

THE PACIFIC
Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH - EDITOR.

MONDAY JULY 23

The census shows that the deposits in the Montana banks are rising fast. Does this mean that Senator Clark's campaign of vindication is well under way?

The list of grand and trial jurors summoned for the August term embraces more representative citizens, and those of the best quality, than any similar list we have ever seen published elsewhere. Honolulu has not yet reached the point of turning over its juries to the crimps and politicians.

And now somebody wants the convicts kept off the roads and confined in the prison. We venture the opinion that after a month of the shut-in life the convicts would petition for road work again. They don't suffer at it, they see something of the free world around them and they get up an appetite for their meals. That is better than sitting between stone walls brooding over ill-luck and pasturing mosquitoes.

The coming of the big tug Fearless and the establishment of a towboat line will gratify the mercantile community. Honolulu has been making shift with one tug and that is often out of repair. But for inter-island steamers to use in special emergencies, the commerce of the port would more than once have suffered, especially when vessels were in distress outside. With the Fearless on hand things in the towing line should go along better than they have generally done and in case of a ship on the reef Spreckels' powerful tug will budge her if anything can.

The only argument we have seen in favor of Hawaiian municipalities is that such things are "American" and therefore we must have them. But the American rule has its exceptions and where they come in taxes are lowest and government best. Washington, D. C., is not a municipality and is carried on to better advantage than any other American community except the big village in the heart of Boston which refuses to incorporate with the metropolis about it and clings to the town meeting. The one chief aim of American publicists now is to make municipalities less obnoxious; and if it were possible to abolish them altogether most American taxpayers would vote for the reform. Why Hawaii should hasten to adopt systems which reveal the weakness rather than the strength of democratic institutions we don't know unless it is deemed of first importance to make offices for the patronage-brokers to trade with.

CONTACT WITH LEPROSY.

The calm and impartial story told by our staff representative of his visit to the leper settlement proves the absolute truth of the statement that segregation does not segregate. The unfortunates who have leprosy are indeed held captive at Molokai but there are no precautions taken to keep their bacilli there. When people from uninfected districts are permitted to land at the leper village and hug and kiss their diseased friends, eat and drink with them and gather in affectionate family groups, it is not necessary to ask why leprosy hangs on in these islands. Were chains of infection followed up as they were in plague times here, the Board of Health would probably find that the liberties allowed relatives with lepers far gone in the disease account for a definite percentage of the new cases.

We are aware of the argument that leprosy is neither infectious nor contagious, but who knows that to be a scientific verity? To be sure, many people mingle with lepers and come away unscathed but so they do with bubonic and cholera and yellow fever patients. It depends upon physical susceptibility. Two persons do not always catch the same disease though exposed to it in the same way. Were it true that leprosy cannot be "caught" like small-pox then three out of four reasons for the existence of a leper settlement at Molokai go by the board. But that it can be caught as Father Damien and hosts of others presumably caught it—by personal contact with the victims of the scaly plague—is a hypothesis so reasonable that nine out of ten people accept it as a matter of course.

When the segregation law was passed there had been the usual compromises for Legislative votes and among them were certain relaxations of proper sanitary rules. Parents could not bear to be forever parted from their children in this life, husbands from wives and wives from husbands and so, to get any kind of segregation at all, it was thought necessary to permit more or less social intercourse between the lepers and their kin. Under an arbitrary government such fatal concessions would not have been thought of. The lepers would have been banished from the sight of all save those who would accept perpetual exile with them and the agents of the Government having them in charge. But in this parliamentary country votes had to be looked for and as a result we got a half-way segregation law in which the quarantine value is reduced to low figures. It is time that the law was made as strict as those which were enforced in Honolulu against the cholera and the bubonic plague. If such a change can be had the Advertiser does not doubt that in less than a generation there will be no more leprosy in Hawaii. The type we have is growing milder; improved sanitation has perhaps decreased the percentage of infection; what remains is to see that people in health are not permitted to come into contact with those upon whom decay has set its dreadful seal. The man of Scripture who prayed to be relieved of "the body of this death"—the festering corpse which, in those barbaric days was tied to the person of the living convict—had no more cause to lament than have the poor creatures who, all unwittingly, and deceived perhaps by the specious plea that leprosy is not infectious, take into their loving arms those whose bodies, though alive, already bear the marks of putrefaction and whose

people should be protected against themselves; the communities where they live should be protected against such infection as they now invite at Kalapaapa and in Honolulu itself when the newly-discovered lepers gather at the wharf for their last earthly voyage. Otherwise segregation has little else to commend it than the plea of palliation and the desire to thrust hideous things from common view.

IDLE JAPANESE.

The Japanese loafer is always a nuisance and he is becoming a danger. At Hilo where the runaway or discharged plantation laborers gather, the Oriental quarter is full to overflowing. The character of the new-comers is described in the Tribune as that of touts, pimps, gamblers, sneak-thieves, bummers and dead beats. This being the case Hilo has acquired more than her proportion of the dangerous classes and, if the ferment among plantation hands on the big island becomes irrepressible the town may find itself in so bad a way as to require special precautions to insure public order.

