

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

WALTER G. SMITH—EDITOR.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 1900.

THE PROPOSED CUBAN RAILWAY.

Recent news from Washington includes an account of an ambitious and elaborate project for opening up and exploiting the island of Cuba by means of an all-embracing railway system. Almost ever since the surrender of the Spanish forces there have been rumors about an inter-provincial railway, which was to run through the middle of the six provinces of Cuba, connecting the cities of Pinar del Rio, Colon, Santa Clara, Puerto Principe, Holguin and Santiago, with branches here and there through fertile but uncultivated regions to harbors along the northern or the southern coast. The project has always been attractive to persons well informed about Cuba and interested in its development; for it is obvious that it would accomplish wonders under an intelligent system of management, including equitable freight rates. It appears now that the scheme has taken definite form.

Sir William Van Horne, recently president and general manager of the Canadian Pacific, proposes to build this road, and has gone to Washington to lay the plan before the President and the Secretary of War. He has \$25,000,000 in capital at his disposal for the work. The money was subscribed by himself and Messrs. Pierpont Morgan, John Rockefeller, D. O. Mills, Flagler, John W. Mackay, Granville M. Dodge, Samuel Thomas and a few others, to whom he unfolded his plans. These gentlemen propose first to buy and consolidate all the existing railways. These have a total length of about 1,200 miles, and are confined chiefly to the western end, which is also the narrowest and the most open part of Cuba—the section where most of the people live and the only portion at present under any degree of cultivation worth mentioning. This region includes the little provinces of Matanzas and Havana and the western half of Santa Clara, in which sections the Spanish soldiers were sufficiently active to prevent the insurgents from laying waste the whole country, and confined them to depredations which did not altogether prevent agriculture on a large scale, and saved the sugar mills from destruction. There is also a line running from Havana to Pinar del Rio, the chief city of the westernmost province, which does something towards affording the products of the finest tobacco country in the world a chance to get to market.

But the whole of the rest of the island, including considerable portions of these provinces, the great cattle plains of Santa Clara and Puerto Principe, and nearly all the sugar and tobacco plantations and the enormous forests of Puerto Principe and Santiago (the largest and wildest province of all) are at present absolutely uncultivated and unproductive. Probably a computation of all the land in Santiago which is in any sort of use, including the cities and villages, would show that 98 or 99 per cent of the province is land with which nothing is being done. It is as idle as if it were dense forest, as indeed, much of it is. Only about one-fourth of the island is ever has been productive. Taking account of the cattle ranches on which there are no cattle, of the sugar plantations that are abandoned because the mills have been burned and there are no oxen to haul cane, even if the mills were usable, and of overgrown and ruined coffee plantations and farms, it would be quite within bounds to say that nine-tenths of Cuba is unproductive of anything save mosquitoes, malaria, and land-crabs.

Spanish misrule and incompetence were the reasons why this vast region was not cultivated in former times. Then the insurrection made development still more impracticable. Since the war, uncertainty as to the permanence of American control has discouraged every one of the hundreds of Americans who have gone to Cuba with the idea of taking up land and developing it, and they have done nothing. The almost total absence of highways or roads of any sort except bridle paths renders it impossible to get products to market, so far as most of the island is concerned. There is practically no communication between different parts of the island away from Havana, Matanzas and Cienfuegos, except by sea. Two things, then, are absolutely requisite before the island can be developed; assurance of American control in future, without which, as has been clearly shown, capital will not enter it, and transportation facilities. If the present scheme is put into effect, it may be taken to mean that the promoters have been told that Cuba will not be turned over to its inhabitants to run on the lines of a South American republic; and also that the transportation question is going to be solved forthwith. For, having bought up the little railways there now, Sir William Van Horne and his associates propose to extend this nucleus until every province is well tapped. They will first build a central, or vertebral, line from Cape Antonio, the extreme west-

ern tip of this long, narrow island, to Cape Maitel, at the eastern end—about 700 miles—running as near the centre of the island as economical engineering will permit. Then they will construct branches north and south to the best harbors, which abound on the Cuban coast; and these ribs, in conjunction with the backbone, will afford an outlet for the products of nearly the whole country.

