

there be no accommodations; let us trench. Let Ministers' salaries be put down to \$4,000—we can live on that—and other salaries in proportion. (Applause.) Before he became a Minister, he saw that seventy or eighty per cent of the revenue was spent on salaries, and the remaining fraction only went for public improvements. Let them reverse that, and devote the main portion of the national revenues to public improvements, and pay salaries with the twenty or thirty per cent.

Representative Wight hoped the Minister of Foreign Affairs would strenuously carry out what he had said, and that the salary list would not take up so much money. If all the Ministers had agreed to a reduction in their salaries they ought certainly to look at the salary of the Superintendent of public works.

Hon. C. R. Bishop said he was happily surprised and did not know when he had before heard anything that had pleased him so much as the remarks of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. That officer seemed to have taken in the situation, and hoped it would be something that would last. During the last two years salaries had been going up. If they all worked together they would accomplish something that they would be glad of hereafter. He favored the motion for \$6,000.

The item then, on motion, was passed as follows:

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Salary of Superintendent of Public Works and Civil Engineer..... | \$ 6,000 00 |
| Travelling Expenses, Stationary and Incidentals of Bureau.....   | 500 00      |

Another argument followed on the next item, viz: Completion New Police Court Building, Honolulu, \$26,000, the Government members favoring passage at the figures presented. Rep. Dickey moving a reduction to \$23,000.

Representative Thurston said that the sum of \$19,000 was appropriated last session for this building, and that money had all been spent. Here was a request for \$26,000 more! If the Legislature appropriated a certain amount and the Government exceeded that, power was thus entirely taken out of the hands of the Legislature to say how much money was to be used. Last session the Hon. H. A. Widemann said if the Assembly was going to maintain any power, it would have to keep its hand on the mouth of the purse. Just as soon as the hands of Representatives were taken from the mouth of the purse, down would go the hands of the Ministers after the money. That was the control the members had over the Ministry. If they gave the Ministers everything they wanted, the latter would go on and do anything they pleased. There had been a great deal of street talk and scandal in connection with the building constructed. He had been told that there were crooked things in connection with the work, and it was due to those having it in charge as well as to the public that there should be an investigation. He moved that the item be referred to a special committee to see how that \$45,000 had been spent.

Representative Dole referred to the Minister of Interior's report, stating that a contract was made with E. B. Thomas on April 24, 1884, a few days before last session began, to build new Police Court and Station House for \$16,599, and that another contract was made August 2nd, with John F. Bowler, to erect concrete work, new Police Court and Station House, for \$36,200. He could not understand why two contracts for the same building should be in existence. He was informed that the foundations were contracted for separately, but could hardly understand that the foundations would cost \$16,000. The matter required explanation and he did not consider that the Minister, in whose department these items were, did right in now absenting himself from the Assembly.

Representative Thurston thought it would be only courtesy for the Minister of Interior to be present to explain the matter, but there his chair was vacant. He (the speaker) knew that money had been paid out which was not in that report. He collected money on account of the work himself, in the Interior Department, and he did not see it charged. Without any explanation whatever the "great majority" were willing to vote this lump sum. If it was perfectly straight he was willing as any body to vote it, but he did not want to vote it blindly. Therefore, he moved it be deferred till the Minister gave an explanation.

Representative Aholo said the House was not making satisfactory progress because the Minister of Interior was not there. One of the principle reasons for Ministers having seats in the Assembly was that they might be enabled to explain affairs in their several departments to the other members. He thought it was treating the House with a great deal of discourtesy that the Minister of Interior was absenting himself while appropriations were being considered in his own department. It was no use going on without the Minister being there, and he moved the Committee rise. Carried.

The Chairman now reported back to the President the progress made by the Committee and the same was approved.

At 3:50, on motion, the Assembly adjourned until the next morning at 10 o'clock.

FORTY-NINTH DAY.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29th.

The Chaplain offered prayer promptly at 10 o'clock, followed by roll call. It was, however, nearly 10:30 o'clock before the minutes of the previous meeting were read, there being lack of a quorum until that hour.

Representative Brown from the Judiciary Committee stated that nothing had yet been done by the committee in the case of Rep. Kekoa, the member from Puna, whose seat is contested. The committee have held no meeting to consider the matter, and whether the member was unseated or not, the member considered that the evidence ought to be obtained and forwarded to Puna.

The President said, that the attention of the chairman of the committee should be called to this matter.

