

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN - - - - - EDITOR

MONDAY.....NOVEMBER 15, 1915.

## MORE PROOF.

The attention of the territorial grand jury, which for some weeks has been investigating the county jail scandal, is invited to the fact that last Saturday Sylvester Cullen, ex-policeman, former guard at the jail, pleaded guilty to an attack upon H. F. Riedel, grand jury witness in the jail matter.

Cullen's admission of guilt is one conclusive proof of the lax administration in the police department, which in turn has meant lax administration in the county jail, since both are under one head—the sheriff. And the charges before the grand jury are that the county jail administration was so lax that "Jack" McGrath made his escape with ease, after living in riotous freedom with his gangster pals.

Cullen, a guard during this lax administration, found nothing more natural than to visit the home of a grand jury witness who was testifying about jail conditions and try to assault this witness and his wife. And of course the jury will remember that in 1911 Cullen was convicted of assault with a pair of brass knuckles and sentenced to nine months at hard labor.

## THE TRIUMPH OF THE REACTIONARIES.

Whether or not experts on parliamentary rules declare legal the convention's passage of the new city charter draft, it is morally illegal. It is the work of a steam-roller propelled by petty politics and prejudice and engineered by sharp tactics.

The same majority faction which has been in the saddle from the start, on Friday night put through an amendment to the rules allowing its charter to be passed by a majority of the delegates present at that meeting, instead of a majority of all the delegates to the convention. This amendment the opposition at once declared illegal and certainly it is irregular, but the opposition was howled down and the amendment jammed through.

It was thus possible for an actual minority of the sixty-three delegates to pass a document of such momentous importance as a charter for the city of Honolulu.

The extent to which the reactionaries went to jam through their patronage-politics charter may be estimated by their actions on Friday night. A man like W. O. Smith, who has been one of the hardest workers in the convention, who has attended the meetings with notable regularity, who is a respected veteran in Hawaiian affairs, was the victim of gag law, was hooted down by the majority, was ignored by the chairman.

Let the defenders of the reactionaries draw fine distinctions and split parliamentary hairs as they will, the action of the majority is an offense against Honolulu and will be repudiated by the good citizenship of this city.

## MILITARY TRAINING IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Military training in the public schools evoked a fine storm of protest on the part of various people when proposed during the last session of the territorial legislature. They declared the schools would raise a generation of bloody-minded beasts, that the scheme was political, that it was militaristic and that anyway it couldn't be worked, but their greatest point against it was that it was "un-American."

As usual in such cases, they didn't exactly show why it was "un-American" but contented themselves with the condemnation.

Now it may be of some interest to those on both sides of this question to read about a progressive community which has had military training in its schools for more than a decade. The community is Sumter, S. C., and an article about it appears in the American Review of Reviews for October.

It is declared that the system has been given a thorough test and at the end of the fifteen years the superintendent of the schools and the people of Sumter and the students themselves believe the idea a good one and that the practical results have proved the military feature beneficial in several ways:

First, the boys themselves are more enthusiastic now than the first little band of nineteen were fifteen years ago when they came to him and asked him to organize a military company for drill. The boys wish the system to remain in the schools and they prove it by their interest.

Second, the Sumter schools have the United States record for holding a large percentage of boys in the high school. This is attributed in

a large measure to the military feature.

Third, the lessons in attention and concentration and in the inculcation of the ability both to obey and command are splendid results of the military feature.

"There are other considerations, too. The adolescent boy, as everyone that comes in contact with youth knows, requires some outlet of a physical nature and the military training gives this in satisfying measure. The training is admirable. It cannot be emphasized too strongly that the boy is not taught to fight. Preparedness of a military nature is not in the back of his head. He is instructed neither for nor against war. But if the occasion ever arises, the boys trained in the Sumter schools will be prepared to shoulder muskets.

