

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

TUESDAY ..... AUGUST 5, 1913

In one completed man there are forces of many men.—Bulwer-Lytton.

## A WEAK COUNTY SYSTEM

You can't build an administrative system entirely proof against graft until you can change human nature; but you can build a system that will detect and check such childish ingenious grafting as has been going on in the county of Hawaii. The ease and celerity with which the Hawaii investigating commission has run to earth the stuffing of payrolls and the embezzlement of county moneys are evidences that most of the grafting should have been found out and stopped long ago. Take the case of Supervisor Purdy, for instance. He stuffed a pay-roll secure from detection by the county authorities for the good reason that no systematic scrutiny was made by the "higher-ups." Here is a looseness that can be remedied. It is a matter of establishing a better system of audits.

It may be argued that the "higher-ups" could have stood in with the petty grafters and thus made useless the most expert and automatic system of checks and balances. The answer to this is that a big ring of grafters is always, other things being equal, easier to ferret out and break up than a little ring, and public attention, always centered on the high officials, will soon be directed to circumstances pointing to financial irregularities. The responsibility for the grimly and Hawaii county situation is not all in the weak men who succumbed to the lure of a little easy money; it is largely with the weak system itself.

## WANTED—A CITY-BUILDER

Senator Judd's talk to the supervisors on the new local improvement laws last night indicates that he is in favor of securing a really great engineer for Honolulu and paying him a salary large enough to get and keep him.

Other cities have found it money well spent to pay their engineers from \$5,000 to \$15,000. For such salaries they can secure men not only expert in water and sewer systems, regrades, paving and other engineering questions, but men who are expert in municipal law and who are city-builders in the best sense of the word. Honolulu's water-problem alone is enough to demand the services of a great water-engineer, as this paper pointed out yesterday. The man to build the Honolulu of the future must be something of a dreamer, with the practical force and qualities of leadership to make his dreams come true.

## KENT

The Public, of Chicago, is a strong admirer of Congressman William Kent, who just now is frequently discussed in Hawaii, owing to his success with the candidacy of L. E. Pinkham for governor. Of Kent the Public said:

"This is the man who redeemed his congressional district in California two years ago. Against all the power of President Taft's administration plus that of the Southern Pacific railroad ring, he won the Republican nomination at the people's primaries and the seat at the election. He won as a democratic Republican, and a congress he has made good. But this is no new role for him. As a democratic Republican he has been making good from the day, years ago, when he began war upon the 'gray wolves' of Chicago and became an alderman to carry the war into Africa. This year Mr. Kent drops his partyism altogether and stands on his own platform."

This was before the last California election. Kent was reelected.

## THE LOGICAL STEP

The civil service commission is making a worthy endeavor to reorganize the police department and to improve it and increase its efficiency. As part of its plan, the commission proposes to add about twenty men to the force.

There is no question that the police department needs improvement, but the mere addition of more men will not satisfy the need. The crying necessity in the police department is for an executive head who is capable, energetic, dependable and progressive. The city has had too much of the type lauded as a "good fellow" and excused for breaches of propriety that would have meant dismissal had the offender been a patrolman. Unfortunately, Honolulu has no way of getting rid of an elective officer except on im-

peachment by the board of supervisors and conviction of malfeasance or misfeasance, and an official may be highly and generally undesirable and yet safe from impeachment proceedings because of political or other reasons.

Honolulu's lack of clean-cut police methods is the cause for frequent and caustic criticism on the part of visitors who are accustomed to even average police administration in the cities from which they come. The ridiculous failure of the police to handle situations that arise here is the cause of real humiliation to Honoluluans. And yet the fault is not primarily due to the police officers and subordinates in the department. The fault is in lack of organization, lack of executive direction and obvious lack of knowledge, on the part of the head of the department, as to what constitutes a good force, a clean-cut force and an intelligent force.

The sheriff is asking for the employment of an inspector and instructor to teach the members of the force. The request should be granted, for the force is now ill-taught, and an ill-taught policeman is inefficient and blundering. How many policemen on the streets are able to answer intelligently the questions of tourists? How many take the trouble to answer fully and courteously? How many policemen know first-aid methods for injured or drowning people? How many can handle themselves deftly and effectively when called on to subdue quarrelsome disturbers of the peace? How many know the statutes and city ordinances governing their duties?

Yet these are things that well-taught policemen should know and be able to do. Years ago, under a different executive, the police department was smartly kept-up and administered with some degree of discipline and military efficiency. It has retrogressed, not progressed, in most directions.

The present police department is the inevitable outcome of extreme partisanship in city affairs. The head of the police department should not be elected. He should owe his position to ability and merit—not to his reputation as a "good fellow." The civil service commission will take a logical step if it will cap its suggestions for improvement in the police department with the recommendation that the head of the department as well as the subordinates be taken out of politics.

William Bayard Hale, mentioned as a possibility for ambassador to Mexico, is the author of an extremely laudatory article on Mr. Bryan that appeared in the June issue of the World's Work. He has also written several appreciative articles on President Wilson, and it is likely that the administration would not find his "activities incompatible with its attitude," as in the case of Ambassador Wilson.

Denver (Col.) Times: "The refiners of raw cane from Cuba demand the entire market to themselves. They do not want to do business with the American farmer. . . . They would rather ship the raw sugar from abroad and refine it on the seaboard and dispose of it at their own figures. And the Democratic party is playing the cane trust's game."

Chariton (Ia.) Herald-Patriot: "The sugar consumer is not supposed to get sugar cheaper, the government will lose \$53,000,000 revenue and the sugar men will be that much ahead of the game. Who is to profit by the transaction and why should they?"

All this talk of new laws to check the reckless auto-drivers is well enough, but it might be observed that the present laws may be enforced while we are waiting for new legislation.

