

THE HAWAIIAN STAR

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THE MAINE AND ARBITRATION.

It is now officially reported that the battleship Maine blew herself up, all three of her magazines exploding. The headlines in this morning's paper say "exploded at once," but this is not borne out by the probable text, as we take the final paragraph which has the form of a query, to be a library addition. The actual truth seems to be that the explosion of one magazine set off the rest, and in this connection the public will recall the story of the survivors that there were two reports, blending into one roar.

The standard work on the Spanish war, the Relations of the United States and Spain, by Admiral Chadwick—he a member of the naval board which investigated the destruction of the Maine from above the surface—declares energetically that the battleship was destroyed from the outside. But the exposed wreck confounds the experts. There is nothing in the damaged structure of the hull—no inward bent plates or ribs—to prove or even suggest the earlier contention. All that, was the hasty generalization of an exciting and embittered hour—and the United States made war because of it.

Had there been a general court of arbitration then to which all nations must refer their grievances, the United States would have been spared the exhibition of popular insanity which ended in blood and confusion and a vast bill of costs. Leaving out the Maine and considering the reforms in Cuba the government of Spain had already begun to make, there remained no cause for war. Arbitration could have solved all the current disputes. A simple court inquiry into the loss of the American battleship, following the display of such evidence as is available now, would have absolved Spain and non-suited America. But, excited by our yellow press and yellow pulpits, we rushed into a conflict, the vexations of which are still with us, some of which have indeed borne preface of further wars. It is not enough to be merely ashamed of the fact as Americans—though we benefited by it as Hawaiians—but, in "remembering the Maine," let us resolve to do our part towards preventing wars in future, for there are few that would not yield, if so referred, to the processes of a great court.

SOUTH AMERICAN FEDERATION.

We learn through a London paper that, on July 5, representatives of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia were to meet and consider a plan to unite these five republics under the title of "Gran Colombia." The London article, which is signed correspondence from Caracas, says that the news had been given small publicity, because the states at interest wanted to attract as little attention as possible while the preliminaries were going on, especially from the United States. Even the city where the meeting was to have been held is not publicly named. Since July 5, nothing more has been heard of the proceedings of the conferees, if they really met, though considering the vigor of censorship over Latin American news mediums, that may not mean much. News, if it comes, is likely to follow diplomatic channels.

South and Central Americans have tried several times to federate, but the result has always been productive of fresh trouble, bloodshed and eventual separation. A union of the Central American states was effected as long ago as 1824, when slavery was abolished and a democratic constitution established. It lasted barely two years when the various states composing it were once more resolved into distinct republics.

In 1831, the republic of New Granada was founded. It consisted of Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador, but these countries did not stick together long. Meanwhile several of the provinces seceded from their parent states, as Carthagenia, Veragua and Panama from Colombia. In time all went back to their former relation, though Panama, at the instigation of the United States, finally seceded for good and part of it is now under the American flag.

The present proposal to combine, if it really exists, may have found more reason for going ahead than the previous ones. Northern South America fears the encroachments and the steadily growing power of the United States. In proof of this is the Drago doctrine, in justification of it is the American acquisition of the Panama zone, the plan to fortify the canal, the naval base at Guantanamo, Cuba, the annexation of Porto Rico and the practice mobilization of troops against Mexico. Such things justly alarm and may be the means of cementing a real confederacy, though the trouble about choosing a capital and satisfying individual ambitions may still hinder results.

THE CHIMERA OF STATEHOOD.

There is just about as much likelihood of Hawaii becoming a state as there is of Porto Rico or the Philippines becoming one, though Hawaii, at present, is somewhat further along in political organization.

If a political crisis comes that requires more votes in the Senate, Alaska, a white-man's country, will naturally have the statehood preference, but the experience of letting Nevada in for such a temporary reason, does not predispose thinking Americans to another experiment. Nevada is a failure as a state, yet it has as much weight of votes in the upper House of Congress, as New York or Massachusetts. The mainlanders don't want another such state. As yet they have withheld even territorial organization from Alaska, and as for making a state out of a territory where the whites are in a large minority, the thing is not in the domain of practical politics.

