

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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Wars are like fevers. They must run their course. The United States can do nothing until the nations at war are ready to receive its ministrations, and that they are not willing to do.—New York World.

## GREECE STILL ALOOF.

Greece's failure to join the Allies in war has seemed inexplicable to some observers, since the "war premier," Venizelos, is back in power. Yet if the reports from London and Athens are true, the Greeks are bargaining much as Italy bargained and Bulgaria is bargaining. When they secure the concessions they desire, they are to join the Allies. Unless these concessions are forthcoming they will remain neutral.

Greece's negotiations are carried on under the conveniently high-sounding name of "realization of national aspirations." When the war party gained the ascendancy in Athens, Venizelos issued a guarded statement in which he declared that he had no preconceived bias against the central empires—Germany and Austria—and would so deal as to secure the greatest possible benefits to the Greek people. It is said on good authority that since Italy joined the Allies and the Teutons won their signal victories in Galicia and Poland, the Greek premier raised materially the price at which she will consent to enter the war. The occupation by Italy of the Aegean Islands claimed by Greece and other complications have arisen from Italy's participation in the campaigns, and at the same time Greece feels that her aid is worth more to the Allies now that the Teutons have progressed so substantially in the eastern arena.

The diplomats of France, Britain, Russia and Italy nevertheless feel that the accession of Venizelos is a move in their favor, since it is only a question of putting forth offers strong enough to win his active assistance, while with Clematis and the peace party dominating, there was little hope for anything but rather forced neutrality from the Greeks.

There is no question that the Allies are working day and night to secure a mutual understanding between the Balkan states and a further understanding with the Entente Powers. The diplomatic difficulties seem almost insurmountable but the Allies are willing to make offers that can hardly be refused.

## A REMINDER FOR THE VETERAN FANS.

Yesterday's baseball crowd at Moiliili Field reminded veteran fans of the "old days" when baseball was followed by almost everybody in town with a keen personal interest. Of course the town is larger now and many of the newcomers know little of the rapidly-changing personnel of the teams, and hence look more for the fine points of the game itself than for the showing of individual players or for the battle of rival organizations. But the main difference between the sport now and eight or ten years ago is that the leagues today contain much more of the professional flavor than formerly. There is almost as much maneuvering between the financiers of the leagues as between the teams. Something of the keen rivalry of the teams themselves has gone as the money end of the game became more prominent. The Chicago series is giving the fans of yesteryear the sport for sport's sake. In every case the teams have fought for the games as if a championship depended on the result—in fact, this very over-egerness in some instances has marred the machine-like playing which is typical of the professional spirit.

Semi-professional baseball is being overdone in Honolulu. After the Chicago and Meiji series end the parks should close their gates for a few months. It will help the sport all around. Meanwhile, the Chicago games are providing plenty of thrills for grandstand and bleachers and well deserve big audiences.

## CIVIC BEAUTY AND THE FEDERAL SITE.

If Honolulu's federal building site is to be chosen with a view to enhancing city beauty and to be "for the Honolulu of tomorrow," as Assistant Secretary Newton comments the Irwin site should be first choice. We are aware of no plans involving the other sites which have been drafted from a "city beautiful" standpoint. Choice of the Irwin site will foster the creation of a civic center and promote an harmonious public architecture of real value to the city.

So far as local sentiment has expressed itself publicly, it has been very much in favor of the

Irwin site. Nevertheless, there exists more than a little sentiment in favor of the Spreckels site, the arguments for which have been primarily utilitarian. As a matter of fact, there are strong arguments on each side, the difference being that on behalf of the Irwin site there is the argument of a well-defined idea of civic beauty favored by men and women and organizations in Honolulu quite apart from the "business community."

Mr. Newton has quickly discerned the keen desire of Honolulu to get this site question settled. In fact, many Honoluluans are so anxious to have the matter settled that they prefer to take no public part in any discussion, fearing that there will arise a revival of former controversy. It has become rather a common thing to hear men remark, "Personally I prefer such-and-such a site, but rather than hold up action any longer I'm willing to see the building go up elsewhere."

Apparently the Hesperian occurrence has barely missed getting in with the Falaba, Cushing, Gulflight, Lusitania and Arabic "incidents." The two Americans aboard the Hesperian luckily escaped with their lives; otherwise the incident would have been much more serious for Germany and the United States. As it is, if the facts establish that the liner was torpedoed without warning, it is difficult to see how Germany can avoid an explanation in the face of the recent assurances given through Ambassador Gerard in Berlin and Ambassador von Bernstorff in Washington.

British as well as American newspapers are beginning to resound with echoes of a feud said to have arisen between Lord Kitchener and Sir John French, but which more probably is between adherents of each. Whatever the facts, the reports that come to the surface are not credible. It is entirely possible, of course, that there is as much truth in these reports as in the story of the split between the Kaiser and von Moltke which elevated Falkenhayn—as much and perhaps there would not need to be more!

