

Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH - EDITOR.

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It is understood that members of the Oahu Equitators' Association are also persona non grata around Judge Little's "court."

The party that would make the most out of municipal government is not the one whose blinded partisans are shouting for it. Why play the other fellow's game?

The best-governed municipality in the United States is Washington, which is ruled by Congress. The worst-governed ones, where the highest taxes prevail, are those controlled by party rings.

The building restrictions are now off in Chinatown and if the lumber companies don't put prices up another notch in a fit of absent-minded enthusiasm, they are not the emotional patriots we take them to be.

Why should Mr. Sewall return? What is there for him, in his chosen field of job-chasing? He is not the sort of a man, when jobs are plentiful on the Mainland, to sit down here with his tin snail and wait for the reluctant Hawaiian cow to back up and be milked.

The need of a uniform time system in the islands, of which the Maui News spoke last week, can be remedied when wireless telegraphy comes. It would be easy to announce the hour of twelve from a central station so that a red ball could be dropped simultaneously at every important settlement in the group.

The best news in yesterday's mail was that the Oregon had been floated. Besides the cost of the ship, which was about \$2,000,000, and her value as a fighting machine, the Oregon would have been sadly missed on account of her historical celebrity. She bears the same relation to the new navy that the Hartford does to the old one.

The war correspondents at Manila are being ordered to China. Oscar King Davis of the Sun, who is well-known in Honolulu, is already there and Robert Collins and Frederick Palmer were, at last accounts en route. The Philippine news will soon drop to official reports as public interest is now centered upon a greater tragedy.

That the German Emperor will exact the sternest retribution from the Chinese Government for the murder of his envoy, goes without the saying. China will have to pay large sums and will probably lose Shantung. It is not impossible that the powers may insist on an alien ruler for what is left of the empire, following the precedent of Crete. "It would be strange, would it not," said the Kaiser when Prince Henry sailed from Kiel for the Far East, "if a Hohenzollern should one day be Emperor of China?"

That the Chinese made a pretty fair defence of the Taku forts is shown by the foreign casualty list received in yesterday's mail. Eighteen of the allied sailors were killed and eighty-three wounded, while H. M. S. Whiting was put out of action, H. M. S. Algerine and U. S. S. Monocacy badly damaged and the Russian torpedo boats Gilyak and Kerevets placed hors de combat. Considering that Sampson at Santiago and Dewey at Manila did not lose half a dozen men in all, the Allied mortality list reveals the Taku Chinese as brave and expert gunners.

The Democratic campaign promises to be the weakest in an argumentative sense, of any that has occurred since 1876. To propose free silver during McKinley times is the same as trying to sell a patent medicine for bilious fever to a man who has just been cured of that malady. The anti-trust argument was neutralized by the course of the Democrats in Congress against the anti-trust amendment. As to the plea of the Bryan men against expansion it not only affronts the patriotic sentiments of the people but it impeaches the most useful and honorable record the Democracy ever made and cheapens the fame of Thomas Jefferson. The only argument the Bryanites have left is that of spooks.

The Boer envoys who came to America to communicate with the President are sorry now that they fell into the hands of the Democrats, believing that it hurt their cause at the White House. They are farmers, untrained in diplomacy and all at sea about American politics. Mr. Fischer, chairman of the delegation explains their mistakes as follows:

"We are entirely unconscious of any impropriety in accepting the hospitality that has been offered us since we reached this country. We are not trained diplomatists, and know nothing of the technical rules of procedure, but we are honest in our desire to approach your government without embarrassment, and regret if anybody should think that we were taking sides with the enemy of your president. We have a mission to perform, and communications to make to your government, and we do not propose to make them to anybody else, although it certainly would have been churlish if we had refused to respond to the welcome that has been tendered us and declined the hospitality of your citizens who met us in New York with cordial greetings and attentions. I regret to learn that the members of the committee who received us are not friendly to the government, but I hope no one will think that we share their unfriendliness towards us; we have accepted their hospitality. I am sure those gentlemen would willingly acquit us of any share in their partisanship, for I think that they are sincere in their expressions of friendliness toward our country." The circumstance shows very clearly that the nation that submits diplomatic missions to men who are not diplomats, makes a fatal blunder. The lesson might well be heeded by the United States.

There seems to be but one way to deal with China and that is to dissolve its autonomy and divide the empire among civilized powers. Governed by its present rulers China would remain a hotbed of conspiracy against the whites and against civilization while under any other native government there could be no assurance of reform. As the empire is constituted a strong central native power is impracticable, and for the very good reason that the provinces do not cohere. They form, when taken together, the loosest of loose confederacies. The common people of the various provinces do not speak each others' language and they know but little of what is going on beyond their local borders. They have no patriotism and but for the appearance among them of Manchu viceroys and tax-gatherers would have no visible sign of their political connection with Peking. Moreover each province has its own army and several have their separate naval establishments. While the Tsung li Yamen or its domestic adjunct can rule this composite empire sufficiently to collect taxes it cannot maintain order. When things come to that pass each province and even each village and town is a law-or an outlaw-unto itself. On this account foreign powers are never sure of proper redress for outrages; and they must either endure such troubles as they come or else take charge of China for themselves.

