

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN EDITOR
THURSDAY DECEMBER 13, 1917.

A Revelation and A Warning

The revelations of German intrigue centering about Honolulu which the Star-Bulletin is able to publish today add to the varied war-history of the past three years a new chapter of international interest.

How wide was the mesh of German organization and how devious were its methods are told graphically in the diary to which Captain Grasshof of the interned German cruiser Geier confided with amazing indiscretion not only facts but copies of telegraphic messages involving not merely himself but German residents of Honolulu.

With what scope the German government worked abroad is shown in the fact that this commander of a small and obsolete German war-vessel, this German naval officer who theoretically was isolated in Honolulu, nevertheless appears as the active agent in scheme after scheme to foment international trouble, and in plan after plan to violate the neutrality of the United States after he had interned his vessel under American and international law.

Von Papan and Boy-Ed—those two names of notorious significance—those two arch-scoundrels associated with von Bernstorff—and the genial, plausible Count von Bernstorff himself appear in the pages of the diary as concerning themselves with German and American affairs. Their dealings in forged passports for Germans passing through Honolulu will come as no surprise, for conniving at

forgery was merely one of their lesser pieces of mischief.

As to the repeated references to the German consulate, as to the entries involving Klebahn, Rodiek and Schroeder, it may be stated that the information contained therein and presumably a great deal more is in possession of United States officials and that they are in a position to act upon it.

Beyond the absorbingly interesting story of machination and intrigue, with its atmosphere of secret agents and far-fung plotting, there is the fact that most of the activities of Grasshof should have been made impossible. There is the further fact that Hawaii has not hitherto had a half-realization of the extent of German intrigue.

These revelations should serve to wake up every American citizen who is inclined to easy-going indifference to the facts of German activity in Hawaii. They should convince every such citizen that nothing but the most ceaseless vigilance will serve to protect Hawaii and the nation from the ceaseless conspiracies of the enemy. They should open every eye to the faithlessness of German word; to the ready violation of law and honor by German officers; and emphasize again the already known fact that a promise, a pledge or a parole is nothing to the German but "a scrap of paper."

Capt. Grasshof carried too far the German contempt for "a scrap of paper." He confided to "a scrap of paper" the story of intrigue, and now that "scrap of paper" turns up to expose to the world himself and the men with whom he dealt.

Letters OF TIMELY TOPICS

AMERICA NO PLACE FOR FOREIGN PROPOGANDA

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.
Sir: "A Reader of the Star-Bulletin" writes to ask me if I think Mr. Cleary's all right. He hints that because Mr. Cleary is Irish and not German, I may be silent.

The fact is, I had already written something about the matter for my regular column, but as it may be some time before that could appear, I'll copy the letter here.

I think Mr. Cleary has no grievance against Messrs. Henry May & Co. They were perfectly justified in their action, went slowly, and with unusual tolerance.

Other firms might well take them for an example. The fact that Mr. Cleary so faintly justifies his action is prima facie evidence that he lacks a true conception of the duties of an American citizen.

From a literary standpoint his poem is good, very good; its sentiment is rank.

Nothing can excuse it for any period of American history, before, during, or after the war.

Mr. Allen says editorially: "Many an American citizen still sympathizes with Ireland, and is frank about expressing that sympathy. But it is one thing to speak for Ireland, and another thing to speak for Germany." That's it.

This poem speaks for Germany's cruelest outrages upon innocent women and children in England: "When Germany shall batter down And set aflame the wooden walls, When grey coats march through London town, And Britain's bloody sceptre falls, When stands exposed before the world The leper of humanity— Then Freedom's flag shall be unfurled, Ireland will stand—with Germany."

Before writing such disgraceful stuff Mr. Cleary should have given a thought to his own personal necessities. Well, this war is setting a lot of things. One important matter is the citizen's accountability to his neighbor, his community, his government—not to some distant land from which he came.

This war is going to make a country of the United States; a homogeneous people. We're going to be closer to England, Ireland, Scotland, France, and the other countries, even Germany, but we're going to protect the United States of America, too, within and without. You bet!

We're going to be more careful who gets in, and when they get in, how they conduct themselves. America has too long been made a field for lawless campaigns against other peoples: insane, anarchistic crusades, in which wild-eyed socialists of all countries have raised their bloody flag.

We want to be done with BLOOD, and the hideous creatures who preach it. We want true brotherhood and companionship and love in this broad land of plenty.

