

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1917.

SOME FACTS.

ANOTHER BOOMERANG FOR GERMANY.

Drowning men clutch at straws. Nations down on their back in a life-and-death fight grasp at every possible weapon to stave off imminent and terrible defeat.

Germany's action in trying to arrange a German-Mexican-Japanese alliance is that wild, blind struggle for life with enemies closing inexorably above her.

Carranza has perhaps listened, for Carranza has the typical Mexican hate of the "gringo" and he may think in the part of patriotism to lie and plot. But Japan is differently situated. Japan is tied up morally and physically with the fortunes of the Entente Allies. It would be the international crime of all history were Japan to join Germany and Mexico in attacking the United States.

There is no evidence that Japan has made either the moral error of listening to Germany's infamous proposals or the military blunder of believing that in the long run such an alliance could be successful. There is no evidence that Japan wishes to enter such an alliance or has any illusions as to its ultimate effect.

"All is fair in love and war." Germany is not alone in enforcing the doctrine of right made by might in this conflict. The doctrine is practised on both sides. And Germany is naturally expected to scheme and intrigue and plot against her enemies.

The infamy of the latest Germany plotting is that, if the despatches be correct, Berlin was carrying on the intrigue before her declaration of "unrestricted naval warfare," and therefore at a time when Berlin was professing friendship with the United States and was actually seeking to use the United States as an intermediary for peace.

This is the sort of diplomacy which, translated into action, tears up treaties, invades neutral countries and murders non-combatants at sea.

Germany's fatal mistake throughout the war has been the assumption that the Central Powers could ignore the public opinion of the world. It has been the attitude that what the Germans did for military expediency must of necessity be right. That is part of the doctrine of *Weltpolitik* as interpreted by the modern militarists. But it is a doctrine the rest of the world will not indorse or tolerate. The brutal directness of the German-Mexican plot, exposed as it now is, will be another boomerang for Germany.

UNCLE SAM'S NEW "FREE PORT."

It will doubtless surprise many American citizens to learn that we have, by purchasing the Danish West Indies, come into the possession of a "free port." Since the idea of a free port for Honolulu has been advanced by progressive citizens here, the course that the United States will adopt in regard to the port of Charlotte Amalie, on the Island of St. Thomas, will be awaited with interest.

This splendid harbor, which is very nearly landlocked, had, by 1885, fallen to a sad state of decay. Its position was thought to be hopeless, until Denmark concluded to confer upon it the privileges of a free port. Almost immediately St. Thomas, as the harbor is popularly known, revived. Standing as it does in the center of the trade routes to all the seemingly rich Caribbean and Central American countries, shipping was quick to take advantage of coaling and dry docking privileges and ships stores on which there had been no tariff duties levied. The natives lived off their harbor to the exclusion of all else.

Due to the initiative of the Hamburg-American line, St. Thomas has become a model coaling port. Leading from the breakwater is a jetty where four vessels can coal at a time. Steamers drawing 17 feet of water can be coaled day or night at the rate of 100 tons per hour.

Just at present, owing to the war and the consequent disappearance of German shipping, hard times have once more struck St. Thomas. The people who had all lived by working in the dry docks, shipyards or coaling station are deprived of a living. Now that Uncle Sam has assumed possession, trade should pick up, but to what degree, cannot be told until the status of the port is made known.

In its headlines this morning the Advertiser refers to the city charter hearing last night thus: "Speakers Concede Bill Would Be An Improvement." That is exactly what the speakers did not do, with the exception of Harry Murray, who is one of the creators and prime backers of the house bill proposing the so-called "convention charter." Many of the other speakers distinctly declared the bill advocates a charter worse than the one Honolulu has now. Ex-Governor Frear put the case succinctly by stating that the convention charter carries further the worst features of the present charter. It is inexplicable how any man could sit through last night's hearing and carry away the impression that the Chamber of Commerce members and other business men who attended the hearing think that the subdivision charter "would be an improvement."

There is no occasion for sneers at the "indifference" of the Honolulu businessmen to civic affairs" after last night's hearing on the city charter proposals. The hall of representatives was crowded, and almost without exception those present were representative businessmen of the city.

Some outstanding facts materialized: 1. The "convention charter" is opposed by the progressive business sentiment of the community. It is frankly referred to as a product of politicians and an opportunity for machine politics.

2. The Chamber of Commerce is not bent on any pet ideas or theories. It does not demand the city managership form of government. What it does demand is the centralization of responsibility—a city government that knows where it is going and why, and not merely that it is on its way.

