world's record, according to the accepted authority on records. The morning paper reached the height of absurdity today in an editorial solemnly explaining that Duke broke three "world's A. A. U. records." A "world's A. A. U. record" is just as foolish as a "world's Waikiki record" or a "world's Honolulu record." That is self-evident.

The records of the A. A. U. (Amateur Athletic Union) are American records, not world's records. Two of the world's swimming records claimed for Duke are held in Australia. Let's be fair.

The morning paper refers to the "Best Athletic Records" of the World Almanac for 1913 and says that Duke's records are recognized under this heading. That's true. But the morning paper was careful not to say that under this heading is the following footnote:

"Best American records as accepted by the Amateur Athletic Union."

And it is as "best American records" that Duke's performances stand under this heading and the explanatory footnote. Later on the Australian records, the world's records, are given as such. The very authority quoted by the morning paper differentiates between "world's records" and "A. A. U. records" and so does everyone else who knows anything about sport.

Duke has not claimed three new world's records. The officials of the A. A. U. here have not claimed three new world's records for him. Yesterday the president and chairman of the registration committee stated in the Star-Bulletin that Duke's records in the 50- and 220-yard dashes are, according to their accepted authority, not world's records. Only the morning paper, through this devious explanation that is not even plausible, insists on claiming for Duke two

records that will be rejected on the mainland.

And when, in the interests of accuracy and fair play, attention is called to an unfortunate blunder, the morning paper begins to cry "Knocker!"

Is Honolulu's sense of clean sportsmanship so far lost that we wish to claim what is not fairly ours? Isn't there honor and square dealing in this great amateur sport? Of course there is, and we do not believe there are half a dozen people in Hawaii who desire to claim for Duke records that he has not made.

Hawaii is proud of her champion swimmer. We don't doubt for an instant that he can shatter any short-distance swimming record he may go after. He started Wednesday by smashing a local record in the 440-yard swim, and after this long and tiring performance, he showed his wonderful strength, endurance and speed by breaking the world's record in the 100-yard dash, and the A. A. U. or American amateur records in the 50- and 220-yard dashes.

The evil in claiming false records is that they throw doubt on the true; that athletic authorities will see at once that false claims are being set up and discredit will be cast on amateur sport in Hawaii. Hawaii has won athletic honors by clean and hard endeavor. Let's keep the slate clean and the scutcheon untarnished.

The Healani Yacht and Boat Club is showing splendid spirit in sending two of its swimmers to compete in San Francisco. George Cunha ran so close to Duke in the recent meet that another world's champion for Honolulu may be prophesied, and his brother is a speedy athlete who unfortunately has been ill and unable to compete lately. The club is encouraging members not because they take first places, but because they are hard workers and good performers as well.

It was recently said of President Wilson:

He has been a little more than two months in the White House, and during that time he has scored two long credit marks:

- 1—He has not uttered a complaint about anything or anybody.
- 2—He has not spoken a cross word.

That was before the "insidious lobbyists" got busy.

The London Times is using the billboards to announce its reduction in price to twopence. This is said to be the first occasion on which the Times has used the posters, and it is now to be expected that local anti-billboard campaigners will start a fracas with the "Thunderer".

The right of free speech not only exists now, when Hawaii is protesting to congress, but will exist two years from now and four years from now, when the country goes to the polls.

The Union Pacific has proposed something like thirty-seven dissolution plans, none of which suit Uncle Sam. Pretty soon U. P. will run out of niggers for its woodpile.

The tumult and the shouting dies; the candidates for home depart; and Mr. Wilson plays the sphinx, with stony mien and marble heart.

The lobby probe committee roared when Walter G. Smith said he was getting \$625 a month for lecturing. Now why?

Now that Wilson has broken his engagement with ex-Gov. Carter, we may look for a real breach-of-promise suit.

According to the new attorney-general, his predecessors have done considerably more trusting than busting.

Those suffragettes who have taken to flour-bomb throwing can't care a bit for the high cost of living!

There's nothing miserly about Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association salaries.

California seems quite able to bear up under a burden of criticism, thank you.

Next thing Wilson will holler for an investigation of the hotel lobbies.

Duke is in the same class with Wilson. He likes to smash precedents.

The governorship candidates are on the back trail.

Schoolmaster Wilson and his Big Switch.

Congress knows Hawaii is on the map.

LETTERS OF 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.]

MR. BRYAN AND SENOR POPOFFSKY

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin. Sir:—Possibly Mr. Bryan feels that he is possessed of great genius in the institution of something new in diplomacy and the relations of the powers. But has he heard about the same performance instituted, between two and three years ago, by Senor Popoffsky, the Lord Baron in charge of the foreign affairs of Russia, when he sent for all the diplomats of the various nations to assemble in St. Petersburg and come to his office, which they did; and then, yielding to his earnest desire, although astonished into impressive silence, went one by one into the inner room, where they carried out

his idea by facing the moving picture artist and making the necessary gestures to indicate important diplomatic conferences? Does he know how they went in one by one until all of the nations of Europe, through their representatives, were duly snapped or photographed, and what a magnificent moving picture film it made?