Men well informed on this subject have held the Cuban railroad system would never be built in this way. It would be impossible to make a central railroad pay, they think, because freights would seek the seaboard in order to get sailing vessel rates to New York and other cities, and no appreciable amount of freight would go any further overland than necessary. A central railroad might eventually come, but it would be by the gradual construction of connecting links between a lot of little branch lines. The latter would come first, and only after the island was well opened up would it become possible to travel from end to end of it by rail. If, however, this broad and daring plan should be carried out, the result will be that the branch lines will pay their way in freights from lumber and tobacco at first, and from all sorts of products later, and that the production of sugar, fruits, coffee, cattle, and all sorts of vegetables will develop enormously within a few years. Sugar will not be the chief of the products to feel the effects of the boom, because the planters there are hard put to it to obtain enough laborers now. This labor problem will stand in the way of the division of Cuba among a few large property owners. There are few places in the world where so much of value can be produced with so little labor. With a railway system, wisely and fairly managed, a great many small farmers and men of moderate capital would be tempted to seek homes in Cuba, despite the fact that it is connected with New York by one of the worst steamship lines in the world.

The Porto Rico tariff bill has not yet passed the Senate but the latest reports, those given in the Advertiser's special Associated Press service for the afternoon of March 21st, show that the friends of that remarkable measure feel confident that it will receive a majority of votes.

If the California health authorities detain the Australia in quarantine at San Francisco for fifteen days, passengers on that vessel will, presumably, have to pay their board at hotel rates while the detention lasts. This is a point which should not be lost on intending passengers with light purses.

An increase in Customs duties of over \$872,000 in January, 1900, as compared with the showing of January, 1899, proves that Honolulu is moving ahead commercially at a most encouraging pace. There promises, when we get rid of the plague and acquire a permanent form of Government, to be a further remarkable gain of import accompanied by all other signs of Isl and prosperity.

Let us not forget the hospital for incurables. Hon. Alexander Young has not done so and in another column he amplifies his proposals for an endowment. The lists are still open for philanthropic millionaires to match his figures and make it possible for a case among us, hardly less unfortunate than the lepers, to secure shelter, food and nursing while they await their summons to the grave.

The late Ghazi Osman Pasha divided with Count Von Moltke the honors of generalship in Europe during the decade beginning with 1870. His defence of Plevna and his defeat of the Czar's best armies in three pitched battles, won the admiration of the world and gained for him the title of Ghazi, or Conqueror. His picture, which we print in this issue, is from a photograph taken several years ago before his hair and beard became snow white. Osman Pasha did not do active service in the war with Greece, the Sultan desiring to have him as a personal companion and military adviser. His successor as the favorite soldier of the Ottoman Empire is Edhem Pasha, who conducted the military promenade in Thessaly.

Nature intended the late Volney Ashford for a man of mark and he was one in the sphere of agitation and adventure. A nimble lawyer, a soldier, a politician of address and resource, a spirited and not over-scrupulous leader, a man of goodly presence, he combined the qualities of a revolutionist; with a fine physical dignity. If he had "got off right" he might have reached the sphere of usefulness and distinction in these Islands. His ambition was boundless, even aiming at the throne. But his erratic political courses and the suspicion that he meant to do public harm drew upon him an antagonism which he could not master. In the last political analysis he became an Ishmael with his hand against every man and every man's hand against him. Finally stricken by an incurable disease he passed away. Let us hope that after life's fitful fever he may sleep in peace.

TRUCKY BOW WONGS.

It looks as if the cunning Celestials of the Bow Wong Association had succeeded in finding their own attorneys. Mr. Henshall and Mr. Castle both say that the rules of the Bow Wong Association quoted in this paper are not those of the local but; but it appears that this same local but had them printed as a prospectus in one of Honolulu's Chinese newspapers. If the Bow Wongs gave another prospectus to their attorneys and the Government that is merely a characteristic Chinese dodge. For ways that are dark and tricks that are vain, the heathen Chinese is peculiar.

The Advertiser is glad to hear that its general view of this matter is acceptable to the Government, and it trusts that there will be no compromise out of which the Bow Wongs or any other secret Chinese pact can derive the slightest advantage. We have had trouble enough with the secret gangs of Japanese who blackmail merchants, run brothels and commit crimes of violence, without encouraging idle and dissolute Chinese to follow suit. Just now, when thousands of Chinese are hard put for a living, highbidding seems very attractive to some of them. They would like nothing better than to make their well-to-do countrymen support them. But that is an enterprise which the Government can hardly afford to assist, to say nothing of the other and revolutionary object which the Bow Wongs freely avow.

Of course we acquit Messrs. Henshall and Castle in advance of any desire to inflict a highbinder society on the town, and make bold to presume that, when they get at the secrets of the order, which they can easily do with the aid of the Chinese Consul, they will advise their clients to quit.