Representative Richardson from the Engrossing Committee, reported the bill relating to the grade and width of streets as being engrossed.

Representative Kaulukou read, for the first time a bill to organize the military forces of the kingdom. Read second time by title and then ordered to print.

At 10:55, Rep. Brown, moved the "order of the day," and being carried, the bill "To regulate the construction of buildings in the city of Honolulu and elsewhere within the kingdom," came up for third reading.

Representative Thurston said that, considering that Rep. Castle and the Minister of the Interior, who had charge of the bill, were both absent, he moved that the reading of the bill be passed for the present. Ascertaining, however, that the bill was on third reading, and there being no amendments, he withdrew his motion. The bill was then read and passed as follows:

An Act to regulate the construction of buildings in the city of Honolulu and elsewhere within the Kingdom.

Section 1. No person shall, within the city of Honolulu, erect, place or move any building without permission in writing from the Superintendent of Public Works.

Section 2. The Superintendent of Public Works, or such other competent officer as may be appointed for that purpose, shall grant permission to erect, place or move any building within the city of Honolulu, upon application of any person, firm or corporation, and on compliance with the following conditions:

1. That upon filing such application the applicant shall submit complete plans and specifications of the building as it is intended to be when so erected placed or moved.

2. That if upon examination of such plans and specifications it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Superintendent of Public Works, or of such architect, builder, or other person as shall be designated by the Minister of the Interior to examine the same, that the materials of which such building is to be constructed, or to consist when completed, are of sufficient strength and size, and properly placed and fastened, to make the building strong and safe for the uses and purposes for which it is intended.

Section 3. If upon such examination the plans and specifications are not approved and the permission is refused which refusal shall be in writing, stating the reasons therefor, the applicant may ask for a Board of Arbitration, and appoint one of such Board, and the Minister of the Interior shall appoint another of such Board, and the two so appointed shall select the third member thereof. The plans and specifications shall be submitted to and examined by them. A decision agreed to by two members of the Board shall be final as to whether the permission sought shall be granted.

Section 4. The provisions of this Act shall also apply to the erection, moving, or placing of all buildings hereafter to be erected anywhere within the Kingdom to be used as churches, school houses, court houses, hotels or other places of assembly.

Section 5. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to the erection of any building costing less than \$1,000.

Section 6. Any person who shall erect, move, or place any building in violation of the provisions of this Act, within the city of Honolulu, shall be liable to a penalty of one hundred dollars. And the Minister of the Interior may, in his discretion, order the said building to be taken down or strengthened, and upon the service of a copy of said order, the said building shall be taken down or strengthened, and the owner or builder thereof shall be liable to a penalty of twenty-five dollars for every week or part of a week during which the order is not complied with, after the expiration of one week from the date of receiving such order.

Section 7. For the purposes of this Act the city of Honolulu shall comprise that portion of the Kona District, in the Island of Oahu, within the following limits: The Kalihi stream on the west, the Manoa or Kalia stream on the east, the sea in front, and extending mauka to a distance of three (3) miles inland from the sea.

Section 8. The several Police and District Justices throughout the Kingdom shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine complaints for the violation of any of the provisions of this Act, and to impose any of the penalties herein prescribed.

Section 9. This Act shall take effect from and after the date of its publication.

AFTERNOON.

The Assembly re-convened at 1:38 and consideration of the bills on the Order of the Day was considered.

The two bills relating to descent of property were read a second time, as follows:

1.—To provide for the descent of property to the next of kin in case the deceased intestate leave no issue, father, mother, brother, sister, or brother or sister of his father and mother, or the children or heirs of such brother or sister of his father and mother. 2.—To provide for the descent of property to the next of kin, in case the deceased intestate leave no descendants nor father, mother, brother or sister, nor descendants of any deceased brother or sister.

After reading, both bills were referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Under suspension of the rules, Rep. Castle read for the first time a bill to provide for liens of mechanics and material men.

The bill relating to the obstruction of streets was now, again, taken up on second reading and was considered section by section. Various amendments were made and the bill finally passed its second reading and was ordered to third reading on the third proximo.

The bill to establish the grade of streets and highways, and the grades and widths of sidewalks in the city of Honolulu, now followed on its third reading and was passed as follows:

An Act to establish the grade of streets and highways, and the grades and widths of sidewalks in the city of Honolulu.

