TO PRESS WORK ON DEFENSES

Plans Now Before Chief of the Bureau.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 6.—Brigadier-General Gillespie, Chief of Engineers, is hard at work upon the report of the board, which recently investigated the island of Oahu, with a view of selecting the proper defensive arrangements, which are needed there. This report, as already noted in the Advertiser, was asked for by him from Col. Heuer, as soon as that officer returned to San Francisco, and he has now at work upon it several of his assistants, with a view of obtaining various opinions upon some portions of the report.

All that may be expected at the present time is an appropriation for the inauguration of the work, and it will be pleasing to the army engineers if the Committees on Fortifications permit to remain in the bill appropriations for the commencement of work at Pearl Harbor. There may be enough in the amount provided for the erection of one fortress at the entrance to Honolulu Harbor, and from the general appropriations for guns, there may be squeezed out something for the sending of high power pieces of lighter caliber than will be needed in those works, for emergency use along the shore line, where there will be finally some lighter forts placed. Should this accomplishment be the result of the campaign of the engineers' bureau there will be much congratulation. But of course this must be taken only as a matter of inauguration of the work, for it is understood that General Gillespie will approve the entire plan as recommended by the Board of Officers.

Just what has been recommended will not be known until the report has been sent to the President, but some points have been gathered. The plan for Pearl Harbor embraces the construction of a very complete fortification upon the eastern shore of the entrance, at first. There is to be placed there, when the full scope of the project is reached, four twelve-inch guns, according to the present plans. These are to be separated by a considerable distance, but the works about each will be connected and they will be supplied from one general bomb-proof storehouse. There will be magazines in the rock and every precaution taken to prevent the chance of the forts being cut off. With time the plan is to construct at a point further west of the mouth of the harbor than the present settlement, another fortress which will be simiarly equipped with great guns, and these two, it is planned, will protect the entire water-front from Honolulu to Barber's Point.

NO TURRET BATTERIES.

There will be nothing of the turret battery about the fortifications of Honolulu. The works will be of the substantial type, which will permit practice with the greatest guns afloat, and will offer to any projectile that may be thrown against it, a wall of sand and masonry which will render safe the men and guns which it will shelter. The objection urged to the suggestion that there be placed on the reefs a turret battery is made that such works would be subject to great danger in that the transportation of men and supplies during an engagement would be hazardous, while shore batteries would have their men at hand or close enough to come to the relief of the crews of the guns.

At the entrance to the Honolulu Harbor there may be placed at once a battery of two 12-inch guns, the fortress being placed on the east end of the seawall, which extends from the channel shores. This location was considered by the officers most favorably and there is said to be a decided belief that there will be speedy action taken to secure the incorporation of this plan into any general scheme which is to be undertaken at this time. There will be numerous other lighter batteries stationed along the entire waterfront of the city, but these may have to wait for a better season, as projects for the insular possessions are to be quite extensive.

Talking of fortifications for the defense of Honolulu, it has just developed here that there was at one time a most determined effort made on the part of the navy to secure control of the scheme of defense for the Islands. It is learned here that at one time there was under serious consideration the making of suggestions that there be committed into the hands of the sailors the plans for defensive operations around Honolulu and Hilo, to the head of the Navy. This would have meant the stationing at Pearl Harbor and Honolulu of monitors and battleships, which would constitute the defensive force of the city and station. This was not carried through, owing to the fact that it early developed that the problem was one for the War office, and the sending of a board was sufficient to indicate that the work would be carried on by the regular branch of the service to which is committed such matters usually.

HAD WRONG BACKING.

We have had several Hawaiians here during the past month, and they have been treated to some eccentricities on the part of the office-seeking and legislation-securing lobbyists. The men who have sought and failed to obtain, have had the hardest kind of fights and it was due to some of the men whom they had pushing them, that at least one or two found that their road was very rocky.

