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FRANK L. HOOGSMANAGER

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 1907

Proposed Sale Disapproved

It is evident that Honolulu public sentiment is overwhelmingly against the sale of the old fishmarket property to the Pacific Mail Company at any price, much less for such a figure as \$60,000. The first announcement of the proposed deal, with its promise of big repair shops on the land, contained some attractive features, and at a proper price there might be some supporters of a sale if the company intended to give Honolulu big repair shops. But there is no price at which the city wants the place turned into an ugly coal shed. The utter inadequacy of the suggested price is shown by purchases in the neighborhood made by the Hawaiian Electric Company, a local concern. This company paid \$1.50 a foot for such land as it could get near the fish market, and wanted more land at that rate. The Pacific Mail offer of 75 cents a foot is therefore ridiculous.

It is time something was done with this property either by the County or the Territory. A fee of \$500 was paid some time ago for a park expert's report on how to beautify Honolulu, and the expensive report was quietly pigeonholed. It contained valuable suggestions regarding the fishmarket property. The Pacific Mail Company's offer has served to recall the forgotten five-hundred dollar report.

Citizens of Honolulu have become so used to the wretched waterfront conditions of their city that they have apparently ceased to notice it. The fact is, however, that the Honolulu waterfront is in very disgraceful condition. The approach to the city from the Hackfeld dock is along dusty wharves and roads, past shacks and junk, and gives as a first impression about the worst scene the whole city has. At the other end of the harbor things are little better. Just now, with uncompleted wharves, this part of the "front" is not even safe. The United States navy department in a few years has made its reservation in this vicinity a beauty spot, where there was a dismal waste. The fish market property is needed in the scheme of cleaning up and beautifying which it is hoped will soon be carried out.

Dark Picture Of Japan

Japan is paying a terrible price for the war with Russia, according to writers who have made a study of conditions which the Japanese, probably largely as a matter of pride, like to conceal, and if a serious cholera epidemic is to be added to the hardships of the situation, the island empire will indeed deserve sympathy. The war taxes which are such a crushing burden are not, however, merely the price of the last war, for the tremendous activity at naval yards and arsenals shows that a large part of them must be the burden of preparing for another possible war. In the last number of The World's Work, Walter J. Kingsley describes some of the results of war and preparing for war, and of sudden civilizing, among the people of Nippon. "Japanese children do not laugh as blithely as in the old days," says this writer. "Happiness was their heritage then, but now the nation demands that the little ones go to work at a time of life regarded in America as infancy. In the manufacturing cities like Osaka, there are no longer seen thousands of boys and girls playing in dainty, many-colored costumes like gorgeous butterflies on the grass of temples. You will find them in coarse dull clothing, working like pathetic dolls in the factories. These babies toiling for a few pennies a day form a vast and sorrowful army."

"Japan has been transformed without transition, and the astounding overturn of the feudal system, with its colorful, easy, and tranquil life, finds the Japanese masses in a state of mind that it is almost impossible to describe. The clash of the old and the new, the resistance of ancient traditions to the ideals of modernity, the numberless new needs, the expanded national egotism, the splendid vision of luxury revealed by the newly rich, and the general intellectual disquiet that has spread like a disease from the other side of the world, have made the Japanese one of the most excitable races on earth. With small means, they desire everything."

"Tokyo has slums whose poverty reaches the last depth of human degradation. Below the cellars of Paris, the alleys of London, and the crowded slums of the New York East Side, the Japanese capital reveals a lower gulf. It is a region that no ray lights. * * * Thousands are shipped to Korea and Formosa, but the pressure steadily increases, owing to the constant migration of ambitious Japanese from the provinces to the capital city. Japan carefully avoids all public reference to these great sores on its body politic. Their existence is hidden from the foreign visitor. Rarely does a tourist see the slums, and specialists studying the city for precise information are sedulously kept out of the poorest quarters."

"Even the average Japanese has good reason to be troubled. All the necessities of life have gone up in price, and he has been educated to scores of new desires and appetites imported from abroad while his earning capacity has lagged behind. Between the despotic paternalism of the Government and the imported mechanism of the private monopolies, he is drained to the last sen to maintain an army and navy and to fatten the purse of a few favored capitalists of powerful clans."

"Nothing is wasted in Japan. After watching the poor gathering burned matches and garbage in Tokyo, one must consider the boasted economy of the Chicago packing-houses as rather coarse work. The poor devour every scrap of fish entrails from the markets and eat with avidity rotten fruit, stinking vegetables, sour, spoiled rice, rancid grease, and fragments of meat. There is nothing that is or ever was edible neglected in Tokyo's garbage."