Of course people want to know why they hadn't heard of this, and why this film wasn't exhibited. The answer and the reason is very simple—when the picture was completed, and the movie was started in Mr. Popoffsky's rooms by way of trial, it was found, to the profound astonishment of everybody, especially Mr. Popoffsky, that for some unexplained reason, while his burly form was easily recognizable, there was perched on top of his shoulders a very large-sized jackass's head, with its ears flapping. It was decided that this must be the work of Providence, as there was no accounting for how it got there, and the thing was suppressed. Honolulu, June 13, 1913. Respectfully yours, HISTORICAL.

HITCHCOCK SAYS CHARGES FALSE

Brands the Report Compiled Against His Work as Amateurish and Not by Postal Authorities

[By Latest Mail]

SILVER CITY, N. M.—On arriving at Silver City from the Mogollon mountains, where he has been spending some weeks, former Postmaster-general Frank H. Hitchcock was shown for the first time the statement issued a few days ago by Postmaster-general Burleson, attacking his administration of the postoffice department. After reading the charges, Mr. Hitchcock issued the following statement:

"A committee composed in the main of newly appointed assistants having less than three months' experience in postoffice business attempts in a report to the present head of the department to discredit the financial showing made by the postal service under President Taft's administration. After reporting alleged discrepancies that are insignificant when compared with the great sums known to have been saved by their predecessors this committee of novitiates proceeds in its published statement to enlighten the American people as to the character of the post service they have been receiving.

Called Report Inaccurate "Their statement is as inaccurate as it is gratuitous, for the public well knows that never was the postal service conducted more efficiently, or mail handled with greater precision and dispatch than in the closing years of the Taft administration. In that administration nearly 5000 new post-offices were established, delivery letter carriers were supplied in about 300 additional cities, and over 3000 new rural routes, aggregating about 75,000 miles, were authorized.

"Notwithstanding these great extensions of service and the heavy increase in expenditures they required, the postoffice department was placed on a self-sustaining basis, and that was its condition when, on the 4th of March, it passed into the hands of newly appointed officers, who seem thus far to have been exhausting their time and their energy in a vain attempt to detract from the record made by the devoted public servants who preceded them.

"The postal committee of a Democratic house of congress endeavored last year in a similar manner to attack the audited accounts of the postal service, but after investigation that committee was fair enough to admit that the department had become substantially self-sustaining. The returns as to surplus or deficit are made up not by the postoffice department, but by the treasury department, where all postal income is received and all postal accounts finally audited.

Deficit Wiped Out. "The secretary of the treasury reported the wiping out of the postal deficit and the record thus certified to in his fiscal report is likely to stand in history. If the postoffice department could have received a proper allowance for the cost of carrying franked mail, the postal surplus would have been much larger than that recorded.

"In the last administration we appeared in vain to a Democratic house for Democratic legislation abolishing the franking abuse. It is a subject that the postal management might well consider, for it affords an oppor-

PERSONAL MENTION

GEORGE E. SMITHIES of this city returned from Maui in the Claudine yesterday.

T. L. FOSTER of Marysville, S. D., has returned to the mainland after spending a few months here.

JOSEPH COOKE, of Alexander & Baldwin Company, has left for Kaula. He will not return to this city until Monday.

BENITO J. GUERRERO, a merchant of Wailuku, arrived from Maui in the Claudine on a business trip yesterday.

MISS EDITH E. CARTER, department of public works stenographer, will return to Honolulu Tuesday from Colifarna, where she has been spending her vacation.

MISS FLORENCE M. DIETRICH is departing for Maui in the steamer Claudine this evening and will spend two weeks in visiting points of interest on the Valley Island.

J. MORTON RIGGS of Honolulu, who for the past several months has been touring abroad accompanied by Mrs. Riggs, are expected to return to this city from Vancouver in the Niagara.

DR. J. CHRIS O'DAY, who spent some years in Hawaii, has written a descriptive article on the islands that appears in the latest issue of the Occidental Magazine, published in Portland.

CITY AND COUNTY ENGINEER L. M. WHITEHOUSE has left for a trip around the island belt road. The purpose of the trip is to prepare data to call for bids for the completion of the mile and one-half of the belt road from Wailuku.

DR. DOLEMUS SCUDDER, pastor of Central Union church, who for the past several days has been an inmate of the Queen's hospital, was removed to his home at ten o'clock this morning where he is reported to be on a fair way to recovery.

