

HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

RODERICK O. MATHESON EDITOR

Entered at the Postoffice of Honolulu, H. T., Second-Class matter.

Semi-Weekly—Issued Tuesdays and Fridays.

Subscription Rates:
Per Month.....\$.25 Per Month, Foreign.....\$.35
Per Year.....\$3.00 Per Year, Foreign.....\$4.00
Payable Invariably in Advance.

CHARLES S. CRANE, Manager.

TUESDAY : : : : : DECEMBER 23

HEALTH VERSUS RED TAPE.

Hawaii may be pardoned for boasting, once in a while, about its board of agriculture and forestry. The splendid work of territorial veterinarian, Dr. Victor A. Norgaard, in combating tuberculosis, the dread "white plague," at the source, is deserving of special commendation. Doctor Norgaard has proved, by practical demonstration, what the United States department of agriculture is trying to persuade the citizens of the District of Columbia to believe, that it is possible to eliminate the chief source of human infection—milk from tubercular milk cows.

The board of agriculture makes the announcement that every milk cow on the island of Oahu the milk of which is sold, or used, as human food, has been tested for tuberculosis. Over seventeen thousand tests have been made at an average cost of only thirty-seven cents per test. This has not been a demonstration of a theory. It has been a tubercular census. Every single animal that has been found to be infected has been destroyed, or withdrawn from the dairy herds. Doctor Norgaard now reports that the local herds are clean. He recommends that the work be continued for two years for the purpose of discovering any sporadic cases that may appear, and also for the cleaning up of infected premises. To round out the work and prevent the reinfection of herds through carelessness or ignorance, he recommends the passage of a law imposing a heavy penalty on anyone who knowingly sells milk from tubercular cows.

It cost the United States government three dollars a head to test less than two thousand cattle in the District of Columbia, and the department's experts were only able to work on cattle whose owners were willing to have them tested. Where cows were found to be infected and ordered destroyed the government could not enforce its recommendations without first paying for the animal.

In Hawaii cooperation was voluntary. Over half as many cows were destroyed by their owners here on Oahu as the whole number tested in Washington. In Hawaii the people recognize that the health of the community is the prime consideration. Back in Washington they seem to think more of the property value of their cows than they do of how many babies are going to be dedicated as victims of the white plague through being fed on "consumption milk."

CURRENCY BILL PASSES.

The administration Currency Bill has passed the senate and now goes to conference committee. The business and banking interests of the country have been unanimously in favor of readjustment of the national banking system. The idea has long been growing that a great commercial nation like the United States ought to have a modern monetary system.

The fundamental Republican opposition to the administration measure which is now about to become law has been voiced more against the principle of government guarantee of deposits than against any other feature of the bill. The Republicans say that the credit of the United States should not be jeopardized in times of financial pressure, nor should the national banking credit be endangered if the credit of the government itself should be threatened by stress of war or national disaster.

The Republican party favors one central bank of issue instead of the eight to twelve regional banks authorized in this law. Such a central bank to stand on its own basis of credit unsupported by federal guarantee would have at once placed the banking system of the United States on the same broad credit basis as is enjoyed by the Reichsbank of Germany, the Bank of England and the Bank of France.

There are many excellent features of the new currency law. It lends some degree of elasticity to the situation. It forbids the possibility of further artificial or "bankers panics." It broadens the sphere of the "national" banks and opens the way for the direct extension of credit to the farmers and other primary producers of raw materials—a class that has from the beginning of things been more or less at the mercy of the moneyed interests. The national banks have been forbidden by law to make agricultural or farm loans.

The latter feature of the new law is one that should prove of direct advantage to the farm and plantation interests of Hawaii. Now that currency reform has crystallized along purely Democratic lines Hawaii should at once make application for the establishment of one of the regional banks in Honolulu. We have the capital and the business to warrant it. If the Democratic congress and administration insist on linking Hawaii with the Philippines why not take them at their word and demand that the financial center for the development of Oriental and Philippine trade be placed here. In maneuvering adopt the advice of Mulvaney to the recruit and "take the higher ground." Demand our regional bank here in Hawaii, otherwise Hawaii will be hopelessly tied for all time, not to the Philippines, but like a tin can to the Californian dog's tail.

WASHINGTON "DISCOVERS" RHODES GRASS.

The 1912 yearbook of the department of agriculture in an article on "Some New Grasses for the South" devotes considerable space to the exploitation of Rhodes Grass. The report tells how Uncle Sam's experts sent to Australia for several hundred pounds of seed in the fall of 1911 which was put out in fields of from one-fourth acre to twenty acres in 1912. Then they publish a photograph of "the first load of baled Rhodes grass hay produced in this country" as an illustration to emphasize their own glory.