We don't want our food wasted in feeding exiles who come here to breathe out murder and revenge. Ireland has had grievances, but they are being corrected by a country well inclined to do the right thing by all its people. That Ireland's problem is still a problem is due largely to Ireland itself.

That's plain to every man who reads history aright. And the Irish temperament, delightful as it is in many of its phases, is also one cause of the difficulty of dealing with the Irish. England is coming slowly but surely to a solution.

There's no bloodiness or "marching through London" required, and so far as the United States is concerned, it's not our affair.

The Irish who come here to live must leave that matter overseas. They cannot inject it into our politics or our social life. They may think what they please, but the law is going to regulate what they write and say.

We have as much right to demand this of the Irish as we have of the Germans. Our efficiency has been impaired by German, English, Scotch, Irish, Russian, Polish, Jewish, Italian and other kinds of Americanism.

It's time we shut up about the blood that's in us, or the bestever country from which we ourselves or our fathers were glad to be expatriated.

We're no better than we are, no matter who we are. If we get drunk on German beer, English port, Scotch whisky, Irish Fenianism, Russian anarchism, Italian blackhandism, Jewish graft, we're not fit to live in America.

This country has treated everybody (except possibly the negro and the Chinese) right. We have treated them with good nature and generosity. Till now, we have trusted their good-will. If anything, we've been too good to

them, as sometimes we are to our own children.

We may have spoiled them by over-indulgence. Ingratitude, as we know, is often the result of such spoiling. Mr. Cleary has been ungrateful for what America has done for him.

No big talk or explanation can atone for the cruel sentiments he has expressed—nothing but a contrite heart. E. S. GOODHUE.

ANENT THE PRICE OF FISH.

Honolulu, Dec. 9, 1917.
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir: When in the course of beligerent events, it becomes necessary for one clique of men to decide the destinies of the general public, and to declare unto oppressed mankind its obligations and liabilities unto them of the inner band—it behooves humble mortals to inquire into the reasons thereof and the logic therein that, being enlightened in the flame of purification, we may come to understand the sacred mysteries. For the way to Nirvana lies in the regeneration of man and in the pronouncing of the secret words. Let him who would read of the sacred Vedas first utter the mystic OM, lest in confusion his thought be lost, and learning slip away into oblivion.

A mystic name and a mystic tie, the territorial food commission—insured in the powers of government, product of the brain of Brahma. Long may it endure and its usefulness be prolonged. Let not the murky waters engulf our sovereign sires.

Nor, please Allah, may it come into conflict with that glorious trio resident in its disregard of public weal or of public woe. Far be it from the laity to dim the luminosity of the sacred symbol, or to intrude into the inner recesses of Chillingworth, Winston and Cooke.

And it shall not be for the public to demand but for it to humbly accept. It shall not dictate, for it is subservient; and the public mind is a public void.

Let him who gainsaith the operations of price-exploiters, or the machinations of fish-boosters, be an athema. Be ever accused that sodden train commonly known as the people. The senate halls of Iolani shall not be garnished in onions but in fish; smart society is immersed in the rarest of piscatorial aromas, not infrequently located near the corner of River and Hotel streets, nor imperceptible in the near vicinity of beautiful Palolo.

This is a realization of how humble and insignificant is the general public, and of how large and all important are those intricate interests entering into the fishing industry. For be it remembered that, withal, the public pocketbook and the public ballot are the only assets of the commonwealth.

And it is really surprising how presumptuous we are to question the right of our masters to charge us whatever prices they may deem fit, or to offer loaded figures to our susceptible food commission, or to present claims so harrowing as to cause even the denizens of the deep to weep scalding tears of sympathy.

Albeit, the public has the option of eating or not eating fish, and the Lord knows how scarce piscia has become in the seven seas, and how utterly necessary it is for Honolulu to revert to feudal times in the conduct of its fishing rights. And it is unlawful for us to dip beneath the waves that roll on private strand or, for that matter, gaze upward into its over-doming canopy of heaven. For having read Lord Byron's apostrophe to the ocean, in which he extols the freedom of the briny deep in that immortal passage in Childs Harold:

"Man marks the earth with ruin—his control Stops where the shore— I am reminded that, after all, Hawaii has sadly upset poetic fantasy in her far-reaching endeavor to control not only land, but sea and sky.