We may as well stop rainbow-chasing and reconcile our minds to the fact that, as Hawaii was annexed for military purposes, its government is likely to be shaped more for military exigencies than any other. That is what we are here for; not for opera bouffe spectacles of high politics.

The need of a rallying point for citizens who believe in the "best men," and the best measures, is being supplied by the Civic Federation, which is now a large enough body to be reckoned with. We suppose that some men have joined it, as is usual in such cases, to hold it back when it undertakes a bold stand, but if the governing body is kept sound the good effect will be seen in future elections. Nothing can be carried in our politics without definite organization. For want of it on the right side, the plebiscite was a deal of a farce; by the use of it on the wrong side the enemy scored a much greater victory than it was entitled to. Without identifying the Civic Federation with the anti-saloon movement, the Star believes that its presence in this field will supply the rallying point heretofore needed at a crisis by all the friends of good government.

The royalist party in Portugal was shown, in the late elections, to be a mere faction—a band of Adullamites. Since then two attempts at insurrection have proved to be small affairs, one of which was headed off by a body of marines. If the country is well-administered now and in future there is no reason to think that the republicans will have any more trouble in holding the upper hand than have their political and racial cousins in Brazil.

Happily there has been no sign that our real delegate to Washington will bolt the Republican party.

Still another Hawaiian princess has turned up, this one in an Arizona almshouse.

Uncle Walt The Poet Philosopher

The village smithy still is found beneath the chestnut tree, but from it comes no clanging sound of hammer swinging free; the villagers have gathered round to see what they may see. The smith, he is a man of might, of large and sinewy frame; and from his plug he takes a bite, and starts in to declaim: "Well, boys, it really was a sight, the way we won that game. We had a man on every base when I stepped up to bat; the pitcher's curves were hard to trace—he knows where he is at—but I just looked him in the face, and knocked the blamed ball flat. Well, stranger, what is that you say? Your horse is needing shoes? Oh, take your cheap old plug away; you give a man the blues; I am too busy here today to shoe old kangaroos. Yes, boys, that hit brought in them all, and struck the bleachers dumb; I really thought that pitcher'd fall—it knocked him out of plumb! Oh, when it comes to playing ball your uncle's going some!" The farmers seek the smithy door to have their plowshares ground; they make the worthy blacksmith sore—they should be in the pound; they interrupt him o'er and o'er and get his neves unbound.

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LITTLE INTERVIEWS

HIGH SHERIFF HENRY—No, I don't see that the county would need to take the present prison over if the Territory should build a new one.

JAMES WAKEFIELD—Perhaps it has not been made clear enough that ladies are expected to attend the peace meeting. They certainly are, but some people have been asking.

SQUIRE SMITH—The Dairymen's Association has to boll its cream now because the Territory won't let it use a simple preservative which the United States government stands for.

GOVERNOR CARTER—Offering and seconding the resolution at the arbitration meeting Sunday night, also means speaking in its support. There seems to be some confusion on this point.

SUPERVISOR LOW—There was no grafting on clean-up day that I know of. I gave cards because the Wolters cards had run out. As to double payments that was a matter of loose organization.

W. O. SMITH—I was in the Opera House on the Fourth and noticed that acoustics were bad. The reason seemed to be that everybody who had anything to say stood too far back. If they had come forward close to the footlights they could have been heard.

JOHNNY MARTIN—I found some fine peanuts the other day at a Fort street store, none of them shrivelled things you see in Chinese shops—big, hearty peanuts. They tasted good. A big fat peanut without no worms in it is a horniment to any 'ome.

CAPTAIN WILSON—I see that one of the papers calls the telephone a "twentieth century convenience." Why I first played on one away back in 1876, before the last quarter of the nineteenth century had got fairly started.

JOHN SMITH—Speaking of plans for a library building, if anyone could do better than to get a copy of those of the Alce Carey library at Lexington, Mass., I should like to see them.

J. W. HALL—Being attacked in court for exceeding my own daughter rather extends the limit, don't you think?

C. S. DESKY—Fred Macfarlane is one of those men who went up to Woodlawn to scoff and remained to buy. You would be surprised at the way the property is selling. Woodlawn will be a well-settled suburb before long if I can get people enough to let me take them up there and show it. One look and the average man takes his pick.