The secretary of agriculture ought to be told that baled Rhodes grass hay was part of Hawaii's exhibit at the Alaska-Yukon Exposition at Seattle in 1909; that Rhodes grass has been grown in Hawaii for nearly ten years; that the baled hay has appeared in the local markets for several years past; and that at least seven years ago the American Sugar Company Ranch on Molokai had a forty-acre Rhodes grass meadow.

If the Washington end of the United States government would read The Advertiser they might discover that Hawaii is about ten years ahead of them on more things than Rhodes grass. It sounds funny to boast of having sent "trained explorers" to South Africa to look up something that every rancher in Hawaii has had a field of growing next his horse-paddock for six years at least.

PRAISE FOR "HONOLULU NEI."

Senator Albert F. Judd has received many flattering comments concerning his paper on "Honolulu nei" published in The Advertiser a month ago. President Hadley of Yale has written Mr. Judd a letter of hearty congratulation in regard to the advanced stand which the citizens of Honolulu are taking in civic matters, as evidenced by his thoughtful essay. President Brown, of the well-known Wall Street banking house Brown Brothers & Company, writes as follows: "I think all that you have to say applies equally well to our own cities here, and particularly to New York!"

Somehow or other, we fail to recollect any spasms of joy when Governor Carter and Governor Frear came marching home with the bacon. But then, we had no Ad Club those times.

HAWAIIAN DECISION MAY INVALIDATE INCOME TAX LAW.

The underlying principle of taxation of incomes is that taxes for the support of the government should be imposed in accordance with the ability to pay rather than upon the mere possession of property. The courts have held that income is not property. Men may own property and hold it for years without receiving a cent's return in the way of profits or income.

Judge Black in his recent work on "Income Taxes" says that the theory is an ideal one. Taxation of incomes, he says, is based on equality of sacrifice, in that those who have much, pay the most, while those who have little, pay the least.

There is much honest difference of opinion as to what constitutes equality of sacrifice. The masses apparently incline towards the opinion that ability should be made to bear its share of the load of taxation in proportion to its earning capacity or of its power to seize and make use of opportunity. This idea has been incorporated into many minority or dissenting opinions by supreme court judges of the same school of thought and training as the late Justice Harlan.

One feature of the present income tax law which must stand supreme court interpretation, is the graduated or progressive sur-tax. This idea has been incorporated in the statutes of Wisconsin and South Carolina, and in both instances has been upheld by the state supreme courts.

The only contrary decision recorded is one that was given by the supreme court of the Republic of Hawaii on the constitutionality of a law enacted in 1896, in the case of Campbell versus Shaw. The Hawaiian law of 1896 embodied provisions similar to those contained in the federal income tax law of 1894. The late Chief Justice Judd ruled the law unconstitutional on the grounds of its subversion of the common law principle that "each citizen shall be obliged to contribute his proportion or share of the expenses of government." Hence, that it was neither equitable nor legal that a portion of the citizens should be exempted from taxation.

The United States Supreme Court decided, in the case of Knowlton versus Moore, that uniformity of taxation as provided in the Constitution is intended in the geographical rather than the intrinsic sense.

The laws of 1861 and 1864 were placed on the statute books as measures of war-time necessity. After the war they were repealed. They were not tested in the courts because the sentiment of a united people fighting for the preservation of the nation opposed it.

In England it has been said that the enforcement of an income tax law makes "a nation of liars."

The features that have always made the imposition of an income tax distasteful to the majority of the American people have been the inquisitorial function with which it invests the tax-gatherer. The new administration law makes ordinary business men bona fide tax-gatherers, without compensation. It compels bankers to give their time and their services free for doing work that should be done by government employes and in that particular amounts to double taxation. If there were any real necessity for this radical measure, public-spirited men would gladly give of their time and services, but this is no war-time measure. The prosperous and mighty Republic can well afford to pay its own clerks out of its own treasury. To make the "financial interests" pay heavy surtaxes which they must themselves collect may be shrewd Democratic politics and a strong bid for the popular approval of "the masses," but it is doubtful how long the alleged "unduly rich" will stand for a grim political joke of this sort "put over on the other fellow."

If the supreme court should rule against the constitutionality of the law it would be embarrassing for the Democratic congress to have to pay back the sums illegally filched from half a million pockets.

EYE STRAIN A CAUSE OF CRIME.