3. In spite of the defense of the present charter and of the present board of supervisors, the defenders tacitly admit that the present city government isn't working efficiently. They have plenty of explanations why things can't be done, which constitutes confession that things aren't done.

4. Advocates of "short ballot" government propose definite remedies. They are backed by the experience of more than 400 American cities.

5. It is plain Honolulu has come to the point where temporizing no longer answers for a situation steadily growing worse. We have got to reorganize the city government to meet needs now so pressing that they are emergencies.

THREE CHEERS!

Part of the new paving on the lower side of Kalaheua avenue was opened to traffic this morning. Autoists hurrying downtown and getting themselves all "set" for the shock as they traversed the trenches from Lewers road to John Ena road were surprised and de-lighted when there opened before them a vista of clean, smooth, inviting concrete. One auto-owner who has been bumping the bumps for countless years wheeled upon the new highway and gave three cheers and a couple of tigers as he did so, out of sheer exuberance of feeling. The streets in the Beach Walk district are also being opened up, according to latest news from the city hall. Residents of the Walkiki and Beach Walk sections are now indulging in the fond hope that the city garbage department will condescend once more to collect garbage in their neighborhood. That useful service has been omitted most of the time for the past two months, the garbage superintendent saying that owing to the closing of streets it was impossible to collect the refuse, though the facts were that downtown stores found no difficulty in delivering supplies. But then the garbage department is supposedly run for the sole benefit of the public.

BATTLE CRUISER DESIGNS ARE COMPLETED.

Designs for the new battle cruisers of the United States navy were completed recently and indicate that they will be indeed magnificent craft. Four of them were appropriated for in the naval bill for 1917 and six in all will be laid down under the three-year building program of the navy. They will be larger and more expensive than the latest battleships, having a length of 850 feet and an enormous horsepower, calculated to give them a speed of 40.3 miles an hour, or about 16 miles faster than the battleships. From the March Popular Mechanics Magazine.

Charles R. Forbes apparently is going to carry out his announced intention of resigning from the public utilities commission. It is a wise move. Irrespective of what good intentions and industry may be, there is a limit to what a man can accomplish and Forbes passed the limit in taking on numerous public responsibilities. It is not good for the man nor good for public business when an official does not keep in physical trim to attend to his duties. Once before the territory found a superintendent of public works loaded up with more than he could accomplish, with the result that important government affairs went undone or only half attended to. Forbes' friends have been urging for a long time that he confine his attention to one job and avoid the criticism sure to fall on the man in public life who tries to do too much and leaves the ragged ends hanging out everywhere.

That picturesque ruin, Duke Kahanamoku's Wave (which refused to wave at the proper time) has been removed from Our Civic Center. We take a certain satisfaction in knowing that its removal was begun the day after reference to it was made in these columns, though that may have been coincidence, not result. Perhaps it is now not too much to hope that the federal building will be started, something be done about Waikiki reclamation, and the city fathers order a tree-cutting incident among the jungle-grass of King and Beretania streets instead of the iron-woods at Kapiolani park.

Some of the gentlemen who advocate establishing a "restricted district" might well be asked if they have any objections to its being on property adjacent to their homes. Remember, it must be adjacent to their homes—and why put it next to the homes of those who have neither influence to fight it nor money to move elsewhere?

TERMS TALK OF WAR WITH JAPAN UTTERLY ABSURD

Particularly pertinent to the latest development in the world news relative to a proposed plot by Germany to induce Mexico and Japan to simultaneously take up arms against the United States in the event of war between Germany and America is a statement made in Honolulu yesterday by a prominent Japanese on his way home from a comprehensive tour on the mainland.

The statement was to the effect that there was little likelihood of war between the United States and Japan and less reason for any strife. It was made by H. S. K. Yamaguchi, manager and proprietor of the Fujiya hotel at Miyamoshita, the premier mountain resort of Japan.

Yamaguchi is an alert, clear-eyed Japanese of "big business" type. He is all the "pep" and vivacity of a Yankee drummer, speaks excellent English and during his brief stay in Honolulu while the Shinyo Maru was at the dock made use of every minute by becoming acquainted with the local hotel people and leaving several attractive, colored folders.

