

THE DOCTORS SOUND A NOTE OF WARNING

(Continued from Page 1)

been a menace to the health of the community. Situated as it is in the very heart of the city, the recurrence of epidemics having their origin there must impress us with the necessity for radical action. With our increasing commerce and population, with an added desire and interest on the part of the Oriental populations to emigrate about the institutions which they keep alive, something must be done to protect the city against the danger of outbreaks of disease among this portion of the people. The removal of Chinatown has been discussed, but must be remembered that the minimum of hardship must be inflicted upon those interests.

The mercantile portion of Chinatown is a part of the city's industry which must be protected, but it would seem advisable to separate, if possible, the business and residence districts, giving to the latter more room for expansion where air and sunlight could freely do their remedial work. Through years of growth there has come such a condition in that portion beyond Nuuanu street that to insure health it must be largely wiped out. On this we are all agreed, but what shall it avail if there is permitted to be erected there another such lot of buildings as now clutter the ground? Within the limits of this section of the city live thousands of Chinese, Japanese and natives. The scourge has been impartial in that each race has suffered loss. To none must be imputed the blame, but in the future all must be compelled to feel the hand of the sanitary inspector, whose diligence will be responsible for the future of that section of the city.

Requisites for Rebuilding.

"The rebuilding of Chinatown on the most approved sanitary lines will



DR. C. B. COOPER,
President Medical Association.

embrace many considerations. How long should the ground so recently covered with old and reeking shacks be exposed to the sun and air for disinfection? What regulations as to air space beneath the buildings and restrictions as to the number of persons who may occupy one apartment are necessary? In what way may the district be best opened that sunlight may get in and that there may be free access to all parts of it at all times by the health inspector and the workmen who have to remove the garbage from the houses? It may be put as a positive requisite that especially in this climate there must be a free circulation of air. There should be such building regulations as would allow only such buildings to be erected as conform to the most approved rules of sanitation. In most cities there is a building inspector who combines the offices of fire and health officer, and such an official would be empowered to stop any work which was progressing along other than approved lines. It has been found necessary in Mainland cities where there is gathered a large Oriental population to establish such restrictions as will prevent the crowding of sleeping apartments. This is done by prescribing that there must be a minimum of cubic feet of air for each dweller in an apartment, and while this may work apparent hardship, viewed from the old conditions, its effect has been excellent.

The Board of Health.

"The Board of Health must meet the crisis bravely and firmly. A week ago only, seeing that infection lurked in a block which had furnished two cases of plague, the Board ordered the cleansing by fire, and once the element was called into play there has been no drawing back, but wherever the plague sets its foot the buildings were burned. In no other way could the problem have been solved so satisfactorily. By no other act could the Board of Health have so completely shown itself deserving of the confidence of the people it now holds, and from such vigor on the part of the health guardians must come better conditions for the entire community.

"Gentlemen, the subject is now open for discussion and the points raised."

Dr. Alvarez: "I would like to ask that one of the points raised may be emphasized. I speak in regard to the present sewerage system and especially in regard to an ample supply of water for the proper flushing of water closets. With the present rapid extension of the city it is necessary that a more adequate water supply be furnished. We are putting in a system of water closets throughout the city area, but are not providing water for their proper flushing, and unless we are provided with an adequate supply of either fresh or salt water for this purpose our condition will be worse than it is at present. Now is the time for agitation in this direction and I believe immediate action should be taken to provide against trouble in the near future."

Dr. Emerson: "There is one point which should not be lost sight of, and that is, is the Board of Health endowed

with power to destroy certain portions of Chinatown? As an illustration, certain recommendations were made in a report by a board of commissioners in which suggestions for the rebuilding and remodeling of Chinatown were made. In looking into the matter certain lawyers have given their opinion that the Board is acting outside its authority. This point should be taken into consideration in our deliberations this evening, and our decisions should take the form of suggestions in rules and regulations only. The Board has been hampered in dealing with Chinatown through lack of drags for removal of goods in the congested buildings, and for want of accommodation for quarantining people taken from the district."

Dr. Taylor: "I have hardly been here long enough to speak upon the subject. In reference to the use of salt water, I have decided views. Salt water could be used for some purposes, such as the flushing of sewers and other purposes, and so reserve our fresh water, but for the purpose of street sprinkling I am opposed to its use on account of the injury worked by it upon shoes and clothing and to the eyes and lungs. The fine dust carried by the wind into stores quickly destroys fine fabrics and the injury to the eyes and lungs should be sufficient to condemn its use upon the streets."

