

THE Pacific Commercial Advertiser
A MORNING PAPER.

WALTER G. SMITH EDITOR
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ATTACKING LIQUOR COMMISSION.

If the House has the moral courage to stand out against the ultimate wiles of the Whisky ring and leave the liquor law as it is, that body will atone for a good many mistakes. The latest stratagem of the liquor men, assisted by the pledge-breakers in the Senate, is to legislate the License commission out of the liquor law and turn its work over to the deputy sheriffs. A measure like that would, we believe, suit the ring better than the Moore bill did; as it would break down the safeguards of the present law altogether. The House killed the Moore bill. For its own honor and the good of the Territory we hope it will insist on letting the boards of License commissioners stand.

The news comes from Washington that the Reform Bureau there is preparing a bill to rid Hawaii of the saloon and concentrate the liquor business in dispensaries over which the Governor shall have full control and from which liquor can only be had on prescription. This is a system which was originally applied to Indian Territory and which has been described by lawyers as the best working liquor law in the United States. The Advertiser does not understand that this bill has the support of the leading temperance men here, as they are disposed, if the present liquor law is left alone, to give it a fair trial before starting any other agitation; but we are convinced that any "monkeying" with the existing statute on behalf of the Whisky ring will win for the dispensary bill a very large local support which, in turn, will enlist the National W. C. T. U. and the National Anti-Saloon League on its side.

As to the incentive for the action taken by the Reform Bureau, we are given to understand that the suggestion was made some months ago to the head of the bureau, Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts, by Rev. Mr. Thwing, and that the local temperance organizations had recently known of it. What they will do in the premises will naturally depend on the liquor men. There is a general feeling among the better elements of the community that, after fighting to have the present liquor law let alone, they can not turn against it now in good faith; but if the wholesale dealers propose to go on making trouble the temperance men would naturally feel that the source of the difficulty should be removed, and they would probably get in behind the dispensary bill.

THE STUDY OF LEPROSY.

Too much hope should not be raised by the report that Dr. Clegg of Manila has succeeded in cultivating the lepra bacillus and has prepared a vaccine. This vaccine could not operate as the vaccine used to prevent smallpox does; that is to say, its application would not render a man immune to the rotting plague. The most that is expected of the Clegg discovery is to aid the study of leprosy; it is a step forward in investigation; and it brings nearer the day when leprosy if not made curable may be prevented and finally overcome.

There was never any sound reason to think that leprosy could always baffle medical skill. The disease was called incurable because doctors did not care to meddle with it. For ages they let it alone or turned it over to the police. When medicine and surgery got on their modern footing, the diseases which menaced civilized races naturally received the most study. There was no particular incentive to spend time on the maladies that killed off superfluous Asiatics. But more lately science has reached out beyond the sphere of convenience; and now some of the best medical minds of the world are working out the leprosy problem. It is not mere optimism that prophesies their success, especially in view of the latest discovery.

WHOLLY UN-AMERICAN.

Some of the legislators seem to have the idea that they are the whole thing in Hawaii and are not only above the sphere of press criticism but of the personal advice of their constituents and even the right of petition. It was bad enough to hear the Speaker of the House say that he might exclude the press from the sessions of that body, but it was worse when he threatened to arrest citizens who were trying to impress their views of public questions upon the members who are supposed to represent them in legislative matters; and after that, one might well have been prepared for the objections now made to the receipt of petitions and memorials.

If Hawaii had a Legislature which, as a whole, stood for intelligence and responsibility, such a state of things would be impossible. We doubt that a law-making body anywhere else in the United States would think for a moment of abridging the liberty of the press or the rights of petition or of verbal communication with any legislator or any public servant. Ideas like these come down from barbarism; they are the product of dull understandings and of untrained citizenship, and they show how utterly out of tune with American ideas is at least one element in our Territorial government.

The historic friendship between Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt will need to have been made of tough fiber to stand the strain which the new administration is putting on it. In making up his cabinet Taft rather conspicuously overlooked Roosevelt's friends; and the summary order restoring the marines to ships before the new Roosevelt system has had a fair trial, looks like the slap direct. In the reorganization of the Department of Justice the point is ostentatiously made that the department will no longer be manned by politicians but by lawyers; and that friends of the J. P. Morgan interest will be conspicuous by their absence. This can not be pleasant reading to the strenuous but powerless gentleman now at sea.

The Tokio Asahi reports that the Tokio Chamber of Commerce on the 9th instant received the following communication from the Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce in reference to the anti-Japanese agitation on the Pacific slopes: "The Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce regrets that an anti-Japanese agitation has been started in California, and fears the continuation of such a movement will badly affect the cordial relations between America and Japan. The Massachusetts business men are therefore resolved to make a joint protest against the action of the Californians, warning the latter to discontinue the agitation against Japan, which has important commercial relations with the United States and which now occupies first rank among the nations."

