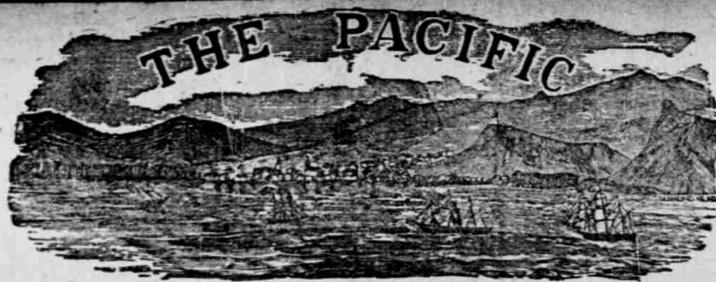


Commercial



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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1902.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE PLANS

License Issued to Put Down Its Conduits.

ALL DOWN TOWN WIRES BURIED

Will Install Automatic Exchange System and Give Government Valuable Privileges.

UNDER license granted last week by the Government, the Century Telephone company will very soon begin to tear up streets for the purpose of putting in underground conduits for the laying of wires for their service. The company has capital subscribed for the purpose of laying its lines and putting in its exchange, money to come from San Francisco and the East, and nothing is now lacking of full preparation for work but the adoption of a system, of which three automatic plans are under consideration, and the making of contracts.

The Century company was organized more than a year ago with George W. Smith as president and F. J. Lowrey as treasurer. Its capitalization was \$150,000. There was a hitch over the franchise for the use of the streets, but the plan never was abandoned and finally success has been achieved. There has been no complete organization since, but now that the license gives promise of an early completion of the plans, a meeting of the original stockholders will be held very soon. There will be no stock put on the market here, and the men who have carried the scheme to success will continue to manage its affairs for the mainland capitalists, most of whom are interested in the devices which are to be used in the operation of the system.