Dr. Hodgins: "I believe the plan for the filtration of our water to be one of the first claims upon the attention of the authorities, and I ascribe the heavy mortality during the last three months directly to the impure water supply from the Nuuanu and Makiki reservoirs. The plan of private filters in homes I do not favor. In my opinion they are worse than useless and unless properly attended to are in themselves a breeding ground for fever germs. A proper system of filtration at the reservoir would quickly demonstrate the cause of our present trouble with fever. The city of London draws its water supply from the Thames, admittedly the dirtiest river in the world. The water is filtered through sand, and yet no epidemic ever secures a hold upon London, although every year diseases such as plague, cholera, smallpox, etc., are reported. With regard to the sewer system, the present plan is a good one so far as it goes, but I am of the opinion that it does not take in a sufficient area. The outside districts should at once be connected, else we shall have trouble there. These districts are rapidly filling up and with the present system of cesspools we can never count ourselves free from danger."

Dr. Scaparoni: "I would suggest that every case of fever be reported to the Board. It is possible that many cases diagnosed as typhoid are really plague. I refer particularly to plantation cases, but think that in view of the presence of fever to such an abnormal extent, it would be advisable to keep our eyes open for possible trouble outside of Chinatown."

Dr. Day's View.

Dr. Day said: "I consider that there is no subject of more importance to the community than that which we are now discussing. The medical profession should be the advisers. For years past the physicians have foreseen this trouble and have discussed it and have suggested a remedy, but it was difficult to get the community to support them. It has taken four years, from the cholera epidemic, to secure a sewerage system. The plans for a system of filtration were secured at the same time. We, as physicians, saw the absolute necessity, in the interests of the community, of providing a proper system of sanitation. Our present conditions would disgrace a village, let alone a growing city of Honolulu's magnitude, and I think that if our suggestions were carried out it would be difficult for a disease to obtain a foothold here. In speaking of the London water supply it would perhaps be well to mention that the British authorities have entirely abandoned the quarantine system as unnecessary. A most efficient corps of officers now take charge of affairs, and they are always able to handle any disease such as cholera, plague, etc., with but little hardship to the community.

"A question of such great importance should have brought the whole of the city's physicians to the meeting, and I am surprised to find so many absent. I believe we should arise to the extent of the present sewerage system to the outlying districts, the establishment of a garbage crematory and the abandonment of our present system of ground burial; the reconstruction of Chinatown and the immediate application of a system of filtration at the water reservoirs. It seems to me that the present is the proper time to urge these matters as an emergency measure. If we attempt to combat the plague by any other means we shall have the same trouble as is experienced in Hongkong, where the plague breaks out from year to year and is never entirely eradicated. Nothing but the most modern system of sanitation will do for us now."

Dr. Hoffmann: "I have seen Chinatown and believe it is the dirtiest and most foul district I have ever seen. The stench coming from some of the houses is absolutely abominable, and why such a district is tolerated is a matter beyond my imagination. Radical measures will have to be adopted before it can be safely called a sanitary locality."

Dr. Cleveland: "I consider a perfect system of sewerage necessary to the health of the community, and I most strongly favor a garbage crematory. The establishment of public baths and the reconstruction of Chinatown will go a long way toward making the city healthy—worthy of its claim to the title of capital of the 'Paradise of the Pacific.'"

Thorough Plan Outlined.

Dr. Raymond: "I think the question of unity in the medical profession on the subject of sanitation is one of the essentials of this meeting. The question of the medical profession being the representative body of the people is a well-established fact. Sanitation is pure and simple a medical scientific proposition to combat disease. We all know that one must have a knowledge of disease in order to combat it. Very much has been said this evening about the necessity for prompt action, and we all know that the laity of the community is alive to this fact. The ques-

tion is the mode of the laity and of the medical profession with the care of the city's health. Have they the right to appropriate money for what seems to be permanent improvements? The answer is 'No,' not without legal authority. There is, however, one law—the law of self-preservation, the first law of nature, and there is wanted from the medical profession a united opinion and an earnest request to the powers that be for prompt action on the score of emergency. We are confronted with a most serious condition of affairs."

"There is no question whatever that at the present time Chinatown is reeking with filth, and is a positive disgrace to civilization. There is no question but that radical methods must be pursued, but what line of action are we to take? It is definitely on the lines laid down by the Board of Health. Let it be understood, then, that the powers applied at this time are absolutely necessary for the systematic stamping out of this pestilence. The method of operation in these radical changes is one that must be submitted to the country. They can and will condemn Chinatown; they will require every shack to be burned down; they will require that Chinatown be moved and that area bounded by Queen, Nuuanu, Kalia and River streets be laid bare, and they will agree with us that this is the only thing to do with the infected district. The land should not be occupied again for at least one year. In Hongkong, I believe, the period is much longer. The surface of the land should be plowed up, oil poured upon it and again burned; cesspools should be emptied and filled in with earth and lime, and the whole area submitted to the sunlight and pure air."

