



The Bystander

How News Develops in Transit.
When Arctic and Tropic Met.
The Too Conscientious Person.
McDuffie Taking no Chances.
Why the "Blue Sky Law" Is Needed.

Some time ago, in the still hours of a tropic night, a wild-eyed Chinaman dashed into the editorial office of The Advertiser and announced that a "too big bug" had bitten a Chinese baby, which had failed to survive the experience. The pake was unable to identify the bug entomologically, but drew the picture of what could easily be identified as a composite portrait of a tarantula, scorpion and centipede, with a scorpion's horned toad has infused his characteristics into the family tree not too far back. The scorpion appeared to predominate, however, and accordingly it was announced, on the word of the Chinaman, that a scorpion had stung a baby girl and its victim had died in convulsions.

As a matter of fact, however, it developed that the baby girl had died because of a fractured skull, and the father and the mother were arrested and charged with infanticide, from which charge they were cleared by the courts. The testimony in the case was weird and the foundation for the scorpion story was discovered when the mother took her solemn oath that the Devil, in the form of a blue bug, with flashing green wings, had fastened himself upon her baby and sucked the life-blood of the little one from its body. The same Devil, in another shape, she testified, had been the means whereby her first baby girl had died. That baby, it was remembered by the court officials, had apparently been tortured to death, both baby arms and both baby legs having been broken.

This is comparatively recent history, of course. My excuse for bringing it up again is because I have recently received a copy of the People's Journal, of Dundee, Scotland, in which I read that a very profitable business is being worked up in Honolulu by Chinese who collect scorpions and other poisonous reptiles for sale to other Chinese who desire to put their superfluous girl babies to death. Thus has the story grown from the time the wild-eyed Chinaman dashed into the editorial room of The Advertiser until it reached the readers of the People's Journal of Bonnie Dundee.

From the frozen Arctic to the balmy clime of Honolulu is a long and far cry, yet the presence in this city during the week of the Misses Rose and Gertrude Greeley, daughters of Gen. A. W. Greeley, U.S.A., linked the extremes in the ideas that came to them and to others, for in the harbor, when they arrived and departed on their way to the Philippines, was one ship intimately associated with the career of their father. This is the revenue cutter Thetis, which was lying at anchor in Naval Row.

Back in the 80's, Greeley led an expedition in search of the North Pole. He became lost and he and his party, unable to return to civilization, prepared to die. While in this plight, after several had passed away and Greeley himself was on the point of death, the steamer Thetis steamed into the bay near which the party was camped. Aboard the Thetis was Lieutenant Schley, afterwards Admiral Schley of Santiago fame. Greeley was rescued and lived to become a general in the army. General Greeley is dead; Admiral Schley is dead; but the Thetis is still in active service, cruising to odd byways of the world. She is now en route to Laysan Island with Governor Frear and Attorney General Lindsay of Hawaii and a party of scientists from Iowa. It is not expected that a relief expedition will be necessary, in this case.

Not for a long time have I read anything with which I so heartily agree as with the following, clipped from the latest Saturday Post to arrive. This is from the clever pen of Irvin S. Cobb, concluding an article on "Holidays." He writes:

"I am ardently and enthusiastically for Christmas, but I am not bigoted on the subject. I am glad, as the poem says, that Christmas comes but once a year. Once is enough! Many of us would regard with disfavor any movement looking to a midsummer revival of Christmas. In this regard I am in accord with a friend of mine who says he can always tell when next Christmas is coming by the fact that he is almost through paying last Christmas' bills. He is heartily fond of Santa Claus, he says, but he dislikes the male chorus of bill collectors who travel just behind him.

"This, of course, is the grown-up attitude—and, after all, the grown-up attitude has no place in the real Christmas spirit, I guess. The true Christmas spirit belongs only to the child who still believes in Santa Claus. I can remember with some vividness the person who first undecieved me in this matter. I couldn't have been over six years old at the time, but I remember him as though it were yesterday. He was one of those persons who are able to combine religion and business in such a way as not to interfere with the business. I think he had taken an oath never to be happy until Neal Dow was elected president. I was greatly reminded of him not long ago when in a magazine I came across a group picture of twenty trust magnates who had been indicted for violating the pure-food law. No two of them looked alike, but they all looked like him somehow. He deemed it a sin that parents should deceive their children regarding the identity of Santa Claus, and he also deemed it his sacred duty to spread the truth wherever possible. So he took advantage of the first opportunity that came along to give me the correct facts. This party has been dead a good while now, and I expect at some future date to hear that he is spending his eternity climbing up and down red-hot chimneys, with nothing on except a celluloid collar, and—with his bare hands—stuffing live coals into the asbestos stockings of little sleeping devils.

