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Deficit Was in the Chinese Trust Fund.

Treasurer Wright Did Not Misuse a Cent Belonging to the Territory—Henry Hapai's Accounts and Cash Were as Straight as a Die—Money Missing From Cooper's Special Fund Which is Reduced to \$11,000 From \$161,000,

Honolulu, T. H., September 25.—William H. Wright, Territorial Treasurer, disappeared yesterday leaving a shortage in his cash of \$17,949.91. The missing official is supposed to have gone on the Alameda, though the police made a thorough search of the steamer just prior to her leaving without finding him and some of his friends insist that he has not left the city. The shortage is not in the Treasury Department proper, of which Registrar Henry Hapai is in charge, but in the Chinese fund which was specially deposited with the Treasurer.

The shortage was first made known Tuesday when Treasurer Wright of his own accord informed Secretary Cooper that he had made use of the Territory's money but that he would make restitution immediately. Governor Dole was notified, and it was agreed to allow the Treasurer until yesterday to square himself. When, however, he failed to meet Secretary Cooper at 9 o'clock yesterday morning to make a settlement as he had agreed to do, Mr. Cooper became suspicious, and after waiting for half an hour informed the High Sheriff to keep a lookout for Wright. A search was made immediately for the missing treasurer, the Alameda being watched up to the time of her departure, and if Wright is aboard of her, he must have been securely hidden away by some friend. During the morning Secretary Cooper was placed in charge of the Treasury by Gov. Dole.

Following the failure of Wright to appear Secretary Cooper began an investigation of the Treasurer's account books, which was concluded shortly after 6 o'clock last evening. This showed the total cash in the treasury excepting special funds to be \$194,029.07, which is but four cents off, the shortage being entirely in the Chinese fund which was on special deposit with Treasurer Wright. This was the fund deposited with the government prior to annexation by the planters to insure the return to China of the laborers brought here under contract. The total amount which should have been on deposit is \$161,226.25, against which were drawn treasury warrants of \$131,674.54, leaving a balance according to the books of \$29,591.71. The actual cash found in the box in the safe to which only the Treasurer had the key, was \$11,601.80, leaving a shortage of \$17,949.91.

SECRETARY COOPER'S STATEMENT.
"I was specially commissioned by Governor Dole yesterday as his representative to look into the accounts of Treasurer Wright," said Mr. Cooper last evening after the investigation of the matter had been completed. "Mr. Wright came to me yesterday and stated that he was short in his accounts, but gave every assurance of making up whatever deficiency there was. He stated the amount of shortage, but I do not remember his exact figures now. He was to have met me this morning at 9 o'clock and straighten out the matter, and when he did not appear, naturally my suspicions were aroused and after waiting for half an hour I notified the High Sheriff. I immediately asked Registrar Hapai for a statement of the funds and cash on hand which he gave very promptly. In the latter part of the afternoon I began an investigation of the state of the funds. The Treasury funds were all accounted for, showing a deficiency of but four cents.

"In the Chinese fund which was on special deposit with Treasurer Wright the books showed:
Total Receipts.....\$161,226.25
Treasury Warrants.....131,674.54
Leaving a balance of.....\$ 29,591.71
"I found cash amounting to \$11,601.80, leaving a deficiency in the account of \$17,949.91.

"Mr. Hapai's account was found to be absolutely correct the cash on hand corresponding with the amount the books showed.
"The treasury funds were all accounted for. Under special deposits as follows:
Land Sales.....\$ 39,976.80
Postal Savings Bank Account..... 2,270.18
Road Tax..... 33,480.60
Outstanding warrants 1888 and 1889..... 254.75
Total.....\$ 75,982.33
Current Account, Silver.....\$ 47,930.15
Gold..... 101,695.00
Drafts..... 52.85
Certificates..... 179.00
Mutilated Certificates..... 25.00
Debased Coin..... 139.75
Total.....\$150,012.75
Cash Warrants.....\$ 43,535.82
Interest Warrant..... 480.00
Cash Voucher......50
Total.....\$ 44,016.32
Showing a total of.....\$194,029.07
The Bookkeeper's accounts show..... 194,029.11

"We also checked over the old gold and silver certificate account. The total amount of gold certificates issued was \$255,000 which has all been redeemed but \$315, for which the cash was on hand. Silver certificates to the amount of \$312,000 were issued, all of which were redeemed excepting \$4,050, and all redeemed certificates were found to have been cancelled, the account being found correct.

"The Chinese fund in which the shortage was found was the money deposited by the planters to secure the passage of Chinese for their return to China, after the contracts with the planters had expired. When the United States Treasury Department took over the Postal Savings bank and liquidated it, this money was deposited by Wray Taylor, Commissioner of Immigration, in the First National Bank. About a year ago as Acting Governor I ordered the money turned over to the Treasury, holding that it was a fund over which the Government had supervision. This money was specially in charge of Treasurer Wright and was kept separate from the money over which Registrar Hapai had control. It was kept in the safe, but in a separate box, to which Mr. Wright had the key. Mr. Hapai's accounts were found to be absolutely correct. The Auditor will be asked to go over the books of the Treasury Department tomorrow. As far as shown there appears to be no falsification of the books, the shortage being in the cash which should have been on hand."

BOOKS ALL RIGHT.

The books of the Treasury Department are said to be correct. Deputy Auditor Meyers said last night before the shortage had become known, that the books of the Treasury Department correspond exactly with those of the audit office, and he was at a loss to say where the shortage could have occurred. The examination of the books will be begun this morning.

Secretary Cooper will be in charge of the Treasury under a special commission for the Governor, and former Superintendent J. A. McCandless may be called upon to assist in the straightening out of the affairs of the Public Works Department.

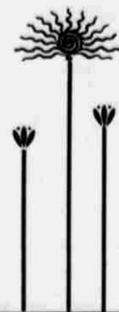
GOVERNOR DOLE'S STATEMENT.

Governor Dole, when asked concerning Mr. Wright's disappearance, said:

"When we learned at 10 o'clock this morning that Mr. Wright could not be located, men were sent down to the Alameda to keep a close watch on the passengers and others going aboard. They did not see Mr. Wright nor hear anything of him. They probably

(Continued on page 3.)

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