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THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

NO SCHOOL HOLIDAY ON QUEEN VICTORIA'S BIRTHDAY.

More Teachers Want Their Salaries Raised—Proposition to Establish Normal Class in Night School.

Minister Cooper presided at the regular meeting of the Commissioners of Education, there being in attendance Professor Alexander, W. A. Bowen, H. M. von Holt, Mrs. B. F. Dillingham and Mrs. E. W. Jordan, members, Deputy Inspector J. F. Scott and Secretary Rodgers.

After the reading of the minutes of last meeting the Committee on Teachers stated they had no report to make.

The Deputy-Inspector reported verbally on his visit to the new Oahu plantation, where he was shown the proposed new site offered by Manager Ahrens. He had also examined a school site already belonging to the department. This latter site answered all the requirements, being situated only three-eighths of a mile from the site of the new mill. The lot was known as the Waipio school land and contained a little over an acre, about 50,000 square feet. There was an old school building on the premises in a dilapidated condition. He also found a very neat little cottage on the land, kept in very good order and newly painted. He also saw preparations for the building of an addition to this cottage or a separate one. The cottage was occupied by a native named Kaananui, who said it was his own. He had built it and occupied it for nine years. He claimed a portion of the land around the house but when asked about the balance of the lot said he did not know who owned it. The Board decided to notify Mr. Kaananui to get off the land or produce his title and the secretary was instructed accordingly.

Mr. Scott then went on to relate that he had visited the school house at Waiawa for which the Board had been offered \$400 in lumber. He found the building in excellent condition. He had taken an expert on moving buildings with him and they estimated that the school house could be cut in sections and moved to the Pearl city lot and an additional room built on to meet actual requirements for the sum of \$1200. The building itself was in splendid condition except one sill which had been laid on the ground. After some discussion it was understood that the plan suggested by Mr. Scott will be adopted, and the item of \$1200 to carry out the project went down in Minister Cooper's notebook, to be included in the appropriations to be asked of the next Legislature for school houses.

Mr. Scott next asked the Board to settle definitely the question of a holiday for the school children on Monday, May 24. There should be some understanding about it so that the schools would not get into the muddle they did on Washington's birthday, when some schools did not open at all, others only for an hour or two, others for half a day, while in one or two the scholars were kept all day. The trouble came, Mr. Scott thought, from the publication of a notice that the government building would be closed on February 22. School teachers thought they were government employees and entitled to a holiday if those who worked in the government buildings got one.

Minister Cooper said no By Authority notice had been published stating that Washington's birthday had been proclaimed a holiday and appealed to the reporters present to sustain him. He was informed that Minister King had caused a notice to be published that the Executive building would be closed for the

day, which meant a holiday for its employes.

Minister Cooper replied that the Executive building was a part of the Executive and was closed as a mark of respect to the occasion. It would probably be closed on the Queen's birthday but that concerned only the one building.

Mr. Cooper was then informed that the postoffice was closed all day on Washington's birthday, with the exception of an hour on account of a steamer.

"And the Custom House too," said one of the Board, "those people never miss a chance to close up."

Minister Cooper said the department could not grant a whole or even a half holiday on the Queen's birthday, because it would be establishing a precedent, which would require equal courtesies on the birthdays of the Emperor of Germany or Japan.

"What about the Chinese New Year?" asked a lady member.

"In that case," replied Mr. Scott, "we can't get the children to school, so we simply ignore their absence. We can't arrest them for truancy because there would be too many of them, so they are allowed to stay away and nothing is said about it."

"I presume the same course will have to be adopted on the Queen's birthday," said the Minister, "if British parents wish their children to stay away from school on the Queen's birthday they are entitled to the privilege as much as the Chinese. But they must do it on their own responsibility. The Board cannot establish a precedent which would involve as many holidays as they have in Mexico."

A motion then passed unanimously that there will be no holiday on Monday, May 24 inst.

Mr. Scott further reported that he had inquired into the matter of the Hudson children and found that they had only really been deprived of schooling for two days. Professor Scott had kept them in school on his own responsibility. The facts had been as reported, the children were intelligent and deserving and the father industrious but very poor.

Mr. von Holt—Has Professor Scott made any written recommendation in the matter?

Mr. Scott—No, sir.

Mr. von Holt—Has he been notified of the action of this Board requesting him to do so.

Secretary Rodgers—Yes, sir. Here is the copy of the letter I sent him.

Mr. von Holt—I do not believe that Professor Scott or any other teacher should be allowed to ignore courteous requests from this Board. I move that the Deputy-Inspector interview the Professor and demand that he comply with the motion passed by this Board at its last meeting. Carried.

