

HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

RODERICK O. MATHESON

EDITOR

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CHARLES S. CRANE, Manager.

FRIDAY

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THE SUGAR OUTLOOK.

The current Willett & Gray statistical report of October 23, 1913, presents some features which to a layman appear significant. The prediction is advanced that beginning in 1914 Cuba, which is always looked upon as a sort of bug-a-bear by Hawaiian sugar planters, will begin to seek other markets than the United States to which to sell sugar. The logic of this prophecy is that when the free-sugar provision of the Underwood Tariff Law becomes effective in 1916 Cuba will not only lose all preferential advantage conferred by the reciprocity treaty but will be absolutely at the mercy of the American importers and refiners. The lack of a compact Cuban planter organization like that we have in Hawaii and the impossibility of ever getting planters close enough together to form an effective working organization has made a good many of the more progressive planters fearful of what the future has in store for them in Cuba. These interests are going to look before they leap, and they will not plant the enormous new acreages which have been predicted until they are absolutely certain of other outlets for the Cuban sugar crop than the American market.

England wants more Cuban trade. If England buys Cuban sugar in sufficient quantity and saves the industry from the bankruptcy that would follow the dumping of Cuban crops on the American market at or below the cost of production, England will get Cuba's trade. "Aloha" for the "gringo" is not much stronger in Cuba than it is in Mexico. If the manufacturers of the United States want to hold Cuban trade they must compete for it with England and continental Europe and they will never hold it if they offer bankruptcy prices for Cuban sugar.

Looking at the situation purely from a layman's viewpoint but with some understanding of the history of many agricultural industries in both tropical and temperate zones, it would seem that sugar prices in the next decade will trend upwards and that the safe course for Hawaiian planters to follow is to continue to plant sugar cane.

THE RITUAL MURDER TRIAL.

During the past several days The Advertiser's wireless news service has contained accounts of the progress of the "ritual murder trial" being held at Kiev, Russia, but there are many—we judge from inquiries made as to what this is all about—who are unfamiliar with the worldwide interest which this trial is attracting or of the issues at stake, issues that mean life or death to probably thousands of Jews in Russia and Austria. The current number of The Outlook give a brief explanation of the issue, as follows:

The extraordinary trial which is now going on at Kiev in Russia is a strange modern development of an ancient superstition, fanned to flames by race hatred and ignorance. The case seems to have fallen to pieces so far as any serious attempt at presenting evidence of a ritual murder is concerned. When the trial is completed, we shall hope to give a more extended account.

At present it may be noted that the charge of murder is made against a Jew by the name of Mendel Belis. The body of a boy named Yushinsky was found in a cave, and the evidence of violence was clear. It seems probable, from the testimony already given, that the boy was acquainted with members of a gang of desperate criminals, and that he was murdered because it was believed he had given information about their crimes. But all that was needed to set the local authorities in action against persons now believed to be perfectly innocent was a revival of that hateful persecution of the Jews which has been fostered by the Russian government. Kiev has been the hotbed of the pogrom and race rioting. It seems incredible at this day that any responsible prosecutors could lend ear to the assertion that the boy was killed as a sacrifice, and that the killing of Christian children for this purpose was a well-known Jewish practice!

This horrible tradition of ritual murder is indeed as old as it is false. It reaches back to the third, and perhaps even to the second century of our era, and belief in it was indignantly repudiated by many early Christian writers. It seems to have grown in an insane way from the story of the Passover, and to have taken the form of belief that at Passover time Christian blood was used in Jewish rites. One form of the legend in the Middle Ages was that the Jews of one large province or district annually decided by lot which town in that district should be the scene of a ritual murder, and that it was then the duty of the Jews in that town to carry it out. Many lovers of English ballads will recall the story of "Hugh Lincoln," which is mentioned also by Chaucer. The myth appears in the mediaeval literature of the continent over and over again.

That in this supposedly enlightened age government officials, even in Russia, can be found to give it apparent credence for a single moment is the clearest possible proof of a condition of intolerance, superstition, and ill will.

TESTING BRITISH OPINION.

What is described as a miniature general election is being conducted in Great Britain at the present time, there being no fewer than five by-elections in progress and these curiously enough being distributed over England, Scotland and Ireland. This is most interesting inasmuch as the series of elections will provide a test of public opinion almost as important as a general election itself. In view of the Unionist demand for an appeal to the country it will be readily understood that the party will look forward to the results with the keenest anticipation, deducing from a reduced adverse majority or the capture of a seat that public opinion has changed and that the "flowing tide" in popular political phraseology, is with them. Should such a result ensue, there is no doubt that it will strengthen the Unionist demand for a dissolution of parliament and an appeal to the country, but that it will induce the government to weaken in the policy to which they are pledged is by no means likely. The Liberal administration is more likely to stiffen its back and say "We were returned with a mandate in favor of Home Rule and we will see that it becomes law. We were returned with a mandate in favor of reform and we will accomplish that before we seek a fresh expression of opinion from the country."