"Of course I don't expect to see this person doing it myself—I only expect to hear of his doing it."

"I never have been enamored of big feet," said Walter Huff, of San Francisco, on his arrival from the Orient yesterday, "but I saw a pair in Japan not long ago which cured me of the worst fit of homesickness I ever had."

"I was traveling from Tokio to Kobe by rail and on boarding the train, I could not see a single European in sight. Feeling really lonesome I strolled into the sleeping car where the bunks are built for Japanese only and are about five feet six inches long. I glanced along the aisle in a hopeless way and my eyes fell on what appeared to be an enormous pair of feet still encased in shoes, and protruding far over the end of one of the bunks.

"His, ha! a white man and a whole of a big one, too," I muttered, as I auntered to the bunk and peeped in at the inmate. My homesickness disappeared like a flash, for there with a placid smile on his face, his right hand clutching his watch, his left his pocketbook, lay Arthur McDuffie, chief of detectives for Honolulu and my old friend.

"I aroused McDuffie and asked him why he was wearing his shoes to bed. He explained that in view of the fact that the bunk was five feet six inches long and his length is six feet five inches, it was impossible for his feet to go to bed at all and so there was no necessity of undressing them."

From Huff's story, it may be seen that McDuffie is taking no chances of being either Chong or his shoes, more especially when, if he lost the latter, he would have to have a pair made to order.

I believe it was P. T. Barnum who first gave publicity to the maxim that "there is a sucker born every minute and suckiness they are twins." The truth of the utterance of the wise old showman has been demonstrated time and time again, and the "Blue Sky Law" of Kansas is but one of many efforts made to protect the gullible against themselves.

There are some who have opined that Hawaii does not stand in need of such a law but there are as many simple folk here in proportion as any where else, otherwise but like the following would not be thrown out at so

Small Talks

CHEMIST LYON.—After exhaustive tests I believe I have fixed upon a combination of chemicals which will make Punchbowl look like a live volcano when the time comes to create an eruption.

J. WALTER DOYLE.—I was glad to see my suggestion for a sidewalk dance taken up by the merchants as a part of the New Year's Eve celebration. The going may not be so good but it will give the crowd something to do.

JOHN M. MARTIN.—You can talk about your Maliki Christmas Tree or any other Christmas tree, but none will hold candle to the one at High Sheriff Henry's boarding house. There the Christmas service will be given at half-past two on Christmas afternoon.

LAND COMMISSIONER TUCKER.—I expect to have another interesting session at the forthcoming sale of the remainder of the lots on Punchbowl. The last time I talked five hours, escaped injury, and got the money although some of the bidders failed to agree among themselves.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BISHOP.—The revised plans for the armory have been completed, the advertisement for bids is out and they will be opened January 4 so that unless some unforeseen obstacle intervenes, the legislature will have no opportunity to withdraw the \$100,000 armory appropriation.

JIMMY WILLIAMS, Photographer.—Chong wouldn't pay a bill of a dollar I sent him for the picture he had taken to be put in The Advertiser, but I didn't lose anything on the photograph. I got twelve dollars from the police department for a dozen prints to paste on Chong's extradition papers.

CITY ENGINEER WHITEHOUSE.—Many Manoa residents are curious to know why we have not continued the asphalt-bound pavement all the way up Punahou street and up Manoa road hill. The reason is simple. The character of the road was changed when we struck a grade and we are using a sand top dressing. Otherwise if we continued with asphalt the road would be so slippery in rainy weather that horses would slip all over it and autos would skid into the Oahu College athletic grounds and other properties.

GEORGE W. SMITH.—The new building at the corner of Fort and Chaplain lane makes me think back to what that place was thirty years ago, when it was a quiet residence section. A cottage adorned the site of the present Excelsior block. Across the way was Billy Irwin's modest home—for he then had no marble palace. Father Damon's residence was behind and on the corner where the Liberty theater stands was Queen Emma's home. A sweeter, nobler woman of the Hawaiian race than she did not exist.

much a square inch, for it wouldn't pay. Culled from one of the Honolulu papers it reads:

Another mining stock held here, Temagaming, is carrying an enormous cash treasury surplus, equal to the requirements of four quarterly dividends, and is making substantial earnings in excess of dividend requirements. Selling at forty-four cents a share, the stock pays 12% annually and yields 27.1% on the investment. Dividends distributed to date total \$1,234,156.