**"The fifteen years' experience in the Sumter schools shows that boys can be trained for the military without the sinister motive of war."**

Dr. Wadman's letter to the Oahu license commissioners concerning alleged orgies at the Leilehua beer garden is the sort which should produce an immediate investigation. Certainly if detachments of soldiers have to be called out to quell disorders, the resort is hardly tolerable. At the last annual session of the license board considerable time was devoted to a consideration of this place, and apparently the license commissioners found no serious cause for complaint. The proprietor told the board he would adopt any suggestion as to the conduct of the beer-garden the board might propose as feasible.

The reasons why Greece cannot easily side against the sea-power allies are something more than her poverty, her coast-line and her tide-washed cities. Since the dawn of history, Greeks have been sailors. Their merchant fleet before the war was equal to Spain's and more than half Russia's. "Only thirtieth of the nations in commerce, Greece was twelfth in the carrying trade and is now ninth or better. The prospect of killing her shipping at one blow might chill as stout a heart as Constantine's."—New York World.

One of the first significant things the Honolulu police investigation has brought to light is the fact that one of the members of the force served nine months of an eleven months sentence in 1911 for committing an assault with brass knuckles. If the profers stick to it they are likely to unearth a few more strong-arm members of Honolulu's valiant peace guardians.—Maui News.

Of course if the British really feel nervous about the Suez Canal, they may adopt the Panama method of providing against forcing a passage—the slide.

It would take just about one intimation of an embargo on war munitions from the United States to guarantee the raising of the British commercial blockade.

It's just one thing after another for the president. Before his honeymoon is over Congress will be in session and not long after that the presidential race is due to start.

Honoluluans who wish to get a first-hand idea of the Russo-German campaign in the Mazurian marshes might visit Kalakaua avenue the next damp evening.

According to the latest estimate of the office strategist, since August, 1914, there have been three hundred and seventy-eight "crucial battles."

Possibly von Hindenburg was ordered to take Riga without reinforcements because he is in the habit of doing those impossible things.

Observers have noticed that the storks at Strassburg are nesting earlier than usual. They'll have to in the war countries.

Princetonians may console themselves with the thought that there are worse disgraces than being licked by Yale.

Harry Thaw, baseball and Mrs. Pankhurst are now taken off the front pages and interned on the inside.

By the way, you notice what effect Gibraltar has had on keeping the Mediterranean peaceful, don't you?

Armenians have too much Turkey and no Thanksgiving whatever.

# 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 for anonymous communications.)

## A CRITIC'S VIEW OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

Honolulu, Hawaii, Nov. 11, 1915.  
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir: Thank you for your kindly notice and criticism of my last Saturday's instalment.

The esteem and appreciation of my friends all over Hawaii is something I treasure more deeply than I can express; every mail gives evidence of the friendly toleration with which they regard my always emphatically expressed opinions.

These they are willing to allow me as a point of view, feeling that my personal affection for German or Ally cannot be affected by whatever difference of opinion may arise.

It is impossible that we should all agree upon so momentous a question as the war; or that even Americans can see the present Administration from the same angle.

While we may try to be fair, we have still the slant of individual outlook and limitation.

I should hate to be unduly censorious or hypocritical towards our own lower President at a time when motives of the best, and measures carefully considered, must seem inadequate to a large mass of our people.

And at this present moment no one appreciates more deeply than I do the intrinsic virtues of Woodrow Wilson. I am proud that America produces such men, as it has produced others. I am glad that thousands of capable citizens throughout our country are satisfied to remain private citizens because it is not in any way fitting that they should be President.

There are plenty of bigger jobs in the United States than that of president, but this particular job takes very peculiar and essential qualities which most of us lack.

It was a very good thing that Aaron Burr, Franklin Clay, Calhoun, Webster, Greeley, Blaine, never became President, though among these were some greater than most of the Presidents.

