

# The Hawaiian Star

DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) by the HAWAIIAN STAR NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Local, per annum .....\$ 8.00  
Foreign, per annum ..... 12.00

Payable in Advance.

Entered at Post Office at Honolulu, Hawaii, as second class mail matter.

Subscribers who do not get their papers regularly will confer a favor by notifying the Star Office; Telephone 365.

The Supreme Court of The Territory of Hawaii has declared both THE HAWAIIAN STAR (daily) and THE SEMI-WEEKLY STAR newspapers of general circulation throughout the Territory of Hawaii, "suitable for advertising proceedings, orders, judgments and decrees entered or rendered in the Courts of the Territory of Hawaii."

Letters to THE HAWAIIAN STAR should not be addressed to any individual connected with the office, but simply to THE HAWAIIAN STAR, or to the Editorial or Business Departments, according to tenor or purpose.

GEORGE F. HENSHALL .....MANAGER

THURSDAY, .....SEPTEMBER 24, 1908

### IS IT WORTH WHILE?

A great many good citizens are getting into line for government by commission. The kind of politics we have alarms and disgusts them; and if there is any chance to drive out politics altogether, have taxes reduced and fifty per cent of them paid by the Federal treasury, and to get the aid of a strong and permanent body of administrators in asking things of Congress for Hawaii, they are ready to seize it. The present system of graft, humbug and chicanery, which goes by the name of popular government, is growing more and more hostile to the best interests of the Islands.—Advertiser.

Let us admit the painful truth. A paraphrase of this last quoted sentence, written for San Francisco, might be truthfully applied to that suffering community. New Yorkers, witnessing over and over again that Tammany cannot be downed except for a brief season, might mournfully ask that popular government be done away with in order to get rid of "the present system of graft, humbug and chicanery which goes by the name of popular government." The state of Pennsylvania, just through with a vast cleaning out of Philadelphia and plunged into worse state scandals over the erection of her Capitol, might cry to heaven for something to rid her of the "graft, humbug and chicanery which goes by the name of popular government." Examples might be multiplied ad libitum. In the new state of Oklahoma, the first governor stands authoritatively accused of graft, chicanery and humbug, and perhaps the citizens of that budding commonwealth would like a government by commission, in order to rid them of the trouble of making a good government of their own. The most striking features of the national campaign so far have been exposures of "graft, chicanery and humbug" in both the great parties. What a relief if the American people could abandon the suffrage and let a few men govern them without the "graft, chicanery and humbug" which are a feature of every popular government on earth and always have been unfortunately prevalent in politics. It would save taxes too. A vast sum is spent in America every year in sessions of Congress, sessions of legislatures, meetings of county boards, city boards, commissions and heaven knows what not. Perchance the American people made a grievous error in insisting upon popular government and, by way of showing how persistent in error they are, they are actually instituting it among the benighted Filipinos!

However, there can be no disputing the Advertiser's remark that "the kind of politics we have" disgusts a great many good citizens. It has profoundly disgusted them. The question seems to be whether we should try to mend politics, or give up politics altogether. To put the matter another way, is self-government worth fighting for?

Cleanliness is better than quarantine to fend off pestilence.

There are reports of Democratic nominees with court records, also.

Those who say that Bryan has gained discretion with years should explain why he brought Roosevelt into the campaign.

On September 18,—six days ago,—The Star told of the reported coming amalgamation of the Inter-Island Steam Navigation Company and the Matson Navigation Company. There was a denial the next morning.

### THE WATER PROBLEM.

Honolulu was several times promised a supply of pure water, ample for domestic needs, only to be disappointed. Estimates for a filtration plant to purify the surface water were passed once and again, but the Government never found the money to carry out the improvement. Now the promise is that of an all-artesian supply furnished by pumping with power from the big surface water reservoir approaching completion. This will take money and the question again is will the fund be available if appropriated. There is another important problem involved. Will the artesian water thus furnished be adequate for the irrigation of home plots in addition to that consumed where a potable water is required? If not and the surface water, after doing duty in making power for pumping and generating electric light, is to be utilized for irrigation how is it to be done? Separate systems of pipes would be necessary for delivery of the two kinds of water, which is something hardly to be thought of and which no legislature would consider.

Why not have the plans include the filtration, or at least the cleansing through settling basins, of the surface water? There is nothing wrong, comparatively, with the Nuanu water excepting when the reservoirs are low and the consumers get the settlings and when a storm washes earthy matter into it. Either filtering or settling would make it a water as sweet and safe as the artesian product, which is nothing but surface water cleansed in nature's subterranean filter. Mainland towns that made scientific examinations of waters found the conclusion that the very best was surface water filtered through sand.

The thing is to obtain an ample supply for domestic and irrigation purposes. It is doubtful if such a supply can be produced from artesian wells—certainly not from those at present comprised in the system. There is not an established certainty that the water beds underneath the town would meet such a drain as irrigation in addition to house demands would make. No question can exist, on the other hand, that with the new reservoir a combination of both supplies, artesian and surface, will fill all requirements for many years to come. The total need will, however, become increasingly great as the reasonably expected rapid growth of the city, in the new circumstances already undergoing creation, ensues. Therefore it seems that the water mains will have to be fed with surface as well as artesian water. And the surface water must be supplied in a pure state. This can be done only through the inclusion, in the remodeled system, of a filtering process.

## THE "STAR" SPECIAL ARTICLE PAGE---

Wit; Wisdom, Humor  
Politics and Nonsense

### Tales Worth Telling

#### BASEBALL STORIES.

Nick Altrock of the Chicago Americans and Hahn, the stocky outfielder of that team, who, incidentally, is having his best year since he broke into major league society, are the firmest of friends. Hahn is one of the silent, plodding kind, with but little to say, either in or out of the game, and Altrock is just the opposite, but they must have something in common to keep them together so much.