"Now, in suggesting such radical means, the question may be asked, is it feasible? I believe it is. By acquiring a tract of land, high and well ventilated, easy of access and where a sewage system can be put in at a nominal cost, it is feasible. Have the Chinese removed there, and so form a new Chinatown, and I believe pressure can be placed on the Government to make it legal, and if not, then form a syndicate and obtain the co-operation of Chinatown merchants who would purchase an interest in the new district. I have in mind a tract of land in every way suited to the scheme, but would rather not mention its locality until the owners have been consulted. A strong plea by the profession is all that is wanted to make the authorities consider this an emergency measure."

"It is only a matter of a very short time when the commerce of the country will be affected. Our exports approach something like fifteen million dollars, and when we consider that our commerce is placed in jeopardy the expenditure of money to carry out our suggestions is but a mere bagatelle—nothing. Merchants are ready and willing to join in making a request to the Executive Council to carry out these views."

"The modus operandi of bringing this condition about is for us to appoint a committee and draw up resolutions embodying the points brought out at this meeting, putting them into concrete business form, and I would suggest that a copy be taken to the Chamber of Commerce, and also to the 'Players' Association with a strong expression by the committee, urging them to appoint like committees to join ours and submit their views to the country, and with this object I move that the chairman appoint a committee to carry out the sense of this meeting."

Various Points Considered.

Dr. Myers: "I second the motion." Upon being put to the meeting, the motion was declared carried and the chairman announced that he would appoint the committee later.

Dr. Meier: "I would suggest that a sanitary hospital be provided for a sufficient number of diagnoses of fever patients. At present it is difficult to make a proper examination of suspects, often lying in dark, close rooms, and the abnormal number of pneumonia and typhoid cases prompts a more close diagnosis than can be done under existing circumstances."

Dr. Raymond: "I would like to mention the question of the necessity of urging upon the proper authorities a modification of the laws relating to buildings from a sanitary point of view. This matter requires early attention, as the Chinese will be obliged to build new quarters and it is not to be expected that the plans proposed will meet with the approval of the majority. The Chinese will scatter, and if the building laws are modified the same result will be attained, no matter where they may build, provided they are obliged to conform to the rules of sanitation."

Dr. Alvarez: "I would urge for the fifth time the establishment in the city of a proper disinfecting plant. In England and I think, Germany the reason that quarantine has been discontinued is because owing to the excellent sanitary laws and the manner in which they are applied there is no necessity for them. In every city of importance you will find a disinfecting plant, which, whenever a case of contagious or infectious disease is reported, is immediately wheeled to the house in which the case occurs and the whole place, together with its contents, subjected to a thorough fumigation. In cases of consumption this plant would also be called into use. I know of a house in the city today in which two persons died of recent date through the fact that the place was not fumigated after the death of a consumptive, and I think it high time the plant was forthcoming. In view of its necessity."

"The question in regard to sanitation is, what is the prevailing disease just now. During the last three months typhoid and pneumonia have made great inroads among the citizens and my opinion is that pneumonia is the prevailing sickness. I would suggest that the physicians report at our next meeting their experiences in this regard. It is possible that we shall have to face a typhoid epidemic in the near future. With regard to the locality at Kakaako in which the detention camps have been erected are quite unsuited to the purpose owing to its low, swampy situation, and believe an outbreak there would be found exceedingly hard to deal with."

Dr. Raymond, in answer to a ques-

tion: "I would recommend the removal of the cesspools existing in Chinatown, and the use of brick or wood, I would sweep it clean."

Dr. Alvarez: "I do not think a building in the vicinity of or adjacent to a house from which a plague patient had been removed, should be declared infected and burned. If I were upon the witness stand I should say I did not think it should be destroyed."

Dr. Raymond: "Would you take your wife and family and live in a house in Chinatown next to one in which plague had appeared, and consider it safe to do so, no matter how well it had been fumigated?"

Dr. Alvarez: "I would not."

Dr. Day: "I consider Dr. Raymond's idea an admirable one, and would suggest that the committee report back to the society at a meeting on next Saturday night."

Dr. Taylor's Strong Plea.

