Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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THE SALOON.

The regulations that compel the saloon keeper to remove screens and side doors has not proved effective in the cities. It has enabled the police to enforce the laws to better advantage, but it has not materially lessened the evils of intemperance. Just so long as the community legalizes the sale of liquor all schemes for limiting its evil effects are largely futile. Just so long as the making of alcoholic liquors is permitted, and the Government of the United States derives a vast revenue from it, attempts to materially limit its uses will fail. It is most unfortunate that it is so. But so it is.

Some years ago a crank in New York City sent a petition to the mayor of the city, demanding that all houses should be made of glass, and, therefore, be open to inspection. He reasoned in this way: Crimes against the law, violations of the moral law are always committed in secret; the State fails to convict because evidence of crime cannot be obtained; make houses of glass and thoroughly transparent, and there will be no crime, or the evidence of it will be easily secured; orgies will not be carried on, if the crowd can stand by and look on; family life will be vastly improved if the neighbors can stand across the street and study its manifestations. In fact, this crank, insisted that glass houses would end hypocracy and, as he said, the millenium would come in with a "bang." The Mayor simply replied that this scheme was impracticable.

The evil of intemperance will be best fought by right conditions, and not by repression. We found here that the effective way to fight cholera was not by treating people who had been exposed to it, and had taken it, but to establish such a condition of things that the disease could not exist. The spread of cholera in a place is an expression of the bad sanitary conditions. The saloon is an expression of our civilization. The Government is an expression of our social condition. The Church is an expression of our moral condition. Remove the filth and stop the breeding of microbes and there is no more cholera. Improve the physical and moral condition of men, and the saloon goes. So will go also the jail and the gallows. Make men perfect morally, and the Church will also go. But evils are generally fought from the other end of the line, that is, by not changing conditions. There can be no effective movement against intemperance so long as the government permits brandy to be made from grapes, and whiskey from corn. The advocates of temperance play really a losing game when the expense of the war for humanity is defrayed out of the tax on beer and whiskey.

Whether the screens and side doors of the saloon are removed or not, is a mere trivial incident in reconstructing the thirst of the race. Let us first remove the thirst.

JUSTICE FREAR ON THE LABOR QUESTION.

The remarkably able paper on the labor question, read by Justice Frear before the Social Science Association on June 28, 1897, is republished in the San Francisco Chronicle of Sept. 23d, 1898. Its contents should be familiar to every planter, or person interested in our sugar production. It groups in one paper, besides its original matter, valuable material and discussions which are only to be found scattered through many books and pamphlets. It combats the practice of accepting popular notions on the subject of labor, which are plausible, but incorrect.

Men who deal with practical matters, and are confronted daily with practical questions, are prone to despise the opinions of the economic writers. And frequently they are justified in it, because much that is solemnly written is untrue. The writers are either theorists, or are unable to obtain the facts which must furnish the basis for correct theories. The history of business shows that the majority of business men are not accurate observers of facts of a general nature, because the demands of business do not require it.

Justice Frear's paper covers several important points, which cannot be reviewed briefly. And yet these points go to the very life of our sugar interests. We shall discuss several of them from time to time.

For instance he says, that it is generally believed that "capitalists who pay high wages cannot compete with those who pay low wages." In attacking this belief, he asks those who accept it to

"Explain the fact that the California farmer pays high wages, high prices for his implements, the expense of transportation by rail to San Francisco and by sea 15,000 miles around Cape Horn to England, the expense of interest and insurance during this long voyage, and is still able to sell his wheat in the same market and at the same price as the English farmer who has paid much lower wages, has not had similar expenses of transportation, interest and insurance, and has obtained his implements at lower prices?"

He also cites the case of the cheap labor of India competing with the high priced labor of California, without depriving the California farmer of a fair profit in ordinary times.

He finally declares that the facts in the cases cited and in many other cases, prove that "high wages indicate low cost of production." This is settled as a principle in finality by the enormous exportation of American high-priced labor goods to low-priced labor countries.

This paper takes bold and just ground regarding Asiatic labor in these Islands. It states that, "white or high priced labor is not prejudiced by Chinese or cheap labor, in so far as white laborers are paid more. It is not because they are white men, or because they want more, or because it costs them more to live, but because they are more capable or have better opportunities and can earn more."

While these propositions are strictly true, doubts arise in the minds of men not accustomed to reflect on the subject owing to the fact that the rule is not universal. While a sober, industrious American mechanic is more capable of earning high wages than an Asiatic, a careless, though skillful American mechanic, with unsteady habits is not. And besides there are some superior Asiatic mechanics who are capable of earning the best wages paid. But the proposition, as stated by Justice Frear is correct in general.

