

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1916.

## THE BIGGEST BATTLE.

This is the ninth week of what the despatches refer to as the biggest battle in history. In numbers engaged, it surpasses even the bloody months of last year when the Germans were making their successful drive at Warsaw and beyond. Then the actual number of troops in the general arena may have been larger, but not more than half of them were ever in action at any one time.

In the Verdun section when the present battle developed to its full fury, say six weeks ago, something like a million men were engaged on both sides. On the 40-mile firing-line which stretches its terrible semi-circle around Verdun heights, from the Meuse above St. Mihiel to Avocourt, the Germans have between 2500 and 4000 big guns in action or in reserve, and experts figure the average weight of the shells at 20 pounds. There is a shot fired nearly every second of the day, and thus upon the battered French positions nearly 1000 tons of metals are rained every hour. The French have nearly if not quite as many guns and shells as the Germans. Small wonder that the slaughter is beyond power of actual comprehension. Even on one of the "quiet days" men are crushed as a falling rock would crush a swarming colony of ants.

## TWO MEN OF JAPAN.

So much that is ill-considered jingoism appears in the irresponsible press of Japan concerning relations with the United States that two recent utterances of public men of the island empire are refreshingly sane.

Baron Ishii, the new minister of foreign affairs, said in an address at Tokio:

"The relations between the United States and Japan have always been excellent notwithstanding disturbing rumors at times to the contrary, but as far as I can judge they have never been better or as good as they are today." The minister was speaking at the annual dinner of the America's Friend Association, an organization composed of Japanese who are especially interested in maintaining the good relations between Japan and the United States. Viscount Kentaro Kaneko, a member of the Privy Council, presided, and among those present were Premier Count Okuma and George W. Guthrie, the American ambassador.

Premier Okuma made a reference to the United States both at the America's Friends dinner and at a luncheon which he gave at his official residence to the Japanese and foreign journalists. He referred to President Wilson's advocacy of military expansion and said that it was forced upon the United States by the war in Europe. Count Okuma thought that Japan and the United States working together could do a great deal towards rescuing the world from the calamity now oppressing it.

The premier made several references to China, where he believed the revolution was growing worse and threatened to become nation-wide. He compared the situation in China with that in Mexico and expressed the opinion that the United States could understand the feelings of Japan. He added: "If the great republic of the United States and the Japanese Empire should cooperate in bringing about peace in China we shall succeed. Japan wishes to join America in this work of bringing back peace in the world and in restoring order and peace in China."

Japanese are inclined to blame German influence in the Far East for much of the per-

sistent rumor of threatened friction. This, it would seem, is hardly correct. The jingoes both in Japan and in the United States are primarily to blame. Instead of working for amicable settlement through diplomatic channels of matters of dispute, they talk as if everything must be settled by recourse to war.

## A WATER COMMISSION.

(From the Garden Island, Kauai.)  
Enough water runs to waste in the sea from the strip of country between Koloa and Kilauea to keep irrigated every acre of land on the island of Kauai.

The hydrographic bureau is familiar with the fact, the government is in possession of the information and the public knows it in a general way.

What is required is that this surplus water be conserved and distributed—be kept from wasting itself into the sea and be turned upon the lands requiring it.

How may this be done? It will call for brains and capital.

Ahead of that, however, must come a regard for the interests of the public at large, as against individual interests. (We assume that it will be admitted, even in this community, that the public has some rights—occasionally.)

Referring the matter to a disinterested commission has been suggested. By all means. It would probably be a hard matter to find a body of competent citizens on the island who would be disinterested in such a project, but it is possible. If it can be done, an ideal system might easily be created—a system that would put an end to the water troubles of the east end and probably all over the island.

If Governor Pinkham is unable to see his way clear under the law to create such a commission now, he should defer action on any further large water propositions on this island until the legislature may authorize such a body and clothe it with the necessary authority. Action on any large water matters will not be called for under eighteen months, while in a year from this date the legislature may provide all the law required.

We would like to see the governor ginger up on this proposition, for the suggestion is well worth while, and to our mind it is entirely feasible.

Apparently Great Britain does not intend to worry over the American protest against the seizure of 38 Germans and Austrians on the American steamer China near Shanghai a few weeks ago. The British reply to the U. S. note says that if investigation shows any of the 38 are not part of the Teuton armies or navies, they will be released. Great Britain, of course, reserves the right to say whether the proof is to her satisfaction.

Does Greece regret the "benevolent neutrality" with which she greeted the first landing of the Allies on her soil? They have certainly made themselves at home upon Grecian territory—at Saloniki, particularly, which is now under complete Allied control. The Greek protest against the occupation of Suda Bay, Crete, for an Entente naval base will probably be pigeon-holed along with a dozen or so previous protests.