A peculiar characteristic is noticed in all the outgivings of Bull Moose oracles, both those who jabber excitedly like G. Walbridge Perkins while clinging to the wreck, and those who murmur musingly as they wander into the Republican party in company with F. M. Davenport and most of the others. They are all voluble, but their remarks are not addressed to the public, like the whirling dervish ravings of three years ago. They are simply talking to themselves.—Brooklyn Standard-Union.

Talk of an extra session of Congress should be discouraged, because it is absolutely unnecessary. The executive department of the government under President Wilson's leadership is abundantly able to meet almost any situation likely to develop between now and December. Of course, only Congress can declare war; and peace is more likely to be preserved when Congress, which is only a legislative and not an administrative body, is not in session.—Banker Henry Clews.

Capt. C. R. Forbes, who is organizing the new engineers' company of the National Guard, should receive hearty support from the community. A meeting will be held next Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock of those interested in the formation of the new company. Such a company will materially build up the National Guard and round out its usefulness as an organization, as well as give valuable training and wholesome experience to the men who form it.

Former President Taft has shown that an influential Republican may stand squarely behind the president in the handling of one question of state policy without endorsing his policy on all. And, by the way, if memory serves correctly this is not the first time Mr. Taft has rapped the administration for its Mexican policy, and certainly not the first time he has severely criticised the handling of the Philippines under Governor-general Harrison.

An efficient city manager for Honolulu would be cheap at \$10,000 per year. An inefficient one would be dear at \$1. Honolulu is willing to pay an entirely adequate salary to a competent executive.

We read that the output of Kentucky whisky has been greatly reduced; but it is the input that counts.—Portland Telegram.

## HAD NEW TEACHERS SCARED WITH WILD TALES ABOUT ALLIGATORS

Shades of Baron Munchausen and Don Quixote!

The tales of these worthy gentlemen of story-book fame have nothing on those of certain Honoluluans who have returned from vacations on the mainland during the last two weeks, to hear Henry W. Kinney relate the story.

At the present time Honolulu is entertaining about 30 newly arrived school teachers. They arrived in Honolulu—that is, many of them—dubbed "scared pink" as Mr. Kinney puts it, by tales of Hawaii told them by fellow passengers, the latter being local residents. It is reported.

One estimable lady rushed into Mr. Kinney's office shortly after she arrived here and wanted to know if it would be safe for her to go bathing. A fellow passenger on the steamer which brought her to Honolulu told her that the sea abounded in huge alligators, and man-eaters at that, she said.

"I assured the lady that alligators are unknown in Hawaii," said Mr. Kinney today, "but that there were a few man-eating sharks about the islands, but that they never bothered the bathers, because they could not get over the coral reefs."

Another teacher, who had been assigned to teach in one of the largest communities outside of Honolulu, was told on the steamer that the place where she was going was a dry plain, with only a few trees and a school house. She reported this fact to Mr. Kinney, and her fears were set at rest.

The same kind of a tale was told another new teacher, but was elaborated to the effect that there were no white people within many miles.

And these are not all of the tales, declares Mr. Kinney. Many others have been told the teachers, who naturally believe them. One was told that at the place where she was going it rained at the rate of "200 miles a minute."

"From what I have been able to learn," says Mr. Kinney, "the persons who told these tales have been residents of the islands for many years. Here is an opportunity for the promotion committee to do a little work. It is hard enough to get good teachers, without having them scared to death before they get here."

"I am sure it is not a question of malice on the part of the story-tellers, however," he added. "It is just foolishness, but such foolishness is liable to do great harm at times."

## Personal Mention

MISS JENNIE TRASK, a school teacher of Koolan, Kaula, leaves this evening by the W. G. Hall.

A. P. TAYLOR, secretary of the Hawaii Promotion Committee, contributes an article on the Waiholo tunnel and on the Koloa Sugar Company's tunnel and ditch, to the U. S. Commercial Reports for August 21.

HARVEY FAWCETT, for the last eight months a reporter on the staff of the Star-Bulletin, left for the mainland today on the Siberia. Mr. Fawcett will go from San Francisco to Portland, and then on to Chicago, his former home.

A. LEWIS, JR., manager and vice-president of the Bank of Hawaii, is back in Honolulu from a visit of several months on the mainland. Mr. Lewis says that bank reserves in the United States are very large at the present time.

The Honolulu Gas Company, will leave for the mainland in the steamer Wilhelmina tomorrow to represent Honolulu at the Gas Men's Congress to be held in San Francisco. Mr. Strango will invite the gas men to hold their 1916 congress in Honolulu.

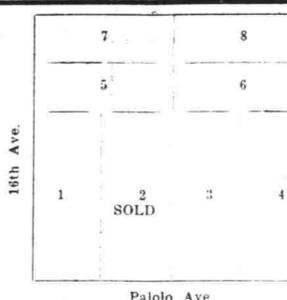
H. T. HARPER, sales manager of the Standard Oil Company, together with J. G. Black, an engineer, arrived yesterday on the Ventura. They will make an investigation to try to ascertain the cause of the recent explosion of the Standard Oil tank at Iwilei.