Two of the by-elections are in England, Reading and Keighley; two are in Scotland, Lanlithgow and Wick, and the fifth is in Ireland, North Cork. The by-election at Reading, which is likely to be more exciting by reason of the fact that the Unionist prospects are more rosy there than in any of the other constituencies, is due to the appointment of the sitting member, Sir Rufus Isaacs, to the position of Lord Chief Justice of England. At the last general election Sir Rufus polled 5094 votes as against 4996 cast for Capt. Leslie Wilson, the Unionist candidate, the majority being only 98. As the Unionists have their former candidate still in the field it will be seen that they are exceptionally favored in respect of the personal element, even though the Liberals have found an experienced parliamentarian in the person of G. P. Gooch, the joint editor of the Contemporary Review, who represented Bath from 1906 to 1910, being defeated in the general election of that year.

There can be little doubt that the voters of Great Britain will not be invited again to express an opinion on the subject of Home Rule. While it was not only issue at the last three elections, there can be no doubt that it was one of the main planks of the Liberal platform, and with the exception of Ulster and her political supporters, most people want to see the Irish question settled and out of the way. That being so, the wisdom of the Liberals in deciding to bring Home Rule into operation before they go to the country again is quite apparent. For, of course, there is always the possibility that they will not return to power.

ONE BENEFIT OF THE GRAFT PROBE.

The common question which was being asked all over Hilo last week, says the Hilo Tribune editorially, was: "What do you think of the settlement?" meaning thereby the compromise between the county, the bank and the bondsmen.

It is quite probable that the county, had it had the ability of a good poker player, could have raised the ante to the face value of warrants issued to the bank, something like \$50,000. Some people think that the supervisors should have insisted on such a settlement, waving only the interest in return for an amicable and immediate settlement.

This view is without doubt inspired, not by any feeling against the bank, but rather through the knowledge that the more money the county got from the bank, the more it would have to spend on the needs of the rest of us.

On the other hand, it must be remembered that the \$40,000 was not paid in restitution for sums received. It was a clear loss. Even the severest critics cannot say that any illegal act had been committed by the bank. It has been argued, with considerable force we think, that \$40,000 is a pretty stiff fine under the circumstances.

Some of the criticism arose from the fact that the critics had hoped that the county would realize far larger sums through the commission. It should be remembered that the commission is not through yet. In addition to the \$45,000, which it has secured, it will probably get about \$30,000 from Lalakea, about a thousand dollars on the Enoch Brown matter, and about \$2700 on the Purdy matter which the bondsmen are inclined to pay without a fight. In addition to this, the county will without doubt collect several thousand dollars from the bondsmen of gentlemen whom we cannot name, as they have at this writing not yet been indicted.

The county will, judging from present indications, recover at least \$60,000. We cannot help referring those who have criticized the action of the legislature in creating the commission, to this fact. Had the commission not been created, we would never have gotten back that \$60,000. The commission expense cannot amount to more than \$20,000, and even if we are willing to admit that certain amounts spent by the commission have been absolutely wasted, these amounts are not large. There remains the fact that, after the commission expenses, good and bad, have been paid, the public will have received forty thousand good dollars, which it would otherwise never have seen.

It will take a powerful lot of argument to make that \$40,000 loss insignificant to us.

TARIFF EFFECTS DEPRESSING.

The growing seriousness of the Mexican situation, the uncertainty of the effect of whatever measure of currency reform congress may enact under the Wilson good and the disappointment now being felt over the failure of any reduction in the cost of living since the going into effect of the new Tariff Law, is depressing business throughout the Union, according to the way the situation is viewed by Henry Clews, who, in his weekly letter of October 25, says:

"Business conditions in the United States are not encouraging, and there are symptoms of slowing down in many directions. This is partly due to the contraction of credit, and partly to a loss of confidence, which imposes a restraint upon all new enterprise and expansion. For this Washington must take considerable blame; the radical tendencies in evidence there being an effectual check upon confidence. The new tariff, while it has stimulated some lines of trade, has injured others, for the reason that it is quite likely to put out of business a number of small and inefficient plants. In regions where crop damage has been serious, there are also complaints of business. Perhaps the most significant feature in the business situation was the reaction in the iron and steel trade. This industry has been running at top speed for several years, and a slight reaction would do no harm; but the sharp decline in prices and the failure of railroads to come into the market because of their well known inability had a decidedly depressing effect upon the steel trade though reports of shut downs are yet decidedly premature. Struck by legislation on one side and by labor demands on the other, the industrial and railroad interests of the United States are facing difficulties which if not averted by a return to reason and fair play will soon show itself in a lessened demand for labor and raw materials. When wisdom and moderation regain their sway, there will be a fair chance for continued prosperity, but as long as prejudice and ignorance rule in political and industrial affairs capital will be disposed to remain timid."

"President Wilson's supporters unquestionably were sincere in their belief that the high cost of living would be reduced by the passage of the latest tariff bill. I earnestly wish that it will prove so, but so long as too many people dwell in cities and too few in the farming districts, the natural law of supply and demand will make the cost of food relatively high. It was confidently predicted that the price of beef would come down materially as soon as the new tariff went into effect. This as yet has not been the result."

GREAT CHRISTOPHER.

This is the sort of gush that Congressman Brumbaugh, of Ohio, of COLUMBUS, Ohio, gets off his chest in the Congressional Record. At the close of his speech on October 13, two hundred and fourteen congressmen pleaded with the Speaker to be excused for illness or to attend to urgent political and business affairs in their home districts. He said, in part:

Christopher Columbus! The storm-tossed life over which rolled all the bitter waves of hate; against which beat all the biting winds of persecution; whose ships of life sailed every sea of sorrow, through every night of despair, without a friendly star of hope.

By his supreme faith in Providence he became the divine instrument to blaze the pathway that marks the destiny of time.

His name is revered by all mankind. The very honor of having the resting place of his mortal body has been contended for by the nations of the earth.

His ashes rest in America, his fame walks the pathway of the stars, and his soul rests in the presence of God.

HOME MANUFACTURES FOR HOME BUYING.

There are ten or more boot and shoe factories in Honolulu. These now employ between eighty and one hundred skilled laborers who make an average of twenty-four to thirty pairs of shoes per man per week. The shoes are all hand-made, of the styles sold in plantation stores and to laborers. There are double that number of skilled shoemakers now unemployed in Honolulu.

Here is an opportunity. Why not start a shoe factory to manufacture shoes for the better class trade? The Chinese, who now monopolize this trade, say that they have been heavy buyers of home-tanned leather. One concern has bought \$20,000 worth of Hawaiian leather since the opening of the tanneries in Kalihi. Is there any particularly good reason why raw Hawaiian hides should be shipped to the Coast or to New York, there put through the tanning process, the leather sent to St. Louis or Boston, and the shoes returned to Hawaii? How much "foreign travel" does one buy when investing in a new set of footwear, and what portion of the price might just as well be kept in the Islands?

Two hundred thousand hides of the best quality are shipped to the United States every year from Chinese ports, a very considerable percentage of these in steamers which touch at Honolulu. Here is doubly an opportunity—unemployed labor, and a stream of raw material passing our doors to travel five thousand miles to Eastern factories for manufacture—some of the product coming five thousand miles of the way back to be sold to us. Why not intercept this stream, do the manufacturing here and ship boots and shoes to the mainland?

BRITISH "NATIONAL INSURANCE."

It is expected that the next British naval estimates will total \$250,000,000 as against the \$175,000,000 spent when Mr. Asquith first assumed office. It is, of course, outside all question of party politics that this expenditure has increased to such an extent, comments the Vancouver Province, which takes the ground that British trade has increased to an extent justifying the increased national insurance. It is coincident with the extraordinary increase in trade, which has increased by over \$1,375,000,000 in the same period, says that paper. The increase of \$75,000,000 in the naval estimates is about six per cent on this increase in trade. The total trade of the United Kingdom today amounts to over \$6,720,000,000 annually and the annual naval estimates are about four per cent of this sum. This may seem a high trade of insurance on the exports and imports of the United Kingdom, but it must be remembered that these figures do not include the purely domestic trade or the trade of the Empire. Nevertheless four per cent is a heavy tax and as the naval estimates now demand more than five dollars a head for every inhabitant of the United Kingdom the distribution of the burden would naturally do much towards lessening it. Aside from the actual cost to the people of Great Britain the moral effect of the whole Empire standing together in the matter of defence is obvious.