A San Francisco school teacher, who had suffered much from eye troubles herself, at one of her visits to her oculist's office described an incorrigible child in her school who appeared to have some defect of sight. This suspicion had been repeatedly reported to his parents, but as they were poor as well as ignorant, nothing had been accomplished so far. She decided, therefore, to make an independent effort in the boy's behalf and solicited the assistance of her oculist's aid. There were doubts of any good accomplishments being possible, as the boy seemed both extraordinarily dull and superlatively mean. His teacher said that at the age of eleven years he was the worst child in her experience of many years in school work. He frequently played "hooky," associated with the worst boys of all ages, smoked cigarettes, swore like a trooper and lied outrageously; besides, he seemed to take a stupid pride in learning nothing and thwarting all her efforts. The only physical defect noticed was that he held print unusually close to his eyes. Examination showed one eye had two-sevenths and the other one-fifth of normal vision.

The boy was dumbly indifferent in the beginning to the eye test, but after much labor and aggravation, lenses were placed before his eyes, giving practically perfect vision at once; then he showed symptoms of being almost human. The glasses were ordered and the case gladly dismissed. More than a year afterwards the doctor saw the teacher again and inquiries were made with misgivings. The report was jubilant and astounding. She said that after she procured the glasses and had gained consent for his wearing them, the child's transformation was rapid and complete. He had become the willing slave of the teacher, where before he seemed to resent her every interest in him; he never missed a day in school, where formerly playing truant was chronic with him. He was the head of his class now, where previously he was too dull to be classed at all; he had voluntarily stopped his numerous bad habits and had become the marvel of the neighborhood as well as the joy of his parents, and so on.

The explanation of this metamorphosis is simple and natural. The child was more than three-fourths blind and no one had known it. He could not learn because he could not see, and his eyes and head undoubtedly pained him when straining to see. His incorrect and absurd answers made the other pupils laugh at and guff him, so he hated everything connected with the school, and in playing truant he met the worst possible associates and learned from them this notable array of vicious habits. When he put on his glasses he saw the world for the first time clearly and in comfort. He therefore was able to learn and his ambition was aroused. Hence he loved schooling and the opportunity to show his real capability, and by regular attendance at school lost the bad companionship which was really responsible for his show of criminal tendencies. After the boy became the pride of the school, his parents took an interest and aided him, where before they ignored so unlovable a child. A boy who at the age of eleven was the worst child in the school and neighborhood and was absolutely callous to all moral suasion, would probably have developed into a criminal. It is no exaggeration, therefore, to say that the development of a dangerous breaker of law and order of an extreme type was prevented by a pair of glasses.—Bulletin of American Medical Association.

GOOD WORK OF THE REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE.

Secretary McAdoo asks congress to appropriate for four new revenue cutters. During the fiscal year 1913 vessels of this service saved 327 lives, 2755 persons on board vessels in distress were assisted, and vessels valued at \$10,000,000 were rendered aid. In the year officers of the service boarded and examined papers of 25,079 ships and dealt with 879 violations of the laws. The cutters removed or destroyed thirty-one derelicts which were a menace to navigation. The service now operates twenty-five cruising cutters and nineteen harbor vessels. In addition to the four larger vessels Secretary McAdoo recommends three light-draft cutters, each to have four powerful motor lifeboats equipped with all sorts of modern lifesaving appliances to use on the Ohio and Mississippi. These cutters would follow the crest of the flood down the rivers, carrying assistance to flood sufferers as they went. Each of these river cutters, fully equipped, would cost about \$80,000.

KUHIO HARDEST HIT OF ALL.

Being a congressman is no sinecure. It hit Hawaii's Delegate like a ton of bricks when he found out after making an excursion back to Honolulu that there would be no mileage allowance either "acomin' or agoin'", the regular session having joined right square onto the place where the special session broke off. Now comes a shock that adds insult to injury. The sergeant-at-arms of the house of representatives has announced that, as he is the paymaster of the house, he is going to collect the federal income tax on the salaries of the members "at the source," and will withhold forty-five dollars out of their salaries for the benefit of Uncle Sam's revenues. The next thing will be an announcement that there will be no salaries paid to absentee members. If that should come it would be a clear proof of the personal animus of President Wilson and his Democratic cohorts against this fair Territory—a suspicion that now sways many minds.