Baron Astor of Hever (the self-expatriated William Waldorf Astor) has been nicked for \$280,000 more in addition to the \$1,400,000 taxes he had already paid this year. Few Americans will feel sorry for the baron.

## SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR HOLY WEEK

Prepared by Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

The topic of the federal council of the Churches of Christ in America for united prayer throughout the land for Wednesday, April 19, is "Heart Searching and Consecration."

The prayer sent out by the council, in which everyone is asked to join, is:

"For a new spirit of separation unto service and an entire surrender of ourselves to Christ; that we may have a deeper reverence for God and His truth; that the living church and its ordinances may have a larger honor

and that spiritual life may be enriched. That good tides of personal and cooperative evangelism may roll over our land and that our churches may welcome multitudes confessing Christ; that with His mind who said: "As the Father hath sent me so have I sent you," officers and teachers of our Sunday schools, and hosts of men and women may be moved to go forth for the winning of children and youth to Christ and the church."  
"Psalms 51:10-13; 139:1-6; 23:24 Isa. 6:8."

## HIS LAST WEEK

Events in the Life of Christ During Holy Week.

Palm Sunday—The Day of Triumph.  
Monday—The Day of Authority.  
Tuesday—The Day of Controversy.  
Wednesday—The Day of Retirement.  
Thursday—The Day of Fellowship.  
Friday—The Day of Suffering.  
Saturday—The Day of Silence and Sorrow.  
Easter Sunday—The Day of Resurrection.

Thursday, in "His Last Week," is known as The Day of Fellowship. What more fitting, after the terrible nervous strain of the strenuous Tuesday and the following day of retirement in which the Master recovered and stored up that reserve of poise and tranquillity which was to be so severely needed within the next 48 hours, that the next day, Thursday, should be spent in exquisite fellowship with His own intimates, the 12 apostles?

The day happening to be the one for the celebration of the Passover,

what more fitting than that Jesus and His twelve should celebrate the service together, in a room set apart? Jesus selected the meeting place, and was saddened somewhat by the contention among the apostles as to their relative place in the kingdom that was soon to be declared. Then followed that sublime lesson in which He washed the feet of them all, and they sat down to meat.

Unable to refrain from what was uppermost in His mind, Christ referred to His betrayal in such a way that Judas Iscariot could stand it no longer and left. The Lord's Supper is a favorite theme for preachers and for painters of religious art, and is one of the best-known stories in Bible teaching. The wonderful conversation of Jesus with His disciples, and His intercessory prayer before journeying forth to the Mount of Olives are among the choicest bits of New Testament literature that have done much to endear the Masters of His heart-hungry followers in all the centuries since.

## PUBLIC STRIP IS NEEDED BY MOANA FOR IMPROVEMENT

### Hotel Company Confer With Authorities in Hopes of Reaching Settlement

That part of the extension of Alahau lane running past the Moana Hotel that the hotel company wants to buy will not be sold to it without the consent of the board of supervisors. E. W. Sutton, of Smith, Warren & Sutton, attorneys for the Territorial Hotel Company, declared in a letter received by W. T. Carden, second deputy city attorney, this morning that abandonment of the part of the right of way desired will be asked of the supervisors at their next meeting.

The land board authorized B. G. Rivenburgh, land commissioner, to give the hotel company a quitclaim deed to the land desired at a meeting Tuesday. Tuesday night the supervisors protested against the sale of the property and instructed Carden to forward their protest to the land commission, the land board, the hotel company and the attorney-general. He did so. This morning Mr. Sutton replied for the hotel company.

He declared that if the hotel company can acquire a cone-shaped strip of the lane it will enable it to build the corner of the addition to the Moana Hotel that is to be constructed with an angle of 90 degrees, simplifying building operations.

Pertinent extracts from Sutton's letter follow:  
"The Moana Hotel is to be considerably enlarged and one wing is planned to extend along the boundary of the right of way in question. This right of way does not meet Kalakaua avenue at a right angle, and as it will simplify building operations if the angle is made 90 degrees, the Territorial Hotel Company requested the land board to sell it a strip of the right of way sufficient to accomplish this purpose. The land needed is a cone-shaped strip about 230 feet long, commencing with a point on Kalakaua avenue, and gradually increasing in width until at the beach end it is two feet wide. The land commissioner, with the approval of the land board has notified the Territorial Hotel Company that he will quitclaim the government's title and interests in the strip at the assessed value of the land, but that prior to so doing that the matter should be referred to the supervisors of the city and county of Honolulu and their approval be obtained."

After conferring with you the writer called upon the attorney-general and found that his views as to the

legal requirements coincided with ours and that prior to the action of the land board he had verbally advised the land commissioner to that effect, namely, that although the fee simple title to all streets, highways, etc., was in the territorial government, that the city and county has been granted the power to control, regulate and supervise the same, and has the right to institute all proceedings relative to the opening and closing of streets.