My real criticism of this Administration was that our worthy, numerous and elaborate protests did not carry weight because we could not back them up by an adequate army and navy. It seemed a good deal like a little unfairly treated boy shooting off his mouth at a grown-up bully.

I wished to point out the fact that by over emphasis in protest and inexcusable indifference to defense by legitimate armaments, we missed the chance to impress the truth of the situation upon any fortified power.

A firmer and less tentative policy at the beginning would have saved us at the trying period between our first protest and this very recent stiffening of our backbone in regard to preparedness.

The nations were shaking their sides over our Mexican "watching and waiting" when the war raged them. But they remembered the policy, and had their opinion of a President who tolerated "Peticoat" Bryan, with his peace vagaries, called a season of prayer to end the war, and kept on threatening what he would do if England did this or Germany did that.

Who can doubt that Mr. Wilson has taken a step forward regarding military preparedness which is entirely beyond the limit of anything he dreamed of when Mr. Bryan was secretary of state?

The almost universal unfavorable criticism of the press here and abroad, Mr. Roosevelt's stinging protests by word of pen and mouth, Mr. Taft's final outspoken condemnation of the Mexican and Philippine policies, have had their weight with the President. He is not impervious to conviction, and a radical change of opinion. We Republicans, especially, remembered Mr. Wilson's declaration in the Democratic platform—and his subsequent turn-about on the canal toll matter.

It is well known that at one time Mr. Wilson did not favor woman suffrage, but he has changed. I am very glad that Mr. Wilson is convinced that the United States stands in need of an adequate army and navy; that as a good Presbyterian he is bringing forth Bible arguments to sustain his war-like attitude.

Without accepting any analogy between our condition and that of the people of Israel, we may well agree with Mr. Wilson that self respect and self protection demand that we have a navy capable of defending our coastal cities against any attack whether from Germany or from England; that we have an army ready to defend any land border that might be attacked.

We are glad, incidentally, that Mr. Wilson has changed his mind upon a matter which touches our local interests very keenly. Yet, that does not alter the fact that we have had a most wobbly administration, pretty well devoid of dignity and statesmanship; that we have suffered snubs quite humiliating; that we have not treated one single matter (from judiciary appointments and consular offices to protests and tariff measures) in the large, broad way in which Mr. Taft or Mr. Roosevelt would have treated them.

And much as Mr. Wilson may deserve the support of the people for his subsequent change of policy, the American people, I am afraid, have made up their minds to try a change of administration.

"Nothing can prevent approaching Republican victories," says a man who keeps in close touch with affairs in Washington. "The Democrats stand no chance of whatever in 1916."

Mr. Bryan's latest gaucherie, if it does not secure his nomination by one section of the Democratic party, will undoubtedly split the party in two. This will be a serious loss to the Democratic party as it stands today.

From all evidences, a formidable section of the Progressive faction will return to the Republican party, making its nominee doubly sure of election. Now comes the latest news that we have several Republican victories. New York is Republican and so is Massachusetts. Do we not have here an ominous handwriting on the wall? I think so. And I think, too, that out of a seething political cauldron (despite individual objections) will rise an (at present unexpected) apparition—the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt by the Republican party.

E. S. GOODHUE.

## LITTLE INTERVIEWS

—GEORGE CASPER: Last week's wet weather and excessive humidity played havoc with my violin strings. About half a dozen of them broke within 48 hours. Catgut strings don't like rain.

—CHARLIE CLARK: Night work street patching isn't so bad if the light is good and the rain doesn't come down too hard. The weather is cooler at night and the men seem to get a good deal of enjoyment out of the novelty of the work.

—J. F. DURAO: I haven't made up my mind yet whether or not I like asphalt macadam for Lusitana street. I believe that the superintendent of public works can be counted on to demand a good road, however, and I am willing to take his word for it.

—W. R. FARRINGTON: Charlie Achi's note of warning sounded in the Chamber Convention is one that should be taken to heart. It makes no difference whether the record is made by holo or kanaka, the continuous record of incompetence seconded by political bickering can only lead to one result.

