

Town Talk

BY THE MAN AROUND TOWN

One of the first qualifications for license to drive an automobile ought to be a supply of brains. It would appear, however, to be the last, or the totally lacking, thing that the examiner thought of when passing many of those seen at the steering wheel of machines career-ing through the streets. These used to be called horseless carriages and the wonder of them would have been greater had it been foreseen that a great proportion of them were to be directed by brainless drivers. Of this class was the fellow handling an auto on Beretania avenue the other day. Heading to round a corner a little in advance of a street car, he took the left side of a wagon driven by an Oriental and drove the machine between that vehicle and the car. His auto hit the wagon a grazing blow, but happily it was a miss for doing any damage. The passengers on the car received a thrill from the loud crack of the contact, and turned their heads in time to see that there was a close shave between the auto and the car. Here was a double violation of the law—passing a vehicle on the wrong side and heedless driving. If that driver had been killed by his recklessness, Dr. Mackall might have correctly found any cause of death but concussion of the brain. Nothing of that kind to have been concussed. Not in that particular block.

Nowadays you all know and can truthfully say—
 Let a fool drive an auto, he'll speed the same way
 As the beggar on horseback of whom it is said
 That right straight to the devil his course will be sped.

Going into Dooley's cigar store on upper Fort street the other evening, I had the good luck to hear him posting his old cronies, Hennessy, on the McCrosson schemes. He was at it when I went in. "What for does he want an excoolsive franhsis? Ah'll tell you. In the first place there's so much wather in Hilo, which the same he wants to lade over to Kow fwhere it's as dry as Donnybrook the day after the fair, that he don't want annybody else to have the chanct to go into the thing. He wants to make all the money that's to be made out of it for himsilf and his assoshates for fifty years—although by the same token it's their granchilder that'll be ridin' in outamabeels or airyplanes, which same will be bought with the first diffidonts, thimselves bein' contint wid the milyuns they git from promotion stock and the construction bonds which same is generally sold for tin times what the whole thing is wurt.

"In the next place nixty, as Father Hogan says, McCrosson wants to contrhol all the land that's to be wathered from the Kow ditch, for in that dry district you can't raise a peanut bush or a petaty vine without the adulteratin' himint, and unless besoides they have a river of it on tap they're libel anny day to be burnt out o' house and home by a volcany lava flow. Wather for that same will be charged extry in the bill, so it's aisy to see that the tillers of the soil will be the vassals of the wather landlords the same as the pisantry of ould Oireland—God save it—are thrampled under the foot, as Redmond says, of the Sassenach lord of the bogs."

"But I'm tould he's throwed it up in Washington?"
 "So I believe. You see it's this way. Govinor Frear axed him to allow the bill to be amindin' in places, on account of the kowtouse that was bein' made all over the oilands about it. 'The peepul,' says he in a cablegraff, 'is up in arums agin it and I'll be up a tree whin the time comes for my reappoinment if the shkame isn't nipped in the bud.' You see Diligate Kuhio is an inimy of Frear except at illiction times whin he wants the votes of the Frear caboodle, and the diligate it was who giv his imprimashure to the bill kind of on the sly, the foxy spalpeen, and whin the govinor saw fwch way the wind lay he jumped on it wid amindints that would knock it galley west as a moneypoly. Although at first the govinor was whooping up the shkame to bate the hand, sayin' as McCrosson was a binifactor of the race that would make two blids o' grass grow grane fwhere none didn't grow before, still politics is politics and the shitatesman that don't know the political game may as well file his application for a tin-acre homestid on the slopes of Maunua Kaya to raise Pete's hair for sinituffin' mattresses wid. Sure the govinor knew if the ditch went through with Kuhio the faather av it, and the govinor himsilf not movin' a finger to amind it so's to cut out the parts the peepul was roarin' about, 'twud be alid day and an ould Oirish wake afterwards for his pristege as the ladin' boss av the ranch.

"Fwwhat about that other dhrain McCrosson'll be afther wantin' to dig, th'wan on this oiland?" Hennessy then inquired.
 "That's the Wahyiva ditch you'll mane, Hinnessy. Well, I don't know much about that same except Eddy Tinney says the man that cud consave a shkame like that same is mane enough to take a Malihini Christmas Tree banyana from a Kakaako spalpeen. I'm tould that the wather he wants to take from Wahyiva belongs to Waialua and was flouin' to the say there iver since Adam was a boy till the Waialua plantation people stopped the strame wid a dam. They say that befor then the poor coolyeana owners had an inalienable right from Kamyhamyhamia the First to take all the wather they wanted from the strame, and mix it wid their ocolduyounow as they call usquebaugh in their hathen lingo, and to wash their mayloos in it, and that they all sold the likkid birthright for luau money to the plantation peepul."

