

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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Examples For Avoidance

One of the admirable symptoms of the recent Civic Convention was the amount of confidence it evinced in its capacity to decide questions of ways and means of community progress without slavish reliance upon borrowed ideas. Examples from abroad were properly cited as aids to conclusions on debated questions, yet had these not been supplemented by reasons of local bearing they would have failed in carrying power. This is as it should be.

Every new scheme, or phase thereof, appearing in the mainland is not necessarily an improvement upon how things are done here, and, where individual conduct is concerned, civic systems admittedly less indefinite in distribution of functions than the Honolulu charter sometimes develop individual manners of a type to be avoided like plague. Nevertheless there are occasional indications that local officials take these evil examples as their models of behavior, as if they thought the normal statics of "live wire" direction of affairs necessitated displays of ill-temper. Symptoms of this state of mind must be suppressed by the unmistakable tabu of public opinion, so that whatever form of city government exists the management of public business will not be disgraced by personal squabbles, interesting to no right-minded citizen except as a warning how he should mark his ballot at next opportunity.

Sacramento, capital of the Golden State, recently furnished one of the examples mentioned which should be a caution to Honolulu city fathers against upstart tactics that tend to grow upon what they feed until they culminate in disgusting scenes. In this case the presiding commissioner taunted a fellow-member with being unable to run his department. There was a bet of \$100,000 made forthwith on the question, then the following insulting outburst by the other to the president: "My credit is better than yours any day and I pay my bills which is more than you do. I can put up more money than you can and my credit is better than yours at the bank." Upon this the president called another member to the chair and, taking the floor to defend his good name, said, among other pointed things, "No bloated bondholder is going to assail my character." Finally, the belligerents were exchanging challenges to fist combat, while the acting president, after an ineffectual plying of the gavel for order, rang for the sergeant-at-arms to put the disputants out, but suddenly the duel of tongues subsided and the president meekly resumed the chair.

There must have been a Falstaffian touch of comedy to the scrap between the swashbuckling city fathers, for the report in a Sacramento exchange was, "So close together did the two commissioners get that their vests touched, but they were still out of arm reach of each other"—which would indicate that the physique of both was considerably of the bay-window order. However, it was vaudeville in the wrong theater.

AN ENORMOUS INVESTMENT.

It is not many years since the assembled wisdom of the nation was critically dubbed the "billion-dollar Congress," eliciting the retort from Congressman Tom Reed of Maine, a protagonist of the colossal budget under consideration, "This is a billion-dollar country." Even then it was a "day of small things" in comparison with this first year of America's participation in the world liberty war. Imagination the most inured to large figures must be staggered in attempted contemplation of the billions piled upon billions of money, to be raised by loans and taxes, for the militant purposes of the United States and her allies, by action of the national manipulators of finances.

In addition to the loans advanced by the government are also to be considered the billions loaned by private financiers to the Entente countries before this nation entered the conflict. Mingled with public amazement at the arithmetical magnitude of this unstinted accommodation to our Allies has been some questioning of the wisdom of such apparently prodigal disposition of the country's resources in money. Such criticisms are based on the supposition that all this lending business means sending the money out of the country when we need it ourselves to pay war bills. Knowledge of the facts, however, will show that the money will mostly remain at home, enormously stimulating American industry and assuring, for a generation to come, the influx of a steady stream of interest money into the country, besides which the principal until repaid will stand as a huge credit to the United States on the books of the nations accommodated. The loans will in fact help America to retain her new-found distinction as a credit nation with dollar exchange predominating in the world's money market.

These loans have been seasonably explained as being merely "advances of credit." The funds secured thereon go to pay for war supplies bought by the Allies in this country. During the three years of the war lately passed the actual war shipments made to the Allies amounted to nearly \$3,000,000,000. Besides the hundreds of mills and factories kept in operation to produce these shipments, a large proportion of which were the result of the financing of the Allies with American capital, American farming industry has been enriched by the sale of its products to the same countries.

In other words, the advances to the Allies amount to the same thing as an investment of capital in American industry and commerce.

