

THE HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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The Free Port Idea

THROUGH refusing even to take up the question for serious discussion when it was presented some ten years ago and when it has been urged at intervals ever since by a few with imagination enough to visualize the possibilities, Honolulu has lost the opportunity it had to be a leader in what is now almost a national demand for the establishment of a system of "free ports."

Later, from time to time, others again advanced the "free-port" idea and urged that it be at least seriously considered. Again it was refused a hearing, the "practical" men of the chamber of commerce and of the administration having no time for "theorists."

Today, along both coast lines of the mainland, there is an active demand for the establishment of "free ports," one or two on each coast. The hoary, moth-eaten argument that something should not be done because it is not "American" has been discarded, along with a number of other equally futile and piffling ideas and arguments.

The establishment of free ports at strategic points on our coast, says Secretary Redfield, "would be a potent factor in maintaining and extending our foreign trade."

Honolulu is "a strategic point," where the shipping of four continents has its junction. Steamers plying to and from North American, South American, Australian and Asian ports meet here, and here only. Here, through the possible enlarging of our harbor and the installation of labor-saving methods of handling freights, there could be developed a great trading center, where the products of a score of nations could be exchanged.

Honolulu will never be a manufacturing point, any more than Curaçoa, the famous "free port" of the Caribbean, can be a manufacturing point, but it can be a place where cargoes may be broken and stored for reshipment. Australian steamers bringing bunker coal might find return cargoes here of machinery and other American products, brought by vessels Orient-bound, or Chinese or Japanese products brought by vessels bound for American ports.

Treason Defined

A drive for a clearer conception of what constitutes treason has been made by Brig-Gen. John A. Johnston, commander of the Department of the Northeast.

"What we want to do is to get the definition of treason, as it is given in the Constitution, spread broadcast through the land," he said. "We want it so every man can cut it out, read it, paste it in his hat, and keep it there, learn it by heart if necessary. We want him to visualize it in his mind, not to be his brother's keeper, but for every man to be his own keeper. Then he will say to himself: 'Had I better say to my friend what I am going to say? Is it giving aid and comfort to the enemy?'"

"Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort," says the Constitution. Let every man, woman, and child measure every word and deed by what our forefathers said about treason. Let them look at it from the soldier's point of view—from the point of view of the man 'over there.' Differences must not stop the production of material. The soldier needs it, and he needs it in superabundance.

"And so the capitalist who says, 'I will not meet these men,' and the laboring man who says, 'I will not work for him unless he gives me more pay,' and thereby holds up production of necessary material, are in effect giving aid and comfort to the enemy. The Constitution does not say anything about 'intent.' We all know a man who was guilty of treason to his country, Benedict Arnold, and if you in effect are giving aid and comfort to the enemy, you are tagged in his class."

The generosity of the world is being tested as never before, and if Whittier's definition of progress is true, then are we surely progressing, for "human needs" were never greater than at this time, says a correspondent, who continues: "Honolulu is in the front rank answering the many calls for money, and well may her citizens be proud of the record."

The Week In the War

SNOW, driven before icy winds, heaping up higher and higher, drift piling up on drift making the mountain passes more than ever difficult of passage, intense cold and extreme discomfort were added incentives to the Austro-German forces to redouble their efforts to break through the Italian cordons to the Bassano Plains where it would be possible to establish winter quarters, avoid the more severe rigors to which they are now exposed, and from which they might, as occasion offered, push on toward their new objectives.

Had the Austro-Germans succeeded in breaking through to Bassano through Brenta Pass and along the Brenta River, it would have cut the Italian line so that it must precipitate a general retrograde movement. It is indicated that such retreat would be a long one, the next line of defense to be established along the Adige River on the West and the lower Brenta River or more likely the Bacchigbone River, on the East, below Venice. This would give to the Teutons control of a large territory and mean the surrender of such important cities as Venice, Padua and Vicenza and other smaller cities and towns.