But the conditions under which high priced labor may be employed in another and important branch of inquiry.

VINDICATE THE ARMY.

The Advertiser suggested some time ago that the army post should be located at a distance from the town. This is the view entertained by intelligent officers and good civilians on the Mainland, who are familiar with the character of army posts. Some of the jingoes told us the suggestion was a reflection on the character of the army.

The incidents of last Monday night are the very best evidence of the need of such a measure. The general permission which allows men to freely enter a town, and enter the saloons was the cause of that disreputable affair.

If the native police on Monday night had been fully instructed in their duties, there would have been bloodshed in all probability. Here was a detachment of soldiers under the command of drunken officers of the Army wearing its uniform. The native police could not challenge these officers in uniform and demand their authority for declaring Martial law. Had they done so, or had they assumed that the officers were acting without authority, and, consequently arrested them for disorderly conduct, a collision would have taken place. Officers who were so drunk that they did not know what they were doing, would not hesitate to direct violent action and did so direct.

A hysterical view of the case should be avoided. Disorderly conduct by enlisted men is, and will be overlooked. But when a trained officer of the army, a Regular, is guilty of an offense which would be severely punished if it was committed on the Mainland, it is only fair to ask that the same treatment of the case be made here. It is not simply a question of a violation of local law. It is the question of maintaining the high character of the men who command the army. It may be expected that in due time the honor of the Army will be vindicated.

PROGRESS.

Hawaii is progressing. Its Press is evidence of the fact. Only a few years ago one daily paper struggled for existence in Honolulu, with but meager news columns and varying fortunes. Now there are four English dailies and the Advertiser finds difficulty in squeezing the news and advertisements into from eight to twelve pages a day.

The Press of Honolulu is up-to-date both in its news methods and its mechanical plants. In this latter respect the Hawaiian Gazette Company has easily taken and kept the lead. Although already running two linotype machines for sixteen hours a day its growing business necessitates an increase of plant, and an order goes forward by the next outgoing steamer for an additional linotype, as well as for a power cutter and other machinery rendered necessary by the growth of business.

While wishing its contemporaries all the success that their enterprise entitles them to, the Gazette Company intends in the future as in the past to continue in the lead by sheer force of merit and completeness of facilities for turning out work.

ABOUT LABOR.

In Justice Frear's paper upon the labor question, alluded to in our yesterday issue, he discusses the question whether or not the white man can labor in the tropics. He declares that "our climate is an inducement rather than an obstacle to immigration. As compared with many of the climates in which white laborers now live about as it does with the climates from which our Asiatics come."

The fact that the Portuguese from excellent laborers here, and come from a climate as near tropical should be a sufficient answer to the question. If the question is confined to Europeans and Americans living in a tropical climate, the experience of the Americans in Florida and Texas should settle the question. For in those states, according to the census reports, the white man, as a field hand, commands nearly double the wages of the negro. The objection made to the ability of the American to labor in the tropics is generally made by those who, without much consideration, prefer cheap Asiatic labor to any other kind.

Leaving aside the Portuguese laborers, there may be obtained from Europe an ample supply of laborers from Germany and Italian. While it is easy to make this statement, it will be difficult to obtain the labor. All the world is asking for laborers. The United States instead of having a surplus of them, is taking them in at the rate of three hundred thousand per annum. In normal conditions, the rate of wages paid in the States is the highest paid in any country. It naturally imports rather than exports laborers. It has many millions of acres of land entitled for want of a laboring population. In the Southern States large numbers of cheap Italian laborers are employed in building railroads in preference to the negro, because the negro prefers to live on his patch of ground, and for other reasons, refuses to meet the demand for that kind of labor, although the price of it is $1 per day.

While the United States ships not to export laborers, and does not under normal conditions, there will always be a percentage of men, among 71,000,000 of people who desire to emigrate. Many are moved to it by physical weakness, and the dislike of a cold climate. Many, while alleging this as a reason, are really in search of better opportunities to secure larger wages, and ignorantly believe that in the first stages of national growth, the pressure of population has been reached and that America must be abandoned.

In spite of these drawbacks, however, a considerable and sufficient labor supply from the Mainland may be obtained for these Islands if adequate means are taken to secure it. Someone asked the great engineer Brunel if he could bridge the British Channel. He replied "I can do anything with money." The question is a practical one.