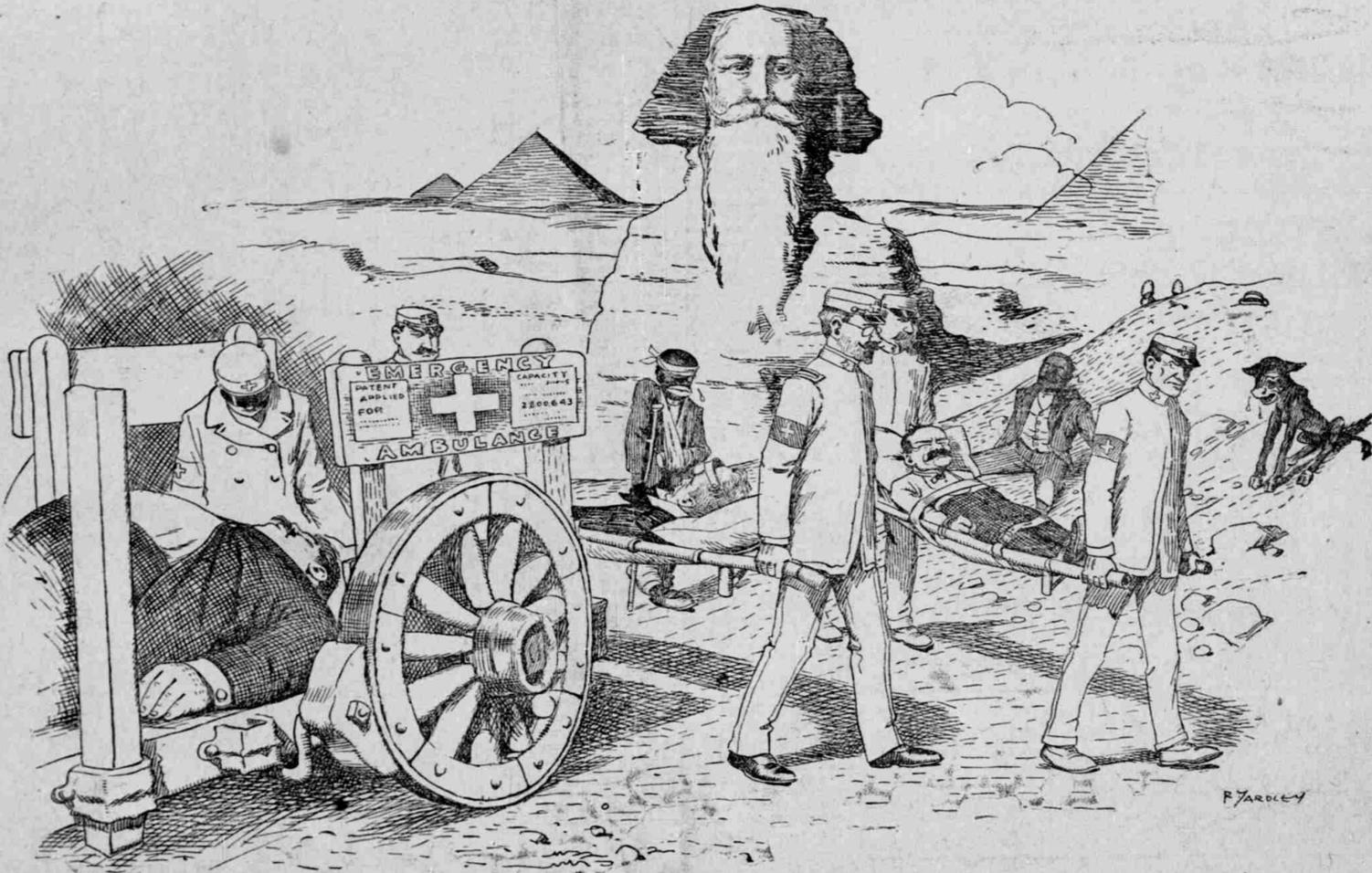
The plan is to adopt a system of exchange which will do away with the present method of central operators. There are now in existence centrals on the automatic plan, where with as many as 2000 calls, the entire work of the central office is done by one girl. The systems have been so perfected that with copper circuits there is not usually more work in the keeping going of the phones of an exchange than can be done by one man for each 600 or 700 connections. There is no demand upon the central except that which may be met by the automatic devices of the systems.

There has been ordered for the local system 26,000 feet of underground conduit of the wood and tarred paper variety, which, costing less than the tiled conduits, are considered impervious to water and therefore more available for this climate. The conduits are to be made to carry a dozen cables, and there will be always one of the cells, of three inches diameter, which is to be used for the wires of the Government. It is the plan that when the system is completed the wires now used for the operation of the police and fire alarms will be put under ground, the cell reserved for furnishing ample capacity for the cables needed.

The contract entered into by the Government and the company is one which is aimed by the officials to safeguard in every way the rights of the Government. There is, however, no specification as to rates to be charged, as it was deemed wise to let this go, owing to the fact that there is in the field a company which has no such regulation in its charter. In the matter of the wires, the contract provides that there shall be service to telephone subscribers within two years from the date of the signing of the agreement. The wires to be laid within the limits bounded by the harbor, Nuuanu, Beretania and Punchbowl streets to be placed under ground, and without those limits there may be aerial wires strung.

(Continued on page 4.)

REMOVING THE DYNAMITERS



A HURRY CALL FOR THE RED CROSS CORPS.

NEW COMPANY WILL TAKE M'CALLY ESTATE LANDS

PURSUANT to arrangements practically completed there will be organized soon a new corporation to take over all the interest of Mrs. Ellen M'Call Higgins in the lands which have recently been exploited by the Waikiki Land and Loan Association. This company will be incorporated on a basis of \$80,000 capital, of which three-fourths will be paid up. The interests of Mrs. Higgins will be purchased in fee and the land will go to the new corporation subject only to the two mortgages, one of \$60,000 to the Queen's Hospital, and one of \$6000 to James McKee and associates.