The drive directly against Venice on the lower Piave front was a failure from the outset, the Austro-Germans being driven back over the flooded lands with tremendous losses.

With such incentives and with great force of numbers the Huns succeeded in gaining positions on Monte Asalone which, if retained, gave them control of the entrance to the San Lorenzo valley. To secure these vantage points thousands upon thousands of lives had been given and many other thousands had fallen wounded and maimed. But the victory was short lived and the advantage was not long retained for on Friday the well directed counters of the Italian forces drove the Teutons out and back along a three mile front to a depth of two thirds of a mile. All the Austro-Germans had fought for during the earlier days of the week, all that had been gained by the immense human sacrifices their efforts had entailed, was lost to them. They were back where they had started at the close of last week.

Desperate fighting has marked the week in the Italian war theater. Against great odds the Italians and their Allies resisted every inch of the way against the desperate advance which their enemies launched against them. Doggedly and determinedly as they resisted they were slowly forced back only to put forth counters of almost irresistible violence which fairly swept the Huns from their feet as they were swept back upon and into their former positions.

On this front losses have been by no means confined to the enemy, the Italians have suffered severely in their great resistance and subsequent aggressive but the enemy loss has been excessive.

From the western front the news of the week has been meager. Reports have told only of artillery engagements and of raids that were termed of minor importance. Indications are not wanting, however, that this apparent lull has been merely a period of preparation and it will not be unexpected if the world interest in the great war tragedy shall center in this theater, as it has recently centered in the Italian border, in the very near future.

Admiralty reports last week telling of the submarine losses up to last Sunday showed the Hun campaign to have been a little less successful than in previous week. As the drives on the land seemed to lose in vigor, so was there also indication of a loss of vigor undersea.

Bolsheviki leaders appear to have discovered something of the undependability of the Germans. It is reported that they have been surprised to have their cherished peace terms that were to prove so satisfactory to the "proletariat" of the nations of the world, flatly refused by the Central Powers. Thus, it is said, with no instructions to go further, the Bolsheviki commissioners are taking their goods back home. This is as was expected and the forecast now is that Germany will present counter peace proposals using the Bolsheviki to give them to the world. What purports to be an outline of such terms was received in diplomatic circles in Washington and have been published.

In Russia the situation becomes more and more perplexing to the outside world. The Ukrainians now enter calculations as an important factor but with so many factions in the field it is impossible to more than venture guesses at the outcome.

Canada has returned the government, thereby giving its support to conscription which will now go forward. On the other hand conscription has been beaten by a great majority of the voters in Australia. Labor conditions in the antipodes are said to be taking on a serious completion and to have had much to do with the reversal of the government, for the defeat of its conscription policy was nothing less than a reverse.

In this country investigations of war progress are going forward both as to the army and the navy. The congressmen are desirous to learn of the progress made and through committees are seeking to find out just how effectively plans are being carried out.

Our war forces are crossing the ocean with clocklike regularity and the forces already in the trenches are being steadily increased.

In the training camps at home there is some sickness, chiefly from pneumonia, meningitis and social diseases and it is announced that none suffering from such social diseases will be permitted to go to France.

BREVITIES

Speaker H. L. Holstein, of Kohala, Hawaii, has left to spend the holidays on his farm on the Big Island.

An eight-star flag has been placed in the window of the Seluman Carriage Company, each star representing an employe who has left the firm to enter the service of the United States against Germany.

The Honolulu Plantation Company has commenced to grind white sugar and deliver to the local jobbers, thereby averting any possible sugar shortage in Hawaii, and obviating the necessity of importing any white sugar from the mainland.

The liquor license commission approved of the sale of the saloon license of I. L. Coekett to two Japanese, Mochizuki and Nakamichi, at a meeting on Thursday afternoon. The license brought \$6000.

