

THE INDEPENDENT

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F. J. TESTA, Proprietor and Publisher.

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THURSDAY, AUG. 6, 1903.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

Surely the first (second) district magistrate is not taking boxing lessons for exercise. We had always put it up that he usually took enough of that in a day to last many men a week.

As the County election is now coming 'round Diamond Head, the Republicans had better open their employment office for the benefit of the voters who were promised jobs last Fall if they would support Prince Kuhio and have not worked since.

It is worthy of note that Republicans who have the honesty of purpose and courage to stand for their principles, and for clean, open and above-board politics—like Curtis P. Iaukea and T. McCants Stewart—are straightway condemned by the Advertiser, Star and young Birbe.

With the Republican Central Committee faction, the Thurston faction, the "Home Rule" Republican faction, the Stewart faction, the Birbe faction and a dozen other factions to split the G. O. P., the chances of the Home Rule Democrats in the County elections seem to be much above par.

An estimable citizen with a large store, a plumbing shop and an extensive plumbing business wants to prevent working men trading at Chinese and Japanese stores. At the same time he admits employing Asiatics in his shop and to build his house. The case brings up the old story of the pot and the kettle again. It seems to us that a man who has gained a conspicuous business standing and comfortable circumstances from the trade of the workingman and other citizens

should be the first to lead off in the reforms suggested. There is little difference in trading with a Japanese who employs Japanese, and with a citizen who employs Japanese, save that in the latter case higher prices are usually paid.

Why were some of the contractors who habitually employ Japanese absent from the meeting of the Builders and Traders Union last evening? We'll tell you: They were ashamed and afraid to go there. A sense of guilt and knowledge of wrong-doing kept them in their homes. But the day is close at hand when they will be drawn from their holes and shown up in the proper light.

In the bloodless fight last night between John F. Bowler, Representative W. W. Harris, W. E. Rowell and others over the employment of Japanese out Moiliili way, every speaker seems to have been laboring under a misapprehension. In his letter to THE INDEPENDENT Representative Wright referred to the large gang of Japanese working on the Wai'alea road, under a Japanese supervisor, and not to the gang of citizen laborers at work in Kamoiiliili.

The proposal of Mr. Thomas, one of the settlers at Wahiawa, to forest a section of waste land near the Colony and turn it over to the Government at the end of twenty years, should not be passed lightly. If the land is not more valuable for settlement or other purposes and Mr. Thomas intends to forest it free of charge, and without hope of advantage to himself save of establishing a wood supply near the colony for the future, we think the scheme a good one. But if Mr. Thomas purposes raising and cutting wood for market he should certainly pay a reasonable rental on the land.

If the local stevedores will stick to their present plan there will soon be no Japanese labor employed on the waterfront. The San Francisco stevedores have sent word that they will co-operate with their local fellows and will refuse to touch any vessel at San Francisco that may have been loaded by Japanese here. That action would tie up almost any vessel such as the San Francisco Union is practically master of the situation. If the San Francisco men could be induced to agree not to load a vessel that had been discharged here by Japanese after due and sufficient notice, the thing would be settled.

So Congressman McCleary and other travelers have been frightened away from here by exaggerated and absurd stories about the dengue fever; and armies of tourists have halted inside the Golden Gate, afraid to come on. Who was responsible for these stories? Shortly after the appearance of the ailment last Winter the Advertiser and Star published column after column of sensational matter, calculated to frighten our own people, let alone the tourist who is inherently leary of diseases in the tropics. These papers are to be blamed and condemned for the false impressions that have gone abroad and for any harm that has been done.

"Things are looking dark in Wall street," says a despatch. Several big failures occurred yesterday and the financial situation in the east is far from satisfactory. This is the beginning of the reaction following

the prosperity after several years of good crops and the boom incident to the Spanish war. Republican tariff and trust tactics have brought the country down to precisely the situation that obtained in 1892. A panic is brewing and it will almost surely come within the next twelve months. Roosevelt and the Republican party will not be able to stay it, for it is the child of their own policies. It all means that the people will again take the reins of government, will elect a Democratic President and Congress, and will restore confidence and prosperity.

To those members of the Hawaiian Band who this morning signed an already prepared document, alleging that the statements made in THE INDEPENDENT in their behalf the other day, are false and entirely untrue, so we are informed and believe, are not the ones we care to make a fight for. We perfectly know and are satisfied that the statements made are absolutely true. But to have such Hawaiians, who lack backbone and sufficient manhood to stand up for themselves, go back on us, knowing that whatever we have stated is true, is to us most despicable, and that, further, they are beneath consideration, especially when they have not the courage to stand forth and oppose the Siberian tactics of a man who has been made too much of in this country and who is playing them for children. As representing the Hawaiian people, we cannot help but make a fight for them, even if they turn against us by making pigmies of us in our attempts for their weal.

Talk About Labor.

At the meeting of the Builders and Traders Exchange, in conjunction with the Federated Trades, last evening there was a good deal of talk—some of which was quite warm—although little was actually accomplished. The employers agreed in a half-hearted way to employ only citizen labor and the unions consented to pass rules encouraging their members to patronize only the stores of citizens. Most of the members expressed themselves as confident that if the agreement were adhered to it would go along way toward fulfilling the purpose aimed at.

Instances of Japanese being employed by different concerns were pointed out. As to stevedoring on the waterfront, a business in which citizen labor has been practically supplanted by Japanese, it was decided to refer to the Merchants Association.

John Enneluth said he was obliged to employ Japanese on account of losses sustained through union strikes, and was warmly answered by Mr. Callahan, of the Plumbers' Union, who declared that the Enneluth firm had acted in bad faith.

W. W. Harris was appointed a committee to enquire into the statement of Representative W. J. Wright that Japanese were being employed on the Wai'alea road.

L. E. Pinkham charged that natives were unreliable as stevedores. This brought up a wrangle which resulted in the resolution to the shipping firms requesting them to employ only citizens.

W. E. Rowell, S. Stephenson and J. Nott were appointed a committee to request the transfer of the lighthouses to the Light House Board.

E. J. Tannatt, W. W. Harris and L. E. Pinkham were appointed a committee to draft further recommendations to be made to Delegate Kuhio.

Annie Claudine and Mrs. Phillips have been sent to the reef for a year by Judge Davis on a charge of vagrancy.

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