

THE MAUI NEWS

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A LESSON ON MOLDING OPINION

The molding of public sentiment has come to be a fine art, and most of it is done now days through the public press. Some of it is public spirited and is willingly boosted along by the editors. A very great deal is attempted and falls flat because it is unskillfully handled or, as more is most often the case, it is antagonistic to public interest and cannot command attention of honest publishers.

It is more and more coming to be the practice to make open use of the advertising columns of publications, not depending upon the uncertain support of "free space." A conspicuous example of this was seen in the last national campaign when for the first time both leading parties carried their cause before the people in straight-forward advertising. And this is probably just the beginning of such business-like policy.

An example of the uncertain method, not in as much favor as it formerly was, but which may accomplish something from the apparent sound logic of its appeal, comes to hand just now in the form of a marked article from the editorial page of Leslie's Weekly, entitled "Why Tax the Motor Truck?" There are some 20,000 newspapers published in the United States. Each of these papers was probably sent a similar copy, which means that somebody spent some \$2000 for magazines alone, and \$400 for postage, besides a few hundred dollars more for marking and mailing, and how much more nobody knows.

The sheet was sent out from Leslie's office, but it is reasonable to suppose that some combination of motor truck manufacturers footed the bill. Somebody expects to get returns for the investment and they use the newspapers as cat's paws to this end. Because the story itself sounds like a reasonable argument, many papers will re-print it as we are doing. If you and enough others "yous" throughout the land read the story and are moved to agree with its sentiments, it may come to pass that the Congress will also be so impressed that auto trucks may even be paid a bounty instead of being taxed like other vehicles to keep the wheels of government and war a-turning. Which of course is the reason for the article. It follows:

WHY TAX THE MOTOR TRUCKS?

Commonplace but of extraordinary usefulness is the motor truck. A young and now expanding industry, of vital importance to the country's welfare, may be taxed to death by Congress in ignorance of the important part the truck is playing in modern times.

The motor truck is not a luxury. It is a freight conveyer. Given a fair opportunity, it will prove its enormous value. It marks the world's progress just as the electric light has replaced the tallow dip, the steamboat superseded the packet boat, the trolley car the horse car and the railroad the stage coach. In other countries its commercial value is known and appreciated and all trucks used industrially, available for war purposes, enjoy the benefit of a subsidy.

While the freight-car shortage is such a serious hardship, and the necessities of life and war materials are demanding greater transportation facilities, the motor truck is proving an inestimable blessing. It has no substitute.

In conveying men and munitions quickly to points inaccessible by railroads, along our extended coasts and from place to place in the interior, in the stress of war, motor trucks would be of incalculable service. If invaders should threaten us we would feel the urgent need of every truck our factories could supply.

In Europe motor trucks are saving cities and winning battles. In our country they are helping to solve the problem of the high cost of living. They are replacing horses that must be conscripted for cavalry and they have put the old army wagon in the discard.

In the evolution of warfare, military officers find the automobile indispensable in expediting communications from point to point and no less are they finding motor trucks indispensable in conveying munitions, men and supplies.

Let us learn the lesson that experience has taught abroad. Let us do everything to build up our motor-truck industry. It has enormous value in peace. It is priceless in time of war.

HAWAII'S PART—TO GROW SUGAR

The decision of the war department not to mobilize Hawaii's national guard would seem to be an indication that the administration very clearly appreciates Hawaii's position as an economic factor in connection with the war. Next to wheat, sugar is probably the most important food product of the world, and Hawaii's 600,000 tons a year now assumes an importance it never before held. In the great draft soon to be made farmers are to be as a class exempt, and there is nothing strange that here in the Islands, where agricultural workers form the bulk of the national guard, the guard should accordingly be exempt from mobilizing. For the same reason it is not likely that the draft soon to be made in the Islands will bear at all heavily.

One thing may be accepted as very certain, and that is that Hawaii's local interests were considered not at all in making the decision. It was solely a question of national expediency. In the minds of the powers that be in Washington, Hawaii can best do her part in the present great crisis by doing just what she has been doing—only more so.

Besides, unless the war ends sooner than now seems likely, other drafts are to be expected which will naturally sweep cleaner than the present one, and Hawaii may yet get her chance to be represented on the bloody fields of Europe.

