

The Hawaiian Star,
DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) by the Hawaiian Star Newspaper Association, Limited.

Frank L. Hoogs, Editor
FRIDAY, MAY 1, 1903.

LEGISLATIVE PAP.

The figures of the Legislative expenditures which were published in yesterday's issue of The Star, need very little comment, they carry their own condemnation on their face. They also carry the condemnation of the white-washing committee which was quite willing to take for its basis that if the men employed by the Legislature could sublet the work and make a profit, it was a perfectly legitimate proceeding. The grafter got a solid hold upon the Legislative treasure chest, and the Legislative committee did its best to protect its friend the grafter. Oh dear, no! There was no rake-off, but those who were in the ring got the jobs and then put them out cheap. The difference turned in a handsome profit for the grafters, and it may be others.

It was no part of the program that the expense appropriation should be put before the public eye. It was hoped and intended that that should sleep comfortably with the archives and all the public was to know, would have been "expenses of the Legislature \$38,048.80." Unfortunately for the recipients of the Legislative bounty, the facts have come out, and there is a flutter among the doves.

That the body of the House was fully acquainted with what was going on is very doubtful. The committee having these matters in charge knew about the matter, and practically participated by its act of acquiescence. Were any department of the Government carried on on like principles, there would have been a howl from every rancus-throated patriot about extravagance and wastefulness. The House, however, is to blame for tolerating committees who behave in this manner.

At the very outset of the session there was a scandal about copying and translating, which the Speaker managed to hush up, though he threatened at one time to make an expose of the whole affair. One member was loaned \$20 to take a flying trip to Maui in order to be out of the way. Members were then preparing to translate House bills for pay. Some of the work was done, and it must have been paid for, but as the name of no member appears upon the pay roll, they must have been lumped in under some of the large contractors like John Wise and Jesse Makainai, those thorough going, true blue Republicans.

There will be a fine field for the grand jury to exercise its talents. The members of the House are not above the supreme law, and under examination there might be some queer discoveries. It will only be a thoroughly active grand jury that would ever get at the facts and cast light upon many dark places. There might not be proof of actual wrong, though The Star believes that such can be proved, but a disposition to be utterly careless of public funds, and a disposition to give a group of grafters a chance could be brought home.

When one sees the names of bitter opponents of the Republican party and of all Republican principles as the recipients of Legislative rewards, one wonders how the matter has been arranged, and what class of Republicans had this part of the work in charge. No one on the mainland would believe the tale if it were told. That with Republicans in a large majority in the House, the work of the House should be distributed among the avowed enemies of Republicanism would be and will be incredible to party men on the mainland.

The Republican Central Committee is pledged to a policy of distributing what rewards there are among its own party. A party is not built up by giving rewards to those who have done everything to thwart that party. Men who have given their earnest support, who have subscribed to the political fund, who have done their best to bring the Territory into line with the dominant party on the mainland, do not feel particularly satisfied when they see a string of bitter opponents comfortably drawing down sums of money which have come their way.

There are two views upon this expose. One is the economical side. There has undoubtedly been lavish expenditure, and work has been given out at above market rates. Though there may have been no direct rake-off to certain members of the Legislature, the rates have been so considerable that those to whom the work has been given, have been able to sub-let it and make a handsome profit out of the transaction. If this is not a rake-off, it is so nearly approaching one that it will be well worth while for the grand jury to take the matter into consideration and see what it thinks about it. The other is the political side. A policy utterly at variance with political precedent, and with ordinary party methods has been carried on under the very noses of a Republican majority. This had better be thoroughly thrashed over by the Central Committee, and that body should promptly assert itself and talk in plain language to the members of the party, whose elections it carried. It is a good object lesson that we have had, and we ought to profit by it.

The official opening of the St. Louis Exhibition has taken place, but it will be a full year before that great show will be properly under way.

The typhoid epidemic at Stanford does not seem to have caused any diminution in the attendance. The number of special female students is now full, and no more can be admitted.

The murderer of Goebel has again been sentenced, and upon this third trial may finally receive his deserts. The trials have been political in character and show to what length personal and political rancor may reach.

