

Commercial

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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 1902.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

THE FIRE CLAIMS FIGHT

Gallant But Losing Battle in the House.

WILCOX'S ABSENCE COMMENTED ON

Congressman Powers of Maine Sneers at His Incompetence.

(Special to The Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 3.—The curtain has been rung down on Congress. Senators and members of the House have already dispersed to the four quarters of the compass, for adjournment took place on July 1, the beginning of the fiscal year. The last of the Hawaiians in Washington has also fled. Hon. William Haywood, who is something of a resident of the Capital, after a winter of long and very effective work, has hied himself to the top of the Allegheny mountains, at Oakland, Md., and he won't come off that high perch till he has got rested good and well. Mr. J. G. Pratt, who was the commissioner here in behalf of the fire claims bill, took a train two days ago for Illinois, where Mrs. Pratt is visiting with friends. They will tarry a little in this country and expect to sail for Honolulu about July 24.

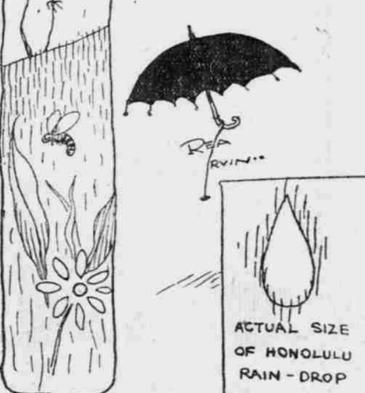
My telegram by the last boat indicated the failure of different Hawaiian bills, the only two, in fact, in which the Islanders are keenly interested—the fire claims amendment to the general deficiency bill, and the coinage bill. Two weeks ago the signs were favorable to the passage of the coinage bill, but there was such a jam in the House towards the end of the session after the Philippine bill had passed, that the utmost endeavors of the friends of the measure availed not. Mr. Haywood camped in the Capitol practically for three or four days, trying to find an opportunity to get the bill up. The rules committee of the House had promised a special rule, so that, if that had been brought in, the bill could have passed by a majority vote. But, as already stated, the time was so short no opportunity could be had. Chairman Southard of the committee on coinage, weights and measures, waited one day for two hours in company with Mr. Haywood to get an audience with the Speaker regarding the bill. It soon became evident that, even should the bill pass the House, it could not become law at this session, as the House committee would not agree to the exact terms of the Senate bill and the Senate would not accept without considerable debate the terms of such a bill as the House would pass. Then Senator Foraker, chairman of the Senate committee on the Pacific Islands and Porto Rico, was ill. After every effort had failed, which was till within three hours of the end of the session, Mr. Haywood gave up. There is this satisfaction, however: There is every prospect that the bill will pass the House early next session and become a law. That consummation will probably be reached before the beginning of next year. The bill has already passed the Senate and is in such a stage that the House is likely to take it up early the next session.

Mr. Pratt and Mr. Haywood both made a gallant fight for the fire claims bill in the House. At one time it looked as though the bill might get through there, but at that crisis "Uncle Joe" Cannon, chairman of the committee on appropriations, gave the amendment several hard thumps on the head and it died a quick death. Mr. Pratt had been working quietly with the House for a week or two, from the moment that the adoption of the amendment by the Senate seemed assured. Mr. Haywood turned in to assist him and they literally had the House hopping for a time. The friends of Hawaii in that body came to the front grandly. One thing that operated to kill the Hawaiian item was two items for the expositions at Buffalo and Charleston, respectively. The Republican leaders fought those two appropriations, both of which were carried on the general deficiency bill, viciously. The appropriation of \$500,000 for Buffalo, which was claimed on the ground that the assassination of McKinley there had made the exposition thereafter a failure, was accepted by the House by a narrow majority, but that for Charles-

HONOLULU'S RAINY SUMMER



THE DUCK IS "IT"



HOW THINGS WILL GROW!!



WOULD YOU ENJOY A SAIL THIS EVENING, MISS AGNES?

I HAD THOUGHT OF ASKING YOU TO JOIN OUR SWIMMING PARTY ON THE LAWN, MR. WETTER



THE DAY WHEN I LEFT PRESNY CAL. FER DIS PARADISE UV DE PACIFIC!!

IS IT WET ENOUGH FOR YOU?