One of the unsuccessful ones was young Mr. Thompson, the attorney, who has many friends here, and was most genially received, for he is known as a good fellow all the time. But he could not be judge. He could not tell why it was that he seemed to be unable to get any further than a mere calling acquaintance with Attorney General Knox and President Roosevelt. I do not believe he even thought for a moment that he would be able to sit on the edge of the Attorney General's table and call him "Phil," just like the lawyers from Pittsburg do, or that he would be able to slap the President on the back and say "Teddy," like a Rough Rider, but coming with such endorsements from Judge Humphreys, he at least expected that he would not be called upon to face the icy stare, and would be permitted to get within the inner guard.

But he found it was otherwise, and he never could find out why, even until he departed from the city. He complained to some of Humphreys' friends here, especially the judge's attorney, that he thought he was not given the glad hand, as he had expected as the original Humphreys man, and was inclined to ask what about the vindication that was heralded.

Upon investigation the reason for it all was developed. Attorney General Knox is said to have turned down Thompson's application for the judgeship with a cold hard flop, and to have remarked that he would see that Thompson did not get the place, simply because he had the endorsement of Humphreys, and that any man who had that endorsement would receive the same treatment, at his hands, and at the hands of the President. This may seem pretty hard upon the candidate, but it seems to be the state of feeling which is obtaining with the heads of affairs just now. Much of the ill-opinion of Humphreys is due to the parade he made of his courtesy vindication, ignoring the sharp advice the Attorney General gave him privately.

HAWAII IN CONGRESS.

There are many matters before Congress which interest Hawaii, and none more than the land question, perhaps. There appears to be a lull in discussions along such lines, but while Cuba, the canal and the cable are more talked of than either of the other subjects, there is a great deal of talking behind the scenes as to what may be done upon the subject of land laws. Last year Senator Hansbrough wanted to send a commission down to examine into the systems. This year there may be a totally different course followed, though as yet it is simply talk. This is to have a commission of representatives from Hawaii come on here to present the matter to the Congressional committees which must deal with them.

This idea is obtaining strength owing to the fact that the Attorney General of the Territory is to be here, for the purpose of presenting the government side of the appeals as to the liberty of certain persons convicted without grand jury investigation and by majority jury trials. It is understood that the Interior Department would not be displeased if there should be a visit paid by others of the local government while the Attorney General is here, and it may be that Secretary Hitchcock may find it advisable to ask Governor Dole to come on for the purpose of discussing land laws. There could be, too, a complete understanding reached as to public buildings and lighthouses as well as something as to a policy in connection with the improvement of the harbors of the group, as it is hoped to agree upon a system of improvement which will mean several years' work, but which will not make it necessary to expend such large sums as would be necessary if the work was laid out largely now and its doing begun with a rush.

LEPERS AND PHILIPPINES.

There has been little said or done as to the leper bill, introduced by Delegate Wilcox. The bill of Senator Platt, which would create a commissioner for that office, may come up later, as it has been given some consideration by many of those who have been looking into the problem. It has been said on some sides that it would be wise, perhaps, to develop a small island in the Philippine group into a reservation, and send there the unfortunates from the States. The disease is prevalent in the islands of the Orient, and there are many persons who are allowed to live at home who have the disease. This would mean that there must sooner or later be a course of segregation there, if the schools and government are to be developed along American lines. It would be natural then to make the reservation there, where the largest body of the afflicted are, and the lepers from all other States and Territories could be sent along. Some of the folks here who have been more or less interested in Hawaii believe that this would be of interest to those Islands, since it would remove from them the stigma of being a lazaretto, and point to the bill of the delegate as being a step in that direction.

It may be hard to fight against such a feeling if the original bill should come up, and while some of the friends of Hawaiians believe this would be a great sorrow, they cannot urge their fight very hard in the face of a bill to relieve the territory from the care of the people at Molokai. They hope only that the bill may be abandoned.

D. C. L.

MAKAWELI TO ISSUE BONDS

At a special meeting of the directors of the Hawaiian Sugar Company held yesterday morning it was voted to issue bonds to the amount of $1,000,000 for the purpose of carrying out the projected improvements. The vote upon the proposition was unanimous. There was some discussion of the work which is to be done, and the decision reached was that there will be needed for the purpose only about $400,000 of the sum authorized. This amount will therefore be utilized, and the remainder will remain in the treasury of the company. It is understood that arrangements for the placing of the bonds will be made by Mr. S. T. Alexander, who came down from San Francisco, largely it is said for the purpose of attending to this matter.