Honolulu is not having much trouble yet, although, the number of idle Japanese is increasing week by week. Laborers who want to exchange the toil of the cane field for the delights of the town are arriving on foot, on the cars and on the steamers. So far most of them have been quiet, though last night the Advertiser was rung up by a gentleman who said that drunken Japanese coolies were calling at houses on King street near the Waikiki turn and demanding work, growing unruly when it was refused them. Naturally the more idle coolies in town the greater the likelihood of such unpleasant visitations.

The remedy seems to be to enforce the vagrancy laws without giving the coolie much benefit of the doubt. It would be better to take that course now than to wait until the number of loafers is doubled or trebled—better for the city and better for the planters.

A STANDING ARMY.

Democratic platform-makers always let a demagogue write their anti-army plank and the result is a committal of the party to the absurd doctrine that the United States can safely forego trained soldiers in war and rest secure in the valor of its volunteers and militia. In these respects the Kansas City platform is no different from its predecessors.

The common-sense view of the matter is that training and discipline are as necessary for a soldier as they are for any other expert. If he does not have them when called for duty he must learn his trade in the harsh school of experience, and the chances are, if the volunteer or the militiaman is pitted against a regular, he will be beaten and his country disgraced. The only exceptions to this rule are where volunteers are able to act as guerrillas or are better marksmen than the regulars and have a leader who, like Andrew Jackson at New Orleans, is able to mass them and hold them in a strong defensive position. Even then they cannot be trusted to do much on the offensive. Jackson dared not follow the remnants of Pakenham's army, which marched away after its defeat before the cotton bales and took Savannah; and those splendid irregulars, the Boers, have been gradually pressed back until almost all is lost to them save honor. As for militia it rarely amounted to much anywhere.

The history of the United States is full of warnings against dependence on the untrained soldier. Most of our battles in the Revolution were lost; the war was prolonged five years beyond its normal time by colonial inefficiency; the patriot cause was finally saved by the French. In the war of 1812 our disasters by land were as numerous as our victories by sea. Hull was disgraced on the northern border and the attempt to invade Canada with raw levies ignominiously failed. The British regulars captured and burned Washington though outnumbered three to one by the American volunteers and militia summoned to oppose them. So bad was the outlook, that, as soon as the surrender of Napoleon released the British fleet from European service, permitting it to blockade the Atlantic coast of America, the Washington Government hurried to make peace, abandoning in its haste the very issue upon which it declared war. In the next conflict, that with Mexico, regulars were chiefly depended upon and the enemy had no strong force opposed. The affair was quickly closed up. When the Civil War came, volunteers were made to fight volunteers and they taught each other. But if the war had been between volunteers and regulars, the latter would probably have won before the armed civilians had learned the military trade.

The Spanish war found the United States with a standing army of 27,000 men. Two land campaigns were made, one against Santiago and the other against Manila. General Shafter asked for regulars only in the Santiago campaign and he nearly had his wish. Few volunteers or militia got into the fight. One National Guard regiment, the Seventy-first New York, made a hopeless exhibition of cowardice. The crack Seventh, Thirtieth and Twenty-third New York escaped the crucial test of battle by their refusal to enlist as volunteers. Roosevelt's Rough Riders was the only command, not in the regular service, which distinguished itself. Of the vast army of volunteers all but a handful remained at home under instruction until Eastern Cuba had been conquered by the regulars; after that the Eighth Corps, which had been long in garrison, sailed for Manila. We saw something of the quality of its discipline here. At Manila there was little land fighting to do and both sides made indifferent records. Later on an untrained volunteer started the row with Aguinaldo by firing what is now pretty well known to have been an unnecessary shot. Very soon after that the State Volunteers were shipped home for the good of the cause.

These examples ought to show that if the United States ever goes to war with a great military power and that power gets a large trained army on its soil, no amount of valor, or resources and no preponderance of numbers on the part of the Americans will make up for their want of military organization. There must be a standing army to move against the enemy like a machine and stay there; one to absorb volunteers and turn them into regulars;

the country will be safe. All the American needs is training in military arts to make him the equal of any soldier; witness the heroism on both sides in the decisive battle of Gettysburg; a battle in which volunteers, long since fashioned into regulars performed prodigies of valor and shed a river of blood. But without training the American civilian or any other civilian, will go no further in war than a green hand, thrown on the deck of a ship in a tempest, would go in the practice of navigation.

OF CURRENT INTEREST.

Strangers Need Not Apply.

In the basement of a large New York office building is a barber famed for his skill in reviving his customers when they are most in need of his services. He is an artist in this particular and by means of hot towels, massage and other methods of his profession, has been known to accomplish wonderful results. His skill is not applied to any casual cases. Only his regular customers receive the best of his attentions because he likes to be appreciated and hates to waste his talent on mere strangers. He did this accidentally one day last week. The Sun says, and has not yet recovered from the regret of having employed his powers so unprofitably. "What do you suppose a jay said to me?" he asked. "Just after I had laid a hot towel on his face in a way that any man who knew anything would have been delighted to feel? 'Don't put any more of them on my face, because they make the teeth decay,' he said. I was sore on him, but I wanted to find out how hot towels on a man's face could make his teeth decay, so I gave him the satisfaction of asking him. 'Oh, it softens the bones,' he said, 'and that softens the teeth and if a man kept up the hot towels for a year he wouldn't have a tooth left in his head.' I didn't waste any more time on him, but let him get out of the chair as soon as possible, and I never again will waste a hot towel for a stranger before I find out whether or not he is capable of appreciating it."