OUR COMING CABLE WILL GO ON TO GUAM AND MANILA

The Capital Stock of Construction Company Is Increased From Three Million Dollars to Twelve Millions.

(Special to The Advertiser.)

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The Commercial Pacific Cable Company, which within a few months will have the Pacific Cable in operation to Honolulu, is now preparing to let the contracts for the construction and laying of the cable from Honolulu to Manila by way of Guam.

For this purpose, the capital stock of the company has already been increased from three million dollars, which was enough to take the cable to Honolulu, to twelve million dollars, which is deemed sufficient to complete it to Manila.

The defeat by Congress of the Corliss Government cable bill opened the way for the company to proceed to the construction of the cable to Manila without fear of Government competition. It now appears that the company has the greatest desire to get the cable into operation all the way as soon as possible. To facilitate this desire the company has applied to the Navy Department for the use of the Government soundings taken by the Nero in 1899 between Hawaii and Guam and between Guam and Manila. The company represents that if they can have the use of these soundings the time for the completion of the cable can be lessened about one year. This will enable the cable to be in operation to Manila by January 1, 1904, instead of January 1, 1905, which has been the earliest date heretofore promised. Of course this saving of a year's time in the beginning of earning capacity amounts to a great deal to a \$12,000,000 enterprise.

It also amounts to a great deal to the Government. The Government is now paying \$153 a word for messages to Manila. When this Pacific cable is completed the company guarantees the Government a rate of 50 cents a word. It is estimated that this saving to the Government would amount in a year to \$100,000.

It is further represented that the cable soundings taken by the Navy Department were taken under the regular operations of the department and paid for out of regular appropriations and that, therefore, they are public property to any extent not incompatible with special Government uses. Special provision is made under the law for furnishing the public at nominal rates all of the maps and charts and other data secured under the Bureau of Equipment and disseminated through the Hydrographic Office.

If the Commercial Pacific Cable Company can secure these soundings and thereby save the time that would be required to take them over again, the company proposes to parcel out the contract of manufacturing the cable for the long spans between Hawaii and Guam and Guam and Manila among the different companies which lead the world in cable manufacture. There are three such companies in England of about equal standing and it fortunately happens just now that they are short of work so that all of them can be engaged upon the manufacture of cable for the Commercial Pacific Cable Company, an American corporation.

The negotiations with the department are being conducted by William W. Cook of New York, general counsel of the company. ERNEST G. WALKER.

MEN IN HUI KUOKOA WILL PUSH ORGANIZATION ALONG

ORGANIZATION of the Hui Kuokoa started yesterday in earnest, the young men delegates to the Home Rule convention leaving the city bearing with them the rolls which will be used in the lining up of the forces, which are expected to show their increasing strength. The committee met early and decided upon the heading for the lists. This is an all most every respect similar to that which has been used by the Home Rule party. The changes are the substitution of the title of the new party. D. Ewaliko and Christian A. ...

of Hawaii did not have time to have the rolls prepared and they took with them only the heading in copy and the lists will be made upon their reaching their homes. Later rolls were printed and the outgoing mails bore packages of them to the leaders of the young men's party in the other islands. Morris Keohokale of the committee left in the afternoon in the Claudine for Maui, taking with him a number of the lists, which he will distribute among the men who have been selected for the duty of aligning the supporters of the Prince against the Delegate. The men from Hawaii are hopeful that they will secure a large following

on the Island of Hawaii. There has been in existence there for some time a party made up of the progressive natives, who feel that they cannot follow the reactionary branch longer, and they have called themselves Aloha Aina. This organization started in Hilo but has progressed outside the city until it has branches which extend into the various districts of the island, particularly having strength in Kona and Kau. The men at the head of this party declare their faith in Prince Cupid, and they are said to be waiting his call to enroll themselves in the party which he shall lead.

There were few caucuses yesterday, though among the leaders of the Home Rule party there was expressed much determination to see the fight through. The old party men made the first canvass of the city, emissaries of Wilcox and Kalanokalani being seen in almost every portion in consultation with the Hawaiians. One of these declared last evening that the old party was holding its strength fairly well, and he believed that Wilcox would not suffer great loss of strength here. This is denied by the young men, who declare they have had many assurances of support.

