

Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH - EDITOR.

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PAUOA WATER AGAIN.

The Senate Committee has reported on the Pauoa Water Grab bill, recommending the payment of \$150,000, instead of \$250,000 asked by Booth and voted off hand by the House, a reduction of forty per cent.

So far so good! Two legislative committees have examined the question superficially, and have announced their decisions on valuations. These decisions differ, one from the other, by \$100,000.

Are not the foregoing facts proof positive that the Legislature is not the proper body to decide upon this question?

If within one week, two such diametrically opposite decisions can be given by supposedly intelligent and disinterested men, is it not a demonstration that the question should be enquired into judicially; that evidence should be taken exhaustively, upon the quantity of water, the title thereto, the cost of developing, storing and transporting the water to government mains, and the value to the public?

The Advertiser suggests to the Senate that if the public interests are to be adequately protected, a commission should be appointed to make a systematic study of the Honolulu water supply, and report upon the same with recommendations. If the commission recommend the taking of any water now in private hands, there is a complete law providing for judicial ascertainment of the owners and the just damage suffered by each by being deprived of the water. Then let a lump sum appropriation be made in the appropriation bill from which to pay the awards of the court.

By pursuing this course there will be first obtained the judgment of expert engineers as to what water is most available, and desirable, in place of the cursory observations of a non-professional body; and the decision of a court upon the question of value, based upon complete evidence, in place of practically the "guess" of two committees who do not guess within \$100,000 of each other.

NOT ABSOLUTE.

It would appear to be time for the Legislature to awake. There is an element in the lower house which seems to have the idea that the power of the legislative branch of the government is absolute. It is from this sort of belief that sprung the resolution of Kupihea, regarding the leprosy investigation.

The House has absolutely no authority to direct the Board of Health to bring from Molokai any patient. The Board is acting under law which the Legislature may repeal. Further than that it cannot go. The Board would be derelict should it obey such an order.

The unreason which fills the minds of this kind of legislator, is indicated by the fact that Kupihea would have the patients examined by a board of two physicians and five laymen. The Board of Health gives the utmost care to examinations, the bacteriological diagnosis being complete, and the record being kept where it is at the command of any scientific man. To permit laymen to undertake such examination would be a crime.

It would seem time to call a halt in the assumption of absolutism. If there was less of the irrational there would be more of the productive.

The consideration of the County bill in conference committee has begun and what the fourteen men will be able to bring out of the differences between the two houses is now the question. It is unfortunate that Vice-Speaker Knudsen could not see his way clear to name a conference committee composed in great part of the men who worked so long to frame the bill. The absence of S. F. Chillingworth from the committee is a distinct loss, and the placing of Keliinoh where Kalama should have been, by all the unwritten laws of legislative assemblies, will not lend itself to the more speedy consideration of the measure. The principal fight will be on the school question, and there seems to be a feeling that the House end of the committee will make a hard fight on this feature, even to the end that the bill may be endangered.

It will be interesting to see if the promoters of the Pauoa grab bag water scheme will accept \$150,000 instead of \$250,000, for their supposed water rights, after having got Kumalae to assert in the House that their claims were worth \$500,000, and asserting that never, no never, would they accept less than \$250,000! If they do, it will leave the House in the uncomfortable dilemma of having tried to throw away \$100,000 of the people's money.

Brazil wants to raise the price of coffee by discouraging production with an export tax, but Congress will prefer to stimulate production with a bounty.

How will the Senate compromise with its declaration that pumping should be discouraged when it comes to putting through the second water scheme.

TURNING FROM STATEHOOD.

Congress will receive when the new body meets, December next, the unsigned joint resolution, passed over Governorial veto, declaring in favor of the amending of the Organic Act so that Hawaiian shall be, jointly with English, the official language of the Territory. It can hardly be imagined, even by the fatuous Pulaa, that Congress will pay any attention to such a resolution.