PATRIOTISM AND COMMON SENSE

A good many persons will agree with W. I. Wells, whose letter appears in another column of this issue, that artificial conditions must be established before farmers in the territory will be justified in planting much in excess of what they can themselves see a market for. This is an age of specializing, in farming as in other forms of industry. We can grow oranges, but until we grow oranges as a business the California specialists will beat us right in our own market. On the other hand, were it a case of competition Hawaii could probably put California out of the running in the matter of producing sugar, and certainly could in pineapples, the two things which we produce on systematic basis. It isn't any more reasonable to expect a farmer in Hawaii to go

to the expense of producing an assortment of crops which heretofore have been controled by outside producers, than it would be to expect a shoe merchant to lay in more shoes than he sees sale for on the chance that the shoe supply may be cut off by a blockading fleet. It isn't a question of patriotism in either case—it's a question of simple common sense. In England it has seemed worth while to guaranty to farmers a minimum price for their produce till 1920. Why not some such plan here in Hawaii?

PLEASE EXCUSE!

FLAGLESS LAHAINA.—A traveling man from Lahaina reports that in all the districts of that name, there is to be found but two lone American flags floating. If this be true, it is to wonder what is the matter with the Territory's oldest city. Are there no Americans residing there? Is it possible that so little respect is shown in that part of the Territory for Uncle Sam? Maybe Brother Cooper of the Maui News can enlighten us? Or, perhaps Brother Vettlesen, the man of the mighty editorial power, could elucidate. Any way, we would like to know just what kind of Americans, if any, there are who reside in that pretty little burg.—Hawaii Post.

The unprecedented demand for flags recently has put the flag makers so far behind in their orders that somebody had to be disappointed. Lahaina was a little slow in getting her order in. The matter is now being remedied. We trust that this explanation will be entirely satisfactory to our observant critics of the other islands.

A MATTER FOR CONGRATULATION

Honolulu's first race meeting under the auspices of the Maui County Fair & Racing Association was a flattering success. And this isn't said with any reservations. The racing itself was good. The horse-men interested were satisfied. The big crowd (one of the largest that ever gathered about the Kahului track) was pleased. Financially the entertainment more than broke even. Moreover the whole affair was clean and wholesome—there has been no bad after-taste. Held coincidentally with the Maui county fair, as they probably will be hereafter, the races will go far towards making the fair one of the really big annual events of the territory.

Five years ago Honolulu had three daily newspapers. Now it has but two. A year ago Hilo had no daily newspapers. Now it supports(?) four, besides a daily wireless sheet, and two weekly papers! Watch Hilo grow!

The Hilo Tribune's new daily edition is a credit to Hilo and to the men who have created it. If it maintains the standard it has set for itself it will merit the fullest measure of success that any good newspaper deserves.

Our Island Contemporaries

The Anthrax Outbreak

That the outbreak of anthrax on three islands of the group are the result of a plot to injure the cattle and sheep industry of these islands and thus to reduce the food supplies of the American army and the civilians of Hawaii appears to have been absolutely proved. That some such plotting would come about was the prediction of many people who knew of the methods of the German spies and agents all over the world. The matter is a terrible one and should the perpetrators of the outrages be discovered, hanging should be their portion. To deliberately attempt to wipe out the beef and mutton industry of the islands, to say nothing of the butter and milk business, is a frightful outrage. And then there is the danger to human life to also be considered. Anthrax can be contracted in several ways by human beings and there is no knowing where the disease may break out next.

Passengers between the islands should be watched and strangers should be made give their reasons for traveling all over the country. Some of these men are the guilty ones and the sooner they are put where they can do no further harm and where they may be properly punished for their crimes, the better pleased the citizens will be. It will be a very serious matter if the cattle industry of this island is knocked on the head through a rigid quarantine, for that would mean that there can be no exporting of beef cattle or sheep to Oahu, which is the principal market of the ranches of this island.

The federal, territorial and county officials should unite in guarding the cattle ranches and the dairies of the country.—Hawaii Herald.

Guarding The Supervisors

By calling the attention of the Hilo Board of Trade to the proposal of the Board of Supervisors to pay the claim of Miss Helen Kaina, arising out of the Bridge street extension, Judge Wise opened up a question which may lead to a representative of the Board of Trade being present at each and every meeting of the Board of Supervisors to prevent any claims being paid without first having the approval of the Board of Trade. To carry out the suggestion of Judge Wise would mean that a representative of the Board of Trade would have to spend considerable time each month in attendance at the Board of Supervisors' meetings, or it would mean that the Board of Trade would have to pay a representative to be present. It is rather too much to expect any one man to devote practically three days in any one month in attendance at the sessions of the Supervisors, and it is a moot question whether it would be economical for the Board of Trade to pay a representative to attend. Would it not be more to the satisfaction of all parties to have the Supervisors agree to pass all claims before a special committee of the Board of Trade before finally passing upon same?