There has been some discussion on the street of a plan to issue bonds of the Kihei plantation for a sum said to be in the neighborhood of $400,000. The plan has not reached any great prominence as yet, but it is receiving much attention from the stockholders. It is said that the present crop will produce something like 8,000 tons, and the men interested are of opinion that with the floating of a bond issue of a half million dollars there will come something like a dividend very soon. All reports from the plantation are that there will be an excellent yield, and that everything in connection with the next crop is in good shape.

There was a meeting of the directors of the Hilo Railroad Company yesterday afternoon at which various financial arrangements previously made were ratified.

About fifty Porto Rican laborers have been sent to Maui to work on the Hawaiian Commercial plantation.

Surgeon L. W. Sprotling, formerly in charge of the Cavite Hospital, was a through passenger on the China. He is well known in Honolulu, having been here as surgeon aboard the Alert, some time ago.

RAILWAY OR BOULEVARD?

S. T. Alexander is to Consider the Question.

A conference was held yesterday morning between S. T. Alexander, projector of the boulevard proposed along the Makiki foothills to Mount Tantalus, and Messrs. Desky and Pratt, representing the Pacific Heights Railroad. The conference was productive of no promises on the part of Mr. Alexander that his original plan to give a boulevard to the city of Honolulu would be set aside, or that he would aid in the construction of an extension of the present Pacific Heights Electric Railway from its present terminus to Mount Tantalus and Sugar Loaf. Mr. Alexander stated that for the present he would study both propositions. He stated that he had had a talk with Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Campbell with reference to making new surveys for the boulevard, and that upon the result of these depended largely his decision as to whether the road would be constructed.

It has been given out that Mr. Alexander is in sympathy with the proposition to extend the Pacific Heights Railroad to Tantalus and Sugar Loaf, seeing the possibilities of making the magnificent mountain an attraction from a scenic standpoint, which would make it well worth the expenditure of a large sum of money. But having proposed to give a boulevard he will make an exhaustive study before turning his attention to a new project. In the development of the electric railroad around Sugar Loaf he also saw for the future the building of a large number of pretty villas upon the wooded slopes of Tantalus, and land now occupied only by heavy forests, would soon be dotted with the homes of those who would court a residence far above the torrid plains of the city.

Messrs. Desky and Pratt have had blue prints prepared of the proposed extension from their present terminus on the summit of the Heights, and calculate on building a line which would be from five to six miles in length. This great length is made necessary by the number of curves necessary to carry the line around Pauoa Valley, and conforming to the natural convolutions of the ride and mount. The length of the entire line, including the present built road, which is now in operation up Pacific Heights, would be as follows: Pacific Heights line, 2¼ miles; Tantalus and Sugar Loaf line, 5¼ miles, making a total of 7½ miles.

The round trip over the entire line would therefore be in the neighborhood of fifteen miles by the longest route proposed for the Tantalus extension, or about 13½ miles by the shortest route.

The present terminus of the Pacific Heights road is on the artificial tableland on the summit. It is proposed to continue the line from this point, carrying it around the head of Pauoa Valley, where there is an opportunity to cross of a 3¼, 3 1-2 and 3½ per cent grade. The road starting from the terminus would follow along the Ewa side of Pauoa Valley, and by taking the 3½ per cent grade would cross at an elevation of about 1,450 feet at Pauoa flat. Crossing Pauoa flat, the line would go to the Waikiki side of Pauoa Valley, or on the Ewa side of Mount Tantalus, skirting the hill at an elevation of about 1,600 feet, continue on to the Waikiki side of the mountain to a point Waikiki of the Schmidt place, or just back of Andrew Brown's property. Thence the line would be carried down to Sugar Loaf, near the residences of Judge Frear and S. T. Alexander, it being the intention to make a loop around Sugar Loaf.

The second route would carry the line from the terminus, at an elevation of about 1,450 feet, although this would increase the grade, and the line would pass under the mountain just behind the government road. The distance by the first route is calculated to be about six miles, and the second about a mile or three-quarters of a mile shorter.