The increase of expenditure on armaments, as has been said, has come about at the same time as an immense increase in trade. The actual relation between the two things wants close analysis. Expenditure on armaments is said to be wasteful and to lead to bankruptcy if pursued at the present rate for much longer. But the expenditure is made among those to whom it does most good. If it is curtailed or ceases the problem of unemployment would become most terribly acute. Even if this expenditure is a burden it might be considered in some part as a tax to insure employment for hundreds of thousands as well as a safety insurance. It is true that the employment might take more productive forms, such as growing farm produce, but it is very doubtful if it would be possible to turn a skilled mechanic, whose life work has been devoted to turning out weapons of war, into a good farmer. Beating swords into ploughshares is all very well in one way, but it is impossible to beat their makers into farmers.

THE LESSON OVER AGAIN.

Judging from the incomplete returns from the elections in Massachusetts and New Jersey yesterday, the Progressives again have succeeded in handing the plums of victory to the Democrats. The results emphasize the fact that the two branches of the Grand Old Party have to get together on some basis if they expect to put the county back upon a protective basis.

The lesson from New England has its value here. The Progressives of this Territory—and there are quite a number of them, just about enough to so weaken the Republicans as to give the Democrats a victory, but not enough to win a precinct for themselves—must meet the Republicans on some common ground of action for the elections next fall. There is nothing that Hawaiian Progressiveness has advanced that Hawaiian Republicanism cannot concede, and there is nothing that the Progressives have objected to in the present makeup of the Republican organization that the rank and file of the Republicans do not agree with them about and stand ready to wipe out at the first opportunity.

At any rate, the Progressives ought to see if they cannot accomplish their ends through the Republican party, before striking off by themselves and through their defection clearing the way for the Democrats. It is possible to have a Republican house-cleaning along Progressive lines, especially if the Progressives will help.

LONDON STATIST ON ENGLISH INVESTMENT.

Commenting on English investments of new capital, the London Statist takes a more cheerful view than is generally held on this side in a recent issue it said:

"We recently calculated that the amount of new securities which the country would be able to absorb in 1913 was, roughly, \$220,000,000. On going into the matter again in the light of additional information, we have come to the conclusion that the amount of capital which the country can subscribe for new issues in the current year probably will be greater than \$220,000,000, provided the confidence of investors is not shaken. We have come to this conclusion in the light of the fact that profits which are now being earned by every industry, and more especially by the shipping industry, are much greater than in the last few years, and that wages and salaries now being paid are higher than ever before, while the prices of goods we import are no longer advancing. Never has the income of the nation been as great as in the current year. All classes and sections of society are in full employment. Conditions are better this year than last, as far as ability to save is concerned, and the sums available for investment should show substantial expansion, provided investors employ their savings. From inquiries we have made we have come to the conclusion that a large portion of the securities which underwriters have had to take up have now been distributed, and that most of the balance will probably be distributed during the month when the sums released by the payment of dividends are large. Having regard to the desirability of distributing to investors securities that have already been issued, it is probable that new issues in the September quarter will not be in large amount. In the December quarter it should be possible to issue a normal amount."

THE PASSING HOUR.

Why is it that the Congressional Record prints the daily prayer offered by the chaplain of the senate but not the supplications offered for the house? Is the condition of the latter considered hopeless?

Secretary of State Bryan, in The Commoner, urges its readers to press upon their senators the necessity of passing the Currency Bill. The first thing he knows he will be classed among the insidious lobbyists.

Estimating the world's annual consumption of sugar at about eighteen million tons, or one and a half million tons per month, the total visible stock or surplus as reported by Willett & Gray amounts to a two week's supply. This is only equal to the average or normal yearly increase in the rate of consumption.

Women students in American colleges and universities will have a chance to reveal their sentiments on "International Peace." The Lake Mohonk Conference offers two prizes of \$200 and \$100, respectively, for the best essays on the subject by undergraduate women students in American colleges. For men students there is a prize of \$100 for an essay on "International Arbitration."

High-school pupils in eight American cities spend a million and a half dollars each school year for lunches. The American Home Economics Association estimates that this amount, spent for lunches outside of school, will buy only \$1,000,000 calories in food value; whereas if spent in the school lunch room, with its carefully supervised menu, it will purchase the equivalent of 178,000,000 calories.

The great principle of sex equality has once more been vindicated in England. When Albert Davis of Bedford was sentenced to a term of imprisonment for theft he announced to the magistrate that he would begin a hunger strike. No one seemed to care very much whether he did or not, and as a matter of fact Davis has just died of hunger and an unemotional jury returned a verdict of "death from natural causes," and that was an end of the matter.—The Argonaut.