The plans for the taking over of the properties of Mrs. M'Call Higgins have been under consideration for several weeks. The basis of every discussion has been the purchase of the titles, so as to free the lands and permit of a course in general which would mean the discontinuance of the suits which have been instituted, and would allow the ownership to be in the corporation which has the handling of the lands. The plan adopted was the purchase of the interest of Mrs. M'Call Higgins by Oscar E. White, he giving in return sugar shares to the value on their face of some \$62,000, the selling price being some \$15,000 less. This, in addition to the \$10,000 she has already received, makes the actual purchase price of the lands.

The stock already taken in the company which is to be formed is subscribed as follows: C. M. Cooke, \$5000; P. C. Jones, \$5000; H. Waterhouse & Company, \$5000; J. B. Atherton, \$5000; G. N. Wilcox and others, \$7500; B. F. Dillingham, \$2000; C. J. Hutchins, \$1500; F. A. Schaefer, \$1000; James McKee and associates, \$10,000, and O. E. White, \$15,000. The remainder of the capital stock will be kept in the treasury for future sales if needed in the conduct of the business of the company. The plans of the corporation so far as outlined prior to incorporation are that the lands will be handled by James McKee and his associates, and the lots placed on sale at prices from \$500 to \$1000, every effort being made to make the land move rapidly so that the main mortgage, that of the Queen's Hospital, may be paid off. This hui will have charge of any filling or street grading that may be undertaken, to be paid for either from receipts or sales of treasury stock.

The first move after the paying in of the capital and the incorporation of the company, which will then receive a con-

veyance of the fee of the M'Call estate holdings in Pawaia, will be the making of a new mortgage to the Queen's Hospital, in which the name of the corporation will take the place of that of Mrs. M'Call Higgins, and another to James McKee and others, with the same changes. This done, the next step will be the foreclosure of the mortgage given by the Waikiki Land and Loan Association to Mrs. Higgins, which passes to the new owners of the land. This will close out absolutely all interest of that corporation in the deal. It is the plan of the new owners of the lands to improve them as rapidly as the demand for the lots necessitates.

A Watchman on the Walls.

Gilbert Little, Territorial Judge of Hilo, Hawaiian Islands, formerly a guard in the Michigan State prison at Jackson, is here as an applicant for the Governorship of Hawaii in the event of its being decided to make a change in that office.—Washington dispatch to Cincinnati Enquirer, April 9.

LUMBER YARD WAS IN DANGER

Fire in Rear of Kerr's Menaced Millions of Feet of Lumber.

Last night about 10:30 millions of feet of lumber in Allen & Robinson's yard were in danger of destruction by a fire which started in a mysterious manner at the rear of Kerr & Company's store on Queen street. The prompt turning in of an alarm from fire box 13, at the corner of Fort and Queen streets, by Police Captain Pohaku, and the energetic work of several policemen and watchmen who arrived in the patrol wagon before the fire apparatus came, saved the yard from being destroyed. When Pohaku and the officer on the Queen street beat discovered the presence of fire it was by the reflection against Allen & Robinson's building.

The blaze was centered in a large dry goods box and a stack of kindling wood piled up against the iron door leading to Kerr's. The men pulled the burning wood out and carried it away from the nearest lumber pile, which was about ten feet distant. Within half a minute after the chemical arrived the blaze was extinguished. It is not known what caused the trouble.

NAVY DEPARTMENT REFUSES HONOLULU PLANTATION OFFER

THE Navy Department has disapproved the agreement made by Admiral Merry with the Honolulu Plantation Company, and the case will have to be tried for a third time. United States Attorney Breckons received the news in his mail yesterday morning, and it came as a considerable surprise, in view of the letter of Monday night, which contained an approval of the Ford Island compromise, and which was taken as an indication of an acceptance of all of Admiral Merry's efforts.