Accompanying Yamaguchi is his wife, who not only speaks English but has command of three or four other languages from extensive training and education in the United States and Europe. She is a beautiful woman, especially striking in her costume of Nippon. Yamaguchi's brother, S. Kanaya, equally as lively and wide-awake and almost an exact counterpart of the other, wearing typical American clothing of nobly cut, accompanies the hotel man. Kanaya is proprietor of another world famous hostelry, the Kanaya hotel at Nikko. Talk of War "Absurd"

Yamaguchi's remark relative to the feeling between the United States and Japan was an answer to a direct query from a fellow passenger on board the Chinyo who asked: "What chance is there of war between your country and America?"

"It is absurd to think of such a thing," laughed Yamaguchi. "Why, the only way Japan would go to war with the United States would be for the friends at our seat to come over with their rifles and bombard our coast. Then we would take up arms to defend ourselves. Otherwise there is no chance. We know who is our best friend and most lucrative patron—America. We should be crazy to want trouble with her."

Completes Extensive Tour The Japanese hotel man, whose resort is about 45 miles from Yokohama, has just completed one of the most extensive tours of the United States ever made by a countryman. He is absolutely a self-made man, going when very young to Europe and working his way through an education into wealth through many hard years in London, there by gaining a thorough understanding of world affairs.

Yamaguchi landed in Vancouver, went down to Seattle, Portland and Tacoma, then through the Northwest, seeing Spokane en route to the Twin Cities, St. Paul and Minneapolis. He visited in Chicago and Detroit; took the Lake route to Buffalo; spent a short time in Boston and New York; saw Philadelphia and Washington; then cut back to St. Louis, Denver and Salt Lake. His trip finished with a jaunt to San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Motor cars are not made in Japan and the Fujiya hotel has recently placed in operation, replacing coolies and rickshaws, 14 American automobiles cleared \$53,000 for the company last year. Three of these big Hudson super-sixes were bought by Yamaguchi on this trip. The cars are six Hudson, three Overland, three Jeffery, one Buick and one Fiat.

The Americans are his best and most numerous customers, according to Yamaguchi, but he declares with a merry twinkle in his eye when asked what will become of his hotels in the event that America goes to war with Germany: "We aren't worrying about our business. The beauties of Japan will always attract plenty to fill our hotels even though the whole world be at war."

VITAL STATISTICS

BORN.
EHU—In Honolulu, Feb. 25, 1917, to Mr. and Mrs. William Ehu of 1814 Luso street, a son.
HART—In Honolulu, Feb. 5, 1917, to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Charles Hart of 612 Judd street; a son—Thomas.

DIED.
TILTON—In Honolulu, Feb. 28, 1917, George, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Tilton of corner River and Kukui streets, aged one year and five months. Buried yesterday at Kalaheua, this island.
DANTELS—In Honolulu, Feb. 27, 1917, Walter, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry K. Daniels of Hala Drive, Kalihi. Buried yesterday afternoon in Kalahehua cemetery.

DESPITE LOSSES, HAWAIIAN SUGAR CO. DOES WELL

Owing to wet, cold and unfavorable weather early last year the 1917 crop of the Hawaiian Sugar Company may be 3000 tons less than last year's output and 5000 tons below last year's early estimate. But since the cane has not tattered much and is still growing there is hope that the crop may exceed present expectations and estimates. This is one of the many interesting statements that were presented to the stockholders of the company at their meeting yesterday and contained in the report of E. D. Baldwin, the manager of the company.

Many difficulties had to be overcome in harvesting the 1916 crop for the Hawaiian Sugar Company. The rains of January did an enormous amount of damage to fluming and railroad systems and this was especially so with the Gay & Robinson valley fields. The time lost made it impossible to finish grinding until well into September. The estimate had been 29,634.75 and the total sugar production fell to 27,908,187.5. Low juice, stormy weather and prolonged grinding were the principal causes.

Despite the discouraging conditions for production the year was highly successful from a financial point of view. Earnings were \$1,189,290.16. Dividends of \$1,050,000 were paid and the balance of the company was increased from \$692,558.97 to \$831,290.16, as shown by the treasurer's report.

The temperature and rainfall in the early and best growing months have worked against the 1917 crop, but, as stated, there is opportunity still for it to exceed estimates. Harvesting and milling began December 6 and to January 10, 2086 tons of sugar had been made.

Planting for the 1918 crop was started as usual. The young cane crop promises well and with good growing weather some fine yields are expected next year. The report goes at some length into the experiments with various varieties of cane that are being made.