After the Islands have been virtually surrendered to the Asiatics, so far as labor is concerned, it will require marvelous energy, intelligence, and management to supplant that labor with Americans. Even in the prominent coffee industry, in which the small farmer should flourish, the tendency is to employ the Asiatic. It is even said that the industry will decline unless cheap Asiatic labor can be obtained. Just so long, and it is the universal experience, as one class of men have the opportunity to obtain the labor of a cheaper class, it will not, as a rule, do manual labor of its own.

One of the difficulties to contend with in introducing the American laborer lies here. For the moment that he believes, whether it is true or not, that he can benefit himself by employing cheap labor, he will make every effort to become, himself, an employer of labor. The poorest white man in our Southern States employs the negro at low wages, and lives on his labor even if it is not economical. He knows nothing about economic laws. Nor does his brother laborer at the North.

While these drawbacks, only slightly touched upon, will not resist a powerful movement towards the use of American labor in the production of sugar, they indicate one phase of the serious nature of the labor problem here.

A supply of European laborers is still another question.

THE GREAT DISCOVERY.

What are the unwritten rules of etiquette practiced by the members of the Historical Society? What must be the age of an event before it becomes interesting and worthy of the Society's notice? Does remoteness in occurrence give it the same value as time gives to the eggs sought by Chinese gourmets?

These questions are earnestly asked, because the Society utterly ignores the presence of its "gifted fellow townsman," Mr. Jas. A. Wilder who has recently made most interesting researches in the Island of Borneo, and carried in his pocket a most valuable contribution to the science of ethnology. No [illegible] Society has [illegible] the Kapiolani [illegible] and another [illegible] of importance and importance to science [illegible]

It is reported to be now in Honolulu [illegible] the Island of Borneo [illegible] the coast of [illegible] the "Connecting Link." Borneo and Hawaii, it is said, [illegible] a certain agency of age, in the accretion of the [illegible] the [illegible] of alcohol, and in other anomalous phenomena. Both of the connecting link between man and the animals. Both of these great curiosities located thus [illegible] in the Island of Borneo, not both of them find in grief because they could not find him and their hands were [illegible]. Mr. Wilder will now get at the secrets which has caused so much [illegible] among scientific men. In the few discovered in Borneo [illegible] in prime, the Connecting Link, [illegible] years in the after or [illegible], it is of the minor importance that every commendation [illegible] with this discovery should be [illegible] information of future age. The opportunity is one of a lifetime. The attitude the men, the clothing, of the language of this anthropoid [illegible] should be carefully described. When men for the first time through our commerce, we first [illegible] Kaiser, he [illegible] "Bye bye [illegible]" and the reply was [illegible] "I am [illegible]." We get down to hard work [illegible] interest to the details of the interview that attended this meeting.

The Kaiser said, Mister, [illegible] the [illegible] of the age in the Zoological gardens in Paris was due to the increasing degradation of man, his descendant. Did this good [illegible] of Kaiser [illegible] the [illegible] "Bye bye" or "Good [illegible]"? Was he proud of the fact that he stood at the bridge over the gold [illegible] and said [illegible]? Did he [illegible] any [illegible] on the [illegible] Kaiser? Had he a religion and a creed? In the land of wine and milk and in Hawaii would he accept the sovereignty of the territory?

It is said that, after many confidential interviews, Mr. Wilder secured an "option" on this distinguished Kaiser, for the purpose of bringing it before the learned men of the world, with certain incidental pecuniary advantages to the promoter.

It is also said that the Rajah of the Sultanate of Borneo offered Mr. Wilder the office of Prime Minister of that remote district, upon condition that he would make a loan of $500 to the Rajah, and would secure annexation to the United States. While considering the proposition, our townsman made this marvelous discovery of the Connecting Link, obtained an "option" on him, and declined the munificent proposition of the Ruler of the Dyaks.

Do the members of the Historical Society hear the bugle call of Science? Why then do they slumber?

THE KINDERGARTEN.

Those who are conducting the kindergarten schools are building wiser than they know. If Froebel were alive and could inspect them, he would marvel at their efficiency and use.

It is not necessary to admit all of the claims which its advocates make for the system. It is enough that it is most valuable and is solving many problems in the education of the races that have hitherto remained unsolved. It utilizes that period in the child's life for the preparation of skill in the arts and trades, which hitherto has been wasted, to the injury of the child, the parents, and the community. It is the grand movement of modern philanthropy against the evils of poverty. For poverty is the synonym of ignorance. No intelligent community should contain paupers. Therefore, the kindergarten is the first barricade erected against want and crime and intemperance.