A general discussion on free scholarships then ensued in which it appeared that the Board had little or no knowledge of how many could be or had been granted, nor of those granted was there any record before the Board to show whether they were still in force, that is whether the children were still attending school under authority of the scholarships. Several instances were pointed out where children were using these scholarships whose parents at the time they were granted were in poor circumstances but now were abundantly able to pay the tuition fees. The matter was passed for a time, it being so near the end of the school year.

Mr. Smith called attention to the over-crowded condition of the schools everywhere. He said he had caused six arrests for truancy to be made during the week, and in each case the defense had been that there was no room in the schools for the children.

Minister Cooper said nothing could be done until the Legislature met.

A petition was received from Molokai asking for the reinstatement.

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BRITISH RESIDENTS MEET

TO HEAR REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES ON JUBILEE.

Address to the Queen—Invitation Ball and Day's Sports—Hospital Scheme Approved.

An adjourned general meeting of British residents was held at the Arlington hotel last night, to hear reports of committees on the Diamond Jubilee celebration. It was the unanimous wish that T. Rain Walker should be chairman, as he was of the first meeting, and by the same consent W. F. Wilson was asked to continue as secretary.

T. Olive Davies, chairman of the executive committee, reported up a program of celebration so far as ready. It comprised an invitation ball on the evening of June 22; a religious service at St. Andrew's cathedral, attended by Her Majesty's Commissioner, at 10 a. m. of the 23rd; regatta in Honolulu harbor, forenoon, same day; children's picnic and games at Kapiolani park, 10 to 1 o'clock; royal salute at 12, the Government having granted the use of a battery; and, finally, athletic sports, with cups and medals for prizes, from 1 p. m. through the afternoon, winding up with a horse race.

At a later stage the committee was authorized to go ahead with a surety of \$1500 for expenses. Chas. Crozier made a deadset against the horse race as out of place amongst athletic contests. He was supported by R. A. Jordan, who spoke of it as a "one horse race." The chair ruled that it was a matter for the executive committee to further consider.

F. M. Swanzy gave a report of progress from the finance committee. A few contributions had been received from country districts, but, as some of these were holding celebrations of their own, little should be expected from this source. Mr. Swanzy submitted trial plans, made after consultation with local British physicians, of a cottage hospital of two wards with three beds each. It would cost, furnished, about \$3200, and the running expenses would be about \$200 a month.

Alex. Young said that Drs. McKibbin, Herbert, Miner and Murray had kindly offered their services free for such as hospital, and that Judge Widemann had informed them that when the fund reached \$10,000 he would give \$2500 additional.

On motion the project of a permanent memorial, on the basis of the report, was approved.

Sir Robert Herron reported from the committee on an address to the Queen, that Viggo Jacobsen, the pen artist, had been employed to engrave the following document, and that he had about completed the work in a masterly style:

"To Her Most Gracious Majesty, Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, Defender of the Faith, Etc., Etc.—Greeting: 'May It Please Your Majesty: 'As a committee appointed by a large number of Your Majesty's loyal subjects resident in the Hawaiian Islands, we desire respectfully to approach Your Majesty on the occasion of the completion of the 60th anniversary of your happy reign, to offer to you our heartfelt congratulations, and to give you assurances of our unchanging devotion to your person and your throne. 'It must be to Your Majesty, as it is to all Your Majesty's loyal subjects, a source of pride and pleasure to reflect on the many blessings which a kind Providence has vouchsafed to the British Empire, and the rapid advances which your people have made in social and material progress during Your Majesty's glorious reign. But nothing has contributed so much to

dear you to the hearts of all your subjects as the illustrious example which you have in your own person set them of every domestic virtue, and the zeal which Your Majesty has always manifested for the interests of religion and morality.

"It is the devout prayer of Your Majesty's most loyal subjects in this distant country that Your Majesty's life may be long preserved to guide the destinies of your great empire with that wisdom and justice by which Your Majesty's rule has ever been distinguished in the past.

"We have the honor to be, Your Majesty's faithful subjects. 'Dated at Honolulu, June, 1897.' Upon the question of signatures to the address being raised, the meeting decided that it should be signed by the drafting committee—Sir Robert Herron, Wm. G. Irwin, F. M. Swanzy, T. May, W. F. Wilson and D. Logan—and Mr. Walker, chairman of general meeting.

The address is to be enclosed in a crimson morocco cover made for the purpose, to the committee's order, in San Francisco. Prior to the departure of the first outward mail, by which the testimonial will be forwarded, the address will be exhibited in McInerney's store window.