Harry Pomerantz has been appointed membership secretary of the Y. M. C. A. in the place of J. W. McGillis, who has left for the aviation service. Pomerantz has been an office secretary in the Y since last August. Francis Beeton has been engaged as part time office secretary.

The Queen's Hospital trustees have approved the discharge of A. von Rabenstein, the chemist, the action having been taken by Werner Roehl, the superintendent. The men are brothers-in-law. It was stated that the discharge was the result of violations of discipline.

Comfort stations authorized by the board of supervisors have been put in place at various points in the county, according to a notice received by Raymond C. Brown, secretary of the Commercial Club. Others are to be erected it is stated.

J. K. Sague, a representative of the Federal Shipping Board, from Washington, was a visitor in the city yesterday. Mr. Sague, who is accompanied by his wife and daughter, is on his way to China where it is his intention to assist the Chinese government in writing a new revenue law.

John F. Colburn as master in the matter of the estate of Francis Mills Swamy filed a report yesterday with the circuit clerk recommending that the accounts of the administrator be approved and that additional commissions in the sum of \$51,987.98 be allowed. The estate is valued at \$1,039,000.

Charges that may lead to his expulsion from the Honolulu Commercial Club have been made against Georg Rodiek, former German consul here, before the board of governors of the club. The action is taken in connection with the India consular case in San Francisco in which Rodiek entered a plea of guilty.

The law suit involving a fight between branches of the Portuguese society, Associao Protectora Uniao Madeirense, here and in California, which reached a pause recently, was reopened yesterday in an amended complaint filed by the California branch. The California body is seeking to effect a reorganization of the Honolulu society.

Miss Loretta Boyd, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Boyd of Sacramento, and Mr. Erbert Hueter of San Francisco are engaged to be married, comes an announcement from the Bay City. Miss Boyd accompanied the Hueter family to Honolulu last spring. Announcement was also made of the engagement of Oscar Hueter and Miss Wilhelmina Hohwiesener.

Extension of the time within which examinations of drafted men are to be held has been ordered by the War Department in cables received yesterday by Capt. F. J. Green. No extension of the time for enlistments, which expired December 15, was granted. The first work of the examining boards will be that of classification of men called. This will begin January 1.

In a letter read before the supervisors yesterday from Land Commissioner Bert Rivenburgh it was stated that the Palolo Land & Improvement Company had conveyed Manuama Avenue and Center Street in the Kaimuki district, to the government. The letter also said that the Palolo Company desired the board to take into consideration the improvement of Sierra and Lurline Avenues in the budget of 1918 for street improvements.

Hawaiian department headquarters yesterday granted six applications for enlistment to the Reserve Officers' Training Camp at Schofield. Following were the men admitted: Ralph P. Quarles, Sergeant William S. King, 9th Company, Fort De Russy; Morris B. Stanley, Cavalry reserve; Sergeant Gust Magnuson, Company E, 53d Telegraph Battalion; Quartermaster Sergeant Edward J. Heelan, Cooks and Bakers School; 1st Class Sergeant John A. Bruah.

MRS. DAISY K. SHORT FIRST IN DRAWING

In the land drawing held yesterday for Waialua house lots at Hilo at the land office, the name of Mrs. Daisy K. Short was the first of approximately 170 names to be taken from the box. In all, there are 160 lots in the tract and prices range from \$110 to \$150 to be paid ten percent down, ten percent after six months and twenty percent annually thereafter. The law also requires that each lot must have a house on it to cost not less than \$500 and that the purchaser must live at least one year on the place. Selection of the lots in the tract for those drawn will be made at the Hilo court house Monday morning, December 31.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE (Tablets). Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. The signature of E. W. GROVE is on each box. Manufactured by the PARIS MEDICINE CO., St. Louis, U. S. A.

PERSONALS

Mrs. L. J. Warren has returned from the Coast.

Miss H. von Holt is back from a mainland visit.

C. G. Beckus, who has been away on a business visit to the mainland, is in town.

Judge Lyle A. Dickey, of Kauai, is in town to spend the Christmas and New Year holidays.