That the resolution received such a large vote is almost inconceivable. Its passage represents a triumph for reactionism, and the publishing abroad of the fact that it went through will do more to injure the chances of Hawaii being seriously considered as a statehood possibility than any other possible single act. The United States cannot entertain the thought of an alien commonwealth.

Would one of the members of the Legislature advocate sending a Delegate to Washington who could not speak and understand English? Would Prince Kuhio consider for a minute the nomination for Annapolis or West Point of a lad who is not a thorough English scholar. Does any Hawaiian stand a show in the public service of the nation who does not know English? Then the step taken must be indicative of the readiness of Hawaii to go backward, not forward.

New Mexico lost statehood largely because the Congress did not think the people were Americanized. Yet compulsory English education obtains and legislative proceedings are translated only for the benefit of the gallery. The legislative assembly is a dignified body. Contrast that picture with Hawaii, where business is done in the vernacular, often without translation. Then figure how far is Hawaii from statehood.

BEER LICENSE.

Despite the many cogent and unanswerable reasons of Governor Dole why the beer license act should not become law the Legislature has overridden the veto and placed on the statute books a piece of legislation which, in many features, is pernicious, and under which conditions repugnant to the great mass of our people may arise.

In every modern country the sale of liquor is recognized as "not within the class of ordinary enterprises for profit," and is surrounded with safeguards, being placed within strict police supervision. Yet here the Legislators choose to give the traffic such status that the police may not enter saloons at will and see that there is no violation of law, nor does violation of law mean forfeiture of license.

Protection of the youth is a primary duty of the law, yet 150 feet from any school in the Territory the saloon keeper may flaunt his sign and the vicious may gather to furnish an example which cannot be other than debasing to the young.

Under this precious piece of law making there is no clause which will prevent a woman from becoming the possessor of a beer license, and women may tend bar, frequent the saloons, and have every privilege there that is enjoyed by men. Music and all sorts of attractions are competent, and the way is opened for the beer garden and the brothel.

The belief that there would be a less number of licenses under this law than under a proper one is hardly well founded. Applications are piling into the Treasury and one of the first men to ask for the privilege, Henry Vida, voted for the bill upon every occasion, and as well to override the veto. This after the application had been filed.

HIGH CLASS SISAL.

A few weeks ago the Sisal Company announced that it would clean specimens of sisal fibre, free of cost, and forward the samples to the Tubbs Cordage Company in San Francisco, for analysis and report. A number of samples were submitted. Returns from three of them have been received, and in every case the fibre is pronounced to be of the best quality.

Of the greatest importance are the reports on the sisal raised in the forest reserve, back of Punchbowl, and in Manoa. The former was grown in hard clayey soil, of a similar composition to the foot hills throughout the Island of Oahu. The report on this sample is that it is "an excellent fibre, plenty long, very strong and well cleaned; an A1 fibre."

The Manoa specimen was grown in sandy land, where there is a large rainfall. This is reported to be "MORE THAN EXCELLENT FIBRE; IS EXTRA LONG, VERY STRONG, WELL CLEANED, AND IS THE BEST SAMPLE OF THIS FIBRE THAT I HAVE EVER SEEN."

The importance of these analyses consists in the fact that they negative the theory that low coral land near the sea, alone, is good for sisal, and opens up an enormous vista of land available for cultivation with this fibre.

Hats off to the original Senator who has discovered that night sessions are illegal, because the session is for sixty "days." When the appropriation bill comes up he will want to provide for putting holes under the bridges for the water to run through.

Shamrock III. is sailing all around the first Lipton boat, but if memory serves there was another boat did that same thing once before.

THE VETOS.

Governor Dole's vetoes of the beer license bill and of the joint resolution asking Congress to amend the Organic Act requiring legislative proceedings to be in English, so that both the English and Hawaiian languages shall be official, are strong documents. They are clear, decisive and unanswerable. They are a credit to the judgment and foresight of the Governor, and the passage of the two laws over his veto is no credit to the Legislature.