BAD DAY FOR PORTO RICANS

It was a bad day for Porto Ricans in Judge Wilcox's court yesterday when several were sent to jail for six months for vagrancy, two committed to the next term of the Circuit Court for receiving stolen property, and two more held to await trial today. There are two Porto Rican women held for vagrancy and both will appear before Judge Wilcox this morning for trial. Pedro Morale and O. Mendez were caught in the O. R. & L. Co. yards asleep, and for the next six months both will occupy cells at the prison. The jail has recently been taxed to hold Porto Ricans of both sexes, the charges ranging from robbery and petty larceny to vagrancy and violating social laws. The police are gradually clearing up the town of the loafers.

MITCHELL MAY NOT COME HERE

WASHINGTON, July 1.—(Times Ledger Special Service Bureau.)—Although Senator Foster was appointed second member of a sub-committee to visit Hawaii during the coming summer, it is probable he will be in charge, as it is very doubtful if Senator Mitchell, designated as chairman, can leave the country. If this proves to be the case, Senator Foster will be called on to make a report of their investigations, a report of much importance as the information sought is to be the basis for future legislation.

While removing the big smoke-stack of the old automobile building on King street yesterday afternoon the wagons upon which it was loaded got afoul of the street railway tracks and tied up the Rapid Transit and Tramways cars for some time.

INSURERS WILL GET NOTHING

Fire Court Makes Its Awards Known.

TOTAL IS MILLION AND ONE HALF

Kick on Fees—Some of the Big Awards—Proviso in Certificate Causes Trouble.

THE Court of Fire Claims yesterday gave out the judgments for losses incurred during the sanitary fires. The total amount of the awards made is a trifle less than the appropriation of a million and one-half dollars, or less than half the total of the claims against the Government. There were altogether 6,000 claimants who put in bills amounting to \$3,200,000, though neither the total number of claimants was awarded damages, nor the full amount of the claims allowed.

The Fire Commission denied access to the books of the court both to newspapers and attorneys interested, who had not paid the fee demanded for the certificates, and several of the attorneys were quite wrought up over this refusal. Chairman Macfarlane explained this action by saying that the judgments had not become public records, except to the parties interested and they would not until the commission had turned its books over to Treasurer Wright. It was added also that the clerk, J. M. Riggs, was to be on duty but a few days, and he will require the use of the books all the time, in order to complete the report to Governor Dole.

About half the number of the certificates were given out, mostly to the attorneys of record, and Clerk Riggs took in something over \$2700 in fees. This charge of the commission was a source of more dissatisfaction than the big cuts in the claims, and it will probably find its way into the courts. A charge of 25 cents was made for all awards amounting to less than \$50; from \$50 to \$100, 50 cents; from \$100 to \$500, \$1, and over that amount, \$4. Many of the fees were paid under protest, and an appeal will probably be taken from the action of the board. About \$5000 will be realized from these fees, which is somewhat in excess of the amount borrowed from the merchants (\$4000) to complete the work of the commission after the appropriation had been exhausted. Kinney, Ballou & McClanahan paid \$1600 in fees, and there is a charge of \$2100 against Whiting & Robinson before they can get the certificates coming to the Chinese claimants. The Chinese Consul will furnish the required amount today, however, and the certificates will be handed over.

DECISIONS OF THE COURT.

Two important decisions of the Fire Court are made apparent by some of the awards given out. The first is that the fire insurance companies are awarded nothing, the court holding that it had no jurisdiction to allow anything except for actual losses incurred during the fire. The second ruling is that the owner, and not the tenant, in cases where buildings built on leased ground were burned down, is given the award. In each case, however, the company or tenant not given the award has a lien upon the claimant who is given a certificate.

The decision of the court in reference to awards made on property upon which insurance had been paid is puzzling to claimants and attorneys alike. The various insurance companies which held risks on the property destroyed by order of the Board of Health, and who had paid the amount of the losses, put in claims for the amount of \$200,000. Some of the companies protected themselves by requiring each of those to whom they paid money to subrogate to the company any amount which they might receive from the Government, drawing up a contract to that effect. Each of the claimants, when proving his claim, was asked whether or not insurance had been received on the property destroyed.

The insurance companies were not directly allowed one cent by the Fire Court, each of the certificates being marked "no award." Instead, claimants who had received insurance money received certificates subject to the lien of the insurance company which had adjusted the loss.

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