A. M. Thomson, treasurer of the British colony in Hongkong, is a recent arrival here. He will proceed to the Orient some time during the next few weeks.

Mrs. S. G. Wilder, who has been absent in England and France for some time, has returned. Miss H. K. Wilder also returned.

Mrs. Walter Dillingham and son, Master Lowell Dillingham, have returned from the mainland where they have been visiting for several months.

S. Das, the Hindu who was sent to San Francisco as a witness in the Hindu plot case, is again in Honolulu and may return to Maui in a day or two.

Robert S. Thurston, of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association's experiment station, who recently went on a business trip to the Garden Island, returned on the Kinau yesterday.

Mrs. S. A. Hanson, wife of the head of the American health service in Shanghai, is a visitor in the city. She will rejoin her husband who has just been released from some special service at Houston, Texas.

Writing to friends in this city, Mrs. M. R. Souza, who has been in San Francisco for some time past recuperating from a recent illness, says that she is doing nicely and expects to return to Honolulu the early part of next February.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Edsall, who have made their home in Honolulu off and on for two or three years, are on their way to the Far East to visit Java for a few months. They will remain in Honolulu for a year or so after returning from the Orient.

Harry Evans, who until a few days ago was an employe of the merchants' patrol, where he has been for a number of years, has enlisted in the Ninth Field Artillery. Before coming to Hawaii he was a member of the national guard of California.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Soper, who spent the past week in the city, returned yesterday afternoon to the Maunaloa to their home in Waiehu, Maui. They were accompanied by their daughter, Miss Margaret Soper, who has been attending St. Andrew's Priory and goes home for the year-end vacation.

Coke Is Probable Choice of Wilson For Governorship

Race Lies Between Him and Incumbent With Supreme Court Justice in Lead, Says Washington Correspondent — McCandless Out of Running

WASHINGTON, December 21.—(Special to The Advertiser)—The President has now turned to a consideration of the appointment of a Governor of Hawaii and, according to the best obtainable information, his choice lies between Justice James L. Coke of the Hawaiian supreme court and L. E. Pinkham, the incumbent, who is a candidate for reappointment.

The probabilities are that the nomination will go to Justice Coke. The name of L. L. McCandless has been brought forward again by his friends, but I am able to state that he is positively out of the running and will not be considered.

ASK WOMAN TO BE HUN SECRET AGENT

SAN FRANCISCO, December 21.—(Associated Press)—Testifying today in the Indian conspiracy case, the wife of Saran Gudar Das declared that Hyar Dyal, one of the Hindus alleged to have been a revolutionary agent and associated with the Germans, had asked her in Switzerland to serve as a secret agent to disseminate revolutionary propaganda. She had declined. She says that many women have been thus employed.

Ruth Law Cannot Fight Air Battles With Hun Fliers

WASHINGTON, November 27.—Ruth Law, the noted aviatrix, cannot drive a war plane against the Teuton hordes. The law won't let her.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ISLAND CRAFT

Failure To Obtain Them By Next Friday Will Tie Boats Up; All Vessels Are Affected

While heretofore it has been compulsory for sampans operating in these waters to be licensed and registered by the territorial government and other boats to secure a permit from the harbor master through the harbor board, all vessels now operating in the fourteenth naval district must be licensed by the federal government on or before January 1.

Applications may be obtained without cost at the naval station, Honolulu, and should be completed and returned to that office not later than next Friday. All vessels failing to comply with the order before the first of the year will be prohibited from operating in these waters until such time as they procure the necessary license. These boats will be licensed by the government entirely without cost, for it is merely the desire of the authorities to place a doubt check on owners of such vessels, that they may be assured none will in any way assist the enemy in the destruction of shipping and plotting against island industries.