Now it is not astonishing that prices should aviate like the soaring of that glorious bird the eagle into its hidden aeries, but the manner of passage is deep down into the hallowed folds of our humble pocketbooks, whose strings are not fastened into Gordian knots. And it is not to be remarked of how apparently obscure is the vision of proportion, entertained by these lovely isles of the mid-Pacific, in their endeavor to associate autocratic prices with democratic means, nor even the judgment of our learned food administrator in the advancing of theories so mathematically perfect, as to preclude all practical ideas or results.

Hence it is that all things being considered, we must take a fraternal view of the universe that is in Hawaii. Behold the little red foxes that run about seeking prey and the ensnaring of a busy world. Here is a bundle of sticks, in each separate rod a weakness, in the union, strength; there, a bow and arrows, the symbols of invincibility. True friendship hath

IN THE TRENCHES

They'll be happy on Christmas.

Thinking of the folks at home.

It is your duty then to make your own home Christmas happy.

Nine more shopping days before Christmas.

Paid Publicity Helps Shoppers.

The general circulation of the Star-Bulletin for Dec. 10 was 6888

Tenement Evils Become Acute

Deplorable conditions of overcrowding in the tenements due to the sudden influx of laborers and their families from the plantation, temporarily affluent with bonus money, have been brought to the attention of the Star-Bulletin in the hope that official and private agencies will unite to prevent grave social evils arising from the indiscriminate passing of men, women and children.

It appears that the situation is acute for a double reason; first, the payment of the large bonus has caused many laborers to quit work, either for a few weeks of "good time" here in the city, or to take passage to the Pacific coast. The stories of fortunes to be made in California still lure ignorant Spanish, Portuguese and others, in spite of the cruel disillusionment so many have suffered.

Coming to the city either to spend their suddenly-acquired money or in the expectation of securing steamer-passage, the laborers and their families take up quarters in the tenements. Those who hoped to go to the states have found it virtually impossible to get accommodations owing to the shortage of steamers. It is estimated that not more than a tenth of the expectant passengers are able to secure tickets. The remaining nine-tenths add to the already large crowds who have quit their regular occupations and are little better than "floaters."

W. E. Pietsch, social worker, who goes into the tenement districts almost every day, tells appalling stories of what is happening. Families with young boys and girls, fresh from the plantations and quite innocent of the pitfalls that may await them, are herded together with single men of all races, and with women and other girls who ply their illegitimate trade brazenly.

As the money vanishes, the laborers grow desperate for money. Surrounded by evils which they scarcely suspect, the daughters, the young sisters, are likely to be forced by family necessity to adopt the most opportune method of earning a few dollars.

Mr. Pietsch has taken the problem to various social relief agencies and found them all willing to cooperate in a plan of persuading the laborers to return to the plantation, where steady and lucrative employment is assured them. He maintains that if outright charity is given them here in Honolulu, there is no hope that they will return until the last penny is gone and by that time the worst evils of herding the sexes together may have been wrought. He also feels that nothing would be more helpful in checking this indiscriminate herding than prompt and vigorous action by the board of health to prevent overcrowding in tenement rooms.

Dr. Pratt, president of the board of health, in a talk to the Ad Club recently, pointed out the difficulty of prevent such overcrowding. The board of health's powers in this direction are comparatively small. But if such agencies as the Salvation Army, the Associated Charities and private philanthropists will refuse to pay out money to these families unless they will return to the plantations, sheer necessity and the sure road to prosperity again will speedily set their faces away from the tenements and toward the comfortable quarters on the plantations.

Each year is repeated the old story of laborers quitting their work in Hawaii because of fantastic and exaggerated stories of what they can earn in California. Each year, after this excursion far afield, they return to Hawaii exhausted in purse and often broken in health. This year few can get to the coast at all, and cooperation on the part of those who must deal with the needy poor will insure, in the majority of cases, their return to former employment at good wages and under first-class living conditions.

Curtailling the city's expenses for motor cars for department officials will call for a display of most heroic economy. But retrenchment of that order will profit the administration a lot more in public approval than some of the plans advocated for saving the city's money at the cost of reduced service.

The Support of Volcano Research

It may not be generally known that the scientific station at Kilauea is supported entirely by private subscription. The Hawaiian Volcano Research Association, with members and correspondents all over the world, is seeking funds for 1918. Certain corporations in Hawaii have given as reason for not subscribing to the labors of the volcano observatory that this work does not immediately concern their business.