Europe has been preparing these five years for the seizure and division of the country. Its first care was to forestall a quarrel over the spoils by agreeing on spheres of influence along which the work of eventual partition might smoothly run. Russia is now ready to take over Manchuria without friction; she already has a ninety-nine year lease of the Liaotung peninsula. Great Britain is the paramount European power in the Yang-tse valley. Japan has been permitted to consider the province of Fo-Kien under political mortgage to the government at Tokyo. France, when the break-up comes, will take Hai-Nan and a strip adjoining Cochin China. Germany looks to Shantung for her share of territorial awards and may induce Great Britain to exchange her foothold in that province—the fortress of Wei-Hai-Wei—for East African soil. Portugal will retain Macao as Great Britain will keep Hongkong. As to the disposition of Chili, that province may be organized as a semi-independent Chinese State under alien control. This is the only feature of the divisional program, save the Italian claim north of Fo-Kien, which has been left for future consideration. The rest is settled; all Europe has to do when it gets ready to act is to gather about and take the territorial allotments as peacefully as people take designated gifts off a Christmas tree.

China, thus committed to foreign hands, would soon be transformed. After all, the Chinese are not an unprogressive race. They are simply asleep as the Japanese were before the great awakening of 1868. Mongols who have strayed abroad show a remarkable adaptability to foreign ways; they are even beginning, in Hawaii, to cut off their queues. They go into the trades and other occupations of the "outside barbarian;" they relish foreign food; they seek the knowledge and knack of the alien. Take their stay-at-home countrymen out from under the pressure of their native and governing literature, make China free, encourage industry, end the official blackmail under which the people groan and make law synonymous with justice; do this and China may become as ambitious and progressive as Japan. We have seen the truth of this illustrated on a small scale in the city of Kinchow, a place captured by the Japanese in 1894. As soon as it was clear that the conquerors meant no persecution and that every man's savings were safe from official rapacity, the Chinese became as enthusiastic for progress as the little brown men themselves. When the Japanese went away for good the inhabitants protested in a memorial to the Tokyo government and on finding that their late enemies would not return, all the leading families both of Kinchow and Liaotung petitioned for the right to go to Japan and stay there. Talk about conservatism—these poor folk only needed a chance to forge ahead and show the best that was in them.

A Europeanized China would soon acquire diversified industries, especially those connected with mining; its rivers would be kept within bounds; its crops nourished by irrigation; its people would be taught the arts and out-lavry would be put down with a strong hand. Some form of Christianity might follow. Without reference to the economic effect upon other countries, a theme of wide speculation in itself, the change would be of enormous value and benefit to the Chinese race. As for the alternative—native government in other than present hands—the reasons we have pointed out are enough to condemn it. Such a government could not restore order and the chances are that it would prove to be as intolerable as the one it had supplanted. China's stimulus must come from without for despite the latent hopes and yearnings of the people it cannot come from within.

The Star says that a United States Life Saving station could not have helped the young man who was drowned at Makapuu Point because its location would have been at the bathing grounds. This is a misconception of the probable fact. The Government life savers are not used as an adjunct of watering places but are established near shoals and lighthouses and where the widest possible expanse of ocean can be seen by the watchers for wrecks. The natural place for a Life Saving station is at Makapuu, not at the Annex or Waikiki Inn.

The revenue cutter Corwin, identified with a stirring period of Hawaiian history, is no longer on the list of Government vessels. She is in the Cape Nome trade and is now and then named in the dispatches. It will be a long time before Hawaiians will forget the goings and comings of the stanch little steamer.

The startling news from China is likely to be followed by much more that is equally sensational. The Boxers show scant respect for legations;

they have destroyed an out-look and their sharpshooters are potting the foreigners who have gathered for mutual defense at the official home of the British envoy. Possibly the next news we have will show that every white man, woman and child in Peking has been murdered.

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

Mr. Keene's Bryan Bet.

The World's fake about Mr. James R. Keene having wagered \$5,000 on Bryan's success in the coming presidential election is made apparent to everyone, Victor Smith declares, by the statement that Philip J. Dwyer has just returned from Europe, bringing information that Mr. Keene is doing all he can to help the Nebraskan. Phil Dwyer could not be pulled away from the United States during a meeting of the Brooklyn Jockey Club with a long chain hitched to forty horses. He has been at Gravesend every day looking after the gate receipts and the club house bar. He has not seen Mr. Keene in a month and a half. Someone in the street is using the World to bear stocks.

