

OUR ISLAND CONTEMPORARIES

New Arguments For

A Familiar Proposal

Revival of the Chinese labor import propaganda is accompanied by the statement that it is essential to keep up the labor supply of the islands in order to carry out the Secretary Lane plan of maintaining the normal output of sugar.

Irrespective of the merits of the proposal to bring in some 30,000 coolie laborers, it is nothing but ingenious camouflage to couple the proposal with the Lane plan for handling public lands. This propaganda for Chinese labor began long before Mr. Lane's visit, long before the present shortage of labor arose, long before the United States entered the war. It began quietly, even secretly, and efforts are being made even now to carry it along with as little publicity as possible. In that course the Star-Bulletin does not at all agree, believing that if the importation of Chinese labor will be a good thing for Hawaii, the fact can be established by thorough ventilation of the plans here at home.

Efforts to get Congress to look with favor on the importation of Chinese labor began as early as May, 1915, when a congressional party was visiting here. Chinese businessmen presented the plan in tentative form to some of the visitors from Washington.

In August and September, 1916, hearings were held by the house committee on immigration and naturalization on a petition by the United Chinese Society for the admission of Chinese laborers here.

In December, 1916, the Chinese sent two representatives to Washington to work for this legislation. At that time, strenuous efforts were made to keep the Honolulu newspapers from learning of this visit and to prevent the whole agitation from becoming generally known—efforts which, by the way, were unsuccessful.

At the last regular session of the territorial legislature, a concurrent resolution was passed requesting Congress to "pass legislation by which a limited number of Chinese laborers may be admitted into the territory of Hawaii."

This resolution was duly forwarded to Washington, and Delegate Kuhio introduced a bill to put its provisions into effect. Last March the house immigration committee voted to postpone action on this bill until next January. However, some of those who have been lobbying for the bill profess to believe that the house committee will favor it when next the subject is brought up for action.

This brief summary of the Chinese labor agitation—it by no means covers the various and widely ramified activities of different interests—is sufficient to show that the proposal to bring in coolie labor is not an emergency war measure, nor is it a measure brought up solely to make possible the success of the so-called "Lane public lands plan." It is primarily a general measure for more Orientals labor in Hawaii. The exigencies of the war and the shortage of labor, more actually felt since the national guard was mobilized and the draft men called out, now give the advocates of the measure new arguments which they are not slow to use.—Star-Bulletin.

Linking The Islands

Cuba has given to the people of Hawaii a most valuable lesson in sending to these islands of the Pacific a special commissioner or consul, whose chief business it shall be to encourage communication and intercourse between the Paradise of the Pacific and the Gem of the Antilles. In his statement as printed in the Saturday's Star-Bulletin, Dr. Frederico Sanchez says:

"Cuba desires to establish commercial relations with the Territory of Hawaii, making such exchanges of products as may be conveniently arranged between us.

"It is not possible at this time to state precisely what may be the causes which have determined the creation of a consulate of Cuba in these islands; but the plan has been justified and secured by the Cuban congress and the executive power accords it approbation. This guarantees the importance of the decision.

"We are able, Senor Larranz and myself, to state that the island of Cuba is a noble and loyal ally of the United States, and cherishes for that country a sincere love, and will consistently follow in the footsteps and abide by the precepts of your friendly nation."

Our crops are almost identical, our labor problems pretty much the same, our climate similar and the objects for which we are striving the same. So the doctor is most welcome here. We have much which we might learn from Cuba and perhaps he can point out to us the best way in which to learn it.—Hawaii Herald.

Guides Not Useless

Once more the narrow escape of a party of mountain "hikers" has proved the danger of going into unknown ways in the hills of Hawaii without a guide. The mountains and lesser ridges and valleys of the territory are perfectly safe when the travellers know the road and are well at home in the peculiarities of "hiking" here. Without this experience, guides are indispensable. A few years ago a party of Mills and Kawainaha teachers had a terrible experience in the deep valleys of windward Oahu. The recent four-day wandering of a party in the crater of Haleakala and their remarkable escape through the Keanae cut might have had a tragic ending. The guide as an appendix to the mountaineering party is far from useless; on occasions, he is absolutely necessary.—Star-Bulletin.

Up With The Red Rag

The Advertiser doesn't say so, but by implication it might be inferred that it will support the democratic ticket if the Democrats will promise to insert a plank in their platform pledging the reappointment of representation in the legislature on the basis provided by the Organic Act.

The reason this reappointment has never been made is because it would place absolutely the control of the whole Territory in the hands of the Oahu delegation. This is so manifestly unfair, that even though the Organic Act may require such reappointment it will never be enforced if the people outside of Oahu can prevent it. The outside islands should not be ruled by a bunch of Honolulu politicians. On the other hand there should be no valid objection to having the Organic Act so amended that Honolulu might handle her own local affairs, including public work and taxation, on the same basis as mainland American cities.—Maui News.

