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GEORGE F. HENSHALLMANAGER

FRIDAY,SEPTEMBER 11, 1908

The Hawaii county board of supervisors has entered upon a long period of service as a Horrible Example.

The Democratic platform contains numerous complaints. The Republicans, however, have considerable right to "point with pride."

The American small farmer has usually been ready to fight for the right of suffrage. Doubtless the news that there is an agitation on here to give up the suffrage will prove another means of attracting him to these shores.

Of course government by commission would do away with evils, save a lot of trouble and, if the commission happened to be a very good one, would satisfy all reasonable people. It is an old saying that the best government possible is a good despotism. The only trouble is that human nature doesn't seem able to produce a man fit to be a despot. Lincoln once remarked that no man is good enough to be fit to govern another man, and, despite the fact that Hon. J. A. McCandless found nine men at one table who wanted government by commission here, we don't think there are many people in the islands who want to be governed by an executive board, which might give them absolutely no say about local affairs.

BRYAN NOT IMPROVING.

As the national campaign progresses the signs increase that but to Taft's lack of personal popularity to arouse enthusiasm Bryan might be in line for a more crushing defeat than Parker got four years ago and might thus break American records as a loser. Taft lacks the personal force and magnetism of Roosevelt, and Republican enthusiasm is not as warm as it might be, so majorities may be less. But Bryan is growing very small under the fierce light that bears upon an American presidential candidate. His changes of views give a fund of material for the humorist, satirist, cartoonist, speechmaker and editorial writer that has seldom if ever been equalled as a means of attacking a man assuming to be a statesman. The speech cabled this morning, in which Bryan is found denying a statement by Cannon that he is worth \$150,000 and accusing Cannon of falsifying, indicates a somewhat petty campaign. It is not an utterance of Presidential size. It indicates that the campaign of ridicule and caricature is goading the Democratic leader into breaches of dignity. Whether Bryan is worth \$150,000 or not is not necessarily an issue of the campaign. Everyone knows that since he began to run for President he has risen greatly in wealth and that he is now possessed of a comfortable fortune, the direct result of his being a candidate. His descending to a discussion of just how much it is, will not impress people with any better opinion of the largeness of his views, than they have been given by his readiness to change them.

THE ELECTRIC RAILWAY AMUSEMENT PARK.

The central states, in which the growth of interurban railroads has been most extensive, have a new social problem in the amusement parks which are a prominent feature of many such railroads. The earliest development of out-of-town electric lines was as extensive of city lines, to reach points to which large city travel could be induced by offering amusement features, and not too far away so as to discourage the seeker for a few hours' recreation on account of time required in transit or cost of the same.

When actual interurban roads were constructed such parks were for some time thought to be a necessary part of the profit-making apparatus of the company, and if natural attractions or private or public parks under satisfactory management were not available the railroad company established them. Conditions vary, and therefore problems are different and must be carefully studied, and with the best of intentions mistakes are often made. Thus one of the early interurbans tried to make one park do the work of two and established it about half way between a large city and a small one, some ten miles from each, with a 25 cent round-trip rate. The large city was supplied with smaller parks, reached by a 5 or 10-cent fare, and failed to visit the new park after the novelty wore off, while the distance and consequent fare reduced the attendance from the small city below the paying point, even when that city had no other outdoor amusement ground.

Some cities have several different kinds of such parks within reach. One, for example, has a White City, with no attractions other than the various shows which group themselves under that name, a 4-cent fare, with transfers, being required to reach it, and another park with water privileges and the White City aggregation, requiring a 5-cent fare without transfers. The latter, notwithstanding the far greater attractions in country, forest and water, is scarcely able to keep open, while the former is flourishing. Apparently the controlling difference is the cost of reaching the places. Still a third resort is a city park, about the entrance to which an amusement company has grouped a number of the ordinary catch-penny shows. A fourth resort is an electric railway park, whose natural features are more than usually attractive and are interfered with by very few of the noisy sensation producers. Then come several city parks with no such accessories. In most of the latter parks band concerts are given at frequent intervals. There are thus amusements and out-of-door resorts suited to all tastes.

There is a social problem connected with these amusement resorts to which Municipal Engineering calls attention. The expense of keeping up the railway parks and their amusements is large, and often the parks are expected to pay their own expenses, and, if possible, bring something into the treasury. If the parks are under private control, whether indirectly connected with the railroad or not, they are operated for the purpose of profit. In too many cases the desire for profit leads to the supply of amusements which are questionable in their character, or of opportunities equally questionable if not most carefully conducted. The demand of a considerable proportion of the young people for sensations is met by these parks and the desire grows with what it feeds upon. It is an outgrowth of the natural desire to get out of the city streets and into touch with some form of nature or its imitation, and has been misled by that with which it has happened to come into contact.

The city park has as its mission the supply of the nearest approach

THE "STAR" SPECIAL ARTICLE PAGE---

Wit, Wisdom, Humor
Politics and Nonsense

Tales Worth Telling

STRENGTH OF MIND.
Mrs. Oatcake—"Your husband 'pears t' be a pow-ful strong-minded man."
Mrs. Hayrix—"He shore wif. I've know'd him t' read a patent medicine almanac frum cover t' cover without feelin' that he had any uv th' symptoms."

