

EVENING BULLETIN

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The story of the transport Sheridan, disaster has resolved itself into a discussion of how many drinks the newspaperist had before he got into port.

The Stoggett-Brod relief expedition to the residents of Kewalo is sufficiently gratifying to the people of the city to warrant the hand and loan accommodations.

Boss Croker's retirement from the political field and his naming an educated man in his place shows that even Boss Croker can read the signs of the times. Bruce force in politics has seen its best days.

President Schwab of the Steel Trust is being kept busy denying that he has been struggling with the bank at Monte Carlo. Schwab evidently realizes that Monte Carlo is beyond the power of even Steel Trust millions to absorb.

If Bishop Potter of New York knows when he is well off he will keep out of Aggahan church troubles in Hawaii. Judging from local experience of the past these affairs are very easy to get into but are worse than a church fair when it comes to a struggle to get out.

The man who has been granted the privilege of taking material from a neighbor's grounds will do well to conduct his operations in the day time. It will be remarkable indeed if some innocent citizen is not treated to an ounce or two of lead while this burglar is on.

A possible reduction of 25 per cent on Cuba and 35 per cent on Philippine cigars suggests that the newest possession want the captain of established industry to pay them the highest price possible for the privilege of extending civilization to the four corners of the globe.

With German and British leaders occupying their time exchanging advisory compliments, the visit of Prince Henry to the States suggests that Emperor William is putting an anchor to windward that he may have the kindly assistance of one branch of the English speaking alliance in case of trouble.

British concentration camps in South Africa are fast gaining an unsavory reputation as did Spain's operations in Cuba. The death rate among the innocent women and children is increasing terribly, and has done more to arouse the sympathy of American and British than any incident of the war.

All things being equal there is every reason why insurance should be placed with local agencies as against those in San Francisco. Competition is the life of trade, but it is every businessman's duty to favor the men of his own town when he can do so without a distinct loss. Money that is made here should be expended here so far as possible.

Myron T. Herrick, head of the National McKinley Memorial movement remarks that the majority of the contributors are coming from wage earners and school children. Rich men are not giving in proportion to their wealth or number. It is to be hoped the wealthy men of Hawaii will give a better account of themselves than Mainlanders have thus far registered.

If the Governor will do his plain duty by calling on the Legislature for funds to carry on work that is mandatory, the sanitary conditions of Honolulu can be promptly and effectively put in proper shape. There is neither reason nor excuse in setting forth the claim that Honolulu and Hawaii are as incapable of taking care of themselves as Havana and Cuba were just after the close of the war.

President Roosevelt's firm stand against any exclusion measure directed at Japan is a reminder to the people that they must support the treaties made with friendly nations. Japan stands on the same footing as European nations and exclusion of her people from the United States would be sufficient ground for severing diplomatic relations and the inevitable result.

Opinions of the sugar men on outlook as presented by the drop in the market vary with the expense account of the plantations in which they are interested. Some of our cases can make a profit on a more depressed market than is presented today, while others are close to the point of possible deficit. The condition is by no means a pleasant one even for the plantations of high yield and the best facilities for irrigation and handling same. It means a reduction of dividends, which coupled with serious labor problems calls for the greatest economy campaign the managers have ever experienced. While our friends in Congress are figuring on what they can do to assist Cuba and the Philippines, they should not forget that there is an enormous amount of invested capital both here and on the Mainland which both are in duty bound to protect. The policy of robbing Peter to pay Paul can never accomplish any lasting benefit.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT FOR HAWAII.

"Fight it tooth and nail." This is the advice given the citizens of the Territory by the official organ of the Governor when dealing with the proposal to prepare the way for the inauguration of municipal government.

Supposing the municipal plan is fought, what is to be gained? This fight if made must be carried out on the grounds of the thorough incompetence of the voters to comprehend the duties devolving upon them as citizens of the town, the county or the city. The contention must then be based on grounds and supported by arguments which in every detail offer and proclaim an outspoken denial of every claim presented by the ruling faction of these islands for annexation to the United States in the first place and a denial of every assertion made to secure the favorable consideration of Congress for an advanced Territorial law. Hawaii claimed to be Americanized, if it has not reached the point where it can allow the people of the general districts to govern themselves under the American municipal system. Its Americanization is a misnomer and a fraud.