President Wilson and his party realize the advantage of using the whip when accident has put that weapon in their hands. Elected to power by only thirty-nine per cent of the voters, they are pushing their advantage for all it is worth. The President has kept his fighting majority in close leash. He made congress work right through one of the hottest summers that Washington ever had, until it had passed the tariff-income-tax bill and had got the currency bill ready for swift adoption. The usual Christmas vacation has been called off and the Democratic caucus has the administration anti-trust cartridge ready to shove into the barrel just as soon as the currency shot is fired. Clayton in the house and Newlands in the senate stand as sponsors for this measure. The tenor of the new law will be to strengthen the Sherman Act by aiming at the abolition of interlocking directorates, holding companies, voting trusts and "fiscal agencies."

There will be an attempt to enact laws which will increase the influence of minority shareholders in the management of corporations. Next, amendments to bolster up the Sherman law so as to minimize the effect of the Supreme Court's decision that "reasonable" restraints of trade are not unlawful. The final act of the administration program is to be the creation of an "Interstate Trade Commission" for the control of industrial corporations just as the Interstate Commerce Commission controls the railroads. This new industrial commission is to have jurisdiction over such alleged illegal acts as the "watering" of stock; the stifling of competition; unlawful price-cutting; over-capitalization; and the power to enforce the Supreme Court decrees dissolving convicted trusts.

The Democrats have finished two-thirds of their program. They have a united majority and they are going to finish the work as planned, even if congress has to work nights and Sundays to carry it through.

In the meantime Hawaii is unrepresented in Washington. We feel that the Democrats took an unfair advantage on that mileage business. They ought, just for this once, to make an exception in our favor and allow a fifty per cent dividend, if nothing more. Royalty is not properly appreciated on the mainland.

HAWAII PAYING PENALTY.

According to mail advices received yesterday the proposal to cut the number of Hawaii's delegates to the Republican convention emanated from the national Republican congressional campaign committee. This committee met in Washington December 12 and passed a resolution submitting two alternative schemes for reapportionment of delegates, to the national committee which met on December 16.

The former apportionment under which Hawaii was given a representation of six was: four delegates-at-large from each State or Territory and two from each congressional district. The first of the congressional campaign committee's suggestions for reapportionment would cut out twenty-six delegates, making the convention consist of 1044 instead of 1062 delegates. It bases the representation on the vote cast for Republican candidates for presidential electors in 1908, and in the Territories, on the vote for delegates to congress: one delegate for districts where the Republican vote was less than forty per cent of the total vote cast; two delegates where the Republican candidates received between forty and sixty per cent of the total; and the delegates where the party got more than sixty per cent of the votes cast. This proposed change is directed more particularly at the Southern States and would increase the representation from New York, Massachusetts, Illinois and other Northern States. Two alternative suggestions were submitted: Four delegates-at-large from each State and one delegate for each 10,000 votes or major fraction thereof cast for the Republican candidates at the presidential election in 1908; or, like the above, but providing that each congressional district shall have at least one delegate, and that there should be two for each congressman at large.

The first of these alternatives would cut the total delegate representation to 945, and the latter to 1016.

This resolution was submitted by the congressional campaign committee merely as a suggestion, "without intending to assume any of the prerogatives of the National Republican Committee, but merely to contribute to the immediate consideration of the subject."

All of which simply emphasizes the fact that Hawaii ought to be properly represented in Washington. How can this Territory expect to be counted in on any matter of either local or national importance when the Delegate is loafing at Waikiki and the only responsible representative of Hawaiian interests at the Capitol has been tagged by the opposition as a member of the "insidious lobby."

NATIVE KINGS IN AFRICA.

That "the King idea dies hard" is illustrated by the account that has come to us of the great demonstration at the funeral of Dilizulu, son of that old Zulu warrior Cetewavo. The Zulu "Kings" were barbarous tyrants who rode rough-shod over the necks of their subjects. Theirs was a rule of blood and iron. Nevertheless this tribe of South African blacks would, if they dared, throw off the peaceful and beneficent protection of England and follow a "King" to the death, if he should arise out of the past to lead them in their savage raids of arson, rapine and massacre. England, the Colonizer, has a hard task in the mastery and repression of the "native races" of her outlying states. The natives' conception of kingly rule is based on savagery, that of England on fair and broad-minded true democracy. In handling the dark-skinned races America has much to learn from English fair-dealing into which there is injected no trace of the demagogue clap-trap of "equality."

KUKUI LUMBER A POSSIBLE NEW INDUSTRY.