Mr. Breckons is directed by Attorney General Knox to proceed with the case and appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals, from the verdict allowing the Honolulu Plantation Company \$103,523 for its leasehold interest in the Bishop estate land at Pearl Harbor.

The ruling is taking as indicating that the Navy Department considers the compromise price as excessive or

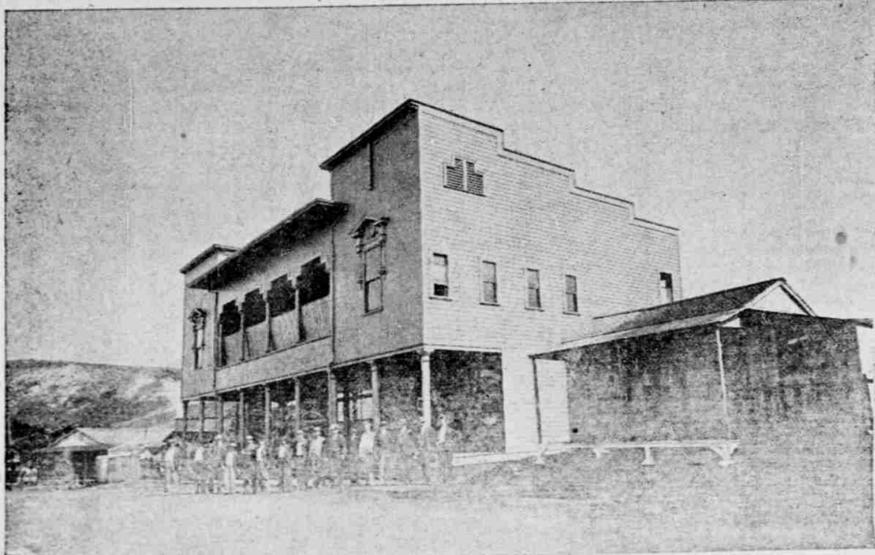
else that the stipulations giving the Plantation certain rights upon the naval station are opposed to the policy of the Government.

It will be remembered that the first jury awarded the Honolulu Plantation Company \$105,000, which judgment was set aside by Judge Estee as excessive, the defendant refusing to accept a reduction in the verdict to \$75,000. Upon the second trial the verdict of the jury was \$103,523, and from this judgment the United States gave notice of appeal. In the meantime Admiral Merry suggested a compromise which was understood to be in the neighborhood of \$90,000, conveying also to the Plantation certain rights on the naval station. The compromise was accepted by the Honolulu Plantation Company, but conditional, of course, upon the approval of the Navy Department. It was anticipated that the approval would follow as a matter of course and the letter received yesterday disapproving the compromise comes very much as a surprise.

A motion for a new trial had already been filed by Mr. Dunne prior to the agreement, and now, under the instructions from Washington, the motion will be presented and argued. A new trial from Judge Estee can hardly be expected, and in case the motion is denied an appeal will be taken to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals at San Francisco. This court can, however, do no more than order a new trial, though it might be that the case would be ordered tried by the court without a jury. The two trials with almost the same verdict in each give little hope of a reduction in the award by a third jury to an amount less than \$90,000, the price agreed upon in the compromise.

Will View the Coronation.

Senator Henry Waterhouse, accompanied by Mrs. Waterhouse and Miss Waterhouse, will leave in the Alameda to witness the scenes in the British capital attendant upon the coronation of King Edward VII. They will arrange for transportation across the Atlantic from San Francisco and by making a quick trip will have nearly a month to make arrangements for seeing all that is to be seen in the capital. Senator Waterhouse has many friends and relatives in England and his visit will enable him to meet them. It is his plan at present to return by way of Australia. The trip will occupy about six months, and may be extended to include a journey through the Mediterranean and the Holy Land. This would mean a run down the Red Sea and the voyage from Aden to Melbourne by one of the great ships of the Messagerie Maritimes and a return here after a visit to the old home of Senator Waterhouse.



WAILUKU'S K. OF P. LODGE