Furthermore, if we are not ready to take up municipal government now when will that happy period arrive? When the Hawaiian-Americans, whom the Governor's organ hates, have all died off, or when the Territory becomes populated by sufficient American born citizens, who have had the experience of living in towns and cities of the Mainland, to make up a majority of the electorate? According to the Dole-Thurston program this seems to be the only hope they have and to realize on it the Territory must wait till the present generation is dead and gone before the establishment of municipal government can be thought of.

The program of the Dole organ is nonsense and is so recognized by the thoughtful citizen of this city and the Territory at large. It bespeaks a policy of the people governed rather than governing and is foreign to every fact and theory of American development and advancement on traditional lines. The people of this Territory must learn to govern themselves and the only possible avenue open for them to learn is by the experience they will gain as the American forefathers gained, in the town meeting and in the city council. Fortunately for as many of the problems of self-government have been threshed out by over a hundred years of experiment and experience. Municipal government has not been perfected but it has been steadily improved. What we of Hawaii have then to do is to select the best from the experience of others and adapt it to the conditions as they exist today in districts of Honolulu, Hilo, Waikuku and the county districts throughout the Territory. If we are to be forever putting off this struggle with local self-government from what source are the young men to learn of the primary principles of American government? They can read of it in books but not one in a hundred will do it. They must learn by experience, by putting their shoulders to the wheel with honesty of purpose and firm determination. The Thurston-Dole policy is that they are better off without the knowledge. As well say that Hawaii would have been happier and better today had the missionary and the educator never have come to the place. Local and municipal governments have been and are now being established throughout the Philippines where the people never knew what American aspirations were till the troops landed. Are citizens of Hawaii less worthy or less capable of self-government than the Filipinos? Neither Mr. Dole nor Mr. Thurston can get up one competent claim in opposition to the theory or practice of local self-rule. They can condemn, they can heap imprecations upon the electorate, call all Hawaiian-Americans corrupt and all Americans carpet baggers and thieves, but they cannot regenerate the electorate by such means. Every man of self respect will resent such a policy as the official organ stands sponsor for and will justly register the resentment at the polls.

Mr. Dole or Mr. Thurston or any of their following to the contrary notwithstanding the people of this Territory have made up their minds to advancement along "traditional American lines," and that the inauguration of municipal government shall be the next important step. The duty of the honest citizen is to use every endeavor to shape this determination that it may bring the best results. Fighting it is worse than useless and becomes an exhibiting of the fool and his folly. There has been time and to spare for deliberation and study. Much of it has been wasted. A full six months has passed with nothing done towards perfecting plans framed previous to and during the session of the legislature. There yet remains another six months before the campaign will be on for the election of the second Territorial Legislature. Will the thoughtful citizens waste more time and then in later years condemn themselves for their indifference and try to shoulder the results of their own folly upon someone else, or will they do their duty as becomes energetic, public spirited Americans?

When it comes right down to a discussion of bedrock motives, the only solution Thurston has for the political problems of Hawaii is that the whole business shall be put in his hands to run as he pleases. Such a misfortune being beyond the range of possibility, the only Thurston makes up his mind to fight every progressive measure and thereby postpone it.

THE QUESTION OF CONTEMPT OF COURT.

(Sacramento Bee.) Judge Barrett, a member of Congress from Georgia, has introduced a bill in the House to regulate the trial of cases for contempt of court. It provides that judges may summarily punish acts of contempt committed in the court, but that those accused of contempt outside the court shall be entitled to a jury trial. That is right and proper. There is

no divinity that doth hedge in a judge that should render him above criticism.

The people and the press have some rights which even autocratic judges should be made to respect. A judge should have ample power to preserve order and decorum within his court. But to permit him to fine or imprison for contempt those who, on the streets or in the press, denounce what they believe to be prejudiced or corrupt decisions, is to give him the power to suppress free speech, to, in fact, transform this country into a Siberia.