California hasn't figured in the news for several weeks. That is probably the reason for the hop-pickers' strike that has resulted in the declaration of martial law.

The wild and woolly west will be considerably more wild than woolly if the present tariff bill goes through.

Possibly Mr. Cipriano Castro could be induced to move up into Mexico City.

Armageddon will be fought tonight between the soup and the nuts.

The only Mexican policy for Uncle Sam is the life insurance kind.

The militia will furnish the skip and jump for the hop-pickers.

For tomorrow we may die.—Bull Moosers.

## TRIBUTE PAID TO GOOD DEEDS OF MISS MARTHA A. CHAMBERLAIN

Friends all over the territory mourn the death of Miss Martha A. Chamberlain, which occurred at her home on Young street last night. The following tribute, penned by a lifelong friend, speaks of the regard in which she was held by those who knew her:

"The death of Miss Martha A. J. Chamberlain has removed another of the old kamamainis!

"Miss Chamberlain was the daughter of Mr. Levi Chamberlain and was born in Honolulu June 24, 1833, and lived to reach the good old age of four score years. Her life was one of activity and usefulness until the past few years when feeble health confined her to her home. With mental vigor, warm sympathies and untiring energy her life was filled with good works until compelled by physical weakness to rest from active labor.

"Her interest in religious and educational work and in all that pertains to the advancement of righteousness was unflagging; and her kindly and affectionate interest in the welfare of others surrounded her with a large circle of friends. Not only to her many relatives but to nearly all of those who knew her she was known as 'Aunt Mattie'.

"The sick and helpless and those needing sympathy ever found her responsive and ready to give assistance. Her interest in the work of the American mission to these islands was enthusiastic. The so-called 'Children's Society', an organization formed about sixty years ago by the children and descendants of the American missionaries, was very dear to her; and for many years she was the corresponding secretary, gathering information relating to all those connected with the society. Her enthusiasm in this regard was inspiring. In church work she was most devoted and her influence gave strength and courage.

"She was a member of the first class of young ladies who graduated from the Mount Holyoke female seminary in Massachusetts and was one of a band of highly educated and forceful women whose influence has been large. Her father was a man of marked ability and her mother was one of those long remembered for her fine qualities and graces. With this heritage 'Aunt Mattie' lived a life of usefulness. In all truth it can be said of her, 'Well done, good and faithful servant.'

"They will visit a sister in this city.

R. HEYDENREICH, of the Alexander Young hotel business department, was a returning passenger in the Sonoma yesterday following a brief sojourn on the mainland.

MELVILLE T. SIMONTON, clerk of Judge W. J. Robinson's court, was spending the past six weeks on the mainland in company with Mrs. Simonton, is due to return to Honolulu August 12.

REV. WILLIAM K. POAI, pastor of the Kailhi-Moanalua Hawaiian church, who represented the island of Oahu at the Christian Endeavor convention in Los Angeles, returned to Honolulu yesterday in the Sonoma.

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W. E. WALL, territorial surveyor, left for Maui yesterday from where, after a few days' stay, he will go to Hilo. He will be joined by Sanitary Engineer Keller in the Crescent City, and the two will make an investigation into the reclamation work now being carried on in that city.

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## Personal Mentions

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DR. DOREMUS SCUDDER, pastor of Central Union church, in company with Mrs. Scudder, is booked to leave Honolulu for the Big Island by the Mauna Kea tomorrow.

MISS GENEVIEVE MCKAY and Charles C. McKay of San Francisco were passengers in the steamer Wil-

helmina this morning. They will visit a sister in this city.

R. HEYDENREICH, of the Alexander Young hotel business department, was a returning passenger in the Sonoma yesterday following a brief sojourn on the mainland.

MELVILLE T. SIMONTON, clerk of Judge W. J. Robinson's court, was spending the past six weeks on the mainland in company with Mrs. Simonton, is due to return to Honolulu August 12.

REV. WILLIAM K. POAI, pastor of the Kailhi-Moanalua Hawaiian church, who represented the island of Oahu at the Christian Endeavor convention in Los Angeles, returned to Honolulu yesterday in the Sonoma.

H. P. STARBUCK, a prominent attorney of Santa Barbara, where he is a member of the firm of Canfield & Starbuck, arrived on the Wilhelmmina this morning, accompanied by his wife and son, H. P. Starbuck, Jr.

GEORGE W. CARR, president of the Dearborn Drug Company, who has been spending some weeks in the islands, was among the passengers returning from Hilo in the steamer Mauna Kea this morning.

ARTHUR COLLINS, the well known Maui polo player, is in Honolulu for a short stay. Mr. Collins came to Oahu to meet Mrs. Collins, who returned on the Wilhelmmina this morning, after several months spent on the Coast.

C. E. STARRATT, manager of the San Francisco branch of the U. S. Fire Company, arrived in Honolulu on the Wilhelmmina, and is registered at the Young hotel. Mr. Starratt is here on a combined business and pleasure trip.

W. E. WALL, territorial surveyor, left for Maui yesterday from where, after a few days' stay, he will go to Hilo. He will be joined by Sanitary Engineer Keller in the Crescent City, and the two will make an investigation into the reclamation work now being carried on in that city.

EDWIN T. COMAN, president of the Exchange National Bank of Spokane, Washington, arrived in Honolulu in the Wilhelmmina this morning and is registered at the Young Hotel. He is accompanied by Mrs. Coman, Miss Catherine Coman, Edwin Coman and Robert Coman, and will spend a month in the islands.

M. H. NEWMAN, the motion picture man, is departing this evening for San Francisco and New York, taking passage in the Matson Navigation steamer Lurline. He will make a flying trip to the east coast, expecting to return to Honolulu by the first of September.

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