## HONOLULU.

Honolulu the fairest; Honolulu my queen;  
On your pretty beaches' real fairies are seen—  
Mermaids in the water, mermen on shore;  
Where everyone is happy and want nothing more,  
Your parks and flowers always age sublime;  
No other city has so balmy a clime.  
The stranger is made welcome; and on steamer days  
The band turns out and sweet music plays.

If ever I leave thee I am sure I will long  
For the days I have spent here mid music and song.  
You surely have gained a warm place in my heart,  
And I hope the time is far distant when from you I shall part.  
—M. P. M.

## TRIPS TO KANEHOE BAY GROW IN POPULARITY

The new glass-bottomed boat for Kaneohe Bay coral garden sightseers, which will be put in commission this week, has been urgently needed, so great has been the tide of tourist travel to that resort on the windward side of the island. This will be the second boat in commission there, in connection with the hotel. Many army officers from the transport Thomas visited Kaneohe over the week end, as did tourists from the mainland, who went out when the Matsonia brought the sightseers back from a trip to the volcano.

German army officers are experimenting with rubber foot pontoons to enable soldiers to walk on water, carrying heavy loads and using their rifles freely at the same time.

# FRANCE MAKES BIG REDUCTION IN COST OF MANUFACTURING SHELLS

(By Associated Press.)  
PARIS, France.—The French shell makers have had some difficulty in obtaining the necessary quantities of steel suitable for projectiles. The largest iron-producing region in France is in German occupation and home production has had to be supplemented by orders abroad, chiefly in the United States. Besides ordering steel in the United States, the French shell manufacturers have also bought there most of their hydraulic machines for shell forging. Most of the shells ordered for France in America have been unfinished, the finishing of them being committed to French industry with the object of helping out the small manufacturer who would otherwise be idle and whose works are not equipped for the production of the shell from start

to finish.  
The cost of producing shells has been greatly reduced since the war began, by the immense scale on which they are produced and by the use of the most modern machine tools imported from the United States. The price paid for 3-inch shells at the beginning of the war was equivalent to \$7.69. This price has been reduced by 1-3. American makers of larger size calibres are, it is understood, receiving for 6-inch shells about \$10 apiece. These prices are for unloaded shells; the charging of them is not trusted to the makers from the private arsenals. All these shells must be made with extreme precision for long range work but for short range to pitch shells at the trenches from half a mile to 2 miles old guns can be used and cast-iron shells.

# PANAMA ZONE FREE OF LOCAL YELLOW FEVER FOR TEN YEARS

(By Associated Press.)  
PANAMA.—Notwithstanding reports to the contrary, it is declared that there have been no cases of yellow fever of local origin on the Isthmus of Panama in the last ten years. There have been several cases where the patient died in Ancon and Sarto Tomas Hospitals but all of these originated in countries south and north of the Isthmus.

Early this month a party of six American railway engineers arrived on the Canal Zone from Buenaventura, Colombia. One of them, William A. Munday, of Kansas City, Mo., died in Ancon Hospital the day after arrival. He was taken off the ship while sick and removed to the Balboa Quarantine Station where his case was diagnosed as yellow fever. None of the other members of the party, all of whom were from Kansas City, were found to have been infected.

It has been known to the Canal Zone health authorities for months that in the vicinity Buenaventura, Colombia, yellow fever has been epidemic. Similar conditions exist further inland towards Call where the Americans were employed building a railway. At Baraquilla and Cartagena there also have been cases of yellow fever recently. Ample precautions are always taken to prevent the spread of the disease in Panama when a case is discovered on any of the ships docking at either the Atlantic or Pacific ports of Panama and the Canal Zone. There is never any danger of an epidemic, according to the health officers.

Secretary of War Garrison will recommend that the number of cadets at West Point be increased from 526 to 670 men.

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