That scientifically minded group of hard-worked businessmen, the directors of the research association, Messrs. Thurston, Peck, Thayer, Shingle, Atherton, Westervelt and Cooke, elected by one hundred and fifty associated persons representing a vital interest of the community, of the territorial government and of the nation, are not actuated in this service by the needs of their own businesses. The INTEREST in question is the volcano, center of a famous national park, prime attraction to travelers and primal gas-vent of a celestial globe on which we perform most dwell.

The interest is vital because volcanoes are destructive—like the German army. The interest is territorial and not local because everyone goes to the volcano, soldiers, tourists and islanders. Everyone wishes the volcano explained and everyone quakens and trembles if his home, his loved ones or his purse is threatened by earthquake or lava, by flood or by drought. The islands are volcano-made. The interest is national because our volcano observatory is American and unique and may indeed pass into national control. The observatory has creditably completed five years of experiment, record and achievement. The director of the observatory has given aid, comfort and scientific advice at time of disaster, not only in Hawaii in 1916, but also in five other lands stricken by volcanic catastrophe, namely Japan, Italy, Costa Rica, Martinique and St. Vincent—all allies of the United States in the present world conflict.

Hawaii may take pride in the observatory and sustain it, or may release its scientific treasures to outsiders, or may let it die. But let no one living on these islands say that it does not concern his business.

To this Governor Pinkham adds official indorsement:
Read and approved thirteenth of December, 1917.
LUCIUS E. PINKHAM,
Governor of Hawaii.

Many thanks, kind-hearted folks, for the response to the request made yesterday on behalf of a children's home for magazines and other publications from which pictures can be clipped and made up into scrapbooks. Colored pictures are particularly desirable, but any of those suitable for children, including photos and postcards, will be welcomed. Leave them in the editorial rooms, Star-Bulletin building.

One of the mysteries of German psychology as revealed in the San Francisco trial is how "easy" the Germans were in digging up thousands of dollars for perfectly unreliable and unscrupulous plotters.

A coal mine in Pennsylvania was recently closed for three days because a couple of wild cats had gotten into the mine and wouldn't be dislodged. Wild-cat mining seldom does so little damage.

They must have called Herr Zimmermann a foreign minister because in his case there was "nobody home."

La Follette will soon be as popular in the United States as President Wilson is in Germany.

Almost everybody but Mexico has declared war on Germany.

So far as Capt. Grasshof is concerned, this is "Der Tag."

Dwellings for Rent

FURNISHED.

Pearl Harbor	2 bedrooms	\$25.00
Tantalus Heights	3 bedrooms	45.00
Kahala	2 bedrooms (garage)	150.00

PARTLY FURNISHED.

1801 Kewalo Street	7 bedrooms	100.00
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UNFURNISHED.

Cor. Waiialae Rd. & 16th Ave.	3 bedrooms (garage)	30.00
2540 Ferdinand Ave.	3 bedrooms (garage)	50.00
1633 Anapuni St.	2 bedrooms	40.00
1295 S. Beretania St.	2 bedrooms	28.00
Alewa Heights	3 bedrooms	30.00
McInerney Tract	1 bedroom	20.00

OFFICE.

Cor. Hotel & Richards	4 rooms	30.00
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HONOLULU REAL ESTATE.

NEIGHBORHOOD OFFERINGS

Look over this list of home offerings. Perhaps you'll find in it some of your own close neighbors whose property values you are thoroughly familiar with.

- \$3900—WINSLEY HOME in Puunui. 5 rooms; lot 75x150 feet. Garage. No. 318
- \$2800—PANGELINA HOME, Kalihi. 6 rooms; 50x100 lot; near car. No. 319
- \$4500—ESKEW PROPERTY, Punahou St. 6 rooms; 50x120-ft. lot. Especially attractive. No. 320
- \$3500—MAKIKI ST. 5 rooms; 50x120-ft. lot. Convenient to schools. No. 323
- \$1300—KARASOFF PLACE, Upper Fort St. 4 rooms; 50x100 lot. Economical neighborhood. No. 325
- \$4500—CREEDON HOME, Alewa Heights. 6 rooms. Acres lot. Harbor and mountain views. No. 334
- \$2500—LILIIHA ST. 6 rooms; 45x80-foot lot. Big value. No. 337

Phone 3477 for further particulars

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