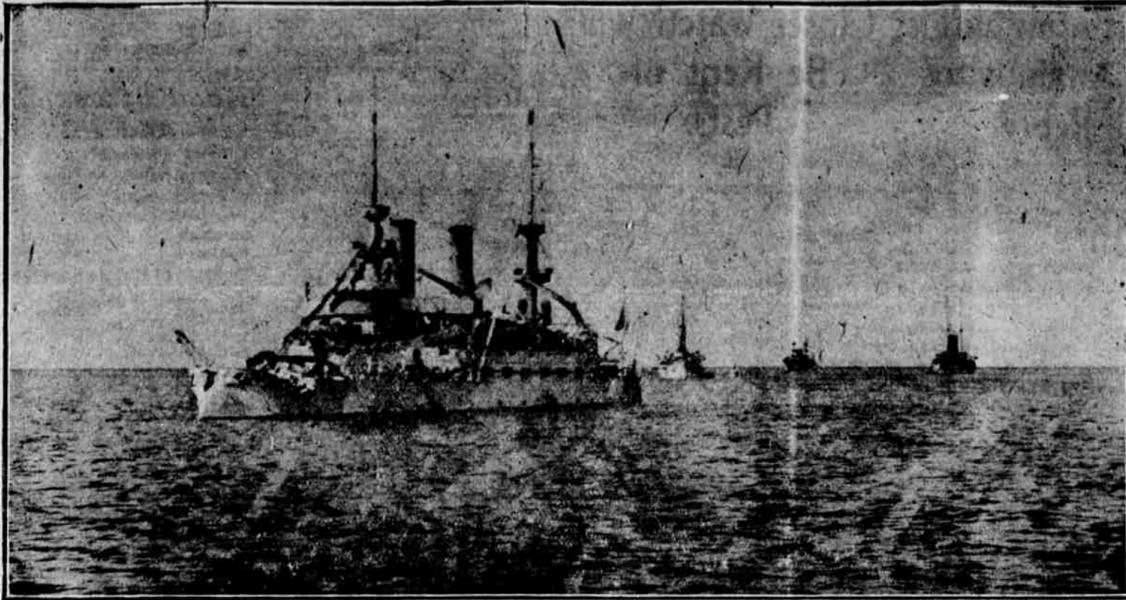


AMID STRAINS OF "THE GIRL I LEFT BEHIND ME" FLEET SAILS FOR CAVITE



Kentucky. Cincinnati. Albany. Raleigh. (Advertiser Photo.)
AT ANCHOR OUTSIDE THE HARBOR.



THE CINCINNATI AND ALBANY JUST BEFORE THE START. (Advertiser Photo.)

TO THE stirring strains of "The Girl I Left Behind Me," followed by the flagship Kentucky's band, the fleet of Admiral Evans departed from the anchorage outside the entrance to the channel promptly at 10 o'clock yesterday forenoon, en route to Cavite, via Midway and Guam. It was an impressive sight as the entire battleship and cruiser fleet responded to the Admiral's signal to go ahead.

Just at 10 o'clock the signal flags were run up the halyards and the flagship Kentucky's starboard propeller churned up the sea. Previous to this time the cruisers and the Wisconsin had drawn in their anchors, the Oregon not having come to an anchor during the morning. The Kentucky described a circle to starboard which brought her past both the Wisconsin and Oregon, and then gathering headway, was followed by the two big battleships, and then by the cruisers, the New Orleans following directly behind the Oregon.

The cruiser flagship New Orleans was the last vessel to leave Honolulu harbor. She went out about 9:30 and took up a position which would easily throw her on the right of the line of cruisers when the signal came to depart.

The Naval Station tug Iroquois, commanded by Captain Rodman, was boarded at the dock by the Hawaiian Government band, naval officers, several government officials, ladies and press representatives, who took this means of saying farewell to their friends. Governor Carter was not present, but was represented by Secretary Atkinson. The Iroquois left the dock at 9 a. m. and went directly out to the Kentucky which was serenaded by the band. The tug then visited the Wisconsin and after the serenade the Badger men gave three cheers. Then each of the cruisers was visited, each one being serenaded, the men cheering enthusiastically.

Some of the young ladies on the Iroquois who have been learning some of the wig-wag alphabet from some of the fleet officers, wig-wagged good-byes to several of their officer friends and were frequently applauded by the men for the skill they displayed.

While the tug was making its rounds a rain drizzled upon the fleet. One young lady said that it was "Honolulu shedding tears over the fleet's departure." As the tug bore away from the Raleigh a beautiful rainbow arched over the vessel apparently enclosing the warship from stem to stern in a prismatic frame.