LUCKY POET TO OWN AUTO.
Tall Bard—Here is where an eccentric poet in Indiana writes his verses while spinning through the woods in an automobile.
Short Bard—Ah! I suppose that is what you would call the "poetry of motion."

GOOD CROP.
"Looks like rather poor soil in this part of the country," said the stranger.
"Well, it ain't," replied the native.
"A man over on the adjoining farm plowed up a in can with fifty dollars in it one day last week."

SWIFT, INDEED.
Mr. Hardapple—"Mandy, here be a letter from our boy Zeke. He writes that he is down at the seashore moving in rapid circles."
Mrs. Hardapple (horrified)—"Moving in rapid circles? Why, Hiram, you must write for him to come home at once."
Mr. Hardapple—"Don't be worried, Mandy; he's not in bad company. He is ticket collector on a merry-go-round."



John Bull—Come, I want you to indorse this paper so that I can get the money. England wants to borrow \$500,000,000 in order to increase the navy.—News Item.

CARELESS CARTUNE.

By Nibas.

Like a harp are the heartstrings of the public, responding to the slightest touch. And yet it was not a slight touch that stirred the people of Bugville in the dark days of which I write. Nay, nothing less than a monstrous wave of sentiment, or perhaps it was a couple of waves crashing together and stirring the emotional but untrifled populace to agonies of excitement. Two great organs of the press in moulding public opinion, had gotten their mounds mixed and each, in bounden duty and urged by solemn conscience, endeavored to fracture the mould of the other. Our children's children, gray-haired and copiously weeping in days to come, will relate the harrowing details with trembling lips. No one knows how it started, but the psychological earthquake came when the clarion tones of one editorial column one day declared that the creator of certain paragraphs in the other daily's editorial was a donkey.

Tremendous excitement prevailed! Folks stayed up all night, sitting on the curbstones, anxiously awaiting the comeback of the other paper. And it came! Oh, glory! Oh, sacred memories of heroes who have watered battlefields with their blood, it came!

Unquestionably, fearlessly and in the grand old swing of pure Shakespearean language came back the seemingly unanswerable argument: "Alligator!"
"People went crazy! The drugstores remained open until midnight and the cable was kept hot flashing the news of the great journalistic controversy about the globe."
The London Times came out with a pink-paper edition and His Majesty Ed. 7, received the first damp copy off the press.

In Bugville the schools closed down, so great and feverish an excitement prevailed. And as the combat progressed men could be seen on the street corners sobbing on the shoulders of absolute strangers, while women died of heart disease.

"Ma-a-a-a!"
Seldom, since Rome fell, was such an argument. The multitude was dumb with expectancy. What next?
"Bow wow!"

Like the booming of opposing cannon were the masterly editorials exchanged.

"Cock-a-doodle-do!"
Would it never end? Could such things be and still the earth revolve and cows lay eggs and hens give milk?

to nature which is possible in and close to the city under the necessary conditions of concentration in certain areas easily reached by the street railroads, but restricted by inability to wander at will through private grounds. Park authorities have found long ago that the supply of the place and its control are not sufficient. The crowd needs some amusement, and gradually the parks have been adding to the amusements furnished. But they have not added them fast enough and the white cities and electric parks have drawn away many of those who most need the better class of amusements. The city parks have done well to refuse room to the empty sensation producers, but they can do much to turn the sentiment of the young toward the quieter enjoyment of life and away from the dangers accompanying the unrestricted indulgence in unusual physical sensations, however innocent they may be in their individual appearance. There seems to be some objections, arising from our system of government, to the supply of such amusements at a price, but many cities are unable to supply funds to operate them without cost, and the difficulty in making the show pay its own way without opportunity for some one to make a dishonest profit is less important than the supply of the opportunity for the young people to find a really innocent and at the same time attractive place of amusement. The real difficulty is in choosing the character of the amusement features, so that they will be educational in their tendency and at the same time capable of drawing all those for whom they are intended.

Excursions for business ends have come into much vogue in late years. A notable one, to which the attention of the commercial bodies of Honolulu should be given, is the transpacific excursion of representative business men under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco. It will sail from San Francisco in the steamer Tenyo Maru on the 25th inst., reaching Yokohama four days before the arrival at that port of the American battleship fleet. Returning, the party will leave Yokohama on November 4. It is stated in a San Francisco paper that the list of delegates includes representative business men from the principal cities on the Pacific Coast, who will be afforded exceptional facilities to see life and traffic in the Mikado's empire. Cablegrams from government officials and chambers of commerce in Japan have conveyed assurances that the visitors will be handsomely entertained as guests of the commercial organizations and of the nation. Why should not Honolulu have a representative in that excursion? At all events the passing through of such a party should be an occasion to be fittingly recognized by the commercial bodies of Honolulu.

"Moo-o-o!"
Back and forth! Back and forth the war waged. When one journalistic giant said "Quack quack!" he was the next day momentarily stunned by his opponent's mighty "Mee-e-yau!"
And then one day, one blessed day, the zoo dictionary became exhausted and a noise like peace was heard in the land.

ALIOLANI COLLEGE

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