Some gentle eleemosynary soul in the Bow Wongs has threatened to kill the Chinese Consul if he continues to resist their application for a charter. Really, this thing is getting interesting, even though it has not quite resulted in high crime. We await with some trepidation the further outgivings of this cheerful society.

HACK STANDS PAU.

Order of Minister Young Abolishes Them on September 30. (From Thursday's Daily).

Minister Alexander Young has given notice to the hack-drivers and the stables controlling the hackstands that the latter will be abolished on September 30th, 1900, and that thereafter no stands for hacks will be allowed upon any of the streets of the city.

This is in keeping with the order which the Minister served upon the Hotel stables hackstand some time ago, in order that the congestion of the narrow portion of Hotel street could be relieved, and yesterday's order is intended to remove all obstructions from the streets according to the police regulation now being enforced against vehicles. The hackstand situated just Ewa of the Hotel stables front yard secured the right to use the front yard of the Lucas property facing the Hawaiian Hotel. The fence was removed, and the hacks were brought within the sidewalk line, thereby complying with the Department's order.

The condemnation of the Pantheon stable by the Board of Health was followed by a condemnation of the hackstand maintained alongside the Pantheon saloon. The stand proper, however, was inside the sidewalk line on private property. The Board got around this difficulty by condemning the site of the stand as a nuisance and a menace to public health, and the hacks were forced to seek new quarters.

Since the destruction of the Hotel stables by fire upon the order of the Health Board, their hackstand has taken up quarters on the Gedge corner, occupying the empty lot, and are therefore within the sidewalk line, and are not affected by the proposed regulation of the Interior Department.

The hackstands affected by the order will be the one stationed on Union street, off Hotel street, the "290" stand on King street, and the stand opposite the Judd building on Merchant street. Others affected are the I X I corner stand, Bethel street, and Japanese stand, on Beretania and Nuuanu, and Chinese stand near Maunakea on the street.

JAP A SUICIDE

Found Hanging in an Empty House.

First Thought to be a Case of Plague—Dr. Hoffmann Proves Otherwise.

Rumor had it that another plague case had cropped up in Honolulu yesterday. The story current on the streets was that a Japanese, realizing that he had the plague, had become desperate and anticipated the work of the disease by taking his own life.

Along in the afternoon a man rushed into the Board of Health office and said that the swollen and blackened body of a Japanese man had been discovered in an empty house away out on Beretania street near the Kamoolili Church, and that the case showed signs of the plague.

Not long afterwards the matter was reported by one of the corps of paid inspectors. In going his round about 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon the inspector had occasion to examine an empty house in his district, towards the Walkiki end of Beretania street, not far from the Kamoolili Church. On entering one of the abandoned apartments of the building the inspector came suddenly upon the dangling, lifeless body of the Japanese, suspended by the neck from a rafter by means of a long sash. The man had apparently been dead for several hours; the limbs were rigid and swollen and the face was black. Lying on the floor in a corner of the room was a good-sized valise, bearing the following inscription: "Mishimura, A. 39."

Dr. Emerson was called to view the body. He examined it very closely, and with a great deal of suspicion. Large swellings were discovered in the groin and in the femoral glands, and the doctor decided that the case was suspicious enough to demand a thorough investigation.

The body of the suicide was removed with all haste to the morgue and there awaited the post mortem examination. While the undertaker was transferring the body from Beretania street to the post house, Deputy Marshal Chillingworth inquired at the Board of Health concerning the whereabouts of the morgue. He was informed as to the location of that establishment and went away after asking a few questions about the suicide.

The Health authorities acted with promptness in the handling of this matter; the case was apparently one of suspicion and called for immediate action and careful management.

It was reported that the suicide had come from a Japanese lodging house in Iwilei, on the slaughter house road, one of the buildings recently burned by order of the Board of Health, from which a victim of the plague had been taken.

This report has not yet been confirmed. Acting on its recent resolution that all unattended deaths should be posted before the coroner was notified, the post-mortem examination was held at the morgue late last night. Dr. Hoffmann performed the autopsy and discovered that the suicide had been suffering for some time with an acute form of a scrofulous disease. Dr. Hoffmann signed a death certificate, giving strangulation as the cause of death.

The name of the self-slain Japanese was entered on the morgue books as Mishimura, age about 26 or 27, height 5 feet 2 inches, body well nourished. Mishimura is supposed to have hung himself early yesterday morning, the probabilities are that he had become disconsolate through suffering with the disease that had excited suspicion on the first examination of the body.