Servia might as well have spared herself the cost of war preparations. Any Balkan State ought to know after thirty years' experience that the great powers will not permit a small one to start a European conflagration. That is a settled policy. To ignore it and waste money on mobilizing an army is the most fantastic venture a Balkan government could make, excepting to utter an actual declaration of war.

Mr. Roosevelt's adventures began at sea in the purported attempt of an Italian steamer passenger to murder him. It is probably a stroke of good luck for the Italian that he did not get close enough to the ex-President to make his purpose clear. The latter is known to have a hip pocket and to be exceedingly nimble in employing it.

Representative Castro made a stand in the House yesterday against the scheme to turn over the enforcement of the liquor law to deputy sheriffs which was creditable to him. Mr. Castro, like his colleague, Mr. Correa, is proving that the young men of Portuguese blood are capable of doing much in public life for the general advancement of the Territory.

Nothing has lately taken the measure of the Senate majority so well as its refusal to help protect the Territory from capethaggers because it did not like some candid truths from A. L. C. Atkinson about the ethics of pledge-breaking.

As well turn a sick man over to a jury to tell what ails him as an insane man to the same tribunal to diagnose his case. Questions of this sort are for experts, not juries. What Hawaii needs is a Lunacy Commission of three doctors.

Happily for Honolulu there are no ships in these parts to put the local machines on.

Hotel street, Ewa of Fort, promises to become the Bowery of Honolulu.

DOLE SPEAKS ON SOCIAL QUESTIONS

(Continued From Page One.)

lite bridge whist gambling games, to stand by and see the poor Chinaman sent to prison for practically the same offense. This is decidedly wrong. It is to be found in most of the large cities of the United States, as well as here in Honolulu. Either have no law at all or let the people keep it themselves.

With regard to the so-called social evil, there is a great movement on, because it has been seen that this touches the foundation of society. Men who know better or should know better are undermining the structure of beautiful homes, and ruining the social standing of wives and mothers. It is an outrage against society."

Mr. Dole then spoke of the new definition of business: "All business is social service," saying that a new idea had lately worked in business, that being the one guiding law of the golden rule. He said that it had been and is being worked successfully by some of the ablest business men of the world.

The race problem was then taken up. Mr. Dole stating that it is one in which mankind is taking a great amount of interest. He stated emphatically that in Honolulu there was a better condition of solution of this question than in almost any other place in the world. The problem is not on the Pacific Coast, in South Africa, and in some of the Southern States, as well as Hawaii. This problem, he said, there are only two ways of considering—first, in an attitude of suspicion, of race jealousy, this leading, of course, to strife; and, second, in an attitude of sympathy, kindness and humanity, which no one has yet fairly tried and found not to work successfully.

Mr. Dole spoke of the great movement now in favor of peace as against war, stating that the world is crying for peace. He said that some people contended that all the expense of preparing for war with armies and navies was in reality a preparation for peace. Mr. Dole, however, compared the excitement of preparing for war to that exhibited by our forefathers at the time the agitation against witchcraft went on. He suggested that the United States, being one of the most powerful and advanced nations, drop preparations for war and make rather for international peace, when, he said, the other nations would undoubtedly follow the good example.

The great need today, said Mr. Dole, is for the nations to treat each other as neighbors; to reach across the seas with a friendly hand. This would do more to solve the great race problem than anything else, and it would ultimately bring about the desired peace at all times between nations.

CHINESE ARE NEEDED

(Continued From Page One.)

are internal improvements worth several hundred thousand dollars to be done in the Islands within the next few years and without the help of the Chinese laborers, I do not think they can ever be handled."

Mr. Lanier is a very entertaining talker, and he related some of the peculiar situations which he had run across during the prosecution of cases in the Philippines. Spanish is still the official language of the Islands, all lawyer's briefs having to be submitted before the Courts in Spanish. Nevertheless, Judge Lanier said last evening that after the present year, he did not think that this would be the case, English being now used a great deal more than Spanish. He said that there were more Filipinos speaking English in the public schools of Manila at the present time than there were speaking Spanish during the 375 years' reign of that country. "I prosecuted a lot of forty-seven burglars one time at Puerto Princesa, on the island of Palawan—which is the nearest island of the group to Borneo—and during those cases four languages and twelve dialects were brought into use. The languages were English, Spanish, Chinese, and Tagalog, the latter being the language of the principal tribe of natives in the islands. There were twelve dialects of it to be translated, however, and, I can assure you,

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it was a complex case." Judge Lanier will probably pass through here on the return voyage in about three months, he having been granted that amount of time to make the trip to Washington. His wife accompanies him.

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