

# The Hawaiian Star

DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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GEORGE F. HENSHALL.....EDITOR.  
 TUESDAY ..... JANUARY 4, 1910

**BACK TO THE PARTIES.**

The Oregon experiment with a new primary law and a spirit of non-partisanship in local politics has been watched with much interest. It appears to have been a failure,—the last election of a United States Senator was a scandalous affair. It has been found that the direct primary system, doing away with party conventions, resulted in endless confusion and the men able to fight their way to the top of the mess were not the men who ought to be there. The result now is general return to the party convention system,—not the absolute "straight ticket" plan, but a system of party organization, party discipline and loyalty, under which the great parties will fight as before. Without such a system, the better elements are almost certain either to split up into factions which nullify one another's efforts, or to retire altogether in disgust. Says the Portland Oregonian:

Men have a right to associate in parties. Having this right, they have also the right to use all honorable means to carry their purposes into practice and action. Men of sense and judgment can not expect, do not expect, to pursue, each for himself, a separate and disconnected part. It is right, as necessary, therefore, to combine, to come to agreement, to concerted action in the primary election. This is all that the convention or assemble means. Organization is indispensable to party action. Nothing can be effected without it. Here the representative system must come in. Here is demonstration of the necessity of consultation before the primary. The primary, without the direction or guidance thus proposed, will split the dominant party of a State into its separate units. It will prevent or defeat all combination of men having general common ideas about the welfare of the State for the measures necessary to preserve and promote them. Party is nothing, in itself, indeed; but it is an indispensable agent and factor, for support of any sane and definite policy in government of the people, for the people, and by the people. The minority party in a State may pretend to think otherwise, but it will always hold together and fight for its purposes, nevertheless. One of its favorite methods—while it sticks to its own party ideals—is to pretend there is nothing in a party that should hold the allegiance or the attention of the opposition majority. Of this insincerity there have been exhibits in Oregon, enough to open men's eyes. In a free country there is no way to effect anything in politics except through party organization.

Subscriptions to the Kaimuki observatory fund have been coming in fast. But there is more needed. Everyone should try to help, no matter in how small a way, to give Honolulu a fine astronomical observatory.

**A WONDERFUL HEAVENLY VISITOR.**

Halley, whose name is given to the comet now on its way toward this planet, was the first to identify the comet which he saw and observed in 1682 with that observed by Apian in 1531 and by Kepler in 1607, and he predicted that it would again swim into our ken in 1758, says the London Globe. As a matter of fact the comet reappeared in 1759, and since Halley's time it has been traced back to B. C. 11, re-occurring at intervals of from 75 to 75 1-4 years, and Cowell and Crommelin have found themselves justified in adding to this table, backward, the years B. C. 87 (May) and 240 (May), with no identification possible for the immediate return in June, 163 B. C. though comets are vaguely mentioned in the years 166 and 165.

Hind treated as Halley's a comet which appeared in July, 1223, and was regarded as the precursor of the death of Philip Augustus, king of France. In the April of the year 1066, the year in which the Norman conquest took place, a remarkable comet attracted the attention of all Europe. In England it was viewed with especial alarm, and the success of the Norman invasion and the death of Harold were attributed to the comet's baneful influence. Zonares, the Greek historian, in his account of the reign of the Emperor Constantinus Ducas (whose death occurred in May, 1067), describes a comet which was as large as the full moon, and at first was without a tail, on the appearance of which it (which presumably means the head) diminished in size.

This transformation accords with the Chinese accounts, which describe the comet's path among the stars, in Chinese fashion with great elaboration. The Chinese say that this object was visible for 67 days, after which "the star, the vapour, and the comet" all disappeared. It seems fairly certain that this was Halley's comet. At any rate it was immortalized in the famous Bayeux tapestry.

The Chinese record two comets, one in July, 65, which remained visible for 56 days, and the other in February, 66, which, remained visible 50 days. Hind suggestion that most likely the last named was Halley's comet, if the perihelion passage took place at the end of January, and Cowell and Crommelin have definitely confirmed this. Not improbably it was the sign recorded as having hung over the city of Jerusalem before the commencement of the war which terminated in the destruction of the holy city.

Josephus says that several prodigies announced the destruction of Jerusalem. "Among other warnings, a comet, of the kind called Xiphias, because their tails appear to represent the blade of a sword, was seen above the city for the space of a whole year." Josephus rebuked his countrymen for listening to false prophets while so notable a sign was in the heavens.

The Supreme Court of the United States, after ten years succession of contradicting decisions, has decided that sake is a wine. It ought now to have time to give proper consideration to the treasury department ruling that an oyster is a wild animal.

No matter which way it is looked at, Uncle Sam takes the polar honors. He either has two discoveries, or one discoverer and the best take in recent history.