Bureau of Surveying, except the Superintendent of Public Works.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the commission, provided for in Section 1 of this Act, to carefully survey, level and grade the streets, highways and sidewalks, as they may be directed by the Minister of the Interior, and make proper and complete plans and profiles of the same, with the grade lines, widths, recommended by them, distinctly marked thereon. Such plans and profiles shall be signed by the commissioners, and the Minister of the Interior shall countersign the same, and cause the official seal of the Department of the Interior to be affixed thereto.

Section 3. The plans and profiles described in section 2 of this Act shall be known as the official map, showing grades and sewers of the streets, highways and sidewalks shall conform, and they shall be preserved in the archives of the office of the Superintendent of Public Works. Such plans and profiles shall be open, at all times to the inspection of parties interested, without charge; copies thereof may be furnished by the Superintendent of Public Works to parties desiring same at the usual charge for such work, and the amount so received shall be returned to the Department of the Interior as a government realization.

Section 4. For the purposes of this Act the city of Honolulu shall comprise that portion of the Kona district, in the island of Oahu, within the following limits: The Kalihi stream on the west, the Manoa or Kalia stream on the east, the sea in front, and mauka all highways to a distance of three (3) miles inland from the sea.

Section 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

The bill to prevent the obstruction of streets was next in order and was about to be read when,

Representative Brown moved that consideration be deferred on account of the absence of the Minister of the Interior and Rep. Castle both of whom were of the Committee that had presented the Bill.

Representative Kaulukou considered that it was not right that the House should have to wait. Representatives from the other islands were there at considerable inconvenience; and desired to return to their homes as soon as possible. It appeared to make very little difference to the Minister of the Interior how long the session lasted. Whenever the Minister of the Interior was not present, the House passes by a bill, and thus encourages him to stay away. He moved the House go on with the consideration of the bill, and not wait for either the Minister of the Interior or Rep. Castle.

Representative Thurston was in favor of deferring the bill, but at the same time the member for Hilo had called attention to an abuse which was materially hindering the progress of the session. The Minister of Foreign Affairs was regularly in his place and ready to answer questions, but the rest of the Cabinet seemed not to know their duties toward the Assembly. The only reason for the presence in the House of the Ministry was that they should answer questions and give information regarding the work in their departments. The Attorney-General was seen there occasionally, the Minister of Interior semi-occasionally and the Finance Minister hardly ever. Those Ministers were deserving of censure for treating the House with such discourtesy, in absenting themselves so habitually. They were also disobeying the rule of the House that members should not absent themselves without permission.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs said this was the fifth time that he had had the honor of holding a seat in the Legislative Assembly, and he must confess that there had been more laxity and inattention to duty than in any other session in which he had taken part. He would agree with the statement that there was occasion for censure, but let them consider all that were deserving of censure. Look at the empty seats of the Hon. Nobles, gentlemen who had received their commissions of patents from His Majesty, a high honor. There they were—appointed as permanent legislators—but their seats were continually vacant, only one, two or three of them ever being present. The people had sent there many worthy and working representatives, but very frequently their seats were empty. They were not representatives of a great country, but they were representatives of a country full of promise, that should call forth their earnest feelings, that should inspire them with a resolve that the affairs of the country should go on prosperously. Therefore, censure the absentees, censure their own absentees. Let them get a five minute rule; let them not take up time with long speeches on trivial questions. Let them get to work and show that they had an earnest desire for the good of the country.

The Attorney General who had been absent, came in during the latter part of the Minister's speech and resting under the supposition that he alone was being lectured, said, that he was very sorry his behavior should have given rise to this censure and to this discussion, but he assured the House that in this one instance, when he asked to have a bill passed by, he had gone out on public business. But if the House would forgive him this time and not pass a vote of censure on him, he would try and do better in future. (Laughter.)

The President said that a bill might be passed over any time, at the request of a member, there being no objection; but where objections are made, and a bill is passed over by a vote of the House, it must go to the foot of the calendar.

Representative Kaulukou stated that his motion had been made merely for the opportunity to express his feelings with regard to the absenteeism and that having been accomplished he would withdraw his objection. The reading of the bill was therefore passed over for the time being.

The Attorney-General, on suspension of the rules, gave notice of a bill to provide for the assessment and collection of taxes on lands which are unclaimed and the owners of which are unknown.