Our Maui friends evolve a new one when it refers to majority rule as "unfair," but is frank in its announcement that "the people outside of Oahu" are ready to defy not only the principle of majority rule but the very law under which the Territory of Hawaii exists. The News apparently looks with complaisance on the idea of the legislator of Kauai, Maui and Hawaii violating their oath of office and refusing to carry out the explicit provisions of the Organic Act, justifying the mas moral slanders because what the law provides is not to their liking.

Why not hoist the Bolshevik banner at once and be done with it? If the law is not what we want, why down with the law and up with the red rag of independence. If Oahu, with more than half the voters of the Territory and half the assessed wealth of the Territory and containing the only center of population in any way approaching the metropolitan does not want to be run by the minority voters of Kau, Hana and Nawiliwili, then let Oahu get out of the territorial union and start its own little soviet.

The Organic Act, with its foolish American ideas about the rule of the majority, is irksome. Therefore, says the Maui News, rather than do what the Organic Act requires, whether we pledge ourselves to it or not, lets change the act. What is there in "a scrap of paper" that should make Maui and Kauai and Hawaii do what they do not want to do?—P. C. Advertiser.

"Ford Cavalry"

Through a singular error press reports of the fighting in the Aisne-Marne front several days ago told of the participation of American cavalry and mail advices have just brought the explanation.

Nests of enemy machine gunners were harassing the Americans and retarding the advance and to meet the condition the American commanding officer brought up a dozen "fliers" each armed with two machine guns. These went right into the thickest of the fray and the combination of machine guns and Ford cars was too much for Fritz. He beat it precipitately. The commander dubbed the outfit his "Ford Cavalry" but the word Ford got lost in the news story and the message came through as cavalry.—P. C. Advertiser.

INTERESTING THEORY OF HOW HUN LONG-RANGE SHELLS ARE MADE

Paris, July 15—(Correspondent of The Associated Press)—That the bursting-charge of shells from the German long-range guns is mixed while the projectiles are in actual flight is the belief of French scientists, according to a technical journal published here.

When the shelling of Paris began it was noticed that the explosion of a shell produced a cloud of black smoke mixed with a little that was white and accompanied by a strong smell of ether. Recently the smoke has been entirely white and very light, the ether odor persisting.

No shell that failed to explode has been found, nor even an entire fuse, indicating how delicate and reliable the explosive is. This fact leads experts to suppose that the shell is charged with two liquid explosives, separated by the perforated partition which is known to exist in the center of the projectile.

When the shell is fired at a high angle the liquid in the upper end combines with that in the lower chamber, and churned by the violent rotation, produces at the moment of impact, three minutes later, a perfect mixture. This would explain, it is said, the ability of the charge to resist the enormous shock when fired and the remarkable uniformity of the explosions.

A Camouflaged Will

An old fellow on his death-bed, in making his will, murmured to his lawyer: "And to each of my employees who have been with me twenty years or more I bequeath \$2,000." "Holy smoke! What generosity!" the lawyer exclaimed. "No, not at all," said the sick man. "You see, none of them have been with me over a year; but it will look good in the papers, won't it?"—Liver-pool Post.

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On The Other Islands

The teachers' summer school in Honolulu closed last Saturday after a 6 weeks course.

The lava lake in Kilauca has been rising rapidly during the past two weeks, and is now within 30 or 40 feet of the top.

A dispatch from the mainland last week brought the news that Joseph Tavares, of Honolulu, had been seriously wounded in the fighting in France. No details have yet been received.

The postoffice department has sent out a notice that hereafter all letters mailed for delivery in foreign countries will be censored, if found necessary, by cutting out of objectionable words or sentences. For this reason such letters should be written on but one side of the paper.

Kuniyoshi Imajire, the Japanese who stabbed to death Lt. Joseph Carso, at his quarters in Fort Shafter, some months ago, and then attempted to commit suicide by hari-kiri, was found guilty of 2nd degree murder last Saturday, and sentenced to 30 years imprisonment.

Governor C. J. McCarthy has signed a degree allowing Daniel Boone Kuhns to change his name to Daniel Boone Langford, Langford, who is assistant inspector of plants stated in his petition that he thought the name "Kuhns" sounded "too German."

A consignment of 3600 bags of Japanese rice has just arrived from Japan by an Oriental steamer. Another consignment of 58,000 bags of rice is expected to be brought here shortly by a tramp steamer. The shortage of Japanese rice which has prevailed here for sometimes will be greatly relieved.

Boiler Of New Ship Ruined

What may have been an act of sabotage, but which is perhaps simply an act of gross incompetence or carelessness, resulted in the ruining of a boiler on one of the U. S. shipping board's brand new wooden vessels, in Honolulu harbor last Saturday afternoon. A valve had been closed in the feed water line to the boiler with result that the entire tube system of the boiler was melted. A Finn, who had charge of the boiler as water tender was on the dock at the time. The damage is estimated at perhaps \$50,000.