The sake decision in Washington costs this community over a million dollars. The manner in which it was finally reached exemplifies well the absurdity of our modern legal procedure. Volumes of arguments have been poured forth and vast sums spent in court hear-

**Our office is the Place**

where people seeking furnished or unfurnished cottages, and other people having such places for rent, most often meet. That is why our rental department is always so busy.

**TRENT TRUST CO., LIMITED**

**ALAMEDA "TALKS"**

The following wireless has been received by the agents of the S. S. Alameda:

January 3, 1910.

"Alameda 8 p. m. All well 65 cabin passengers 15 steerage. 286 sacks mail and Wells Fargo express, 1115 tons cargo."

**DANGER FROM CROUP.**

A few minutes delay in treating some cases of croup, even the length of time it takes to go for a doctor often proves dangerous. The safest way is to keep Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in the house, and at the first indication of croup give the child a dose. Pleasant to take and always cures. For sale by all dealers, Benson Smith & Co. agents for Hawaii.

Fine Job Printing, Star Office.

## Commercial News

BY L. D. TIMMONS.

A beginning was made yesterday in the way of actual sales of stock following the holidays, transactions in both Hawaiian Commercial and Ewa having been put through. Of the former 35 shares found a buyer at \$38 which was an advance of a dollar over previous sales. This advance was due in a large measure to the official announcement of increase of dividends. At the close of the session \$37.75 was bid and \$38 asked for the stock.

Between boards 25 and 175 Ewa sold at \$32.25. This morning on 'Change 5 shares changed hands at \$32.25. As this follows heavy dividends the figure is considered good. For the stock \$32 was still bid and \$32.50 asked.

**BABBITT AT WORK.**

W. H. Babbitt, the new labor trustee of the Planters Association, has established his desk inside the assembly hall of the Association in the Judd building. This will be his headquarters until his departure in the near future for Porto Rico, where he will go to enlist for the cane fields such relations of laborers now here as may care to come to these islands. Mr. Babbitt stated this morning that it had not been decided who would accompany him on his labor quests.

**POLLITZ TO RETURN.**

Ed. Pollitz stated this morning that he would return to San Francisco by the Siberia sailing next Saturday. When he came down it was understood that he would remain a couple of months, and the shortening of his stay

is taken to mean that he will finish up his business this week.

**SAKE CASES LOST.**

The cable from Washington to the effect that the Supreme Court has decided sake to be a wine means that Tom Fitch and his local clients have lost their long-drawn out case. And it has been an expensive proposition. Fitch and Johnson, the latter a customs broker, took this case years ago. They felt so certain of winning that they accepted the fight on condition that they be paid so much when victory had been achieved. But the case hung fire. The Supreme Court took its time, Johnson died and Colonel Thomas needed money for expenses. He first collected nearly \$2,000 and lat-

(Continued on Page Five.)

## Lest You Forget

The Alameda sailing

Jan. 12 is our next

fruit load.

**Island Fruit Co.**

72 King Street. Phone 15

ings, special investigations, etc., to settle the little question of whether sake is a beer or a wine. There have been decisions both ways by most learned authorities. The New York court of appraisers, naturally regarded as the highest authority in the land in tariff matters, unanimously decided in favor of the importers. The Supreme Court of the United States yesterday decided the matter the other way. Such litigation, while decisive, is not convincing. No one need change his opinion on account of rulings arrived at in this way,—there is no assurance that justice is done.

Suppose Peary had not reached the Pole, but had come back a year or so from now, or had perished in the Arctic, what would have been Cook's status? Might he not have passed into history as the discoverer of the North Pole?

**Butternut Bread**

PEOPLE TELL US THE BREAD FROM OUR OVENS IS BETTER THAN IT HAS EVER BEEN. IF YOU ARE NOT A CUSTOMER NOW IS THE TIME TO ENROLL.

**PALMCAFE, Hotel Union, Phone 311**



**FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS.**

Hold still there! do not say to ye! the missus said to stuff ye wif chest-nuts an' I'm going to do it if ye choke.

Big Sale of  
 1910 Styles  
 in Ladies'  
 Waists

at

**JORDAN'S**

BEFORE THE NEW YEAR

## Get a Diary!

Complete stock of Excelsior Diaries, both office and pocket. Leather and cloth covers.

**Hawaiian News Company, Ltd.,**

Alexander Young Building.

**More Light  
 and  
 Less Current**

Our new Gem lamps will give you 20 per cent. more light and ten per cent. reduction in current over the ordinary 16-cp lamp.

**Price \$3.00 a Dozen**

We advise the use of these Gem 50-watt lamps in place of the regular 16-cp lamps.

**The Hawaiian Electric Co.,**

# START

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**AnSCO Camera  
 AnSCO Films  
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