Quite extensive permanent improvements were made last year in tramway, railway, rolling stock, flumes, mill machinery, building and other needs. The cost of these amounted to \$91,093.44. No extensive improvements are required or intended during the coming year.

Bonuses paid for the year were \$175,899.95.

SUNDAY EVENING MEETING LAST IN OLD OPERA HOUSE

Sunday night the opera house will be opened for the last time to public entertainment and instruction when Judge Sanford E. Dole calls the anti-vice mass meeting to order to hear a discussion on the vice conditions of Honolulu.

William D. Adams, lessee, was notified yesterday by the federal custodian, representing the treasury department, not to let the house after that date.

The Boy Scouts, who have a meeting room in the rear, have also been notified to vacate.

With this order the assurance that Honolulu will have the federal building for which it has long sought takes definite shape. The destruction of the opera house takes another old landmark from Honolulu which is fast growing into a modern city in every respect.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

—CAPT. CHARLES H. BAKER: By the size of the gun William Wadon carried one might think he was a pretty big policeman.

—HARRY E. STINSON, manager Young and Hawaiian Hotels: I hope I may be able to bring many of my coast acquaintances to Honolulu. Once they are here it will be just that many more boarders.

—CHRIS HENDRICKSON, Great Falls, Montana, business and Y. M. C. A. man: I have already written back to friends that if they have never been sure of heaven to come down here and have a look at it. I also told them that the Elks are still the Best People on Earth and especially so in Honolulu, and that you couldn't beat the quality of the club manager here. The Y. M. C. A. also looks good to me, although I have only seen the outside of it so far.

PERSONALITIES

JOHN H. MAXAN left on the Mauna Kea Wednesday for a business trip to Hawaii.

MRS. M. C. WILSON and her daughter, Miss Lillian Wilson, and Miss Genevieve

Chater

Problems Could be Solved by Use of Paid Publicity.

Community Troubles almost always result from a lack of clear understanding.

Not Everyone can attend public meetings. Others are just pig-headed and won't.

Clear, Concise Statement of facts and issues, made thru

Paid Publicity gives you the opportunity to gain a full knowledge of situation and reach sensible, deliberate conclusions.

Thorough Understanding of a subject breeds intelligent action just as a knowledge of what is in your store assures intelligently.

Paid Publicity Opinion.

The net paid circulation of the Star-Bulletin February was 6598



Kare, all of San Francisco, are here for an indefinite stay at TrenTown Waikiki. They expect to go to the Volcano this afternoon in the Matapia.

Mrs. MacGill in Shanghai about after he has visited in Japan.

E. E. MACGILL of Great Falls, Montana, and St. Paul, Minnesota, was an interested visitor in Honolulu yesterday on the Shinyo Maru, staying here long enough to look up several friends. He told of the unprecedented prosperity in the Northwest and promises himself a longer stay here on the way home. MacGill does a large mortgage loan business in the Northwest. He is going now in a party of 20 in charge of the Raymond-Whitcomb Tours to Yokohama, and

lists have discovered that a dye of khaki color can be obtained from the wood of the Argentine tree.

B. Crumpton of Birmingham, raising money for missionary advertising in Alabama

HONOLULU RITAE

6 hill lots leh Manoa Vall

After the road improvement completed in Manoa Valley, it is very probable that there will be no further opportunity to buy at original prices, if at all.

THESE FINE LOTS

are all of wide frontal good depth, and the streets upon which they front are now being paved. Electricity, and water are in the neighborhood. Prices are still low, being

\$1650 pt

Terms if desired \$477.

Phone 3477



Fort St.

RICHARD H. TREAS. CHAIRMAN, J. B. TREAS. SECRETARY

Hawaiian Seniors

We are headquarters for the finest mementoes of a trip to Hawaii. Souvenir Bt, C. Buttons, Scarf Pins, Spoons, Forks, Npkins, etc.

VIEIRA JEWELRY CO. Hotel St., near Fort

Henry Waterhouse Co., Ltd.

FOR SALE

Well established

Family Hotel for sale.

Particulars at office.

Henry Waterhouse Co., Ltd. Corner Fort and M. Streets

All the... **Shanop Trust Co.** Sales Agent Phone 3646 Bethel Street, opp. Post

McCully Tract Lots

Just off King Street where the car turns to run to Waikiki. Size 60x120 feet.

Price \$1000.00

Guardian Trust Co., Ltd.

Real Estate Department

Tel. 3688

Stangenwald Building