There it is. Twenty-seven and one-tenth per cent on the investment! Note carefully the exactness of the figures. The stock sells at forty-four cents a share and yields twenty-seven and the accurate little fraction on the investment.

No wonder some people won't buy sugar stock because it costs thirty or forty dollars a share and only pays sixteen per cent. Not when they can buy Temagaming at forty-four cents a share, or wager their savings in guessing under which one of three shells the little pea reposes.

IMPORTANT TAX DECISION ON VALUES BY SUPREME COURT

A raise of \$300,000 in the tax assessment on Hawi Mill and Plantation Company, Hawaii, was made yesterday in a decision of the supreme court, written by Chief Justice Robertson, the plantation having returned an assessable value of \$800,000. The supreme court gave judgment for \$1,100,000, a raise of three hundred thousand dollars, and the Territory will realize from the entire taxable value about \$13,000.

The case decided was that of the Hawi Mill vs. R. T. Forrest, tax assessor and the Hind Estate vs. the same official.

The court said that in the supreme court a tax appeal equities about the same position as an equity appeal. The presumption is that the decision appealed from is correct and the burden is upon the appellant to show wherein it is erroneous. Where most of the evidence is documentary, and comparatively little depends upon the credibility of witnesses the presumption, the court says, may be more readily overcome than it would be in a case turning largely on the weight of the testimony.

As to the valuation, the court said that "the assessment of the property of the Hawi Mill and Plantation Company as of January 1, 1912, by the tax appeal court at \$1,200,000, held upon the evidence, too high, and reduced to \$1,100,000."

Value of Property. The company returned an aggregate value of its combined property as the basis of an enterprise for profit as of January 1, 1912, at the sum of \$700,000. The tax assessor assessed the property at \$1,200,000 and the tax appeal court fixed the value at \$1,200,000. From the decision of that court the company appealed as to so much of the assessment that exceeded the sum of \$800,000.

In 1897, the Hawi plantation, then owned by R. R. Hind, was assessed at \$285,000. There were 1457 acres of cane land which gave an average yield of 2.55 tons of sugar per acre, nearly one-half of which was held under lease; that in seven years the output varied from 1250 to 2881 tons and that the annual profits over a number of years varied from \$35,000 to \$88,941.

In 1909 this property was valued at \$265,000 upon a showing that the yield for 1899 had fallen to 1.15 tons of sugar per acre; that there would be no profit but a possible loss on the year's business; that the rainfall in the district was decreasing each year; that irrigation by pumping was an experiment, and that the additional lands were leaseholds held at high rental and that it was problematical whether they would be a source of profit or loss to the plantation.

The present company was incorporated in 1904 with a paid up capital of \$300,000. In 1911, the net profits of the plantation were \$98,190, or nearly 100 per cent on capital.

The stock is held by the family of the late R. R. Hind and there has been no sale of shares. The deputy assessor valued the separate items of property comprising the plantation at the aggregate sum of \$1,100,441, while the 1909-1911 manager valued the same at \$208,200.

The decision of the tax appeal court, district, no express finding on this



CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTSON, Who wrote the Hawi Plantation tax decision.

point, but a fair valuation of the property based upon the separate appraisal of the different items would probably be somewhere between the totals given by the two witnesses.

Basis of Assessment. But the assessment of the combined property as the basis of an enterprise for profit requires that there be taken into consideration all facts and considerations which reasonably bear upon the value of the property as a whole including the gross receipts, running expenses and net profits of the enterprise.

The evidence showed that the company held 6121 acres of land. In fee simple, there were about 997 acres of which 847 acres are cane land and the rest pasture land. Under lease from the Hind plantation are 965 acres and under government leases 2096 acres, of which 1516 acres are subject to the homestead withdrawal clauses. Under lease from other parties are 1828 acres, and from the Hind estate are 234 acres. The government has notified the company of the proposed withdrawal and cancellation of two leases covering about 927 acres which are to be homesteaded.

In the Hind estate case the supreme court sustains the decision of the tax appeal court. The opinion of the court was written by Chief Justice Robertson.

(The Federal Wireless Telegraph.)
INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, December 21.—(Special to The Advertiser.)—Deputy Attorney Walter Hall of Muncie, Alfred Harvey of Indianapolis and Dan Knowl of Kansas City argued here today for the union men charged with illegally transporting dynamite. The defense was allowed four days for argument and its time will be up at noon next Tuesday. Judge Anderson is expected to charge the jury December 22.