"Thin it must belong to the plantationers and how cud McCrosson git hold of a bucketful av the precious flude whin—as I heard George Davis say in the coorhouse whiles I was waiting to give me evidence for yourself whin Fennell was prostituting you—the constitoation av the United States av Ameriky prevents the takink of anny man's property, if it's only a yalla dog widout a tail, except by due procciss av law?"

"It's you that's the ignoramis whin there's a deep question involved. Don't you know the lawyers can make annything they like due procciss av law from the books in the govermint libery? They can make you out to be crazy, instid of only just simple as you are, if annybody pays them enough to have you put in the bughouse to git you out of the way so's the other fellow can get your property unbeknownst to you. But I'm tould McCrosson wasn't thrying anny such little Irish tricks to get the Wahyiva wather. He's too much av a gintleman for that same.

"Sure you've heard tell of the right of iminent domain? It's a way that the govermint has av takin' your property from you and paying you for it whatev the coort decides it's wurt, no difference if you don't want to sell it or do. The govermint can force you to sell it to itself or to annybody else what can make it believe he can get more good out av it for the community at large than you can. It condinnas your land for railroads or dhrains or gaspipes or annything else that's pertindin' to be for the public benefit.

"So McCrosson goes to the Sectary of War and says he: 'You have a cavalry post at Lielayhoo on the island of Wahoo in Hay-waya, and there's hardly anny wather there for the poor bastes. Now there's plenty av wather just alongside the post at Wahyiva, but there's a sugar plantin' corporation widout anny sowl worth mentionin' got it all decanthered in a big dam and devil a dhrap for man

or baste outside of the plantation will they let go except for a thafe of the world price. If they did sell you the full of a trough for the cavalry bastes they have no way av sindin' it to you. Now I've had a lot of experience wid big ditches on the oilands and if I had contrhol of that Wahyiva wather I cud give you a tidal wave av it anny day you wanted to change your ould cavalry camp into a naval station where a whole army of the inimy cud be welcomed to wathery graves. All you have to do is to condinn the wather for mesilf, and me and my assoshates'll do the rist."

"And fwhat did the Sectary say to that same?" Hennessy wonderingly asked.

"I don't know. An iditor what buys six for a quarter stogies from me tould me what I've just mintoned to you, and whin I axed him the silf same question you ax me he said the Sectary's answer hadn't been relased yet by the Assoshiyated Priss."

"I've always heard good spoke av McCrosson. What's made him gone wrong?"

"I don't know av he is gone wrong. Them as bring railing accoosations agin him wud do the same's him if they thought there was anny money in it. He sees a good thing, lasteways he thinks it is, and goes afther it, just as you wud, Hinnessy, whin you was altogether there."

"Div you think he'll iver thry agin to put the Kow dhrain through?"

"I'll be willin' to bet a glass of pop wid a stick in it, if Fennell's not spyin' around, that he will. You see according to the medical faculty wather on the brain is incurable."

"Annyhow, Tinney'll let bygones be bygones if McCrosson's turned down on the Wahyiva wather business," ventured Hennessy.

"I d'know about that same," Mr. Dooley replied. "Tinney reads The Frind and that ixcellent periodical says that a man may be forgiven sixvinty times for as many repated trispases, but not for divil a single sin that he's caught in can the ofense itsilf be palliatiated."

MANY FLIERS AT SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO, January 7.—Glenn Curtiss, the particular star of the aviation meet which opens today in South San Francisco, made a preliminary flight over the field in his biplane yesterday. Aviator Radley also covered the course. Everything points to a wonderfully successful meet and the weather is ideal. All arrangements have been completed and Chairman F. E. Scottford, of the citizens' aviation committee, has received the approval of the Aero Club of America for the change of date for the meet to be held, commencing today and lasting until January 16.

Something Will Break.
 Glenn Curtiss has informed the aviation committee that it is his opinion that broken bones or broken records will follow the performances in the novice contests outlined for the aviation.

Scores of applications come in to the aviation committee for entrance in the inventors' class; but, in view of the difficulty of getting the prospective contenders to understand the rules and comply with the necessary formalities, the completion of the list has been retarded.

Chinese High Flyers.
 Fong Guey of Berkeley, who has invented a modified biplane and has constructed it himself at a cost of \$7,000 has entered the lists. Fong is one of the best known and perhaps the most picturesque of the aviators around the bay, and is the first man of his race with a record of several successful flights to his credit.

C. E. Lambuth, of 118 Capp street, will offer a multiplane, a machine of sixteen planes with a surface area of 564 square feet, a length of forty feet and a breadth of forty feet, an engine of his own design, four-cycle, forty-horsepower, water cooled and equipped with one propeller eight feet in diameter and four and one-half foot pitch.

W. A. Merrill, a member of the board of governors of the Pacific Aero Club, will take out a combined lighter than air and heavier than air machine that is expected to prove one of the sensations of the meet.