It has been suggested that kiln-dried Kukui wood might be used to replace basswood and cottonwood in the manufacture of trunks and for other purposes where weight is a disadvantage. Seasoned kukui is light, tough and easily worked. The green wood has so much water in it that when a tree is felled in the forest it rots in a few months. Some experiments have been made with properly seasoned kukui wood at the Pahoia mills in Puna, Hawaii. Eastern trunk manufacturers are said to be searching for light weight tough firmed woods to replace a dwindling basswood supply, and it might be that Hawaiian kukui would serve their purpose.

This would mean the establishment of an entirely new industry in this Territory and the consequent employment of a large number of persons as well as the establishment of a new source of revenue.

Honolulu merchants have done a better business this Christmas than ever before in Honolulu's history. Already some entire lines of holiday goods are cleaned out, the demand being so much greater than had been expected.

Who would have thought last year when the Democrats were making their campaign speeches that consumers would have to bombard the high cost of living with boycotts in order to get it down, after the tariff bill was passed.

JURY CONDEMNS TRAFFIC LAW

Coroner's Inquest Shows J. J. Belser Not to Blame for Death of Child.

Finding, in the inquest over the death of Joe Fernandez, the nine-year-old Portuguese boy killed by the automobile of J. J. Belser, that the legal speed limit on Nuuanu avenue invites fatalities, the coroner's jury yesterday recommended that it be reduced to fifteen miles an hour as far as the crest of the Judd street hill.

Belser was exonerated from blame, as witnesses proved him to be going at about sixteen miles an hour, well within the speed limit, which is twenty-five, and to have done everything possible to save the boy's life at the risk of his own.

Sheriff Jarrett reported to the jury that the police had made tests with cars on the road and found that machines going twenty miles an hour could not be stopped under fifty, and often eighty feet, owing to the nature of the road surface.

Belser himself testified, stating that upon passing the rapid transit car he had looked at his speedometer and found himself going at twenty-three miles an hour; and that afterwards he had slowed down to what he believed was about twenty. The crew of the car and a passenger testified to the same effect.

The playmates of young Fernandez also testified, telling how the victim had been struck by the rear of the car as it skidded and crashed against the curb. The fact that Belser had jammed on the brakes so hard that the car turned completely around, and then ran it into the curb to try to avoid the boy was held by the jury in his favor.

SOCIAL LEADERS TEACH TANGO TO 57 ACTORS ABOARD THE VENTURA

Fifty-seven actors and actresses aboard the Oceanic liner Ventura mastered their professions and traveled through many parts of the world for many years without learning how to dance the tango until they started on their journey to the Antipodes last week. When the fifty-seven, just as many of them as there are varieties of vegetables packed by a well known merchant, landed in Honolulu yesterday they stepped ashore with a rag-time gait that at once showed that they had been apt scholars.

And the credit of this belongs to Herbert E. Law, prominent San Franciscoan, and a well known Coast City society woman, who are also passengers aboard the vessel. Law when he learned that the actors and actresses were going to Australia and did not know America's latest dance he volunteered to teach them and enlisted the aid of the San Francisco matron in the task. Three days and the feat was finished and during the balance of the voyage every one was tripping the fascinating step.

"I guess they'll all be doing it before we reach the equator," said the skipper of the Ventura last night. "Nothing makes a voyage pass more pleasantly than a dance and there is nothing like the tango."

Law has been appointed a special commissioner to Australasia for the Panama-Pacific Exposition and is going to Australia to spread the gospel of the big show in 1915.

FATTENED HOLIDAY PIG IS CAUGHT BY DOUGHTY CONVICTS

Somebody's Christmas pig got away yesterday and before he had time to make to the woods a number of prisoners doing cleaning up about the premises of the Children's Hospital on Kua-kini street caught the porker and tied him to a monkey-pod tree.

When Kalei Aona telephoned last night to The Advertiser the pig was still securely fast, but his equals were making the neighborhood rather nervous.

"Please tell the story in The Advertiser," telephoned Aona, "because I want to be sure that the owner gets there in time in the morning to get his Christmas dinner, for I hate to think that the puma may after all be forced to grace a huan on Christmas Day at the Hotel de St. Henry."

BECOMES A BRIDE IN SOUTHERN CITY

Announcement of the wedding of Mrs. Leola Harvey-Elder to Guy Barker McLeana at Los Angeles, California, on October 21 last was yesterday received by The Advertiser.

The bride was the widow of the late Charles H. Harvey-Elder, who was city editor on The Advertiser some years ago and was later killed in the explosion which wrecked the Times Building in Los Angeles on which paper he was then assistant city editor.

Mrs. J. E. C. Haguen, who has been visiting on the coast, is expected home on the steamer Margolis tomorrow.