CHRONIC DIARRHOEA CURED.

My mother suffered with chronic diarrhoea for several months. She was attended by two physicians who at last pronounced her case hopeless. She procured one 25-cent bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, and five doses gave her permanent relief. I take pleasure in recommending it as the best on the market.—Mrs. F. E. Watson, Aiken, Ala. Sold by all druggists and dealers; Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., agents for H. I.

The proposed new political party, of which Captain Murray is sponsor, will meet next Tuesday evening at Murray Hall.

The Mill Cannot Grind with Water That's Past.

A fagged out, tearful little woman said this in telling her cares and weaknesses. Her friend encouraged by telling of a relative who was cured of just such troubles by Hood's Sarsaparilla. The little woman now has tears of joy, for she took Hood's, which put her blood in prime order, she lives on the strength of the present instead of worrying about that of the past.

Told Her Friend—"After having gotten on my neck 43 years Hood's Sarsaparilla completely cured me. I was so glad I told friends about it and a lady in Wisconsin who read of my cure told me she also took Hood's for the same trouble and was cured. She thanked me." Mrs. Anna Sutherland, Kalamazoo, Mich.



THE CABINET

Zerbe's Claims Argued and Referred.

Statement of Minister Damon About a Forfeited Bond—Letter from Secretary Hay.

(From Thursday's Daily).

The Cabinet met yesterday at the usual hour. There were present President Dole and Ministers Mott-Smith, Young, Damon and Cooper.

President Dole read petitions referred by the Council of State to the Executive Council (1) from Mr. Henry Zerbe for \$726.25, wages claimed by him for services in the Appraiser's office from the 5th of August, 1896, to the 29th of October, 1897, and (2) from Mr. John Prendergast, asking that an item of \$295.75 be inserted under Roads and Bridges, Oahu, in the Appropriation Bill now before the Council of State to cover wages of employes for work done on the Koolauoa Road during 1891 and 1892. In regard to the former, Mr. George A. Davis, attorney for Mr. Zerbe, was called in and made an argument and the matter was taken under advisement. The latter was referred to the Minister of the Interior for investigation and report.

Minister Damon stated that a Japanese came here on the Rio de Janeiro but was refused landing by Mr. J. K. Brown, on account of physical disability. It was agreed on his depositing a bond of \$100 that he should be allowed to land and when the Rio returned he should go back. Now the Rio did not come back on account of quarantine, and he claims as the Rio did not come back to take him to China that he is not compelled to go in any other way. Mr. Stackable and myself agree that he has forfeited his bond and the \$100 should go into Government realizations. The matter was referred to the Attorney General.

Letters from Mr. Hartwell dated March 10th, 15th, 16th and 17th were read. Mr. Sewall was introduced and left with the Executive a letter from John Hay, Secretary of State, dated March 16th, referring to necessary appropriations for the postoffice and custom house, in which the Government at Washington had expressed its approval of action being taken by the local Government, if it was deemed necessary, in different appropriations for these two bureaus made by the Council of State, without waiting for the approval of the President.

THE SUGAR MARKET.

Latest Quotations from the United States by Steamer Mariposa.

Through the courtesy of Messrs. F. A. Schaefer & Co., the latest quotations of the sugar market received by the Mariposa are published, as follows:

Sugar—The local market has again been advanced, as per list of the Western Sugar Refining Co., namely: Cuba (A) crushed and fine crushed, 5.60; powdered, 5.60; candy granulated, 5.20; dry granulated fine, 5.10; dry granulated coarse, 5.10; confectioners' A, 5.10; Magnolia, 4.70; extra C, 4.50; golden C, 4.50. Quotation for dry granulated for export to Honolulu has also been advanced—now quoted at 3.55.

Basis—15th, no sales; 16th, cost and freight sale 650 tons, 4.39; 17th, no sales; 19th, cost and freight sale 2,500 tons, 4.45; to arrive sale 850 tons, 4.7-16; since which no sales reported, making net basis for Island sugars in this market 4.069.

London Beets—15th, 16th, 17th, 9s 11 1-4d; 19th, 10s 3-4d; 20th, 10s 1 1-2d; 21st, 10s 3d.

Dry Granulated—New York price advanced 19th, to 5c, making net price there 4.95, since which no change.

Eastern and Foreign Markets—Under date of 16th inst., reported one of the market firm; sellers asking higher prices. European market quotations for beet from London have shown a firm and advancing market.