One sees in these schools, established at this late day of the world's life, how limited the wisdom of the world has been. We have been shouting about our progress, and wealth, and national grandeur, while the statesmen and the people failed to recognize the force of this humble system in reorganizing society, and building up communities. Even today, the people are more interested in the doings of a battleship than in the work of a system, which marks the beginning of the end of human misery. As true religion cannot flourish where there is ignorance and poverty, the Kindergarten becomes the Apostle of true religion, though the child does not hear the name of God, and learns of Him only through His physical manifestations, and through a consciousness of moral law.

Dreyfus may get a new trial. He may be either convicted or acquitted. He may die in prison. Whatever his end or the ending of his case, France will be a long time getting exonerated from the stigma of the affair.

HAWAIIAN CONSTITUTIONS.

The first constitution of the Hawaiian Islands was promulgated fifty-eight years ago last Saturday. This period of time in the history of a nation is insignificant. This constitution was the public record and evidence of the emancipation of the people from arbitrary rule. The forces that established it were from without, and not from within. It was not the native who did it, but the alien with benevolent purpose. To the native chiefs, as well as to the people, it was a surprise, for it expressed in clear and definite language only ill-defined thought. It is even doubtful whether the common native, serf as he was, had any aspirations for liberty, for he did not know what it meant.

The men who drew the instrument and recommended its adoption, and the King and the chiefs who accepted it, and made it law, for reasons which they deemed sufficient, established a legislative body, consisting of fifteen hereditary nobles, and only seven representatives. This political arrangement utterly deprived the people of any control in the administration of affairs, and simply served to give them an opportunity to express their opinions in public.

The constitution of 1852 was drafted by Dr. G. P. Judd, John Ii and Chief Justice Lee. It retained the power in the hands of the King and nobles of his own appointment.

The third constitution, not adopted by the representatives of the people, but arbitrarily promulgated by King Kamehameha V, in 1864, modified the right of suffrage, by imposing a small property qualification, and that of reading and writing.

Altogether there have been three constitutions established over this handful of Hawaiians within fifty-six years, followed by, and ending in, the creation of a Republic, and annexation to the United States. So brief has been the national life, in the garb and clothing of civilization, it will, in the distant future, be remarkable in historical writings for its brevity. But even this brief national life as a civilized state furnishes some rare material for illustrating what the tourists would call the "crowing" of Anglo-Saxon institutions upon the Polynesian.

EXCISE LAWS.

The New York State Excise Commission has recently published a compilation of the excise laws of the States and Territories. Several of these laws indicate the difficulties of regulating the liquor traffic, and in some instances the insincerity of the legislators.

Vermont adopted prohibitory laws in 1852. The manufacture of spirituous or fermented liquors is strictly forbidden. But it is not a violation of the law to make cider or ferment it for home use. It is well known that cider "turns" quickly, and develops a high percentage of alcohol. The majority of farmers freely use sweet cider, and are not willing to throw it away, when it has fermented. Their cellars become reservoirs for strong fermented liquor as well as vinegar. In one of its stages of development it is popularly known as "Jersey lightning." While the statute books of the State sternly forbid the manufacture of certain kinds of alcoholic drinks, they allow every farmer to fill his barrels with the crudest form of alcoholic stuff. An old New England hotel keeper observed many years ago: "The farmers' wives have never been able to explain why the 'old men' generally become so lively about Christmas time."

Again, in the State of California, there is much confusion regarding the use of liquors, owing to the importance of the wine industry. If the sale of alcoholic drinks is an evil, so then should be its manufacture. One of the largest assets of the Stanford University is an extensive vineyard, where brandy is distilled. While the income from the sale of this brandy supports the professors and teachers, and advances the cause of education, it brings no doubt much misery to many people. While, so far as the trustees of the University are concerned, the inhabitants of the State may freely become intoxicated on Stanford brandy, yet no student of the University is allowed to use it on the University grounds.

The most earnest advocates of prohibition are confronted with these conditions. The Almighty has so arranged it, undoubtedly for some wise purpose, that every vegetable that contains sugar may readily produce alcohol, and has provided a great variety of vegetables and plants that contain sugar. If the sugar producing plants were only few in number, their products might be brought under control. The hotel keeper, quoted above, also remarked that, "the Almighty and the apple trees were everlastingly workin' agin temperance."