If Germany's spy system is what it is cracked up to be, she is certainly getting ready for a hot old

The Argentine Prepared

It may surprise many persons to know that in case Argentina decides to cast her lot with the Allies, she will be better prepared to enter the war than was the United States one year ago. In the Argentine, they have compulsory military service and can mobilize an army of 185,000 trained and equipped men between the ages of 20 and 30 at any time.

Singularly, the idea of the state insisting upon the minimum quality of its citizenship was introduced into Argentina by Sarmiento, who while minister to Washington from that country was elected president. He not only brought back with him the theory of compulsory education, but caught the idea of universal service from the draft of the troubled Civil War period.

Every citizen of Argentina on reaching 18 years must be enrolled. While there are many exemptions from military service, there are none from enrollment. Anyone evading enrollment is required to perform service in the ranks of the general army for one year in excess of the period normally required. If the culprit is over 45 or less than 19 and therefore useless for military purposes, he is fined \$50 instead. There are many other fines imposed on shirkers and those responsible for him as parents or guardians. The proceeds of these fines are devoted to the development of target practice, a thing that is obligatory on all male citizens.

Even those who are exempted must do their bit toward the defense of the country. Each citizen exempted must pay a special tax of \$12.50, if he is called to the standing army and does not qualify.

Argentina recognizes the status of volunteers, however. Her volunteers, of which there is a standing army of 5000, are men who have passed a four years course at the National Military school, and of course their status with the army is a permanent one. In order for these officers to reach the grade of major, however, they must spend an additional two years at the Army War college. In this way the republic is assured of a high type of military intelligence in its staff officers and higher field commands.

The navy of the Argentine republic, while small, is provided for even in advance of the army. When the drawing takes place that summons the young men to the colors, the first numbers drawn are assigned to the navy until the required quota of each district is filled. Since it takes longer to make a sailor than a soldier these men must serve for two years.

This in theory, at least, means that Argentina is prepared to do her share in any emergency that transpires. At all times 350,000 men between 18 and 45, fully trained, are available for call. Rifle and shooting clubs which are encouraged and supported by the government throughout the country have 313,474 qualified marksmen in their membership.

The question which is already agitating Americans as to the advisability of retaining universal service after the war is a thing, it appears, which has been answered by all other republics in the world.

LOYALTY OF ADOPTED SONS WELL EXPRESSED.

Distinguished voice was given to the sentiments of all loyal adopted sons of America by Chief Justice Andrew A. Bruce of the supreme court of North Dakota, at a dinner given this month at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., by the American bar association, having Elihu Root as the guest of honor, when he aroused the enthusiasm of the lawyers present with the following eloquent remarks:

I speak from the viewpoint of the foreign born, I, and millions of others like me, came to this country alone, without money and without friends. We sponged on all that America had, her free lands, her free schools, and, above all, her spirit of open-hearted comradeship. She owed us nothing but she gave us all. We swore allegiance to her flag, her constitution and her laws. We would be recreants, ingrates, perjurers and curs if, in the hour of her need, we counseled with her enemies and were disloyal to her cause.

Each day brings news from the mainland of epidemics and other dread diseases, claiming their victims by the score. Keep Honolulu in a sanitary condition, even if there is no epidemic within five thousand miles of us. Anything done which tends toward cleaning up improves the city as a whole. The vital energy of the people lies entirely in the health of the people as individuals. Teach the children to preserve their health above all things.

We tremble to think of what Kaiser Bill will do to that first American soldier captured, dead or alive, for whom he has offered a reward of \$100. We hope, for humanity's sake, that the man will be dead when captured. But that's all right, Bill. There'll come a day. Since you are acting like an old-time American Indian, you may be sure you and those like you will be handled in the same manner.

With fish so plentiful that they are actually jumping out of the water as an invitation to be caught, it seems strange that the local food commission cannot get somebody to tell them how to reduce the price of fish. Might try bringing a half dozen Italian fishermen from San Francisco.

The average American citizen will be equal to "sitting in" on any old game, after he gets through seeing each raise the federal government makes in the war taxes.

Is your wife an asset or a liability in this war game?