The third reading of a bill to amend section 847, Civil Code, relating to the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors of the Kingdom, was now completed and the bill passed as follows:

An Act to amend section 847, of the Civil Code, relating to the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors of the Kingdom. Section 1. Section 847 of the Civil Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 847. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is the Chancellor of the Kingdom, and as such shall possess all the powers incident to that power at common law. He shall have power in chambers to decree the foreclosure of mortgages and generally to hear and determine all matters, in equity, bankruptcy and admiralty; and the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court shall act as Vice-Chancellors and shall have concurrent jurisdiction in Chambers with the Chancellor of the Kingdom."

At 12:05, the Assembly adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

FIFTIETH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30th.

The Assembly convened at about the usual hour and, after the preliminary business had been passed, proceeded to the consideration of new business.

Representative Brown offered the following resolution: "Whereas, A resolution duly passed this House in the month of May last, requesting His Majesty's Ministers to furnish an itemized account of the indebtedness of the Government; and

Whereas, No such account has been furnished, therefore be it

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Appropriation Bill be deferred until such account is furnished."

In support of the above he said that, the reason for its introduction was, the Assembly were now advanced well along in the consideration of the Appropriation Bill. Items under the head of the Department of the Interior were now being considered. The principal portion of the indebtedness of the Kingdom had sprung from that department. A loan bill had also been introduced by the Minister of Foreign Affairs which had been referred to a committee. Now, that committee had not yet reported and he had heard that the cause of delay was lack of knowledge of the financial status of the country. The House should know exactly the standing of the Government, in order to make appropriations to meet the indebtedness. If they did not know the amount of the indebtedness they could not make appropriations, and the whole business of the Government will be clogged. Some of the indebtedness was at a very high rate of interest—a rate higher than the bonds sold by the Government abroad. Subsequent to the passage of a resolution in May there had been a resolution introduced by Rep. Kalua, and this last resolution was more definite and explicit, and stated the time when to be answered. The date had passed and yet no answer or excuse for not presenting one. If members of the Parliament of England were treated in this way, the Ministry would have a vote of censure passed on them before they knew what they were talking about. It was time either one of those resolutions was answered to show the House the exact position of the Government. They wanted to appropriate enough money to carry on this Government for the next two years, but they did not want to appropriate money unless they knew that it was enough to pay the debts of the Government, and the debts would be paid. As the information had not been forthcoming he thought the only way to get the statement was by refusing to go on with the Appropriation Bill. The Representatives hold the purse strings, and they should not give the Government one cent until they know how they stood.

Representative Kalua favored the resolution and endorsed the remarks of Rep. Brown. He did not think he ever saw an assembly treated as this one. It made him sick at the stomach to look at the Ministry. Whenever a member got up to ask questions, there was a general retreat of Ministers through the door of the Interior Department. It was not treating this Assembly right. When the items in the Interior Department are being considered the Minister comes in for a few minutes, then goes out and stays away a long time. Look at the Minister of Finance. He (the speaker) introduced a resolution for him to furnish the indebtedness of the Government before the 29th of June. Here it is the 30th, and he had not yet complied with the terms of the resolution. Where is the Minister of Finance? He had no hesitation in saying that the Assembly cannot put any confidence in this Ministry. Even now while this discussion is going on, all the seats of the Ministers are vacant, as the House can see. (The Ministers all absent.) This is a very strange session. Very rarely are there any Nobles present. It must be that the Nobles are disgusted with the present state of things that causes them to stay away. He had lately seen a paper showing that the Government owed one individual \$130,000 on demand. If that amount was owing they ought to know how they stand, so as to meet it. The Minister of Finance had told him that the indebtedness in his department was \$1,224,000. He said to the Minister: "Why do you not report that to the House?" The Minister replied that there were large amounts due and held in the Interior Department which he did not know anything about. Had asked the Minister to introduce a resolution calling upon the Minister of Interior to furnish the amount of his indebtedness, and then he could make a statement. The Minister then promised to present his report. Since then he had not seen him. Some one had said it was very little use of his introducing a resolution, as he would not get any information. Rep. Thurston was in favor of the resolution, not because he wanted to defer action on the Appropriation Bill or the progress of the business of the House. The reason he favored the resolution was for the purpose of facilitating business. It was self-evident that they must have this information. The main object for which this Assembly sits here is to look into the financial condition of the Kingdom and to arrange the finances for the next two years. If the Government owes debts, the members of the House had to put their heads together to find the money to pay them. The debts of the Government are not the debts of the Ministers, but of

the country and their constituents had to pay them. They were now taking amount of stock. The Minister of Finance says there is a balance of \$9,000 on hand. Now all else that is known is that there is a large amount in debts outstanding but it is unknown by the Assembly the amount or what for. Ever since last May the House had been waiting for a statement. It was not an impertinent question, but simply in the regular order of the House. It had gone by for a month, and no attention having been paid to it, Rep. Kalua introduced another, which he made more specific. That was also passed. Both of these orders of the House had been met by the Cabinet with contemptuous silence. Rep. Kalua had stated that he had seen "with his own eyes" a demand note against the Government for the amount of \$130,000. He would ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs if that was true.