GEORGE CASPER, the Austrian violinist, and pupil of Joachim, has begun his teaching season at his studio, 1426 Wilder avenue. Ensemble and orchestra work will also commence on September 15. In connection with instrumental teaching theory and harmony will be given.

## NEVADA SENATOR MAY WANT M'CARN'S JOB FOR YOUNG BRODER

Now that the status of the local chief justice's office and the office of the second judge of the local circuit court has been determined by the department of justice, rumors are afloat in local judicial circles to the effect that a change soon is to be made in the office of the U. S. district attorney. Rumor has it that F. K. Pittman, a younger brother of Senator Key Pittman of Tonopah, Nevada, who now is on his way to Hawaii, is to relieve Jeff M'Carn, the present district attorney. Information reached Honolulu in a short time ago that Mr. Pittman was coming to take up the practice of law here.

This report is substantiated by an article appearing in a recent edition of the Tonopah Miner, which is in the form of a letter written by Mr. Pittman, in which he expresses regret at leaving the Nevada city. The rumor, which is flying around Honolulu regarding Mr. Pittman's coming has it that he will be appointed district attorney for Honolulu upon the request of his brother, the United States senator.



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## FEDERAL SITE IS LIKELY SETTLED; WORK EXPEDITED

(Continued from page one)

get a first-hand view of conditions," he commented.

### No Businessmen's Meetings.

With all of the material data already secured, the assistant secretary is not seeking local views on the question. No meetings with businessmen or organizations are being arranged, and from the indications today, none will be arranged. A talk with Mr. Newton rather convinces a questioner that the department has virtually reached its conclusion, that in fact, the matter was practically settled before Mr. Newton came and that no presentation of arguments from one side or the other now will alter his opinion or change the course of events in the treasury department.

Mr. Newton has consistently and effectively avoided saying anything which indicates which way the decision has gone, if it has gone. But the impression left on those who have heard him talk enthusiastically about Honolulu's beauties and the desirability of choosing a site on which the federal building will stand as a worthy enhancement of civic beauty, is that he inclines to the Irwin site. Perhaps a staunch advocate of the Spreckels site might feel that Mr. Newton's ideas incline toward that site. But from the fact that a civic center plan has been worked out with the federal building on the Irwin site an important part of the advocates of the Irwin site would feel after talking to Mr. Newton that the idea he has for Honolulu's federal structure is in precisely playing with the scheme of the Palace square location.

### Playing Golf in a Painting.

As to Mr. Newton's appreciation of Hawaii's beauties, that is instant and eloquent. "I am not exaggerating one whit when I say that I never saw such a

country," he said in the lobby of the Young Hotel today. "There may be some spots where it is not habitable by man, but everywhere I look I see pleasant surroundings."

Collector of Customs Frankila was standing nearby when Mr. Newton made this remark.

Mr. Newton is just as much enchanted with Honolulu as I have been," said the collector, "and I guess it can't be put any stronger than that."

As a matter of fact, Mr. Newton has a kodak with him, but he says he despairs of taking any photographs that will do justice to the country and that he doubts if he will take a picture. "No photograph can reproduce these scenes," he said. "Yesterday I was out playing golf at the Country Club and it was like playing in the center of a splendid painting."

Mr. Newton breakfasted with Collector Frankila today and later went to the collector's office. "He's helping me out in some of my troubles," jokingly commented the collector.

The indications are that the assistant secretary did not take long to conclude what inspection of the proposed federal sites was necessary and that the prime mission of his trip here is virtually ended. He will go to Hilo and the volcano tomorrow, returning on Saturday. He sails on the Manoa next Tuesday for the mainland and said today that within a very short time after he reaches Washington announcement should be forthcoming of the department's decision and that the construction work will be rushed on the chosen site.

## SALMON CATCH IS ONLY HALF NORMAL

SEWARD, Alaska.—A poor year for salmon packers, with a falling off of from 40 to 50 per cent from a full pack, was reported by Captain Hansen of the steamship Santa Ana, which arrived here from Behring sea ports. The Bristol Bay canneries, according to Hansen, lacked 40 per cent of their usual pack, while at Kodiak, Uyak, Seldoca and Port Graham the season closed with only half a pack. A full pack, however, is expected from Chignik and Port Fuller.

The heaviest run in Bristol Bay came July 4, while fishermen were celebrating. One fisherman who was attending to business, caught 3000 salmon.

A cozy bungalow, on an excellent lot in "Makiki Beautiful," can be secured by a first payment of \$500, the other payments to follow regularly at the rate of \$48 monthly. The total cost of home and lot will be \$3450. There are just 5 of these opportunities.

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