NOT IN FAVOR OF GIVING VISITING PUBLICITY AGENTS FINANCIAL AID

That every effort should be made to facilitate the work of moving picture men, lecturers, writers and others who desire to come to Hawaii to do their work, but that no financial assistance should be given, was the feeling of representatives of island hotel, transportation, and promotion agencies who held a conference Tuesday afternoon at Lanikela. The rally of the Promotion Committee scheduled for that time could not be held on account of the Civic Convention.

The meeting followed a long series of requests which have come to the committee, hotels and transportation companies from persons bent upon publicity propositions that they be given free access to the islands. This the conference yesterday considered impossible, although these visitors will be offered guides, special permission to have access to what they want, and other privileges.

OAHU REGISTRY FIGURES SOON TO BE FINISHED

That the registration of military eligibles on the island of Oahu will be completed with the week is the belief of the officials who have charge of the work at police headquarters. Clement Wong, the registrar, who has had charge of enrolling the citizens of this country who are of military age, estimates that the total registration will hit the 12,000 mark. A few scattered cards are handed in now and then, but the majority of records are largely on file.

At present David Kalanokalani at the capitol building has all of the cards, and a staff of clerks under him is working to file them away and record their stories. As soon as this work is completed, Registrar Wong will be able to tell the exact figures. Only two new slacker cases have been reported recently, those being the two Hawaiians from Maui, who were released on \$1000 bail each. Wong registered these men yesterday. They are Manuel Kalua and Charles Kana.

LETTERS

ABOLISHING DEATH PENALTY

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin. Sir: The other day I was speaking to a friend of mine about the legalized crime of capital punishment as it now exists in these islands, and also in some of the states in the United States, and she said: "Yes, but I believe there are instances where it is necessary and right to use the more drastic measure and give the death penalty."

In thinking about the remarks afterwards I concluded that it might make a difference whose boy it is who is to receive the sentence. If it were my boy, I am sure that no matter what he may have done in the way of crime, my mother heart would always plead that his life be spared, though he might have to spend all the rest of his days behind prison walls. No mother would ever think her boy should be given the maximum penalty for any crime.

There is a movement nation-wide now on to repeal the death laws in the United States. Dear old Missouri, that always has to be "shown" has made good this time and joined the ranks making 12 states that have laid aside their death traps. A petition to abolish capital punishment under U. S. law will go to congress this winter from every state in the Union.

What are the good people of Honolulu and these islands going to do in regard to this question of life and death? Are we going to be lagging behind the race? Will any come forward and stand for the right treatment, the humane and sane treatment of criminals in these islands? Why don't we cut the gordian knot of all intricate niceties and fictions of the law, tear down the death gibbet and drive the hangman from Hawaii nei forever?

Sincerely yours,
MARTHA E. TOWNSEND.
Wahiawa, Oahu, Sept. 19, 1917.

FILIPINO COMPANY WILL BE INSPECTED NEXT SUNDAY NOON

The first regular inspection of Company H, 1st Hawaiian Infantry, Wai-pahu, will be held on the ball grounds Sunday noon. Although the company has nearly a full complement of 150 men, very few of the guardsmen have as yet secured their uniforms. This new company was organized August 26, and since that time has had 10 drills. The new recruits are making an excellent showing, according to the officers, who are Capt. Harold Dyson, 1st Lieut. Henry Dyson and 2nd Lieut. Fred Carter, Jr.

The Wai-pahu company was organized shortly after the Ewa company had been formed in line with the policy of the military officials to organize the guardsmen in the outlying districts.

OFFICERS OF CAVALRY LOST ON MOUNTAINSIDE

To be lost overnight in the fog on the slopes of Mauna Loa was the not too pleasant experience of three officers of the 4th Cavalry, according to word reaching here from Hilo. The report is that Maj. Van Way, Dr. Bull and Dr. Clark started on Thursday morning to hunt goats on the mountain and had gone but a little distance when a heavy fog overtook them and they were compelled to crawl on hands and knees to avoid falling into holes in the surface of the earth. They camped at night by a fence and when the fog lifted in the morning found themselves near a stone hut where they had been told to spend the night.

ARMY ORDERS

Captain Charles H. Bonesteel, Infantry, D. O. L., senior inspector-instructor, National Guard of Hawaii, is detailed as a member of the board of officers appointed to meet on the island of Oahu, by paragraph 1 (b), special orders, No. 129, these headquarters, current series, vice Maj. L. C. Crawford, Infantry, National Army, relieved.