Honest and conscientious judges will not object to the Federal law proposed by Judge Barrett, and the views of those on the judiciary who are not above reproach should not be considered in this matter.

Of course, this law will appertain only to the Federal courts. A similar one should be enacted in every State in the land, applicable to all grades of the judiciary, from the lowest court to the Supreme.

A law of this kind known as the Barry Law is on the statute books of California. The pith thereof is as follows: No speech or publication reflecting upon or concerning any court, or any officer thereof, shall be treated or punished as a contempt of court, unless made in the immediate presence of such court while in session, and in such a manner as to actually interfere with its proceedings.

That law, however, was contemptuously set aside by the late Judge A. P. Cavin in the proceedings for contempt against the editor of The Bee. And when the case was appealed to the Supreme Court, that tribunal evaded the question of the constitutionality of the Barry Law, deciding the case on other issues.

An attempt was made during the session of 1897 to frame the Barry Law into a constitutional amendment, but it failed.

It should be tried again. Such a law is needed, and the Barry Law is a doubtful proposition—at least with the judges.

YACHT MYRTLE HAS NO GOLD CENTER-BOARD

Editor Evening Bulletin: I would like, through your paper, to say a word or two about the Myrtle not entering in Sunday's race.

Several letters have appeared lately in the Star, accusing us of being "cold-footed" and saying we have the "chilled center-board," etc. Whoever says that does not know what he is talking about.

The Myrtle owner has never yet been cold-footed in any racing proposition, and has always gone into the races with a true love of sport—the intention of winning if he could. The Myrtle's record ought to convince the most skeptical person that there is nothing of the "chilled center-board" about her, or her owner and crew. She is the smallest craft in the fleet and competes against boats away out of her class in size and sail area and heretofore has had to race off the mark, without any handicap whatever. The owner is doing his best to get his yacht down to race against the new craft, but owing to very important business finds it almost impossible to do so. He is not cashing in on the race, but is in, and as far as being afraid to race against any of the boats in his class—well, the sooner the opportunity comes along when he can do so, the better he will like it.

The remarks of the Star were entirely uncalled for and without any foundation whatever, and the originator of the same, with all due respect, is entirely ignorant of what he is talking about. The same old cry about the Myrtle—"What a jewel she is!"—has been raised every time a new boat has been built, but one of the craft that has been built to race in her class has been considerably larger, and some of them carry more than twice the amount of sail than the little "Patiki."

CORONER'S INQUEST.

The coroner's jury in the case of the death of Thomas E. Krouse met at the police station early yesterday afternoon and proceeded to the Queen's Hospital, where the remains were viewed. The jury then went to the morgue in the Arlington, where the Japanese chambermaid was examined. At the police station, the jury heard the evidence of Dr. Wood and then rendered the following verdict:

That the said Thomas E. Krouse came to his death at Honolulu, Island of Oahu, on the 23d day of January, A. D. 1920, the result of a bullet wound from a .38-caliber revolver, fired by himself with suicidal intent, said bullet entering the abdominal cavity, causing hemorrhage and shock. In dependency, so this jury, believes, being the cause of his death.

W. H. CONEY, ALLAN DUNN, THOS. R. LUCAS, F. SMITH, R. M. DUNCAN, C. A. GRAHAM, A. M. BROWN, Coroner.

CHILE WANTS BOBBS.

London, Jan. 15.—According to the Copenhagen correspondent of the Daily Mail, Lieut. Col. Lindholm of the Chilean cavalry, who is passing through Copenhagen on his way to Holland, bears a proposition from the Chilean Government to the effect that this Government is prepared to make liberal offers to attract better immigration. Lieut. Col. Lindholm will submit this proposition to Dr. Leyds, the European agent of the Transvaal.

KILLED BABY SISTER.

Wichita, Kas., Jan. 15.—Nellie Cornebison, the 11-year-old girl who killed her baby sister with a razor yesterday and charged her 2-year-old brother with the crime, confessed today that she did it, but was unable to assign any reason for the act. She said the notion to kill her sister came into her head and that she could not resist her sudden passion for blood.

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