

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1916

AFTER A NEW CITY CHARTER.

Steps to draft a new city charter are planned by the Civic Federation, and it certainly is time that something were done to combat the vicious document moulded by the reactionary politicians who climbed into the saddle at the charter convention a few months ago.

Honolulu ought to be working toward at least a more efficient form of government, if not toward a short ballot form. Instead of that, the city is doing no better than standing still so far as progressive governmental methods are concerned, and standing still now means retrogression. Occasionally some city official lifts above the murky horizon who seems determined to put efficiency ahead of patronage politics, but he is hampered by the system that has put and kept other officials in office.

Some of the members of the charter convention of odorous fame talked a good deal, after the convention had ended in a fizzle—and a bad-smelling fizzle at that—of going out and letting the public know just how punk was the document the heterogeneous gathering of politicians had produced. But their good intentions ended in talk; they promptly engrossed themselves in private business or other public endeavors. The proposed charter didn't receive half the "bawling-out" it deserved.

Now the Civic Federation is getting together a group of men representing various organizations in the hope of drafting a charter that will be an improvement over both the present plan and the one proposed by the late lamented convention. They couldn't do better than to start by an exposure of the politicians and political interests who climbed on the back of the convention and rode it into the muck. That might wake up some of the dormant citizens for a moment or two.

THE QUESTION OF TODAY.

(By David Starr Jordan in Sunset Magazine.)

World duties are crowding fast upon us of America. The great war concerns us vitally, and its conclusion cannot leave us as mere spectators. Civilization knows no national lines. The growth of science, the spread of commerce have made the world an economic unit. It was fast becoming and it will become again a moral unit. When this awful catastrophe—at bottom the backfire of privilege against democracy—passes, the world, or what is left of it, will resume thought and action, terribly crippled, of course, but on much the same plane as before. The gods are still sitting on their thrones, and skill and knowledge are not dissipated with the waste of human blood. In this juncture every friend of peace and law should be active and alert. A crisis is a "stern winnower," and for the good of our cause those who do mere lip-service are on the other side. It is clear now as many times before in history that "those who are not with us are against us." Those who wish to keep "blood as their argument" counsel the peace-worker to do nothing in the presence of the foe he is sworn to fight. We hear today the old advice, to keep still in a crisis, "to withdraw within ourselves" in the storm, reserving our gentle platitudes until the war is over and the world can again listen without emotion.

But if peace societies, peace-endowments and peace-workers have any reason for existence, this is the time to make their presence felt. To oppose war is not to wait for the time when the world stands in no danger of it. Now is the turning point in civilization's downward curve. It must move upward from now on, for it can fall no lower.

In this time there are three duties which press more firmly than any others. These are: (1) Keep this nation out of the war and on the basis of law; (2) Stop the killing; and (3) Adjust the future so that the same calamity cannot happen again.

The Republican house leader, James R. Mann, may be playing good politics so far as the voting population in his Illinois congressional district is concerned, but it's mighty

MEXICAN SITUATION IS SUBJECT FOR LECTURER

The Mexican situation is on the bill for discussion at the Y. M. C. A. lecture for Thursday night of this week. "What Must We Do With Mexico?" will be the topic of an address by Mr. D. L. Withington. The speaker, having lived for many years on the border and as an attorney transacting business in Mexico, is familiar with much of the history which has given rise to the present trouble. The lecture will be at Cooke Hall at 8 o'clock and is open to members of the association and their men friends.

SEEK GLIMPSE OF OLD WRECK ON SEA BOTTOM

Fifteen persons were taken out on the maiden voyage of the Aquarium, the new glass-bottomed boat at Haleiwa, when it was put into use on Saturday. The voyage was under the personal supervision of Capt. W. C. Mardon, formerly of Catalina, who has been secured by the Haleiwa Hotel to manage the new feature. Capt. Mardon is now endeavoring to locate the wreck of an old Russian gunboat which is said to have been sunk years ago in the bay at Haleiwa.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE WILL CHOOSE FACULTY

The educational committee of the Y. M. C. A. will meet this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the association building to elect the faculty of the Y. M. C. A. Cooperative Trade Schools for the coming year. Plans will also be adopted for the work which will be carried on by the students. Many of the mercantile establishments of Honolulu have cooperated with the Y. M. C. A. in the work of education, and as a result the student will be given work for half time, and the other half will be spent in study

LETTERS

BUMP FOR BAILEY.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin: Sir: As "Thompson" the circuit judge seems to be the prevailing opinion, I know the sport has been made up to me to play a return game on the court S. Bailey, who in this case is a paper describes how much better Honolulu does San Francisco street bumps.

It may have been true at one particular little time that Mr. Bailey was fixed at some remote period, but I happen to know that he has not been away from Honolulu since May 25, on which date the San Francisco Examiner, under the name "The San Francisco Examiner," published the following editorial:

"Up and down the streets of San Francisco the automobiles, the motor-train and places practically unmanageable were well-laid and cars were seen to run up by the side of the corporations, and the holes, especially patched so that progress is a succession of bumps and inconspicuous."

"Surely a better condition than this can be devised. The beating of the public service corporations has not been a success. They are fair when they please and in a way that suits their own sweet will. Whenever they tear up a street for a looker can say with the famous property owner of the South of Market street alley: 'The pavement is tearing up there now is a darn sight better than the one I'll put down.'"