The following named officers are detailed as members of the board of officers appointed to meet on the island of Kauai, by paragraph 1 (c), special orders, No. 129, these headquarters, current series, as indicated below:

Capt. Louis D. Pepin, C. A. C., D. O. L., vice Maj. Lawrence C. Crawford, Infantry, National Army, relieved.

Maj. Merle M. Johnson, 1st Hawaiian Infantry, N. G., vice Capt. George K. Larrison, Hawaiian Coast Artillery, relieved.

First Lieut. Alsberry K. Hanchett, Hawaiian Medical Corps, N. G., vice Maj. L. L. Patterson, Hawaiian Medical Corps, N. G., relieved.

Private Glen E. Sturgeon, Supply Company, 9th Field Artillery, will be discharged from the army by the commanding officer, Schofield Barracks, H. T., on account of a sentence to imprisonment by a civil court.

Private Curtis A. Walker, Coast Artillery Corps, 10th Company, Oahu, will be discharged from the army by his commanding officer, by order of the secretary of war, for the convenience of the government, to enable him to accept appointment as senior watchman in the immigration service at the port of Honolulu.

PERSONALITIES

ATTORNEY H. G. MIDDLEDITCH recently moved to Kona and opened offices in the Bank building.

REV. L. L. LOOFBOUROW, pastor of the Methodist church, has gone to the mainland for a five weeks' vacation.

MISS VIRGINIA FREAR left the early part of the month for Kent Place, a preparatory school in New Jersey. Her father, ex-Governor W. F. Frear, accompanied her to her destination.



of Sports

Graduate Oriental Boys Not Adapted To Game of Football Finds Mills

School Abolishes This Sport After Consideration By Faculty Members

Finding, among other things, that the Oriental boys is not adapted to the game of football, the faculty of the Mills school has abolished this sport and will take up basketball instead. This action was taken yesterday afternoon at a meeting of the student body which followed a meeting of the faculty in which the matter was thoroughly considered.

This means to the interscholastic league that Mills school will not have a football team in the series this year. At the meeting of the league on Tuesday when the schedule was drawn up it was stated that Mills might enter a team in the second series, but now it is certain that they will not.

Under the direction of Coach KILLAM—in Honolulu, September 19, 1917, to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd R. Killam, of 2665 Oahu avenue, Manoa, a son.

KANE—in Honolulu, September 19, 1917, to Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Kane, of Eleventh avenue, Kaimuki, a son, Philip.

YEAGER—in the Department hospital, Port Shafter, Honolulu, September 17, 1917, to Sgt. and Mrs. Clarence E. Yeager, of 319 Vineyard street, a daughter, Maude Elaine.

MARRIED
LEE-FONG—in Honolulu, September 18, 1917, Lee Tau and Miss Fong Ah Kau, Rev. Kong Yin Tet, pastor of the St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal church, officiating; witnesses, Manuel Chan Quon and W. Kwai Fun.

LEE-KWAI-MERSBERG—in Honolulu, September 17, 1917, John Lee Kwai and Miss Ida Mersberg, Ernest L. Miner, of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, officiating.

CALHAU-BAKER—in Honolulu, September 15, 1917, Jess M. Calhau and Miss Emma Baker, Rev. Father Stephen J. Alenastre, of the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, Pashou, officiating; witnesses, Manuel M. Calhau and Estrella M. Calhau.

DIED
FERNANDES—in Honolulu, September 19, 1917, Mrs. Justin Santos Fernandes, of Kapoloani and Kinuau streets, a native of Funchal, Madeira, Portugal, 39 years, seven months and 23 days old.

The state department was advised of the sinking Aug. 23 of the American schooner Carl F. Cressy, of Bath, Me., by a submarine.

Under the direction of Coach

With star players from League attending their that will bid fare to with Mills team will boast a

In dropping football school gave as their reason men are all too small, many being at the most 150 weight, and many of them 100 pounds. They also they will have no one to this year, nor time to put this year necessary.

Mills took up football ago and has been competing interscholastic league with

Language this year this school

26.

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