SAMUEL F. CHILLINGWORTH—Probably there is more significance in the saluting by the British warships Challenger and Kent here on the Fourth of July than most people imagine. I have little doubt that the compliment was planned in very high quarters, or that Honolulu was deliberately selected as the place for the auspicious ceremony. It would not be surprising if it transpired that this was the main purpose of the visit of King George's ships to this port, with special bearing upon the treaty of arbitration.

"Under The Coconut Tree"

By H. M. Ayres.

A dub always squeals; get that? Some comparisons are odoriferous.

That special wireless to the Advertiser from Kahului was a peewee, and created almost as much sensation here as did the news of the raided crap game at Wailuku. There was nothing much the matter with the report, however, except that there wasn't a rider named Anderson in the bicycle race, nor a horse named Rezaladawar in the third race. Merlingo won the mile race and not Coppit, but that was a trifling error. The result of the pacing championship of the Territory was omitted, but then nobody was interested in it. Wila Waihee, given as the winner of the open pony race, was not colored on the card, and Spring Ban and Merlingo are slated to have finished first and second in a race for Japanese-owned horses, which must have tickled John O'Rourke almost to death. Major Collier is credited with having established a track record of 1:23 in the three-quarter-mile race for Hawaiian-breds, though Spring Ban won a race over the same distance on the same afternoon in four seconds less. Rewco was given as the winner of the half-mile free-for-all, but purse and bets were paid over Merlingo, which must have been due to an oversight on the part of the judges. There were a few other minor mis-statements in the report, but, there, what's the good of being too particular?

Some people have evidently been laboring under the delusion that the local wireless service is a private utility instead of a public utility.

Coppit failed to cop it at Kahului, but Parlor, Maid raised the dust in the race for gentleman riders.

There is absolutely no truth in the

report that a well-known Hilo horse-man is going to purchase Rewco and change his name to O'Rewco.

Champagne and Opium were among the starters in the mule race at Kahului. The latter proved to be a "pipe" but the tip on the former fizzled out soon after the flag fell.

They call Louis von Tempsky's Hawaiian-bred runner Hanalazy now instead of Hanael.

Hawaiian Tribe, No. 1, contains some well-read men.

Maui had a little horse With which they hoped to win— He couldn't pace quite fast enough So Maui lost some tin.

It strikes us that there is something wrong about that dispatch from Chicago telling that the corn crop in Oklahoma, Kansas and Illinois is being withered by the intense heat. What we believe occurred was that the corn popped in the ear and that the farmers disposed of the unexpected product at a good profit.

Then we learn that the heat was so great at Hollidaysburg, Pa., that it exploded a powder mill. This same heat, fifteen years ago, would never have been accused of anything worse than heating the pavements so that eggs could be fried on them.

What's the matter, by the way, with calling this town Hollidaysburg?

The Fourth of July sports down the line are said to have been the best Ewa.

The fellow who tried to make cheese from coconut milk was a born experimentalist.

As things go by contraries in this

world it seems quite appropriate to have a canon on the peace meeting committee.

The coronation's over and Clean-up Day is pau. The Fourth's contests and races are things of history now; There's not a holiday in sight—what is the use of living? Oh, I forgot Regatta Day, Flag-raising and Thanksgiving!

TEN MINUTE

(Continued from page one.)

ing that he saw no reason why he should not grant the permission asked for and that he was having the matter looked into.

It is understood that if the desired permission is granted the company will begin work on the connection right away.

MOONLIGHT BAND CONCERT.

This evening at 7:30 o'clock at the Honolulu Seaside Hotel, Waikiki, the Hawaiian band will render the following program:

- March—Kahuku Berger
- Overture—America Catlin
- Chorus—Tannhauser Wagner
- Selection—The Bohemian Girl Balfe
- Vocal—Hawaiian Songs, Ar. by Berger
- Selection—Ye Olden Times Beyer
- Ballad—La Paloma Yradier
- Finale—Waimea Berger
- The Star Spangled Banner.

The Hawaiian band will play at the terminus of the carline at Waiatae next Monday night.

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