Hahn, who is not a college graduate, and is rather proud of the fact, reads the newspapers rather slowly, and often asks the gifted Mr. Altrock to explain certain hard problems to him, and Altrock makes good, whether he knows anything about the subject or not.

Out at the Chicago ball park the other day Hahn was reading about John Rockefeller and his money and the turn-down John received when he wanted to present some of his wealth to the Ohio church presided over by Washington Gladden, and after looking worried for awhile he drew out:

"Say, Nick, do you really believe that John D. Rockefeller's money is tainted?"

"Sure," hoisterously cried Nick; "tain't yours and tain't mine."

In one of the St. Louis games recently played at the National Park there were three of the Washington players on the bases, two men were out and it needed two runs to tie the score when Cantillon sent the hefty Otis Clymer in to bat in Edmondson's place.

On this particular day Otis was feeling like a two-year-old. He had hopes of seeing his name in big letters in the papers the following day, telling how he had saved the game. And as he strode to the plate he had a do-or-die expression on his face.

The first ball pitched Ote swung at and missed. Then he hopped up a foul fly that was out of the reach of Sid Smith, the dumpy backstop. But Ote braced himself and landed hard on the third ball, and it sailed away toward deep center. A mighty cheer went up from the crowd, as it looked good for a home run, but Emmet Heitrick, of the misfit legs, tore after the spheroid and, giving a leap, in the air, he managed to get two fingers on it and the side was out.

Clymer swore low and deep, and as he passed Jimmy Williams on his way out to right field he said to Williams: "My luck is like a hard-boiled egg, Jimmy?"

"How's that?" inquired the puzzled second sacker of the Browns.

"It just can't be beaten," calmly replied Ote as he continued on his way.

Hal Chase of the New York Americans, the best first baseman the game has ever known is being criticized by the New York populace because he doesn't stay the other eight positions on the team as well as his own, is a rare fellow to know, and no one in base ball today can think as quick as Hal on or off the ball field.

Al Orth, the curvaceous wonger, who fell off the train here in Washington on his way to his Lynchburg home, tells of how he and Chase went into a celebrated Boston restaurant while the Highlanders were playing in the Hub and ordered generously. When the waiter took Hal's order he said:

"How will you have your ham and eggs?"

"Right away," shot back Chase.

"How will you have your eggs?" repeated the garcon.

"Fresh," tersely replied Hal.

And then the waiter faded away with a foolish expression on his countenance.

Keeley was a most amusing character—National League twirler some years ago and who is at present a member of Jim Callahan's Logan Square team, from which organization came the clever little Washington pitcher, Bert KeEley, was a most amusing character when he played in the big league, for his queer expressions, together with his strong German accent, made



The Professional Spell-binder—W hat's the use of a campaign, anyway?

him a prolific subject for base ball copy.

Schmidt, who gloried in his rather significant nickname, was a big, muscular fellow, and could pitch all day without tiring. He had a slow ball which was a peach. The only trouble was Schmidt's lack of control of it when he was angry.

For instance, if Schmidt got mad while winding up instead of his sending in the slow ball the catcher was expecting, he would slam one up to the plate with all the force of his mighty strength, and the catcher literally would be swept off his feet.

It was on account of such sudden changes of temperament that Schmidt was nicknamed "crazy," a sobriquet which he bears to this day.

One day two years ago Jimmy Callahan took his club down to Joliet to play the aggregation there, and as the team had played there before they knew the umpire was a "homer"—a man who couldn't see a close decision without giving his team the best of it. He stepped before the grandstand, hat in hand, and announced as follows:

"Ladies and gentlemen, the batteries for today will be Schmidt and Reading for Logan Square and Marshall and Rundle for Peoria.

"Crazy" Schmidt was right behind him, and when he had finished Schmidt took off his cap, and making a sweeping bow, said:

"Ladies and schentlemen, der umpire for der game today vill be Mister Miller of Joliet, and he vill as usual slightly favor der home club mit his decisions."

The queer things which are all the time happening in base ball furnish much food for the fans who are "bugs" on the game. Perhaps the queerest thing that ever happened during a game of base ball was pulled off one day in Chicago when Andy Moynihan of the Chicago club was playing third base and with a runner on first base. The next batsman up hit a terrific liner down where Andy was all set for the catch, and as the ball came hurtling through space with lightning-like velocity Andy stuck up his ungloved hand and the ball stuck in it.

Just after the catch was made the spectators were surprised to see the third baseman begin dancing about the field, with his hand stuck under his arm, and the man on first seeing that something was the matter tore down to second and then to third and then on home, while the rest of the infielders were trying to force Moynihan's hand out from where he had it hid.

When finally they succeeded they

found the ball stuck so tightly in the third baseman's grasp that it took the combined efforts of five players to release it, and then it was noticed that the partly closed hand was completely paralyzed from the shock of the ball coming into contact with it.

Moynihan was several days recovering from his injury and regaining the use of the hand, but he finally did so, and though the above story may appear unlikely to skeptical people still the instance is on record in the annals of the National League.

In order to save money the band stands in Emma and Thomas Squares will be used as voting booths this year.

There is \$13,000 available for election purposes.

## MEMORIAL FOR T. R. WALKER

As the funeral of the late Mr. Thomas Rain Walker is to take place in England next Saturday, the 26th, it has been decided to hold a Memorial Service in St. Andrew's Cathedral on that day. The services has been arranged for 11:30 a. m.

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