It is a remarkable tribute to the Governor, that the supporters of both measures admitted that the Governor was right and the measures wrong. The reasoning in support of overriding the language resolution veto was weak, while the suggestion that a new bill should be immediately passed remedying the weak and bad features in the beer law is still there is not the remotest probability that such a law will stand any chance of passing during the few remaining days of the session.

THE PLANTERS' MONTHLY FOR MARCH.

The Official and Commercial Record, The Planters' Monthly for March, in addition to the shorter articles, has two of considerable length, which are of great importance to Hawaii. The first deals with "Insecticides for use in Hawaii," and is the production in full of the Federal Honolulu Experiment Station Bulletin on that subject.

The other is the official report of E. M. Griffith, Assistant Forester of the U. S. Bureau of Forestry, concerning his recent tour of examination of the forests of Hawaii.

The two articles together form a very valuable contribution to the subject of local Agriculture and Forestry, and should be read by every one interested in either subject, and that means nearly every resident of Hawaii, for the eradication of insect pests and the preservation of our forests has a vital bearing on not only the profitability, but the very existence of agriculture in this Territory.

The fullness and value of the article on Insecticides is illustrated by the subheads, each of which is fully treated in detail. They are: "Precautionary Measures," "General Use of Insecticides," "Biting and Sucking Insects," "Spraying Apparatus," "Successful Spraying," "Insecticides," "Poisoned Baits," "Gas Treatment." Thirteen different remedies and mixtures are given, with detailed directions as to how to mix and use them, and under what conditions they should be used.

A third article, bearing upon the same general subject, is one on the "Introduction of birds into Hawaii," by R. C. L. Perkins. Mr. Perkins is an expert upon the relations of birds to insect life, and in his article points out the value of certain birds to agriculture and forestry, and the damage thereto of others.

Altogether this issue of the Planters Monthly is a highly valuable contribution to agricultural progress and development.

President Roosevelt did not take to the woods any too soon. Pulaa asserts that the Legislature is as big as the President, for it can remove the Governor. That assertion will convince Roosevelt that Hawaii is ready for statehood.

EASTER DAY IN THE CHURCHES

The special music for Easter in the various churches promises to be of interest to the usually large Easter congregations.

At the 11 o'clock service at St. Andrew's Cathedral the following music will be rendered by the surpliced choir: Processional Hymn, "Jesus Christ is Risen Today;" Anthem, Schilling in F, "Christ Our Passover;" Special Psalms for Easter; Te Deum, Smart in F; Jubilate, Garrett in F; Anthem, Maunder in C, "Christ is Risen;" Offertory Hymn, "The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done;" Communion Service, Hart in D; Hymn, "And Now, O Father, Mindful of the Love;" Recessional Hymn, "Jesus Lives! Thy Terrors Now."

In the evening at 7:30 a special service will be held for the Honolulu Commandery of the Knights Templar, when the choir will sing special hymns and an anthem.

The offerings on Easter Sunday will be devoted to wiping out the debt on the Cathedral building.

The Easter music at Central Union church will be elaborate for both the morning and evening services. In the morning there will be a number of quartette and full choir selections, with solos by Mrs. Otis and others. In the evening the service will be devoted to the rendition of Dudley Buck's cantata, "Christ, the Victor."

At the Roman Catholic Cathedral, solemn high mass will be said at the morning and evening services. In the Pro-Vicar Libert will officiate. The music will be as follows: March, "Easter Morning," Catholic Mission Band; Mass, Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus; Benedictus and Agnus Dei, Battmann; Graduale, Les Kumenex, Solo, F. H. Valentin; Salvo Regina, Miss Alice Campbell; Sortie, March, Catholic Mission Band; Mrs. Cooke, organist.

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Is a discharge from the mucous membrane of the nose, throat, stomach, bowels, etc., when kept in a state of inflammation by an impure condition of the blood and a want of tone in the system.

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