Strange Air Craft.
 W. C. Wheeler, secretary of the Pacific Aero Club, and Cleve T. Shaffer, former secretary of that organization, have constructed machines of their own and intend to try for prizes. Ralph Sheaf of Oakland will enter a biplane of the Farman type. The total surface area is 300 square feet. It has a Curtiss body control. The engine is four-cycle, four-cylinder, one hundred horsepower and water cooled.

John N. Hudson and H. B. Wharton will contend with a monoplane that is a modification of the Bleriot type, having a new shaped tail.

Carl Dryden Brown of Napa has entered a "self-adjusting" biplane. T. S. Kern of Chico a biplane of a modified Curtiss type, and Fred Hotchner a multiplane.

CLOCKS STOPPED.
 FAIRBANKS, January 7.—A number of severe earth shocks were felt here early this morning, causing almost a panic. No severe damage was done,

but clocks were stopped and dishes thrown from the shelves.

MAY DRAW BILL FOR PRIVATE EXECUTION

CARSON, January 7.—Chief Justice Sweeney, of the Nevada State supreme court, announces that he proposes to introduce a bill in the State legislature which is soon to meet here, making criminal libel legal grounds for a plea of justifiable homicide.

The jurist has been criticized somewhat and resents it. Lawyers here are inclined to take Judge Sweeney's threat as a joke, for such a bill would invest a private citizen with the functions of judge, jury and executioner.

Newspapers generally denounce or ridicule the proposed bill, in some cases asserting that it would encourage criminals, grafters or any other undesirable citizen resorting to murder in answer to exposure or criticism.

DANGER FROM CROUP.

A few minutes delay in treating some cases of croup, even the length of time it takes to go for a doctor often proves dangerous. The safest way is to keep Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in the house and at the first indication of croup give the child a dose. Pleasant to take and always cures.—For sale by all dealers, Ben-cure.—For sale by all dealers, Ben-cure, Smith & Co., agents for Hawaii.

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FERN MAKES SPECIAL PLEA FOR WILSON, BUT IS TURNED DOWN

Mayor Fern made a very earnest plea for Road Supervisor Wilson, during last night's meeting of the Board of Supervisors. He more than intimated that he considered, as a political bargain, that the board should confirm Wilson in return for Fern's having nominated Gere as city and county engineer.

"I want this board to remember that I knew that this was going to happen," said the mayor, after a motion had been made that his appointment of Wilson as road supervisor be not confirmed, and announcement had been made that it was the plan to put Engineer Gere in charge of the road work. "I might have refused to name Mr. Gere, knowing as I did what this board was likely to do, and I might have named Mr. Wilson for engineer. But I did not do that, and now this board is opposing Mr. Wilson."

McClellan declared that the board's contemplated action was "simply politics." He said in plain language that he didn't think there was anything in Murray's remarks about economizing and getting better service by having the engineer run the road department. Eben Low replied for the Republican majority. He suggested that if McClellan or the mayor wanted to make charges about acting for political reasons, they should certainly withdraw the name of Wilson, for his nomination had been made for political reasons only. "We know that Gere is a tried and competent man," said Low, "and think it better to try the plan of consolidating the engineer's department with that of the road supervisor. If we find that the plan does not work, we can change back to the old system."

Murray's motion to not confirm Wil-

son carried by six to one, McClellan voting no.

A motion not to confirm De Fries as road supervisor of Ewa was made by Murray and seconded by Kruger, Murray saying that the present incumbent Travis, whom the mayor was attempting to remove, had proved an efficient man. The mayor accused Travis of having done politics with government mules as his assistants, to carry voters to the polls. "When I remonstrated with him," said the mayor, "he made answer that he was running his department and didn't want any interference. I do not think such a man should be retained."

Low moved to postpone action, to allow time for investigation, saying that if he found anything wrong with Travis he would help the mayor to put him out of office. Murray suggested that the mayor give consideration to Road Supervisor Wilson's political activity, but voted with the others to postpone action on Travis.

Motions not to confirm were carried as to R. L. Gilliland of Waialua, R. W. Holt of Waialua and Moses Akawa of Koolauoko, the reason given in each case being that in nominating these new men the mayor was displacing men who had served well, two of them being plantation managers serving without pay.

"The luna gets the pay, so it's six of one and half a dozen of the other," interjected McClellan.

Andrew Adams of Koolauloa and George Chalmers of Waimanalo, both re-appointments, were confirmed, and Murray was heard to remark that the mayor "had hit it right twice."

The board adjourned to Friday, January 13. Supervisors McClellan, Murray, Kruger, Amama, Arnold, Dwight and Low were present.



BARNES and WEST, the marvelous dancers who opened at the Park on Wednesday evening. The above illustration depicts them as they will appear in their change next week.

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