Statistical Position—U. S. four ports March 14th, 149,950 tons, against 167,216 tons same date last year. Cuba six principal ports 99,500 tons, against 63,000 tons same date last year.

THE TEACHERS

Report of Committee On Salaries.

Over Half a Million Dollars Required for the Ensuing Biennial Period.

The Committee on Teachers, composed of Prof. Alexander, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Jordan, Inspector General Townsend and Normal Instructor Gibson, have submitted the following report to the president of the Board of Education, upon the subject of salaries for the ensuing biennial period:

Honolulu, March 29th, 1900. To E. A. MOTT-SMITH, Esquire, Minister of Public Instruction. Sir:—The Committee on Teachers, having been directed to furnish estimates of the amount that will be required for the salaries of the teachers of the public schools of this Territory for the biennial period beginning January 1st, 1900, beg to report as follows:

The pay rolls of the public schools at the present time has risen to \$19,500.00 per month, while the average amount per month appropriated by the Legislature is only \$18,750.00.

At the same time it is the general opinion of the public, with which your Committee concurs, that the average salaries of the assistant teachers in the lower grades of the schools are too low.

It must be admitted that some of them are grossly incompetent. The Inspector General reports about 50 teachers who have no certificates, of whom 25 in his opinion ought to be replaced by more competent teachers.

Furthermore, the fact is being generally admitted that the primary grades call for the highest order of teaching ability, which should be rewarded accordingly. A large number of positions in these grades in our schools are now filled by \$25.00 teachers, which ought to be filled by \$50.00 teachers.

1. An increase of \$700.00 a month for these 28 places would raise the total monthly pay roll to \$20,200.00.

2. Again, the regular increase of salaries during the coming biennial period, due to length of service, increased proficiency as shown by certificates, and other considerations recognized in our schedule if we judge by the experience of the last biennial period, may be expected to reach the figure of \$1,500.00.

3. If all the new school buildings called for by the report of the Committee on lands and buildings shall be erected, about 65 new teachers will have to be added to our force, the majority of whom will necessarily be drawn from the mainland. The average salaries to be paid them, should be not less than \$65.00 a month, which will require an increase in the pay roll of \$4,225.00 per month by the end of the biennial period.

4. The report of the Inspector General plainly shows the necessity that exists for the more frequent and thorough inspection of schools than is practicable under the present system. Otherwise it will be impossible to judge correctly of the quality of the services rendered by teachers, or to promote them for merit without making serious mistakes.

A report recently presented before the U. S. National Educational Association by a special committee composed of eminent educators, on the subject of rural schools, declares that monthly or at least bi-monthly inspections should be made of all country schools. Of course, advice and practical instruction should be combined with such inspection.

In order to carry out this recommendation in these Islands, it is the opinion of your committee that five sub-inspectors would be required, allowing two for the island of Hawaii. In that case it would seem that the office of Traveling Normal Instructor would become unnecessary.

With such a force of inspectors the efficiency of the public schools would be greatly increased, and it would be possible for this Department to promote its teachers for merit, with some degree of confidence that justice is being done. For the salaries of these sub-inspectors an additional \$1,000.00 a month would be required.

We therefore submit the following estimate of the amount which the monthly pay roll will reach by the close of this biennial period.

Present monthly pay roll... \$19,500.00
Increase in the pay of primary teachers... 700.00
Increase of salaries for various causes (schedule)... 1,500.00
Salaries of additional teachers... 4,225.00
Salaries of sub-inspectors... 1,000.00

Total monthly pay roll at the end of the period... \$26,925.00
which multiplied by 24 will give a grand total of \$646,200.00.

SHOT AT A JUDGE.

Attempted Murder in a French Court of Justice. PARIS, March 21, (Afternoon Service).—In the Palace of Justice today an attempt was made to murder the presiding judge of the Fifth Court by a druggist named Bardin who had just lost a suit. The judge had just taken their seats and counsel in another case had begun his speech when Bardin aimed a revolver and fired three shots at the judge, who had a narrow escape, the bullets grazing his head. Municipal guards threw themselves on Bardin and removed him to a cell, while the judge, with perfect coolness, said to counsel: "You can continue, Maître; it is nothing."



BOER AUXILIARY TROOPER. A great element of strength to the Boer army is its mobile character. The ease with which a large force moves quickly from one point to another has caused the British considerable trouble. The illustration shows a Boer trooper, with his full equipment. He is ready for battle, in the saddle or out of it, at the word of his officer.