The Minister, "Well, I would say to the honorable member, hardly in that form."

Representative Thurston—"Then in what form, may I ask?"

The Minister, "Well, if the Minister of Finance was here he probably could tell but, I do not think the form as stated."

Representative Thurston. I see Mr. President that the Minister objects to the form of the document so that the statement of the Member from Lahaina is to be credited.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, "It is true that the Government is owing about that amount outside of the bonds."

Representative Thurston (sharply), "On demand?"

The Minister (hesitatingly), "Well, no, not—on demand."

Representative Thurston (continuing), thought that may be the Minister was in ignorance of this amount of \$130,000 being due. He (the speaker) had been told that lately \$19,000 had been paid out of the Interior Department without any authority of law. Why did not the Cabinet answer these questions? Are they afraid? If so, he would give them a little gratuitous advice, and that was to "tell the truth and shame the devil." It was not right to go on voting money every day without knowing how the Government stood.

Representative Kaulukou moved that the consideration of the resolution be indefinitely postponed. It was very evident that the Government was in debt. The Minister of Finance in his report said that the Government debt was \$1,065,000. There was no question about that. The only wise course for the Assembly is to assist in the passing of laws to pay this indebtedness. He hoped the members would vote in favor of his motion.

Representative Aholo who was in favor of the resolution. Information should be given, but the Appropriation Bill should not be postponed. The other day they postponed the consideration of that Bill for a short time because the Minister of the Interior was not present. To day the Minister was there; therefore there was nothing to prevent the consideration of the Bill proceeding. They were considering items in the Interior Department, and any information they wanted the Minister would probably furnish. Every one knew before the election that the Government owed certain debts, and there was a great deal of talk about the matter. The Minister of Finance, in his report, had stated what the amount of indebtedness was.

Representative Dickey, "It was not a true report!"

Representative Aholo, continuing, he heard some one behind him say it was not true. He thought a minority report of the Finance Committee made some statement on that point, but probably the Minister stated the debt so far as he knew. If they postponed the Appropriation Bill, they would prolong the session and hamper some of the departments of Government. The proper course was for the House to proceed with the Appropriation Bill and at the same time consider the message from the throne to reduce expenditures.

Representative Brown thought the members had misunderstood the intent of the resolution. It states that the Appropriation Bill be deferred "until such time as an itemized account of debts owing by Government be furnished." That leaves the consideration of the Appropriation Bill in the hands of the Ministers. They have the privilege of answering it now or in five minutes or five weeks hence. The sooner the better. If the Government did not furnish the itemized account in a reasonable time, then the members could bring in a resolution of want of confidence. The resolution should pass, if alone to show Ministers that they cannot trifle with the House.

Representative Dole said it seemed to be the truth that the Ministers relied on the good nature of the House, and do not care to reply. They had sat here six weeks, and so far there is no answer to the resolution. They might as well put the carved idols of Hawaii on the Ministerial seats. It is contemptuous treatment of the House and of the members belonging to it. The House had been very indulgent, and waited several weeks, but was now tired of waiting. Representative Brown had said to give them further time, and if no answer was then received, pass a vote of want of confidence. The House was fully justified in passing such a vote now, and the whole country would support it. Reps. Kaulukou and Aholo acknowledged the propriety of seeking the information, yet opposed the resolution. That was inconsistent. They are trying to bolster up a crumbling Ministry, but find it hard work. He had heard various amounts mentioned as the indebtedness of the Government. He did not know how much it was, however, and Mr. Aholo says the Ministers do not know. He believed they did know, and were defying the House and would not give the information unless they were compelled. They seemed to get along with out the Minister of Finance, while he was in Louisville. He had heard that Mr. Hayselden was really the Minister of Finance. They could send the Ministers out of their seats if they wished to. Let them pass this resolution, and if they did not get the information, why let them get a Ministry that would give it.

After a little further argument the Assembly, at noon, adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON.

On reassembling, the Attorney-General