The Chairman added the following names to the Executive Committee, viz:—A. G. M. Robertson, J. L. Torbert, J. H. Wodehouse, L. de L. Ward, W. F. Love, T. S. Douglas, Robert Jordan, H. W. M. Mist, W. Horace Wright, W. Thomson and A. M. Hewett.

Hilo Building Lots.

Theo. H. Davies & Co. Ltd. bought at auction, from the Minister of the Interior, the leases for thirty years of two Government lots at Hilo, for the upset prices of \$240 and \$180 annual rental. The leases are condition upon the erection by the lessees of fireproof buildings upon the lots, to cost not less than \$7500 and \$5000 respectively.

Buggies and Phaetons.

Gus Schuman begs to inform the public that he has on hand a fine new line of Surreys, Buggies, Phaetons, Road Wagons and Carts; Double and Single Buggy, Express and Hack Harness made specially for the Hawaiian trade. These goods are now on exhibition at the Club Stables.

AMUSEMENTS.

The Goddard Lectures.—The second of the Goddard lectures was given last night before an audience which was thoroughly in accord with the lecturer and listened to his splendid descriptions of the art of brewing "Rainier" beer. He remarked that only the best of hops and malt were used thus insuring a healthful beverage. On tap or in bottles at the Criterion saloon.

Blood of Oxen.

Chemists say that the blood of oxen contains a larger percentage of iron than that of any other creature, and beef is the most nourishing animal food. Pills made of dried bullock's blood have been manufactured for use in medicine.

French Language Prohibited.

The French language is now forbidden to be used in Alsace-Lorraine in public speeches and several meetings have been dissolved upon that account. The matter will be raised in the Reichstag, it being claimed that the prohibition is illegal.

Another Slashing Case.

A native girl was badly slashed with a knife at the hands of a Portuguese at Napoopoo a night or two ago. At latest accounts it was uncertain whether she would live or not.

The Hawaiian Cycle & Manufacturing Co., opposite Lewers & Cooke's, have the best Tandems for rent, both Combination and Diamond frame styles.

THE COUNCIL OF STATE

REFUSES THE GOVERNMENT AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION.

The Kinai Maru Should Not Have Been Allowed to Leave Without Paying Her Bills.

At a meeting of the Council of State this afternoon there were present President Dole, Ministers Smith and Cooper, and Councilors Robertson, Kennedy, Robinson, Kane, Mendones, Naone, Jones, Wilder.

Minister Cooper said the purpose of the meeting was to ask the Council to exercise one of its rights in the matter of making appropriations. An emergency had arisen in the quarantine expenses of the Board of Health. The appropriation for quarantine expenses for the two years ending December 31, 1897, was \$10,000. Of that sum there was \$2124.23 left to last for the remainder of the period. The extraordinary expenses incurred by the quarantine of the Kinai Maru's immigrants had amounted to a little over \$5800. The President of the Board of Health had submitted a resolution to the Executive Council asking that a special appropriation be asked for the purpose of defraying these extraordinary expenses. This had been considered at a meeting of the Executive Council this morning, when it was decided to ask the Council of State to make the special appropriation under the authority granted them by the Constitution.

Attorney General Smith then explained how the appropriation for quarantine expenses had been utilized and stated that the balance remaining would be needed in the ordinary routine. The appropriation was asked under the authority granted by Article 81 of the Constitution.

Senator Wilder asked whether the appropriation was asked on account of pestilence or as an emergency.

Minister Smith thought under the plea of pestilence, certainly one was threatened.

Senator Wilder asked again if the same expense would not have been incurred if the smallpox had not broken out.

Mr. Smith said the expense would not have been so great. Replying to a question as to what steps were taken to collect the money from the ship he said no one connected with the ship had any money, neither the captain, agents nor immigration people. It was a question of taking a bond or keeping the ship indefinitely. They had chosen to take the bond and fully believed it would yet be paid.

P. C. Jones asked if the time of the bond had elapsed.

Mr. Smith said no. The bond was good for 60 days. It was to be paid within 60 days after arrival in Japan.

Mr. Jones said when he sold cattle to the Board of Health from the Parker ranch he had to wait four months for the money. He did not see why other people should not wait just as long as he had to. At least before doing anything it would be as well to wait and see whether the bond could be collected or not. He thought the government should have waited until that question was decided before calling on the Council.

Mr. Smith said \$2300 of the amount would go to the guards who served at the quarantine station. It was usual to pay all pay rolls on the first of each month and these men expected their money. If the Council did not want to consider the matter now it might be referred to a committee.

Mr. Robertson said he did not consider the present an emergency sufficient to give the Council authority. What is a pestilence?

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