"Why can't we have all the opening and repairing of streets done by the city itself instead of by the neglectful and careless corporations. And if the opening can only be supervised by the city, surely the repairing should all be done by city workmen—of course, at the expense of the corporations."

Now, lest Mr. Bailey's former civility should induce him to invite a scrap by drawing any more invidious comparisons against Honolulu from mainland examples, I would kindly warn him as a friend that by way of "preparedness," I have been filling a scrap bag with munitions to hurl at anyone committing any overt act of that character.

The foregoing shot is only one of hundreds in the locker relating to many things besides roads.

DANIEL LOGAN.

VITAL STATISTICS

BORN

LAINE, in the Kapiolani Maternity Home, Honolulu, May 8, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. James B. Laine of King street, a daughter.

TOBI, in Honolulu, May 7, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Green of King street, a son.

SORAI, in Honolulu, May 7, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Sorai Shiro of King street, a son.

YOSHIDA, in Honolulu, April 17, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Yee Ken of Buckle street, a son.

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YOSHIDA, in Honolulu, April 27, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Lili Sone of 1723 Alexander street, a son, Clarence.

YOSHIDA, in Honolulu, April 29, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Deniz of 1901 Liliha street, a daughter, Elizabeth.

YOSHIDA, in Honolulu, May 8, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lewis, Jr. of 2021 Kalia avenue, a daughter.

YOSHIDA, in Honolulu, April 28, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Satsuki Nakagami of Sheridan street, a daughter, Kiyoko.

YOSHIDA, in Honolulu, April 28, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Bunichi Murakami of Canby lane, a daughter, Toyoko.

YOSHIDA, in Honolulu, May 2, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. Tomoe Furumai of 802 Sienner street, a son, Kumo.

DIED

YAMASHITA, in the Leahi Home, Honolulu, May 8, 1916, Maori Yamashita of Waipahu, Oahu, single, student, a native of this island, 18 years one month and 26 days old.

ISHIYAMA, in Honolulu, May 8, 1916, Yoso, son of Mr. and Mrs. Iwasaburo Ishimura of Kukui street, a native of this city, seven months and 21 days old.

TOBI, in Honolulu, May 7, 1916, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Green of King, near Liliha street, a native of this city.

KUPANA, in Honolulu, May 6, 1916, Kulana (w.), of Kamehameha IV road, Faahia, unmarried, a native of Kona, Hawaii, 90 years old.

NAKATA, in Honolulu, May 6, 1916, Tatsuye, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sukeki Nagata of Desha lane, Paloma, one month and three days old.

LEHUA, in Honolulu, May 9, 1916, at residence in Hulance street, Anna Lehua, age 7 years, 5 months, 5 days. Interment this afternoon in the Catholic cemetery, King street.

Personal Mention

MR. and MRS. CHARLES R. FRAZIER returned today from a trip to the Island of Hawaii, including a visit to the Volcano.

R. T. SHAW arrived in Honolulu in the steamer Ventura to take charge of the steel furniture department of the Office Supply Company.

MRS. ROBERT NELSON was to leave for the mainland today to visit the parents of her husband, Dr. and Mrs. C. R. Nelson, at Oakland, Cal.

ALBERT WATERHOUSE will arrive on the next Matsonia from the mainland, spending some weeks here before leaving for Malaysia on June 16.

MRS. HAZLE SHEROD, who recently underwent an operation at the department hospital at Fort Shafter, has returned to her apartments at the Blaisdell hotel.

JAMES E. LAING, chief pump engineer of Fwa plantation, and Mrs. Laing welcomed the arrival at the Kapiolani Maternity Home yesterday of a 12-pound baby girl. Mother and daughter are doing nicely.

DR. J. H. RAYMOND of Maui expects to leave on the Matsonia the 31st to attend the Democratic national convention in St. Louis. He was to leave the 3rd, but business made it necessary for him to spend the month in Honolulu. He is at the Young hotel now.

SCHOOL BOARD WILL APPOINT ITS TEACHERS

Teachers for the 1916-17 school year will be appointed at the annual meeting of the commissioners of public instruction to be held in the offices of the department of instruction either during the latter part of this month or early in June. The definite date for the meeting has not yet been decided on.

BELT ROAD IN GOOD SHAPE, SAYS AUTOIST

The belt road is in better condition now than it has been in years, according to automobilists who have made the trip over it in the last few weeks. "Hakiau, the joke of the island a few months ago, is in excellent condition," said one man when he returned from a trip around the island last night. "The concrete wall down the side of the Pali is nearing completion, the road there is in first-class shape so far as it has been reconstructed and all along the road much good work has been put in despite the serious shortage in the city's funds."

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RAILROAD WAGE QUESTION SUBJECT OF REFERENDUM

At the Chamber of Commerce of Honolulu has been received from the National Chamber of Commerce a referendum upon the railroad wages and strike situation on the mainland. In this referendum there are presented two reports varying considerably but each going very fully into the matter of rates, road earnings, wages and labor conditions and to the amount ne-

cessary for railroad employees to live according to American ideas and to secure in themselves the greatest degree of efficiency.

Perhaps ordinarily this matter would not be of such deep concern to this territory as it is now when so much sugar is being hauled from coast to coast by rail instead of being transported all the way by water.

William R. Thomas, pioneer iron manufacturer and inventor and mechanical engineer, died at Catsanqua, Pa., aged 87.

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