The cost for building this Tantalus and Sugar Loaf extension has been estimated at $85,000, which would give it a full electric equipment of stations, cars, lights, power, poles, standard rails, and all the accessories of an up-to-date electric railway system.

On Saturday last during a session of the trustees of the Bishop Estate the question of the proposed electric railway extension was brought up, and the board expressed itself in sympathy with the project. The estate owns valuable land on Tantalus, and although no definite sanction was given, yet it is understood that the estate will give the railway right of way through its property and will aid it otherwise.

NO FACTIONAL FEELING EXISTS

The impression prevails that there is a factional feeling among the Rainy City republicans over the selection of a successor to Mr. Gibbs on the Territorial Committee. There is, however, nothing in the correspondence handled by Secretary Avery indicating such a thing. Everything in the way of correspondence or over the selection of the successor has been impersonal. The distances by miles between the various members of the committee have been so great that they have not been able to have a conference on the matters brought to their attention as individual members of the committee, resulting in nominations by each, which did not happen to hitch. It is probable that the next mail from Hawaii will tell of a successful conference and the nomination of a successor to Mr. Gibb, who will be satisfactory to all concerned.

The survey of the route for the new driving boulevard will probably be made next week. Over sixty signatures for amounts varying from $25 to $5,000 have been secured, and the response to the canvassers has been liberal everywhere. The route as now planned will run from the southwest corner of Thomas Square, across Kewalo, near the end of Waimanu street. This is the only change made in the route as already published.

The meeting of the Lusitana Society will be held this evening for the election of officers. There are two factions, and a lively time is anticipated.

LANTANA OF SOME USE

Bark to be Tested for Tanning Purposes.

The lantana bark as a material for tanning is one of the future commercial possibilities for Hawaii. Whether the plant which has so long been considered a weed of such obnoxiousness as to destroy every other form of vegetation in close proximity has a commercial value is a question which is soon to be decided by the Department of Agriculture at Washington. If the experiment does prove successful there is no one in Hawaii, but will bless the day the agricultural experiment station was established on Tantalus hill. Even the most sanguine, whatever their feeling towards the dreaded lantana, would never have ventured the belief that the much abused weed would or could ever be of any value to Hawaii, and even yet there is little possibility of success. However, the fact that the Washington department is willing to spend time and labor upon the examination of the lantana with a view of discovering possible tanning properties is sufficient to permit of some hope that the obnoxious weed may yet prove of value.

Jared G. Smith, director in charge of the Agricultural Experiment Station, wrote to Washington about a month ago, suggesting that possibly the lantana bush which covers thousands of acres of land in Hawaii might be of some value for tanning purposes. The tanning barks in the United States are becoming exceedingly scarce because of the increased demand, and there has been a constant search for some substitute to replace the product of the fast-depleted forests. Mr. Smith said yesterday that he was not at all positive that the lantana bush could be utilized as a tanning agent, but he believed the matter of sufficient importance to warrant a test, and for that reason communicated with the department at Washington with a request that it be investigated. He thought there was considerable doubt of the success of the experiment, but in view of the immense tracts of lantana bush covering the islands an examination into the properties of the plant might be productive of good in other ways.

The lantana is a native of Mexico, where it is cultivated for hedges and gardens. It was introduced into Hawaii by Dr. Hildebrand a good many years ago as an ornamental hedge, but it rapidly outgrew the purposes for which it was originally brought here, and now covers thousands of acres, being looked upon as a weed, which is destructive of all other vegetation in its vicinity. Efforts to stamp out the pest have been wholly unsuccessful, and the thick growth has depreciated the value of large acreages of land, which might have been valuable for other purposes.

Mr. Smith's letter to the Washington department brought the following reply in the last mail:

"I have referred to Prof. Wm. H. Krug of the Bureau of Chemistry, your letter of December 16th in regard to the tanning properties of lantana camara. Mr. Krug is giving special attention to tanning substances, and is anxious to find some substitute for our American barks, which are becoming exhausted.