ENTHUSIASM IS NOW IN FULL SWING

Arrangements Near Completion for Great Mid-Winter Carnival.

FOUR DAYS OF FESTIVITIES

Landing of Kamehameha Will Be Great Spectacle—Other Features.

If enthusiasm counts for anything the coming Mid-Pacific Carnival to be held in the Washington Birthday week in February will be one of the greatest spectacles from first to last that has ever been attempted in the Hawaiian Islands, not only as an attraction for Islanders, but for tourists from all parts of the world.

Director-General Chillingworth, appearing before the special finance committee, of which Fred L. Waldron is chairman, and the promotion committee, yesterday afternoon, explained along general lines what he proposed to offer for a four days' spectacle, the crowning event being the glorification of old-time personalities which made Hawaii, a hundred and more years ago, a key to the affairs of the Pacific.

The "Landing of Kamehameha the Great," at Waikiki beach on Washington's Birthday, will be a spectacle which will call for the most careful of staging and will show the great Napoleon of the Pacific skirting the shore of Oahu around Diamond Head in his great double war-cannon, followed by a large number of canoes filled with chiefs, paddlers and warriors.

Great Pageant. Kamehameha will be represented by a magnificent type of Hawaiian, such a type as Kamehameha was, in the person of Palenapa, who is considerably over six feet in height and weighs nearly three hundred pounds, but splendidly proportioned. Wearing the feathered cloak and helmet of his rank and surrounded by chiefs armed with spears and by his two white advisers, the monarch will land on the shore between the Seaside and Moana hotels where he will be received by the people of Oahu. A Hawaiian hooiupu or gift ceremony will be shown, when he will be presented with fruits, taro and pigs.

There will be native houses and Hawaiians seen making mats, tapa, pounding poi and living as Hawaiians did one hundred years ago. All these features, while in general charge of Mr. Chillingworth, are directly in charge of W. T. Rawlins, who will be assisted by a committee in which will be Duke Kahana-moku, the world's champion swimmer.

All this is to be staged under the direction of W. D. Adams, so that the entire scene will be witnessed from afar and the entire setting will stand out clearly and not be marred by close lines of spectators. In order to have the double war-cannon, Prince Kalani-anoale's canoe, now at Kailua, and another, will be brought here from Kailua, Hawaii, and lashed together by a Hawaiian who did the same for those in the Bishop Museum.

There are also to be aquatic sports, consisting of surf riding, canoe races and many stunts. Duke Kahana-moku will be a star attraction in the surfing and swimming performances.

Volcano in Eruption. One evening will be devoted to an eruption of Punchbowl, which is to be handled by R. A. Lyon. This will be a realistic exhibition and it will be arranged that Punchbowl will appear to be actually in eruption, with lava pouring over the rim down a gully toward the city.

The floral parade feature will be historic, for Hawaiian traditions are to be exemplified in floats. Various societies may look after the various floats. One will represent Kapiolani defying Pele. Mrs. Nakuina, an authority on Hawaiian matters, is working out a theme for a float, while Wai-ahua and Lacie are expected to provide floats telling some tradition of their districts. The float which made such a hit in last year's parade, that of Kamehameha, will be repeated next February. John Hughes has charge of the horse-drawn floats.

The Island Princess section will be repeated. As this has become one of the most attractive features of each year's carnival, it will be given a prominent place in the celebration again.

Grand Ball Windup. There will be a grand ball, this to conclude the carnival. The Moose organization will participate in some part of the carnival and will appear as a uniformed contingent.

The finance committee asked for a maximum estimate of expense which Mr. Chillingworth was unable to give, although it is known the committee will have to look around for at least seven or eight thousand dollars. Another meeting will be held early in the week, when Mr. Chillingworth, after going into details with the heads of his committees, will be able to make a report.

One of the features which the director-general believes will revive an old sport is the racing card, which is to be under the direction of Robert Horner and Robert W. Shingle, and other enthusiasts.

Members of the finance committee present were Fred L. Waldron, chairman; H. W. Shingle, A. W. T. Bottomley, Charles Hennessey, A. D. Castro, A. J. Marschall, Samuel Walker, Ralph Lyon, W. T. Rawlins, E. A. Herald, James McAndrews, Julius Unger and H. M. Hopkins.

SICILY TO ROME IN AN AEROPLANE

TRAPANI, Sicily, December 23.—(Special to The Advertiser.)—Hollen Harris, the French aviator, started today on his flight from here to Rome. He intends to make stops at the following places: Milazzo, Pizzo and Naples.