The district order for the licensing of vessels operating in local waters which is signed by Capt. George R. Clark, commandant of the Pearl Harbor Naval Station, follows:

The Order 1. By direction of the secretary of the navy, all vessels except as stated below, with power or sail, engaged in the navigation of waters comprised in the fourteenth Naval District must be licensed. The fourteenth Naval District comprises the waters within the limits as follows:

(a) Hawaiian Section—All waters directly surrounding the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Oahu, Kauai, Molokai, Lanai, Niihau and Kahoolawe.

(b) Samoan Section—American Samoa.

2. Steamers and sailing craft whose destinations take them to the mainland and to the Orient and southern Pacific Islands are excepted. All vessels shall be registered at the office of the commandant of the naval station, Pearl Harbor, or Tutuila, Samoa. The officer in charge of the naval station, Honolulu, will be responsible for the registering of vessels at the port of Honolulu. The harbor master will be responsible for registering vessels employed habitually in the waters of Pearl Harbor. The commanding officer of the district patrol vessel "Hermes" will have charge of the licensing of boats on the islands outside of Oahu and on the Island of Oahu outside of the ports of Honolulu and Pearl Harbor. The commandant of the naval station, Tutuila, Samoa, will have charge of licenses issued in American Samoa.

Will Assign Number 3. All vessels operating in Pearl Harbor will be assigned a number upon registering, which must be painted at all times on both sides of the vessel, near the bow, in white figures, not less than six inches high on a dark background, followed by the letters "P. H." of the same size. All vessels operating outside of Pearl Harbor and in the inter-island trade will be assigned a number which must be kept painted at all times on both sides of the vessel, in white figures, not less than six inches high, on a dark background, preceded by the letter "S" of the same size. Vessels operating in Samoa will be registered in accordance with instructions issued by the commandant at Tutuila, Samoa.

4. Applications must be filed with the commandant. Licenses will be signed by the commandant. Persons taking out licenses must submit satisfactory references as to citizenship, loyalty and intention. Licenses must be carried on board vessels for which issued. The commandant has no intention of placing any undue restrictions on traffic but must be cognizant of the character of the vessels on navigating the waters of the fourteenth Naval District. Any master of a vessel or other person within the vicinity of the defensive sea area who violates these regulations or fails to obey, to stop or leave to or shall perform any act threatening the efficiency of the defenses may be detained therein by force of arms and renders himself liable to prosecution.

Subject To Port Rules 5. Applications must contain the name of the vessel, motor power, name of owner and his address, name of commanding officer, purpose for which the vessel or boat is used and the location of the boat when not in use.

6. Due notice is given that after January 1, 1918, all vessels subject to these regulations found without an authorized number will be held until claimed by the owners, who will be required to register the boats.

7. All licenses issued to be subject to the port regulations established by local authorities.

8. No fishing is to be allowed in the main anchorage channel to Pearl Harbor and in the east lochs on both sides of Ford Island. No fishing is allowed on either side of the Waipio Peninsula on the waters adjacent to Ford Island, Punaia and Honolulu. No fishing is allowed on the waters from Bishop Point to the mouth of Halawa Creek. This indicates that fishing in Pearl Harbor is restricted to that above Kelaia Point, Honolulu, in the west loch; and above a point from Peninsula Point, Pearl City and Reekoning Point, Waipio, in the middle loch; and from Peninsula Point, Pearl City, to the mouth of Halawa Creek in the east loch outside of the main channel.

9. All boats registered from Pearl Harbor will be allowed to leave or enter the harbor at any time between sunrise and sunset if properly registered and no attempts are made to fish in the restricted areas.

Will Examine All 10. All pulling boats entering or leaving Pearl Harbor are required to stop at the coaling plant for examination.