"There is therefore no dispute between the city and county and the land board as to their respective rights in the matter, unless possibly as to whether the amount realized should be paid to the territory or to the county, and that is a question which need not be settled until after the board of supervisors has passed on the phase of the matter, which unquestionably comes within its sole jurisdiction, i. e., whether it approves the plan for the abandonment of the narrow strip of this highway above described."

"We would appreciate your transmitting to the board of supervisors a copy of this letter, and we will also communicate directly to it the request of the Territorial Hotel Company that this strip of land be abandoned and sold to it as abutting owner."

Only Part Wanted.  
That only a part of the right-of-way is asked for, is made clear by A. A. Young in the following letter today: Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir: Referring to the press mention of the hotel company acquiring government land at Waikiki, I wish to make it clear that we asked for only a portion of the right-of-way to the beach on the east side of the Moana hotel. The land in question contains a very small area, being two feet on the beach and running to nothing on Kalakaua avenue. The object being only to square the line of our property and to facilitate building operations. This would still leave 17 feet right-of-way on the sea-front.  
Yours faithfully,  
A. A. YOUNG,  
President Territorial Hotel Co.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Charles Honolulu, Hawaiian .....28  
Caroline Kaloakal, Hawaiian .....30  
Roy R. Nelson, American .....34  
Mrs. Dell Kishling, American .....30  
William E. Kamahalo, Jr., Haw'n .....19  
Mary Kalawe, Hawaiian .....20  
Hanns Elmos, German .....22  
Berne P. Adolph, part-Hawaiian .....19

## PERSONALITIES

C. M. NEAL, customs inspector, is at his home today, having been taken there yesterday afternoon from the Queen's hospital, where he was operated on recently. He is greatly improved.

## If You Should Inspect

the handsome Bungalow which we are offering for sale, situate on Wilhelmina Rise near Waialae Road you would admit that it offers good value for the price asked  
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The will of Mrs. Lucy Carnegie, sister-in-law of Andrew Carnegie, was filed for probate in Pittsburgh. She left \$10,000,000 to her five children. Formal designation of Thursday, May 25, as "Good Roads" Day for Pennsylvania, was made by a proclamation in territory controlled by him issued by Governor Brum-30 days to pay back taxes, amounting to \$1,000,000 and \$1,500,000.

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## LITTLE INTERVIEWS

L. W. DE VIS-NORTON: The fourth personally conducted tour to the volcano was another real success. I certainly have wonderful luck with the weather, for while the sea was a bit choppy on the way down to the Big Island, the clouds all cleared away as we neared Hilo, and, save for a very little liquid sunshine, Sunday and Monday were perfect days. The party seemed to enjoy itself hugely and I was particularly delighted with two jolly little children who kept us on the go the whole time. The volcano was in finer form than ever, and though there was perhaps a little lessening of activity under the east and south walls, the fire fountains were just great, and the lake had again risen since the previous trip. This is certainly the time to go to the volcano. I am ready to take another party over next Saturday, and am advertising a trip for a week in conjunction with the usual volcano run. This week's trip will take in the lesser known but most beautiful part of Puna, including the great Cave of Refuge, which was visited a few weeks ago by the Promotion Committee. It will be a splendid week if the weather keeps fine, and the rate is so much lower than usual that I expect quite a number of people will go. I hear that one or two parties are being made up

## GOOD FRIDAY CLOSING TO BE QUITE GENERAL

Secretary Raymond C. Brown of the Chamber of Commerce reported today that as a result of industrious telephoning and calls upon various business houses, 25 will close tomorrow, Good Friday. Nine will not. The banks informed him that they will remain open, though ordinarily they have closed on this day. All of the sugar houses will be closed, so that the business section of the city will be quiet tomorrow. City offices will be closed, but the territorial offices will not necessarily be, it was said at the Capitol this morning.

Governor Pinkham declared that he would take no action towards closing the territorial offices, but that it would be left to the heads of the departments to say whether their employes should work or not. Without exception territorial officers declared when questioned that they would "wait and see what the other fellow does."

In previous years the capitol offices have been closed.

For this trip, and it is certainly a good plan for people to take their friends along. I know all the districts well, and can promise a trip full of life interest.

## SHERIFF CERTAIN GRAY INNOCENT; STANDS BY HIM

"I've investigated these charges against Officer Gray of Wahiawa, and investigated them thoroughly, and I'm satisfied that he is innocent of the charges preferred against him by the city attorney's office," said Sheriff Rose today. "And if I'm satisfied of the innocence of one of my subordinates, not only have I a right to sit beside him during his hearings, but I consider it my duty. I'm not through with this case yet, and I'm pretty sure that the final evidence will free the man of all suspicion."

Governor Whitman commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence of William Flack, convicted in New York of killing Giuseppe Marino. Six persons were killed when a New Haven passenger train ran into an open switch near Easthampton, Mass., striking two freight cars.