On December 18, Garris crossed the Mediterranean from Tunis to Tripoli in his aeroplane, a distance of 160 miles.

AUSTRALIA PLANS FOR RECEPTION OF HER NAVY

MELBOURNE, December 12.—Australia is already beginning to enthuse over the proposed reception to be given her navy, the battle cruiser Sydney and the swift cruiser Melbourne, which are fitting out in England preparatory to their journey to home waters, and is assured that a great patriotic demonstration will mark their arrival.

The new war vessels will make their voyage by way of the Suez Canal, sailing down the African coast, stopping at Durban and making a stay of some days at Cape Town, this last on the urgent invitation of the government of the Union of South Africa. The ships will be manned by a mixed crew of officers and men of the royal navy and the Australian naval reserve.

The first lot of officers and instructors for the Royal Naval college at Geelong, now on the way from England are expected here within a few days and they will at once give attention to the tenders of the plans and specifications which are to be issued for the building of the permanent naval college at Gervis Bay, New South Wales, a port of the new commonwealth capital.

WILSON TO VISIT BIRTHPLACE ON BIRTHDAY

STANTON, Virginia, December 12.—President-elect Woodrow Wilson will be entertained on December 28, the fifth anniversary of his birth, in the house where he was born in this city.

Soon after his election a delegation of citizens waited on the President-elect in Sea Girt and received from him a promise that he would visit his native city this month.

Plans have been made to make this occasion a home-coming week and Jubilee. The citizens' committee has sent several cablegrams to Mr. Wilson in the Bermudas asking him to name the date of his arrival, but owing to interrupted cable communication a reply has not been received.

It has been assumed that Mr. Wilson will come here on his birthday as was agreed when the delegation visited him in Sea Girt and the preparations are being made for that date.

The Presbyterian manse occupied by his parents here when the President-elect was born has been put in first-class condition and is present occupied, Dr. A. Fraser, is to entertain Mr. Wilson and such members of his family as accompany him on the visit.

MISSIS CLEVELAND AND TAFT AID TITANIC CHARITY

NEW YORK, December 6.—A daughter of the President of the United States joined with the daughter of a former President in charity work this afternoon, when Miss Helen Taft and Miss Esther Cleveland sold program in a theater at a benefit performance given by the Women's Titanic Memorial committee.

They met with notable success among the society people, who flocked in great numbers to the performance.

STATUE OF LIBERTY READY FOR MANILA

LONDON, December 11.—The Statue of Liberty which the United States government will present to the Philippine Islands, and which will be erected at Manila in the near future, has been completed by the Swiss sculptor, Hert Kissling, whose design was chosen in an international competition. The statue, which will have cost \$1,200,000 when delivered at Manila, is a huge work in bronze, consisting of a series of life-size figures dominated by the giant figure of the Philippine national hero Jose Rizal. The monument has been placed in position at the station at Wassen, Canton of Uri, to await inspection from the American commission of experts, after which it will start on its long journey across the seas.

(By Kahuku Wireless.)

WAILUKU, December 20.—(Special to The Advertiser.)—Success followed the officers of the local police today in the search for the robbers of the Kipahulu postoffice, which was broken into early Thursday morning and the safe, containing the cash, records and stamps of the office, stolen.

The burglars prove to be Filipinos, all of whom are now in jail. The safe was recovered intact, the men who stole it not having been able to break it open and the records have been returned to the postoffice.

M'CARTY'S PERSEVERANCE PUT HIM WHERE HE IS

CHICAGO, December 12.—Luther McCarty's perseverance was his principal asset as a boxer when he first announced his desire to become a prize fighter, according to a story told by "Bill" O'Connell, a local trainer.

The man who on Tuesday night vanquished Jim Flynn at Los Angeles was considered a "pest" by O'Connell and finally was told to stay away from the gymnasium. McCarty refused to do as he was told and finally the doorkeeper was instructed to keep him out.

"In spite of everything I did to discourage him," said O'Connell, "he persisted in coming around. Finally I tried to get him a manager, but no one cared to take a chance with him. Then he started out on his own account and found a manager himself. He was an apt pupil and rapidly developed into a good boxer and I am glad to see him successful. He now has all the qualifications of a champion and I have to admit that I was fooled by him. I now expect him to become the white champion."

PERPETUALLY SAFE

Never hesitate about giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to children. It contains no opium or other narcotic and can be given with absolute confidence. As a quick cure for cough and croup in which children are susceptible it is unsurpassed. For sale by Messrs. South & Co., Ltd., Agents for Hawaii.