The special session ought to be a short one, but there is no telling how long it may string out. If the wishes of the Senate should be carried out, a couple of weeks at the utmost will cover all that has to be done.

The little skirmish between Turks and Russians took place near Kars. Those who remember the Crimean war will recall the gallant defence of that place by Colonel Williams and a small Turkish force. The force surrendered with the honors of war, and the Russian Cross took the place of the Crescent.

The anti-foreign feeling is making headway in China again. The work of engineers and surveyors is particularly objectionable to the Chinese. But it must be remembered that when railway lines first were laid down, there was the bitterest opposition by our own ignorant ancestors, and some lives were lost in the rows which then occurred.

Having had a fill of Manchurian news, the news gatherers are turning their attention to the Balkans once more. It is a very wide field that has to be covered, and there is activity in every part of it. The outcome of the Turkish struggle is as world important as the outcome of the Manchurian struggle, and the same great European powers are involved.

The Japanese that we have here present some of the best and some of the worst traits of the national character. No one can be more polished, better read, and desirous of improvement than the Japanese gentleman who have lived among us. They are refined, broad-minded, charitable. On the other hand we see in the courts some of the lowest types of character. The Japanese procurers, against whom the most strenuous war has to be waged, are among the dreys of mankind, they are considerably below the ordinary criminal. The contrast between the classes of Japanese is very sharply marked.



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TOPICS IN BRIEF.

Professor Wallace's idea that the earth is at the center of the universe does not surprise Boston.—Boston Globe.

Chicken stealing has been made a felony in the State of Missouri. Race prejudice is cropping out everywhere.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The colleges and universities are expressing their approval of the President by degrees.—Baltimore American.

Sir Thomas Lipton always has the satisfaction of being able to beat his old Shamrocks with the new one anyway.—Chicago Record-Herald.

There is a "left" party in France, notes an exchange. Doubtless corresponds with our Democratic party in recent years.—Atlanta Constitution.

New Idea.—If we had the right kind of statesmen at Harrisburg they could do their own praying and thus save the \$6 a day.—Chester (Pa.) Times.

Returned to Natural Pursuits.—Now that it has been settled that Nicaragua is not to have the canal, the people of that country are proceeding with their revolution.—Chicago News.

Mr. Cleveland may drain some consolation from the fact that the largest number of clubs is always found under the desirable tree in the orchard.—Washington Post.

The new Shamrock is said to be very much like the old one in running before the wind. She is also like both of the old ones in running before the official run.—Atlanta Constitution.

Our Admiral Dewey should not forget that he made himself so phenomenally popular while he was on the other side of the world and the cable was cut.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Mr. Roosevelt's advice to boys to play and keep playing, even if they get hurt, is indeed timely. Nothing is more distressing than in the tendency of boys to stop playing and go to work.—Indianapolis Sentinel.

Erbery in the Oklahoma Legislature is reported. The rest of the country will hold its breath with horror when it thinks what a narrow escape it had from letting such a Territory into the Union.—New York Mail and Express.

Mr. Bryan thinks the reorganization of the Democratic party would mean certain defeat. The Democrats are so accustomed to victory under Mr. Bryan's leadership that this is likely to end all talk of reorganization.—Detroit Free Press.

If the appointment of the Hon. James K. Jones to the Panama Canal Commission would take him out of the chairmanship of the Democratic National Committee it ought to be discouraged. The Republican party needs Mr. Jones for Democratic chairman.—Philadelphia Press.

"Let me get at him!" exclaimed the wild-eyed man, trying to force his way through the crowd surrounding the President. "Stop him!" shouted one of the guards. "He's an anarchist!" "Anarchist be darned!" said the struggling man. "I'm the father of twenty-one children!"—Chicago Tribune.

It must occur to people along the lower Mississippi that spending government money to make things wetter is a work of supererogation.—Kansas City Journal.

The President has started on a 14,000 mile tour of the country. His route may seem somewhat roundabout to the casual observer, but the ultimate destination is Washington, D. C.—Philadelphia North American.

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