Dr. Wayson Gets Health Board Job

Dr. James T. Wayson, was appointed last week to the position of chief sanitarian of the board of health, the place created by the last session of the legislature for Dr. J. S. B. Pratt, who was let out as president of the board recently, but who has joined the U. S. Public Health service. Whether or not Wayson will be retained by the city and county as its physician has not yet been decided.

German Still To Be Thought In Schools

Henry W. Kinney, superintendent of public instruction, has announced that the teaching of German will be continued in the Island high schools for the reason that to eliminate it would work a hardship on students who have been taking it with a view to attending higher institutions of learning. If these students drop the study they will lose credits enough to prevent their being admitted to these institutions.

Many Horses Training For Races

Thirty-two horses are in Kapiolani park training for the big three-day race to be pulled off in the first part of September. Besides the 32 horses owned by private civilians there will be some 30 others to be entered by the army.

The meet will be held on Saturday, Aug. 31; Monday, Sept. 2, and on Labor Day, Sept. 7. All proceeds of the meet will be turned over to the Red Cross. Workouts are being held every Wednesday and Saturday. John W. McDougall, a famous Australian jockey, who is making his home in Honolulu, will be seen in the meet.—Star-Bulletin.

Vigilance Corps Brands Hearst Papers Un-American

Report of a special committee which has been investigating Hearst newspapers to determine the loyalty of their owner, W. R. Hearst, was adopted by the Hawaiian Vigilance Corps. The committee cited numerous editorials tending to show that Hearst is anti-British and anti-Japanese and sought to create distrust between the United States and Japan. The committee urged that these facts be brought home to the reading public of Hawaii in the hope they would cease patronizing the Hearst publications. The news dealers have promised their cooperation in any movements designed to ostracize the Hearst publications, and cards will probably be placed in the dealers' stores calling public attention to the fact that Hearst papers are considered un-American. The committee was composed of C. G. Bockus, F. L. Waldron and John Fleming.

Man Who Knew Kamehameha Dies In Kona

Hilo, Aug. 12—The death of an aged Hawaiian, Maunumu, who passed away at Keokea, Kona, last week at the age of 116 years, has stirred up stories of the days of Kamehameha, for the old native who recently died claimed to have known the great king well. The man, however, would never speak of the days of the long ago and for many years past he has remained silent when questioned regarding the early days of the mission-aries. It is claimed by Hawaiians who are themselves now close on to 70 years or so of age that Maunumu was an

old man when they were children and that their parents had told them that the ancient Hawaiian was old even in their youthful days.

Molokai Man To Work With Experiment Station

C. C. Condrat, of Pukoo, Molokai, has been appointed collaborator for that island by the U. S. experiment station. It is understood that one of Mr. Condrat's first duties will be to study the taro rot, which is now prevalent on the island, and endeavor to find a cure for it.

Shingle Patriotic But Unwise

The Honolulu branch of the Vigilance Corps adopted a resolution of its special committee to drop the controversy Fleming-Shingle as to R. W. Shingle's loyalty, in connection with the Rodiek expose. The committee reported that the patriotism of Shingle cannot be questioned, but is of the opinion that his conduct was inexcusable in view of Rodiek's admission of guilt.

William E. Pietsch, head of the Gospel Mission Home, Honolulu, has proposed that dependent wives and children of draftees in the service be sent to his institution to be cared for.

Good Prices Offered For Shark Skins

Raymond Brown, secretary of the Honolulu chamber of commerce, has received a letter from an eastern firm wanting to be put in touch with persons in position to furnish shark skins. A price of 10 to 15 cents per pound is offered for these skins in any quantity. From \$3 to \$4 each is offered for porpoise skins.

Trouble Getting Jury For Spillner

Maj. O. J. Whitehead, of Wailuku, who was called to Honolulu last week to sit on the federal jury, was excused from taking part in the trial of Charles Spillner, the Oahu Sugar Co. luna, charged with traitorous acts to-

wards the United States, because of his previous relations with Spillner in the national guard.

Some eight other jurymen were excused because they expressed doubt of being able to give a pro-German a fair trial. These were: Lewis C. Pluny, Arthur D. Morton, Clarence L. Crabbe, James W. Bletard, Fred L. Waldron, Wm. W. Chamberlain, A. E. Lloyd, and Charles Crane.

Working To Get More Chinese For Islands

Delegate Kuhio, W. H. Hindle, W. H. McInerney, R. W. Shingle, and Frank Thompson, held a conference with Governor McCarthy and Land Commissioner Rivenburch, on Monday to consider the matter of presenting a bill in congress to permit the bringing in of 30,000 Chinese laborers to help solve the labor problem in the Islands. No decision was arrived at. Hindle, McInerney, Shingle and Thompson represent Chinese interests. The need for rice cultivators to raise more rice in the Islands was particularly urged.

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