Upon returning to the Kentucky the marine guard was paraded on the quarter deck and the band struck up "The

"Auld Lang Syne." Admiral Evans stood on the quarter deck and waved his hat in farewell to the visitors.

As the tug passed the Oregon the marine guard was drawn up and the band played "Home, Sweet Home."

It was then within half a minute of 10 o'clock and as the second hands of a watch told off the half minute Admiral Evans' signal to start was flown and the propellers moved. Cheer after cheer arose on the decks of the flagship, which were responded to with all the might of the few masculine and feminine voices on the Iroquois, and then the visit of the fleet became in two hours' time only a pleasant memory.

Two sick sailors were sent ashore from the Kentucky just before she sailed.

Pratt Getting Things Settled.

Land Commissioner J. W. Pratt has received advices of a decision of one of the land boundary cases the trial of which he attended recently on the island of Hawaii. Levi S. Lyman, Commissioner of Boundaries, decided in favor of the Government as to 450 acres of grazing land below the 3000-foot level in Kawahae, North Kohala. Private claimants, being lessees of the Queen Emma estate, won the case with regard to 420 acres of mountain summit land in dispute. The controversy has existed for thirty years.

Other land disputes have been settled by stipulation. The Territory gives up 35 out of 135 acres in Upolu, Hawaii, in exchange for a quitclaim to 95 acres at Lahainaluna, Maui, part of the site of the famous public seminary there, which had been disputed since the great land distribution of 1842.

GRAFTERS ON THE LEGISLATURE

The Independent, during the last Legislature, strongly opposed the items of "Incidentals" appearing in the various appropriation bills, because therein laid the means of covering "a multitude of sins." We are given to understand that various officials are having paid their private hack rides for themselves, their wives and their families, and instead of paying cash, orders are given upon their clerks. The Legislature never, for one moment, intended that such should be the case, after allowing these head officials liberal salaries.—Independent.

Judge Sanford B. Dole, late Governor of Hawaii, was presented by a number of representative merchants on Christmas Day with a handsome silver tea service, consisting of seven pieces. The plate is the handiwork of Shreve & Co., San Francisco, and its value is said to be about \$1500.

OAHU COUNTY SUPERVISORS CONSIDER EXPENSE ACCOUNT

The Circuit Court Judges Give Estimates for Their Departments—Pay of Office Employees.

The Board of Supervisors for Oahu County held an important meeting yesterday afternoon in Castle & Cooke's hall, at which estimates for running the various departments were presented. Some were quite large, and in one or two cases where the expenses seem to be on an extravagant scale, the Supervisors will probably use the knife. Some departments will be combined to effect a saving in salaries and incidental expenses. The county government will not make use of the tug Eleu for towing garbage out to sea, but will call for tenders for disposing of the accumulations.

Assessor Iaukea appeared before the Board and made the claim that he would curtail the expenses twenty-five per cent by the use of improved methods of doing business. His recommendations as to expenses for doing the work were not presented to the Board.

The report of the three judges of the First Circuit Court was received in which they outlined the amount of clerical work to be done and expenses for conducting the courts. They recommended the employment of three stenographers at \$200 a month each, or a total of \$600 a month, as at present.

The clerks in the courts are allowed \$100 per month. The judges recommended they receive \$150 each, claiming that the amount of work calls for such a salary. No reference was made of the fees which the clerks receive over and above their salaries.

The bailiffs are now paid \$85 a month each, and it was recommended that they be raised to \$100 a month. They also recommended that for the jury and witness expenses the courts be allowed \$2,000 a month. Then there were salaries for interpreters of the usual nationalities and extras, which would swell this estimate to about \$40,000 per annum.

Treasurer S. E. Damon recommended that two clerks be authorized for his office, one a license clerk and the other a bookkeeper. He recommended a salary of \$175 per month for the bookkeeper and \$150 for the license clerk.

For the County Clerk's office it was recommended that a chief clerk be appointed with a salary of \$150 a month; stenographer and assistant, \$125 per month; another clerk, \$50 a month; messenger, \$40.

The District Attorney recommended a deputy attorney at \$200 a month; law stenographer and assistant, \$150 a month; messenger, \$50 per month.

For the police department it was recommended that \$15,000 be allotted for the pay of police, detectives, specials, clerks, maintenance of prisoners, care of animals and incidentals.

No recommendations were received from the Auditor who is ill.

For the garbage and excavator department it was recommended that this be maintained for \$3,300 per month, and to combine with it the sewerage department. About a third of this sum is earned in fees by the department.

The Road Department matter will be considered at a meeting to be held at 10 o'clock this morning. It is believed that this department is being run too extravagantly to suit the Supervisors.