"I can find no record of the use of the plant in tanning. The only references to it which I have consist of a statement in Meehan's Monthly of June, 1895, to the effect that it was becoming abundant and troublesome as a weed in the Hawaiian Islands, and the statement in Watt's Dictionary of Economic Plants that it was troublesome as a weed where it had been introduced in India. Yours sincerely,

LYSTER H. DEWEY,
Assistant Botanist.

While there is little encouragement in the letter that the lantana might be useful for tanning purposes, the department is still willing to make the analysis of the plant with a view to finding if it cannot be utilized for the purpose suggested by Director Smith. If the bark once became of some commercial value it would not be long before the islands were cleared of the lantana which now runs riot wherever it is given the smallest leeway. The plant grows with the rapidity of a weed here, both the climate and soil being exceptionally suited for its cultivation. It would be a strange turn of fate if the once despised lantana should become of sufficient value to make its cultivation profitable.

Mr. Smith intends to forward a large number of plants by the next steamer for the promised examination by Prof. Krug.

TEST OF LAW WILL BE HEARD

Judge Estee yesterday overruled the second demurrer to the petition in the case of Macfarlane & Co., et al., vs. W. H. Wright, treasurer of the Territory of Hawaii. This is what is known as the test of the constitutionality of the liquor law under which the local brewery is operated, and which the dealers here claim to be a violation of the Interstate Commerce Act. Judge Estee held that there was sufficient showing of damage by plaintiffs to warrant a trial and the case was set down for hearing next Friday morning. The defendants are required to file an answer before Thursday.

Mr. Silliman, in presenting his demurrer said that the plaintiffs had no cause for complaint, and were enjoying all the privileges they were entitled to, and had the same right to sell their malt products as did the Honolulu Brewery, and in addition sold wine, champagne and other spirituous liquors. "These complainants," said Mr. Silliman, "want to get a lead pipe cinch in the form of a perpetual monopoly in the liquor business. They have no cause for complaint; they are enjoying to the full limit the laws regulating this nefarious traffic, and are enjoying all the benefits. If the Legislature in its discretion saw that it is better to have little places where only beer and other light liquors can be sold, that is a proper exercise of legislative wisdom; if they wish it sold in this manner, rather than have the residence districts overrun with joints, these plaintiffs have no right to complain. But if one of these small saloon keepers wanted other beers to sell, and was refused or arrested for violation of the law, he could raise this point of violation of the Interstate Commerce law."

Mr. Silliman said that the present bill was no different from the first one filed, and which had been thrown out of court by Judge Estee, and asked that the demurrer be sustained in the present instance, also. If complainants were entitled to any relief, he contended, it was the striking out of the word local in the legislative act.

Mr. Dunne replied that the plaintiffs were entitled to the protection of the courts; that they were being discriminated against by being charged an annual license of four times that paid by vendors of beer manufactured by the local brewery. He said that these outside breweries could not be expected to compete, when they were required to pay $1,000 a year, while the Primo company paid but $250 for the same privilege. He said that these breweries did not want to sell anything else but beer, and it did them no good to be allowed to vend champagne and wine under the same license, when they had none to sell. He believed that the outside breweries were entitled to the same rights as the local concern, and they should be allowed to do business in the Territory upon the payment of the $250 license. Mr. Robertson followed, also for the plaintiff, and dealt principally with the alleged violation of the commerce law, claiming that this liquor law was an interference with the commerce between the Territory and other States.

Mr. Silliman replied, arguing that the agents of these breweries were the men interested, and that they sold champagne and wine and other liquors, and were enjoying more benefit from the $1,000 fee than was allowed for the $250 license, which permits the sale of malt liquors only.

Judge Estee immediately rendered a decision overruling the demurrer and setting the case for trial for Friday morning.

Opposition Freight Boat

HILO, Jan. 16.—The schooner Woodbury is apt to form the nucleus of an opposition line of freighters between Honolulu and Hilo, unless the owners should receive a liberal offer to sell out. The business of the little vessel increases as the merchants learn the difference in freight charges, which is about one-half the price on regular steamers. The Woodbury made the round trip to Honolulu last week in six days. The captain takes orders with him from Hilo, and brings back the goods. These opposition lines have been started several times, but just as often the vessels are wrecked or the owners sell to the Wilder's company. Somehow there is a strange fatality overshadowing every marine enterprise and whether the vessels carry insurance or not they frequently get wrecked. Captain Harris is a comparatively new man in this waters, and if his enterprise continues in its present success he will probably add another vessel to his line.