A University Record Breaker.

What is believed to be a new record in scholarship at the University of Pennsylvania has just been made by William McClellan of Philadelphia, and a member of the present senior class, who in his examinations has received thirty-five "distinctions" out of thirty-six subjects which he has pursued during his junior and senior years. In addition to these scholastic honors, Mr. McClellan has been elected to both the honorary Greek letter fraternities, Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi, during the present year, and the class of 1900 has honored him by making him "class man," which is the third of the class honors.

Beneficial Philanthropy.

"If a few of our millionaires would club together and build a home for consumptives, it would better the world a great deal more than the establishment of libraries," said a prominent Arizona man recently. "The climate of Arizona is right for the cure of this disease. There is no place for the poor invalid to go. The government has a sanitarium at Fort Stanton, but that is exclusively for soldiers and sailors. If some one should establish a suitable sanitarium and build a reservation on the cottage plan, thousands of persons will be benefited. Fully 2,000 sick people come to Arizona every year."

The Rubber Stomach Man.

F. M. Spawn, 19 years old, a school teacher of Alto Pass, Ill., has expounded all physiological theories regarding the capacity of the human stomach by eating and drinking in one evening. In addition to his regular supper, one can of tomatoes, one can of peas, one can of sardines, seven glasses of soda water and two quart boxes of temperance drinks. This is only one of many like achievements by which he has astonished his acquaintances.

A College Innovation.

At Ohio State University next year chapel exercises will consist of a weekly convocation, to occupy the entire recitation period of one day from 11 to 1 o'clock. No other college exercises will occur at this time, and all students and all members of the faculty will be expected to attend. The exercises, besides a brief devotional service, will include addresses by the president prominent professors or distinguished visitors.

Bookish Chaucery.

Senator Depew has the reputation among his fellow legislators of being the bookish member of Congress, as he is the only member of either house who is a regular visitor to the apartment set aside in the Congressional Library for members of Congress. Two rooms have been fitted up luxuriously for them, but have failed to tempt others than Senator Depew, who keeps the attendants busy in supplying the wants of his omnivorous researches.

The Place of Pink Pearls.

One of the most important industries of the Bahama Islands is the gathering of pink pearls. It is the only place in the world, where these pearls are found. They are not taken from the oyster shell, but from a shell resembling a large snail shell, called a "conch." The pearls, when perfect, bring very high prices, it is said, ranging from \$50 to \$5,000.

Heeded Duty's Call.

A Chicago girl writes to a friend about her hero, who is a soldier in the Philippines. She says: "I got a letter from ——. He is getting along splendid. He has been assigned to the guard house for five days. Says it is a pretty hot place; but then, you know, he never shirks from duty. Ma and I are naturally proud to hear of his promotion."

Some Left Yet.

The American fancier, which is an authority on fowls, considers the case of the now famous McNally hen of the Pawtuxet valley, and her alleged achievement of laying 289 eggs in thirty-eight consecutive days, including Sundays, and reaches the conclusion that modern science has not banished creolity from the world.

The Great Novelist's Assistants.

Count Leo Tolstol is ably assisted in his literary work by his two daughters, Tatiana and Marsha, who have more than ordinary talent. "However great I may be as a novelist," says the count, "I am much greater as a correspondent, but that's because my two girls write all my letters."

Mrs. Brown's Venerable Goose.

Mrs. W. R. Brown, who lives near Milner, has a goose that is nearly 50 years old. This old goose has laid yearly for forty years, and each year since 1844 up to two years ago she has hatched and raised goslings. The famous old fowl was given to Mrs. Brown by her mother in 1854.

The Homespun Senator.

Senator Caffery's invariable summer rig is a suit of linen homespun, topped on with a manila hat, the whole shaded by a huge umbrella, green-lined. Thus arrayed, the Louisiana statesman's squat, fat figure presents a somewhat amusing appearance.

Coolley Not a Graduate.

Edwin G. Coolley, who succeeds Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews as head of the Chicago public schools, is not a college graduate, and though a learned man, began his education rather late in life.

Never Renominated.

The Republican National Convention of 1900 is the twelfth to be held by that party, which has an unbroken record of never renominating a Vice President for a second term.

"Strike For Your Altars and Your Fires."

Patriotism is always commendable, but in every breast there should be not only the desire to be a good citizen, but to be strong, able bodied and well fitted for the battle of life. To do this, pure blood is absolutely necessary, and Hood's Sarsaparilla is the one specific which cleanses the blood thoroughly. It acts equally well for both sexes and all ages.

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