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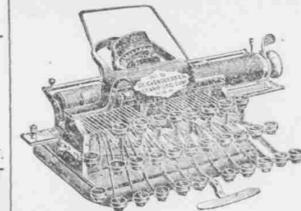
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UNCLE SAM BOYS

Meeting to Arrange for a Welcome to Them.

RALLY AT DRILL SHED TONIGHT

Many Suggestions Are Made—Question of Shore Leave—Probable Sailing Program.

The Drill Shed meeting this evening is a public rally and is for the purpose of arranging reception and entertainment of United States ships, crews and soldiers en route to Manila. The gathering is or happens to be under the auspices of the Hawaiian Fourth of July committee of 1897. This is because that was the organized body by which the matter was first considered. No criticism on this score has been heard and there can hardly be any dissatisfaction or questioning. The committee is composed of about seventy-five prominent citizens, with Geo. W. Smith as chairman and the meeting tonight will be a thoroughly representative convention.

A good many suggestions for the extension of Hawaii's aloha to Uncle Sam's boys have been made. First and foremost it may be taken for granted that they will be given music and refreshments. Details can be settled later.

The first visitors to be looked after may be here on Sunday or Monday next. There is no official information as to the movements of transports or supply ships. From all that the Advertiser is able to gather, those who are giving the matter the most attention figure: That the City of Peking will leave first with ammunition and men and supplies generally for Dewey, that she will be sent post haste from San Francisco, stopping here but a few hours for coal and that she will be along; second, the Australia and City of Sydney are to come with men and to be under the convoy of the U. S. S. Charleston, a white ship not unknown in this port. The ammunition for the cargo of the Peking was supposed to have reached San Francisco from one to two days after the Gaelic sailed. Meantime, the three auxiliary ships were being prepared for the voyage. They will travel high speed to this port and here replenish coal bunkers.

To a gentleman who will be in close communication with the three merchantmen and the man-of-war on arrival, there was yesterday broached the question of doubt. It was not believed that any number of the men would be permitted to come ashore. The officers will be in town as they like. This situation will not at all interfere with entertainment of the Americans. There would be some extra pleasure in it for the town people if they had the task of going off in all kinds of craft to the transports.

It was stated yesterday in an official quarter that the Alert might come down here and give the Bennington a chance to go on to Manila. The arrival there was yesterday broached the question of doubt. It was not believed that any number of the men would be permitted to come ashore. The officers will be in town as they like. This situation will not at all interfere with entertainment of the Americans. There would be some extra pleasure in it for the town people if they had the task of going off in all kinds of craft to the transports.

At the meeting tonight the plan of having a holiday in town if the opportunity seems to justify, will be advanced. If any number of men in transit are given shore liberty it will be considered proper for business houses and Government offices to close at least part of a day. This will give "all hands" the chance to assist in attentions to the callers.

Tennis Tournament
It is now settled by the committee that the annual tournament of the Hawaiian Tennis Association will be held next month. Entries will open at the Hobron Drug Company store on June 8th, closing June 13th at 5 p. m. Play begins the 15th. Gentlemen must pay

\$1 registration fee. Ladies free. The tournament will include men's singles and doubles, ladies' singles and mixed doubles. J. Q. Wood has been agreed upon as referee. Walter Dillingham stated yesterday that he would not be able to play in the tournament. During the preliminaries all the courts of the city will be used.

On Vacation.

James Bicknell, W. F. Storey and W. E. Beckwith, all employees of the Custom House, left for Maui on the Claudine yesterday, to indulge in a two weeks' well-earned vacation. They will go to Kahului first and from that place will make visits to other points on Maui. They are thinking of making the ascent of Haleakala.

A MIDNIGHT FIRE

Blaze in Wharf Warehouse of Hackfeld & Co.

Large Storage of General Merchandise Damaged—300 Sacks of Wool—A Red Hot Roof.

The fire department was called out just at the crack of midnight. The alarm was sent to the telephone offices from the Customs service watch of last night. At first it thought a ship was burning. The direction was to run to the Pacific Mail wharf. Two steamers and the chemical engine made good time to the water front. It was found that the fire was inside the large warehouse of H. Hackfeld & Co., Ltd., just mauka of the shed of the Pacific Mail wharf.

Suction pipes from the steamers were dropped into the bay. There seemed quite a wait for water. The high wind interfered with getting up steam. The chemical was taken on the dock, but could not get inside the building from that region. It was then brought to the town side, where one of the large double doors had been forced. A minute after chemical streams were applied there came water from both steamers. In about ten minutes there was no more fire.

Damage will amount to several thousand dollars. The storage place was well filled. Everything inside was injured. The contents included 300 sacks of wool, bundles of sugar bags, sacks of flour, nails, matches, rope, wire, boxes of cloth and prints, in short merchandise of all kinds. Considerable harm must have been done by water, though Chief Hunt tried to avoid this loss.

The fire seemed to have started in about the center of the building. It seized well on the roof timbers, as the iron covering was red hot for many yards. Archie Gillilan was on hand for the owners, but after interviewing watchmen and others thought it was only common guessing to attempt to say what caused the blaze. Any loose fire might have been carried through a ventilator by the prevailing wind, or a cigar or cigarette stump with fire might have been left inside during the day. Water was played on the place for perhaps half an hour. Then a force of Hackfeld men went to work. The captain of the steamer Cape Otway ran a line of hose from his vessel. There will in all likelihood be a fire inquest.

Two Civil Cases.

Judges Perry and Stanley of the Circuit Court had juries and civil cases on "their hands" yesterday. Before Judge Perry it was a dispute between J. H. Fisher and McChesney & Sons, growing out of an assignment, at one time made by Poppleton, the baker.