By so doing, the Supervisors would demonstrate beyond all doubt that it is their desire to work in harmony with the members of the Board of Trade. There certainly would be no loss of dignity, or relaxation of power, more especially if the suggestion came from the Supervisors. If such a plan were adopted it would mean that every claim against the County would be first discussed by the Board of Trade and then finally ruled upon by the Supervisors. Nothing of a ques-

tionable nature would be permitted to slip through without a thorough explanation and the Supervisors would still be in a position to enforce their decisions against any suggestions of the Board of Trade if they so desired.—Hilo Tribune.

Education For Citizenship

Our very much mixed population, with so large a preponderance of elements entirely ignorant of republican institutions and of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship, emphasize the importance of educational measures along this line.

We have 40,000 children in our schools, half of whom will become citizens under present conditions, and nearly all of whom will become citizens if women are granted the franchise. Most of this 40,000 will come to their majority deplorably ignorant of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship.

The ballot, like many an other instrument, is a menace in the hands of these who do not know how to use it wisely, and very grave evils may easily result from an ignorant and bungling use of it. It might easily happen that an ignorant or irresponsible element coming into the power of the franchise in this way, could swamp the intelligent and conservative interests, and turn back the hands or progress most disastrously.

Probably the schools are already over-worked with the multiplicity of the things they have to teach, or try to teach, but for practical significance this subject is more important than some that are now receiving much more attention; more time might be given to it with advantage, even at the cost of contraction somewhere else.

At any rate this matter of Citizenship Education is one of very great importance and deserves our very earnest and intelligent consideration.—Garden Island.

The Anthrax Epidemic

That other diseases among cattle may be mistakenly diagnosed as anthrax is common knowledge among expert stockmen. Possibility that there may have been an incorrect diagnosis in the case of a sheep which died recently at Kealia, Kauai, brings up the important question how far veterinarians campaigning against anthrax are justified in assuming that it is being spread by a malicious agent.

An extremely interesting booklet just issued by the Cutter Laboratory of Berkeley, California, is devoted to the control of anthrax. This booklet points out that anthrax last year of a more than ordinarily aggravated nature occurred among animals pastured on infected pastures. It further states that anthrax nearly always occurs among animals on pastures during the spring and summer months, and that there is possibility of virulent outbreaks at the end of a long, dry season.

The situation is so serious for Hawaii, whether or not a malicious agent is spreading the disease, that the board of agriculture and forestry is justified in spending any amount necessary to bring expert veterinarians here in sufficient numbers to take every necessary precaution of protection and treatment. The present veterinary force is admittedly inadequate in numbers.—Star-Bulletin.

Deputy City Attorney Carden has been a useful official, despite occasional exuberance of spirit in "sailing into" the other side. As chairman of the public utilities commission, he may safely be expected to shoot a few fireworks. If he hurries up the Inter-Island report, that will be something of an achievement.—Star-Bulletin.

Quick Acceleration

That's the medium boiling points in Red Crown—the middle links of the continuous chain—low boiling points for easy starting, medium boiling points for quick and smooth acceleration, high boiling points for power and mileage.

RED CROWN
The Gasoline of Quality

is a product of straight distillation, a real refinery gasoline—not a mixture—having the correct boiling points in a continuous unbroken chain.

Be sure and get Red Crown. At dealers everywhere and Standard Service Stations.
STANDARD OIL COMPANY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

A continuous chain of boiling points

High Boiling Points for power & mileage

Medium Boiling Points for quick and smooth acceleration

Low Boiling Points for easy starting

: CASH :
Not Always Necessary

in ordering shoes from our large winter stock. Footwear will be send on approval, if you have established an account with us. It will be well to do so now. We have a large assortment in the very latest shapes and materials.

MANUFACTURERS' SHOE STORE, HONOLULU

Velvet
TOBACCO

TRoubles and mosquitos are a lot alike. Neither one stays 'round a place whar thar's plenty o' good pipe smoke.

Velvet Joe

VELVET is a good pipe smoke

For re-roofing every kind of Mill or Plantation building.

ARMCO IRON

is the least expensive, because it

Resists Rust

Years of careful experiment and the most highly perfected processes have made it possible to make an iron that is

99.84 Percent Pure

And hundreds of historical examples prove that Pure Iron resists rust better than any mixture of iron, whether in the form of steel or not. ARMCO IRON CORRUGATED ROOFING, CULVERTS, AND STRUCTURAL IRON.

HONOLULU IRON WORKS COMPANY
AGENT FOR HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.