Probably the temperance movement will take its best, and most effective form, when the social conditions of the world are so adjusted that men and women will have no "thirst," or a modified one, and the saloon will have no place, as the lantana has no place in a well cultivated cane field.

THE PASSING HOUR.

Royal Trinkit Company affairs are moving along and at good pace.

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They might cut up that old Chinese wall and use the portions for partitions.

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Admiral Dewey has been classified as the "The Immortal George No. 2."

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The base ball players have signed a protocol and appointed a peace commission.

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California, noted for daisies and other flowers, is to have the Jersey Lily as a permanent feature.

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It is to be regretted that the base ball players do not appear to appreciate the fact that hostilities have ceased.

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The solicitude for public morals of some of the people objecting to saloon open doors is touching as it is surprising.

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Manila's lottery has been abolished by the American authorities. This will be a severe blow to the people who expected to win prizes.

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Welcome, American farmers for Ewa. May you live long and be happy. You will like Hawaii and Hawaii has been kindly up to date to all willing to toil.

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Effect of certain Summer School results must be wearing away. Two teachers were recently heard talking "shop" thirty minutes without a mention of apperception.

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In the conduct of the Kindergarten movement in this place a number of ladies have shown surprising force and ability.

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There was an insurgent leader in South America a few years ago who acquired a navy and then a high class death certificate, with a big red seal with flowing tape. Aguinaldo seems somehow to have acquired a navy.

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In Hawaii hereafter it is to be the North American political revolution with ballots instead of the adapted South American revolution with bullets and cold victuals.

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If the Honolulu people who have taken up home at Oakland only keep on that side of the bay they will escape the clutches of the sure thing men who frequent fairs and circuses.

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The coffee trust is selling sugar and the sugar trust is selling coffee and the rates are cut rates. Between Havermeyer and Arbuckle it is a case of war red as Honolulu martial law paint.

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Chaplain McIntyre, who is to be court martialed for sneering at the work of certain American ships and officers in the Santiago engagement will offer the defense of temporary insanity. This plea fits his case to a nicety.

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Apperception, declares a foremost educator, is now a Summer School backnumber. It has been succeeded by the Organic Circuit and Co-ordination. It must be admitted that all are proper subjects for investigation.

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The American war investigation commission goes into secret session for a preliminary meeting and the newspapers yell "whitewash." A sojourn in Hawaii would accustom the yelling editors to the close confidential transaction of public business.

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Perhaps the number of people here who like good poetry is limited, but the whole company of them will be anxious to see the new book of rhyme from Frank Putnam, the American versifier, who is so healthful, scholarly and popular.

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The little gods of war who have been pocketing the applications of volunteers for discharges have been called to book. A general order from Washington instructs that all such applications must be forwarded through the regular channels without delay.

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A four-ply hero of Santiago may get down this way in a few months. It is more than likely that Gen. Shafter will succeed Gen. Merriam as commander of the Department of California. Gen. Merriam will go back to the Department of Columbia.

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No first class naval station is complete without a dispatch boat, so the Government at Washington will send to Honolulu the fast tug Iroquois, formerly the Fearless, and best known perhaps for the towage of the bark Sharpshooter nearly 2,000 miles. The Iroquois was sold to the navy department early in the war and was outfitted as one of the auxiliary fleet.

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Patience, sometimes called waiting, is a most necessary accomplishment or attribute. Its exercise is tedious and trying at times, however. The New York political bosses who have been staggered by the Roosevelt boom will scarcely have time to wait for the war heroism sentiment to wear away.

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The Lukens Iron and Steel Company is a Pennsylvania concern with an extensive plant. It is controlled by members of the Society of friends. The owners bring their religion right into business, for they have instructed the manager to refrain from bidding for the supply of war material of any sort.

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It is more than likely that there is over-statement in the reports from the Klondike on general sickness at Dawson. The death rate there appears very large for the reason that Dawson is a population center and has several hospitals. It is not intended to intimate that hospital treatment causes death.

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Mr. Carson, Q. C., addressing a jury the other day, said: "Gentlemen, the charges against my clients are only mares' nests, which have been traced to their birth, and are found to have had neither origin nor existence." Mr. Carson is a member of the English Bar, but he still remains an Irishman in speech.

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What an admirably well regulated and well governed institution or arm is the navy. Not a breath of complaint, with all its great and effective service. For one thing the navy has the advantage of being able to carry its base of supplies along, while the landsmen who go to the front can only be satisfied, apparently, when there is some means devised for discarding many wants.