CHARLES COPP JR. of this city received word by wireless from Maui this morning that his father, Charles Copp Sr., is seriously ill at Makawao. The son leaves on the Claudine tonight on his way to his father's bedside.

MR. HANS C. LYBE, formerly connected with one of the leading jewelry establishments of Los Angeles and who arrived in Honolulu on the last Wilhelmina, has taken a position as watchmaker with the Vieira Jewelry Co., Ltd., in place of Mr. J. B. Blackshear who resigned to take up a position with Jos. Schwartz Co. as traveling salesman.

The western banker who eloped and says he did it to avoid publicity did not know that elopement is one of the most familiar routes to the limelight.

tunity to save the department millions of dollars a year.

"The question very naturally may present itself as to why the present officers of the department, instead of consuming all this time in an endeavor to discredit the good work of the men they succeeded are not devoting themselves more attentively to the service even if they are thus far unable in their inexperience to map out and execute a constructive post program so as to broaden still further the usefulness of the postoffice. They doubtless will find it a considerable task to maintain throughout our vast country the efficiency of the postal service as developed and extended by their predecessors and particularly of those great branches of the service recently established for the benefit of the people by a Republican administration, the postal savings bank and the parcels post."

FOR RENT

Punahou—4 bedrooms furnished. Tantalus—3 bedrooms furnished.

FOR SALE

Residence Alewa Heights.....\$8500 Residence Palolo.....\$3500
Residence Wilder Avenue..... 7500 Residence 14th Ave., Kaimuki.. 7500
Residence Anapuni Street..... 4500 Residence 13th Ave., Kaimuki.. 4500
Residence Anapuni Street..... 4850 Residence Young Street..... 4000
Residence Piikoi Street..... 6500 Residence Young Street..... 3000

Guardian Trust Co., Ltd.,

Second floor Bank of Hawaii Building

Sale of Porcelaines

One week of reductions on Dresden, Coalport, Doulton and Limoges Chinaware.

WICHMAN & CO.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

JAKE WESSLER — Doesn't it hit you as a little strange that Tunelchi Tonako, after fighting deportation through all kinds of strenuous stunts, and lost out, has at last been granted a re-opening of his case so that he can present a birth certificate showing that he is a native of the Hawaiian Islands?

WHY GASOLINE GOES UP.

At last petroleum and its products have joined the army of advancing prices. For ten years prior to 1911 a steady increase in the cost of the necessities of life was shown, while petroleum and its products continued at a low level. Now the latter are advancing. The cause is the steadily diminishing production of the finer qualities of crude oil from which gasoline is derived and diminution of the surplus stocks on hand. Not only have gasoline and other petroleum products advanced, but crude oil has shown an increase ranging from 8 per cent for the heavy fuel oil of California and Texas to from 64 to 70 per

cent for the higher qualities of crude oil produced in Pennsylvania, Illinois, Kansas and Oklahoma. Until new oil fields are discovered or the demand for gasoline is lessened the price of the latter will not be lowered. The enormous increase in the consumption of gasoline owing to the world-wide multiplication of automobiles, motor-boats and engines also had something to do with the case, as gasoline represents a very small percentage of the output of refineries even when the best quality of crude oil is being refined. One thing, however, is settled, and that is that there is no monopoly in the manufacture of petroleum or its products. The so-called Standard oil trust has been dissolved, and the independents are as eager for higher prices as any one else.—Leslie's.

Russia is considering the proposition to limit Chinese labor on steamers in the Amur basin to not more than 25 per cent of the crews.

Now doth the busy little moth improve each shining hour since that fair day in early May when you packed your winter things away and left them in his power.

Corner Lot, Large—And Nearly New Modern House—for \$3800—Worth \$5000

One block from the Elihuokalani school in Kaimuki. Lot 75x125. House only two years old, and with all modern conveniences. Sea View: fine air.

A bargain if you speak quickly. Perfectly good reason for owner selling.

Trent Trust Co.

SILVERWARE

MAKES ACCEPTABLE WEDDING GIFTS.

Vieira Jewelry Co., Ltd.

115 Hotel St.

WHEN YOU WANT REAL

Fresh Crackers

BUY LOVE'S BAKERY CRACKERS

Henry Waterhouse Trust Co., Limited,

Real Estate for Sale

COMMODIOUS HOUSE AND LARGE GROUNDS IN THE NUUANU DISTRICT AT BARGAIN PRICE.

IMPROVED PROPERTY ON PACIFIC HEIGHTS OVERLOOKING HONOLULU HARBOR AND NUUANU VALLEY. BARGAIN PRICE FOR QUICK SALE.

MAKIKI, MANOA AND KAIMUKI REAL ESTATE IMPROVED AND UNIMPROVED.

Henry Waterhouse Trust Co. Limited, CORNER FORT AND MERCHANT STREETS