Dock for Hilo.

HILO, Jan. 17.—Mr. Philip Peck, of the First Bank of Hilo, returned by the last Kinau with the information that a complete understanding had been arrived at between the Hilo Dock Company and the government officials at Honolulu. There is now no obstacle in the way of the progress of the big dock.

Mr. Peck's visit to Honolulu was for the purpose of interviewing the Territorial officials regarding the dock. He says that the plans of the company were approved, and that he found the officials willing to do all that had been asked of them. The enterprise is now upon a good business footing, and the actual construction will presumably go forward. A meeting of the members of the dock company will be held in a short time, at which various questions will be decided.

HONOLULU STOCK EXCHANGE.

Honolulu, January 20, 1902.

NAME OF STOCK	Capital	Par	Bid	Ask
MERCANTILE				
Brewer & Co	$350,000	100		410
S. Sachs' Dry Goods Co., Ltd	65,000	100		90
L. B. Kerr & Co. Ltd	200,000	50		40
SUGAR				
Ewa	1,000,000	30	23	23½
Haw. Agricultural Co	1,000,000	100	...	250
Haw. Com. & Sug. Co	4,212,750	100		
Hawaiian Sugar Co	2,000,000	20	27½	28
Kihei	750,000	100		130
Honokaa	2,000,000	20	10	
Haiku	500,000	100		
Kahuku	500,000	20	23½	24½
Kihei Plan. Co. Ltd	2,500,000	50	10	
Kipahulu	160,000	100		.02
Koloa	300,000	100		.60
McBryde S. Co. Ltd	5,000,000	30	5	6½
Oahu Sugar Co	5,000,000	100	95	97½
Onomea	1,000,000	20	22½	
Ookala	500,000	20	7	9
Olaa Sugar Co. Ltd Assessment paid up	812,500	6	4½	
	2,500,000	20	12	
Olowalu	150,000	100		140
Paauhau Sug. Plan. Co	3,000,000	50		
Pacific	500,000	100		210
Paia	750,000	100	...	
Pepeekeo	750,000	100		150
Pioneer	2,000,000	100		60
Pioneer Mill Co. Ltd	125,000	100		65
Waialua Agr. Co	4,500,000	100	58½	58
Waimea	200,000	100		
Wailuku	300,000	100		
Waimanalo	292,500	100	160	
Waimea	127,500	100		....
STEAMSHIP COS.				
Wilder S. S. Co	500,000	100		100
Inter-Island S. S. Co	800,000	100	57½	65
MISCELLANEOUS				
Hawaiian Electric Co	250,000	100		106
Hon. Rd. Tr. & Ld. Co	250,000	100	87½	92
Mutual Telephone Co	89,000	10		
O. R. & L. Co	4,000,000	100		60
BANKS				
First National Bank	.....	...	...	.....
First Am. Savings Bk. & Trust Co	.....	...	...	.....
BONDS.				
Haw Govt. 5 per cent	.....	...	...	.....
Hilo R. R. Co. 6 per ct	.....	...	...	100
Hon. R. T. & L. Co 6 per	.....	...	...	100
Ewa Plantation 6 per ct	.....	...	...	.....
O. R. & L. Co	.....	...	...	.....
Oahu Plant, 6 p. c	.....	...	...	101
Olaa Plan. 6 p. c	.....	...	...	
Waialua Ag. Co. 6 p. c	.....	...	...	101½

SALES.

Afternoon Session.—Ten Ewa, $23.25.

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Honolulu.

One of Isenberg's milk wagon teams ran away yesterday on King street. The Chinese driver was dragged from his seat, and was rendered unconscious by the fall. His injuries are not serious.

Ah Quong, the Chinese charged with rape, who is one of the transition period prisoners, and who was buffeted about the local courts a few months ago, is held at Hilo under the new indictment for the old crime. Judge Little held that the constitution followed the flag, and the plea of a former conviction was not allowed.

KODAK SAFETY FILM