PASTOR ASKED TO CONTINUE SERVICE

Rev. Henry Parker Takes Under Consideration Petition That He Remain In Pulpit Three Months

Although a committee of Kawaiahaeo Church, appointed at a meeting held last Friday night, waited upon Rev. Henry Parker yesterday and handed him a petition requesting him to retain the pastorate of the church for at least three months longer, instead of ending his fifty-four years of service next Sunday, Mr. Parker yesterday did not give an answer. He has the matter under consideration, but said that he felt he would not be doing justice to himself, or to the church by remaining longer as its spiritual head, owing to factional differences among the members.

While it is altogether likely that on Sunday next Rev. Mr. Parker will preach his final sermon as pastor of the church whose pulpit he first occupied during Civil War days, he will announce his final decision in a few days.

"No matter what my decision may be, I shall inform the people of the church that my aloha will always be with them," said the aged pastor at his home on Judd Street, where he has resided nearly all the time of his residence in Honolulu.

Mr. Parker said that the factional controversies in the church have saddened him and he deprecates the unfriendly opposition manifested toward him by one of the factions which has expressed itself in bitter terms, largely, he says, because he called attention to the serious conduct of some members. As a result of this incident several members were suspended by the opposition faction from the Endeavor society, and since then there has been chaos. He feels that some members of the church have leaned too far toward the material side of the church work and the committees, and some have desired to be prominent in these councils, and have failed to sufficiently observe the spiritual side of church work.

"My heart has always been in the work of Kawaiahaeo Church, and for the people whose pastor I have been for more than half a century," added Mr. Parker. "My heart always will be there. There's many, many fine Hawaiian members of the church. One of those who was very bitter and a member of the opposition faction at first has returned and said he regretted the error of his ways and asked to be taken back into full communion with the church life. He was readmitted and I know he appreciates this action very much."

KLEBAHN RETURNS FROM PLOT TRIAL

Says He Hasn't Read Newspapers, Knows Nothing About Grasshoff Diary Disclosures

F. W. Klebahn, secretary of H. Hackfeld & Co., Ltd., has returned to Honolulu from San Francisco, where he had been called to testify at the trial of Georg Rodiek, H. A. Schroeder and others who were implicated in the conspiracy to foment a rebellion in India. Mr. Klebahn left San Francisco several days ago, and at his home yesterday afternoon he said he had only learned by wireless shortly before his arrival in Honolulu that Rodiek had been fined \$10,000. Of this and the case in general he had nothing to say, merely remarking, "You know as much about the trial as I do."

Klebahn was unable to tell whether or not it was Rodiek's intention to return to Honolulu. The trial was still pending when he left San Francisco, he said, "so it is impossible for me to say what Rodiek's future movements will be."

Asked whether he had any statement to make regarding the German treachery disclosed in the personal diary of Captain Grasshoff, and in which his name was frequently mentioned, Klebahn said he had not read the newspapers of late and consequently did not know anything about the matter.

A copy of The Advertiser in which extracts from Captain Grasshoff's diary were published, was handed Klebahn, who said if he thought it necessary he would address a communication to the local press denying all knowledge of conspiracy in connection with the Greier or other German ships.

If dynamite or any evidence of illegal fishing is found the equipment and all fish will be seized and the men turned over to civil authorities. In every case the name of the occupants of the boat will be given, their usual occupation and the purpose of entering or leaving Pearl Harbor. In any case these boats are to be placed via the north side of Ford Island and are not to enter or leave the harbor between sunset and sunrise.

11. Pleasure boats now in the waters of Pearl Harbor will be registered in the same manner as fishing boats. They will not be allowed to use the waters of the east loch and the channels leading thereto without special permission of the commandant. In every case of leaving or entering the harbor they shall come alongside the coaling plant wharf for examination of crew and equipment.

A GERM DESTROYER There is no danger whatever from lock jaw or blood poison resulting from a wound when Chamberlain's Pain Balm is promptly applied. It is an antiseptic and destroys the germs which cause these diseases. It also causes wounds to heal without maturation and in one-third the time required by the usual treatment. For sale by all dealers, Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd., Agents for Hawaii.—Advertisement.