Those Canadian Westerners have no respect for vested rights. The new Alberta speed law, which went into effect last week, provides that speeders will be fined not less than fifty dollars for a first offence. On a second offence a fine of \$100 to \$200. All speeders up for a third offence will be imprisoned for a month. The speed limit throughout the province are increased to twenty miles an hour. According to the new law any driver who fails to stop his car when passing a standing street car will be fined twenty dollars for the first offence.

SIX MONTHS FOR BEATING WOMAN

Adam Kealakai Found Guilty by Jury in Circuit Court in Twenty Minutes.

As a penalty for an assault and battery committed on Annie Baker, a neighbor who answered the cries of a child he was beating, Adam Kealakai will spend the next six months in jail and besides this he will have to pay the costs of his trial, assessed in the sum of eighteen dollars and fifty cents.

Kealakai was tried before a jury yesterday morning in Judge Robinson's court, the prosecution being conducted by A. M. Brown and the defense by Harold Gordon Spencer. The jury was out for twenty minutes arriving at a verdict of guilty. Foreman William O. Franklin, for the jury, recommended that the court show leniency in passing sentence.

The witnesses for the prosecution were Johannes P. Eskarlt, Annie Baker, Mrs. G. J. Boisse, John Noble and Mrs. Mary K. Baker. Adam Kealakai and Caroline Kealakai testified for the defense. Annie Baker heard the cries of a child, and when she entered the house of Kealakai found him beating the child, according to the story told in court yesterday. She remonstrated with the man, and he in turn grabbed and beat her, and then dragged her by the hair about the premises. Annie Baker was so ill-used that she had to be taken to the Queen's Hospital, where she remained three or four days under treatment, she said.

Jury Quickly Selected.

The jury was selected without any trouble, the first twelve men drawn being acceptable to both sides. These were William O. Franklin, John Coffee, John H. Thompson, James P. Winne, George E. Bruns, Edward C. Holstein, James H. Fiddes, Charles P. Osborne, Sam Pupahi, Joseph Fernandez, Charles J. Lundwigen and Eugene M. Campbell. Lundwigen, charged with being found on the premises of another at night without lawful excuse, pleaded guilty, and on motion of A. M. Brown sentence was suspended for a period of thirteen months by Judge Robinson yesterday.

Ah Fook and eleven others, charged with being present in a place where gambling was being carried on, had their case continued until moved on again yesterday by Judge Robinson. Yee Jan Pan, with three charges of embezzlement against him, and Ah Oun, accused of having opium in possession, had their trials or further disposition of their cases go over until Tuesday morning at half-past eight o'clock.

It is expected that the trial of Yee Chung, charged with a statutory offense, and a Hawaiian couple charged as accomplices before and after the fact, will be tried before a jury in Judge Robinson's court this morning, beginning at half-past eight o'clock. The case against Ah Nee and ten others, accused of being present during a gambling game, while on the calendar for trial before Judge Robinson and a jury today, will very likely be continued until a later date.

One Indictment Returned.

The territorial grand jury was in session for an hour yesterday afternoon, and at half-past two o'clock made a partial report, under which one indictment, presumably against a Chinese, was returned and placed on the secret file until the accused one should be taken into custody. During the sitting of the grand jury four or five Chinese men and women appeared before it. It was not announced yesterday when the grand jury will meet again, but it will probably hold another session some time during the coming week.

WAR CORRESPONDENT OFF FOR THE FIJIS

Among the through passengers by the Makura on Wednesday from Vancouver for the South Sea Islands and Australia was W. D. Hornaday, a well known Mexican war correspondent of Austin, Texas. He spent a few hours in Honolulu and promised to return this way, in which case he will make it a point to see more of Hawaii.

On the way south he will stop off at the Fiji Islands where he will gather material for a number of South Sea stories which will appear in mainland papers and magazines. The writer will also make an extended stay in Australia and New Zealand.

TWO KEELS TO ONE THE PROGRAM STILL

LONDON, October 22.—The American ambassador, Walter H. Page, and the Japanese ambassador, Kato, the guests of honor at the Navy League banquet last night. The company included the Earl of Selbourne, Earl Brassey, Baron Amphil and several foreign naval attaches.

The Earl of Selbourne, in toasting the glorious and immortal memory of Nelson, whose victory in the battle of Trafalgar the banquet celebrated, urged the necessity of Great Britain's maintaining the "two keels to one" standard, and expressed his disbelief in the possibility of any naval holiday.



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