Frank Ferreira, assistant hack inspector, is defendant in a case before Judge Stanley. Ferreira, as an officer, forced an entrance to a residence on Punchbowl. There is a claim for \$300 of damages. In the lower Court the damage award was \$5.

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FOR THE CABLE

Exclusive Franchise Bill Passed By the Senate.

HOUSE ON APPROPRIATIONS

More Assistants for the Courts. The Band Will Play During the Period.

SENATE.

Seventy-eighth Day, May 17.

The cable bill passed third reading. Not only was the original amendment carried, to which the Executive is opposed, making it necessary to secure the approval of the Secretary of State of the United States before the contract with the cable company becomes operative, but an additional amendment was passed providing that such approval shall be secured within six months from the date of the approval of the bill. Attorney-General Smith and Minister Damon, vigorously attacked the exclusive feature in the bill. Senator Hocking asked if the result of its passage would not in effect be a vote of want of confidence in the Executive. His right to discussion was questioned by Senator Brown on the point of order that there was no motion before the Senate. Senator Hocking endeavored to make it debatable by a motion to lay on the table, which is non-debatable. The motion was lost and the bill passed, by a vote of 10 to 1, Senator Hocking voting in the negative.

Senator Brown's substitute opium bill, placing the importation and sale under the authority of the Board of Health, passed second reading. Third reading was set for Wednesday.

Minister Cooper reported several acts signed by the President. Three bills were returned from the Printing Committee.

The bill to create a marine park on the east side of the harbor was reported on with recommendation for passage. Reports were also made on the House amendments to the Land Act and recommending the bill to license the local manufacture of grapes. These reports were received to be considered with the bills.

The Public Lands Committee recommended the passage of the bill relating to the construction of railways over tide water.

Two bills, introduced by Minister Cooper, making slight amendments to the Land Act and confirming the sale of two lots of land in North Kona, passed first reading and went to the Printing Committee.

HOUSE.

Rep. Isenberg reported for the Military Committee on certain items in the appropriation bill in part, as follows:

"We find that, during the last session of the Legislature the appropriation for the support of military pay roll was \$133,700.50, but of this amount only \$112,009.92 was used, leaving a balance for Government realization of \$21,690.58. This was accomplished through very conservative management, and we believe that the appropriation asked for at this session of the Legislature, namely: \$110,000.00 is an extremely reasonable one, and knowing as we do, that the Minister of Foreign Affairs will expend no more of the appropriation of this department than he deems absolutely necessary, we would recommend that the sum of \$110,000 asked for be granted."

"The appropriation of \$36,000 asked for the maintenance of the band is the same as that passed at the last session of the Legislature, and we recommend that it be granted."

Rep. Gear reported for the Committee on Health on a large number of items. This report was laid on the table to be considered with the bill. Rep. Robertson reported for the Judiciary Committee on certain items in the appropriation bill. Report laid on the bill to be considered with the bill. Rep. Loebenstein made two reports for the Public Lands Committee. The same course was taken with these. The appropriation bill was taken up on second reading. The President's salary went through as in the bill. When it came to the item of \$4,000 for Princess Kaiulani, the majority of the committee report, raising the amount to \$6,000 was moved adopted. Rep.

McCandless moved to strike out the item but this motion was not seconded. The next discussion arose on the item of \$1,800 for the fourth clerk of the First Circuit. The committee recommended striking out the whole thing and doing away with the office altogether. Rep. Gear objected and moved for passage of the item as in the bill. He read a communication from the Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court in which he stated that the Chief Justice's opinion on the matter had not been asked.

Rep. Robertson objected to the language of Clerk Henry Smith in saying that the committee had not made proper investigation. The clerk himself had been seen and also others who know about the workings of the Court.

Rep. Achi was a little stronger in his language. Clerks of the Court were in the habit of taking outside work and of using the time that should be given to their regular duties. The Chief Clerk himself went to Maui not long ago on business outside of his duties. He charged the estate he was working for a certain amount of money for his services and at the same time drew his salary from the Government. This did not look as if there was enough work to keep four clerks busy.

The recommendation of the committee was adopted and the office of fourth clerk abolished.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Upon arrival at the item of \$12,000 for the salary of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister Cooper arose and gave the President's sentiments.

Minister Damon stated that the matter was a delicate one and particularly so, from the fact that the President had recommended the raise in salary. However, for the present it was not a question of salaries that should agitate this Legislature. There were more important matters to be considered. The men in the present Ministry should stand by the President in the matter of the original salaries to show the people they were not in office for coin but to see the country out of a very unpleasant situation. "We are not out of the woods yet," said Minister Damon. "I cannot speak for my colleagues but I believe they think the same as I do. I think it is a mistake to change the salaries one dollar."

Various members spoke on the matter and the item finally passed at \$9,000.

The House adjourned at 3:25 p. m.

NOT NEUTRALITY.

Tenor of Dispatches Sent on to Washington.

There was not a great deal of news to the Government by the Gaelic. From Minister Hatch and Mr. Thurston there were letters without special features in the information line. The intimation is given that annexation is or appears to be very near. It is stated, however, that "war legislation" has the right of way. The Administration at Washington is eager as ever to effect annexation.

Important and significant dispatches have been sent by the Cabinet here to Washington. A Government member approached on the subject spoke with much caution and extreme reserve. He said in substance, but rather without committing himself to the expression, that Hawaii had sent word that the United States would receive at this port all the favors "consistent with the relations of the two countries, past and present." It was hinted that this definition of attitude might be accepted quite liberally.

The South Sea Island leper mentioned several days ago as having escaped from the Kalihii receiving station, was found dead in a barn in Palama, Monday night. The man when taken from his home first was very feeble. He was quite aged and said that he preferred death to separation from his friends.

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