"With work scarce in comparison to the labor supply, wages low, and food and clothing high in price and going higher, the man in the Tokyo street is becoming a grumbler. With the newly rich evincing a class depotism that the kindly old aristocracy never dreamed of, the Japanese is beginning to resent his wholesale exploitation. The artistic pride that Japanese artists once took in their work is disappearing in many places. The huge factory is driving out the little shop where the worker was an artist carrying out his own ideas of beauty in the

Tales Worth Telling

DOCTOR KISSED HER.
OAKLAND, September 12.—And Dr. C. L. Lawrence kissed the Chinese bride.

At least, it is asserted that at a wedding of Lia Nige and Law Jung, which was performed yesterday by Judge Samuels of Department 2 of the police court, the judge waived his prerogative in matters osculatory and even delegated Dr. Lawrence to act therein instead. It is further related that Dr. Lawrence, who was an official witness, blushing accepted the delegation of right and planted a good old-fashioned smack square upon the half parted rosebud lips that displayed a set of teeth which gleamed and sparkled with nearly iridescence.

Then Judge Samuels turned to the uniting in the holy bonds of matrimony of William D. Prater of Louisiana and Ida M. Loeffler of New Jersey, and further, as to whether any one saluted the bride in the accustomed manner deponent sayeth not.

A BOOMERANG JOKE.

"On our return trip to New York on the Minnetonka," said a Chicagoan, "some one told Mark Twain on a rough windy morning, that he looked seasick. 'I'm not seasick,' said the humorist. 'You look it,' the other persisted. 'Then Mark Twain laughed his short gruff laugh and told us all a story. 'He began by saying that it never paid, either in jest or earnest, to tell people that they did not look well. 'He said there was a practical joker in a certain New York office. This young man put up a practical joke on the bookkeeper, a quiet, steady, serious chap. The joke was for every one to tell the bookkeeper that he looked very very bad indeed. It was wondered what effect this would have. 'It was a hot August morning when the joke began. The office boy started it. 'Aln't ye well, Mr. Quill?' he said. 'Yes, of course. Why?' Quill asked. 'Why ye look so pale,' said the boy. 'I feel all right,' said Quill calmly and he put on his seersucker office coat and set to work. 'But when the shipping clerk told him he looked ill, Quill drowned and said he had had a bad night—that was all. 'When the cashier asked him what made him have such a queer color, he said his heart felt strange. 'So, for an hour or two, Quill was tormented with anxious inquiries, full of gloomy foreboding about his health. And finally, with an impatient, worried gesture, he threw down his pen and hastened to the office of the chief. 'He was gone perhaps five minutes. Then he came back again in the chief's company. 'Men,' said the chief raising his hand to command attention of all, 'as Mr. Quill is most unwell, I have granted him a ten day's leave of absence. Please arrange to divide his work equally among you till he returns.'"

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

Im-experienced servants are the best for hotels.

Even a clock is known by its works. All the world loves to laugh at the blindness of lovers.

Try living on 15 cents a day if you are troubled with dyspepsia.

Can you improve your conditions by winning? If not, whine not.

Genius prevents a man from doing the wrong thing at the right time.

Wise is the man who doesn't take a chance on a chance acquaintance.

Wedding bells never ring for December and May if December goes broke.

No, Alonzo, a sailor isn't necessarily a fighter because he boxes the compass.

Many a man thinks he is choosing a wife, when as a matter of fact she does the choosing.

—Chicago News.

Commonest things and making his humble trademark famous in his locality. But, hardest of all, the Japanese capitalist is the most remorseless devourer of little ones the world has known. He has prevented any legislation whatever to protect the children, and they are remorselessly used as factory hands.

"The Japanese newspaper men work for salaries that would be despised by a New York office boy. Scholarly, brilliant fellows for the most part, they are underpaid even in a land of contemptibly small salaries."

Mainland papers have not, in any instance noticed, treated the successful efforts of the bluejackets here to obtain shore liberty, at first refused, as having anything mutinous about it. A local paper has that lone distinction. "The Raleigh's men won, and Honolulu was visited at will during the ship's stay," is the way the story in the New York papers wound up.—Advertiser.

The local paper having the lone distinction is the Advertiser. It said that there was something like a mutiny when the cruiser Raleigh men protested at not being allowed shore leave. The Star objected to the term mutiny and, by showing the absurdity of quarantine restrictions in force, helped the men to get the shore leave they deserved.

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