When Cable Was a Poet.

Some one in the London Sphere has unearthed some verses published by Mr. George W. Cable in a newspaper some twenty-five years ago. They relate to the birth of Mr. Cable's eldest daughter:

THE NEW ARRIVAL.

There came to port last Sunday night
The queerest little craft,
Without an inch of rigging on;
I looked, and looked, and laughed!
It seemed so curious that she
Should cross the unknown water
And moor herself right in my room—
My daughter! Oh, my daughter!

Yet by these presents witness all,
She's welcome fifty times
And comes consigned to Hope and Love
And common-metre rhymes.
She has no manifest but this,
No flag floats o'er the water;
She's too new for the British Lloyds—
My daughter! Oh, my daughter!

Ring out, wind bells, and tame ones, too,
Ring out the lovers' moon,
Ring in the little worsted socks,
Ring in the bib and spoon,
Ring out the muse, ring in the nurse,
Ring in the milk and water,
Away with paper, pen and ink!
My daughter! Oh, my daughter!

"Pad" Fooled Him.

There is a story told of the minuet, which is, perhaps, the most popular of all Paderewski's compositions. Paderewski, while a professor at the Conservatoire of Warsaw, was one evening at the house of a Polish poet, Swietochowski, who expressed the opinion that no living composer could compare with Mozart in beauty and simplicity. At the moment Paderewski merely shrugged his shoulders; but the following evening he appeared, and asked permission to play his host a little thing of Mozart's which, perhaps, he did not know. He played the minuet, Swietochowski was enraptured and cried triumphantly: "Now you must acknowledge that a piece like that could not have been written in our time." "Well," said Paderewski, "that happens to be a minuet composed by me."

The Sjambok.

"We asked one of the white refugees," relates a Cape Town correspondent of a Boston paper, "how the natives were treated by the Boers, and she said, 'They were sjamboked, and some have been whipped until they died.' She said that many natives were hired to work for a month, and at the end of it if they asked for money they were sjamboked instead of paid. There must be Boers and Boers, though they all undoubtedly use the sjambok upon the slightest occasion. This weapon is a long whip which will snap like a pistol when brought down in an up-lifted hand. It is made from the hide of a rhinoceros and polished till it looks almost like amber. It is very tough and durable, and is used upon animals and natives, and also upon criminals in the Transvaal."

Students' Prairie Schooner Trip.

E. B. Meigs, a Princeton student, whose home is in Philadelphia, is planning a novel vacation trip with several of his college chums. They intend to travel across the continent to the Pacific coast in a modern "prairie schooner," built on the plan of those used previous to the days of railroads, but supplied with modern conveniences. The wagon, which has been built especially for the journey, is a heavy vehicle, made comfortable with rubber tires, and fitted up with every possible means of comfort. Four specially selected mules will be driven. No regular schedule has been arranged, it being the intention of the students to jog along lazily and stay at one place as long as they please.

Cooking With Electricity.

In Utica, N. Y., a block of new apartment houses are just being furnished with complete installation of electric cooking utensils in each flat. The electric kitchen furniture consists of three round platters or "stoves," an oven and a broiler. It is declared, apparently with reason, that meats broiled on the electric gridiron are much more palatable than those charred and scorched in the ordinary way over hot coals. The most remarkable feature of these electrical kitchens is that the stoves, etc., are simply placed on an ordinary kitchen table, and when the cooking is completed can be stowed away in a convenient closet, leaving the kitchen free of even a trace of cookery.

Nancy's First American Ancestor.

It has been learned that the first arrival in America of a member of the family of Nancy Hanks, President Lincoln's mother, was Benjamin Hanks, who landed in Plymouth, Mass., in October, 1699. His third son, William, went to Virginia and raised five sons, one of them, Joseph, marrying Nancy Shipley, whose sister Mary had married Abraham Lincoln, of Rockingham county, Va. From this union of Joseph and Nancy Shipley was born Nancy Hanks, the eighth child, on February

"The Mill Cannot Grind with Water That's Past."

A fagged out, tearful little woman said this in telling her cares and weaknesses. Her friend encouraged by telling of a relative who was cured of just such troubles by Hood's Sarsaparilla. The little woman now has tears of joy, for she took Hood's, which put her blood in prime order, and she lives on the strength of the present instead of worrying about that of the past.

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Contracts have been let for material, and the work of construction, equipping and installation placed in the hands of a competent electrical engineer to be fully completed by June 1st. Having an independent power plant we are prepared to furnish electric power for lighting, heating and other purposes, to our home-builders at most reasonable rates.

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