Dr. Taylor said: "There is no possible doubt that we are faced by a most serious plague, before which we stand absolutely powerless. We are only in the beginning of an epidemic of bubonic plague, commencing in a virgin country and from reports, I am of opinion, it has assumed a most malignant type. I do not think it can be utterly stamped out. History does not tell us where it has been effectually stamped out. The disease takes three or four months to attain its maximum force."

"From my experience in Chinatown, it is filthy and a positive danger and menace to the health of the community as long as it stands. It is well able to breed any disease, and I believe the only way to meet the trouble is to burn the whole thing down, brick and any other houses. Burn it all down. Saturate the soil with kerosene and burn that for a few days. Do not allow any building to be put up within, say, one or two years. Fill up the cesspools with lime and earth and give nature a chance. Then provide proper sewers. I notice another Chinese shack going up on King street near Alapai street. The floor is level with the road. We shall have more of this sort of building before long. We are not here to discuss legal questions; we are here to devise ways and means to save the city from the scourge of bubonic plague."

The Chairman: "I think the buildings on King street a disgrace to the city. The need of a man to superintend the sanitary arrangements of every new building is apparent on all sides."

Dr. Raymond: "I move that a committee be appointed to confer with the Board of Health on the matter of providing laws and health regulations and submit their report to the meeting of the association next week."

Dr. Myers: "I second the motion." Upon being put to the meeting, the motion was declared carried and the chairman announced that he would appoint the committee later.

The meeting then adjourned, on motion, with a vote of thanks to Mr. Desky for the use of the hall, to meet next Saturday evening at 8 o'clock.

CHAMP CLARK ON HAWAII.

He Outlines Democratic Policy Toward the Cullum Bill.

Congressman Champ Clark of Missouri publishes the following in press correspondence:

A government is to be provided for the Hawaiian Islands, Porto Rico, Guam and the Philippines, provided we conclude to retain these last named. The bill in the last Congress creating a government for Hawaii maximized the almighty dollar and minimized the man. Voting and officeholding were based not on moral worth, education or brains, but on wealth. The fundamental and paramount question was not is he honest, not is he capable, not is he faithful to the constitution, the old Jeffersonian tests, but: "What is his wealth? What is the size of his bank account? How large is his income?" Of course Democrats will never let that bill pass so long as they can prevent it, for we have been fighting for more than a century to get rid of the property qualification on suffrage, and it is only within the last few years that we accomplished it. Surely we will not go back to it without a struggle.

When that bill comes up, I intend to offer as an amendment to it my bill to re-franchise the people of the District of Columbia and to restore to them the right of local self government, and then, if I am not unceremoniously bowled out on a point of order, the fur will fly, and no mistake. The saddest commentary extant on representative government is the fact that within the shadow of the Goddess of Liberty surmounting the capitol the people of this District are not permitted to vote on any question under heaven—have absolutely nothing to say about levying, collecting or disbursing their own taxes. Their laws are made by them from all over the United States and their offices filled by carpetbaggers and strangers from outside the District, appointed by the President of the United States.

CLEVER WORK.

Deputy Marshal Chillingworth Recovers a Diamond Ring.

The recovery of a diamond ring valued at \$180 was a clever piece of work by Deputy Marshal Chillingworth on Saturday. The loss of the ring was reported by Mrs. McGregor, who lives on Nuuanu avenue, below the White House. Deputy Marshal Chillingworth learned that a boy named Dan, with another boy named Paul Kanoa, had been at Mrs. McGregor's house removing a trunk, and Dan was taken into custody and closely questioned. At first he denied all knowledge of any theft, but finally told the Deputy Marshal that the other boy had taken a small box from a bureau in the McGregor house.

Kanoa was arrested, but a half-hour's questioning by Deputy Marshal Chillingworth failed to bring any information to light. After the officer reviewed the boy's answers, however, and showed him his numerous falsehoods, the boy broke down and confessed that the ring was in his trunk

at home. Accompanied by an officer young Kanoa went to his house and produced the ring, which was later returned to the owner. Kanoa will be arraigned in Police Court this morning on the charge of larceny in the first degree.

Samoa's Late King.

In the December installment of "Falling Alone Around the World," in the "Century," Capt. Storum takes leave of Samoa, where he called on the King himself, the late Malletoa. "King Malletoa was a great ruler; he never got less than \$45 a month for the job, as he told me himself, and this amount had lately been raised, so that he could live on the fat of the land and not any longer be called 'Tin-of-salmon Malletoa' by graceless beachcombers. His Majesty then excused himself while he talked with his daughter, the beautiful Faamu-Sami (a name signifying 'To make the sea burn'), and soon reappeared in the full-dress uniform of the German Commander-in-Chief, Emperor or William himself."

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