The appointment of road supervisor was deferred until a later meeting, as will be all other appointments until the salary question is settled.

PASTE HONOLULU LABELS ON BAGGAGE

Commencing with the arrival of the Coptic and Doric the Pacific Transfer Company pasted a distinctively Honolulu label on all baggage landed or sent away. When the globe trotter arrives in Honolulu in the future he may be assured that his dress-suit case will receive a conspicuous label with Honolulu showing plainly upon it, and his heart will be made glad. The traveler who returns home with his dress-suit case, trunk and valise covered with labels showing the various countries he has visited, has a bona fide memento of his tour. The new label is circular in shape, about three inches across, is yellow in color and bears the figure of a Hawaiian standing erect riding on a surf board.

The race horse Weller was sent to Hilo in the Kinohi to take part in the New Year's races there.

RAILWAY VS. PLANTATIONS

Defendants Think Supreme Court Mistaken.

The Ewa Plantation Co. and the Kahuku Plantation Co. are not satisfied with the decision of the Supreme Court on the submitted case between the Oahu Railway & Land Co. and themselves. By their counsel, Castle & Withington, they petition the court for a rehearing.

Their ground for rehearing and reargument is that questions decisive of the case and duly submitted by their counsel "have been overlooked by the court and that the decision is in conflict with express statutes to which the attention of the court was not drawn."

The petition specifies its particular grounds, reciting what the court found as to three interests to be taxed, namely: that of the original lessor, that of the lessee (the lessor in the new leases) and that of the sub-lessee, all to be paid by the sub-lessees respectively, quoting then from the decision the following passage:

"It is no defense that the taxes were not assessed upon the sub-leased portions of land separately. The private agreement of the parties was not binding upon the assessor and the latter was under no obligation to make a separate assessment by reason of such agreement."

On this the petitioners comment:

"The court has clearly overlooked the point made in our brief, that the interest of the Oahu Railway & Land Co. in each of the demised premises is a separate item, and as such is to be separately taxed. We did not contend that the agreement to pay taxes had any effect upon the method of assessment, but that if any taxable interest in the demised premises was left or created by the leases, such interests were separate items, and under the provisions of the tax law must be separately taxed, which was not done, and therefore no valid tax was laid on the demised premises and we were not obliged by the agreement to pay anything but a valid tax."

The petitioners further say that the court has, in their opinion, overlooked "considerations suggested by them decisive of the case in its finding that the agreement concerning taxes, found in each lease, creates an obligation on the part of the plantation companies to pay a tax on the railway company's interest in the demised premises and that the railway company has an interest in the demised premises subject to taxation. The considerations alleged to have been overlooked are thus presented:

"Our point was not, as stated by the court, that the instruments are not in reality leases, but merely contracts to establish sugar plantations. What we contended was that, while the instruments were technically leases, the purpose of the parties was primarily to establish sugar plantations, and that the instruments should be construed with this purpose in view.

"We did not contend," the petitioners continue, "that the agreement relating to taxes was not a covenant. What we contended was that it was not in the technical form of a covenant and was a portion of a general covenant to establish a sugar plantation, and that that fact should be taken into consideration, and when considered it appeared to be a provision relating to the method of computing the share of the profits, and not primarily a covenant to pay the taxes.

"The court seems to us to have overlooked the fact that there was nothing in the case which showed that there was any excess of rents to be enjoyed by the lessee. This latter may not, however, have been decisive of the case.

"We respectfully submit that a rehearing should be granted at least upon the first point."

COURT NOTES.

Judge De Bolt has signed an order in default against defendants in the assumpsit suit of S. F. Vickers vs. Robert A. and Fredericka A. Carille. Robertson & Wilder for plaintiff made the motion.

W. R. Sims, J. S. Walker and George Lucas, appraisers of the estate of Dr. Alex. M. Atherton, deceased, have filed their report, being practically a confirmation of the inventory filed by C. H. Atherton, executor.

David Watson was licensed yesterday by Judge Robinson to practice law in the district courts and before circuit judges at chambers on appeal, for the term of two years.

Judge Robinson denied the motion for a new trial filed by defendant in the case of Cecil Brown vs. J. W. Redhouse.

Honolulu plantation will begin January 5 to grind the 1904 crop.

The grand jury has visited Oahu prison and the Insane Asylum.

George Andrews has been heard from at Macao, Straits Settlements, on December 5, in good health and intending to start four days later for Athens by way of Egypt.

THE KOHALA DITCH DATA

Earnestly Studied By Governor Carter.

Governor Carter is devoting all the time he can spare from the regular routine of the executive office to a personal investigation of the Kohala ditch business. He finds the data very voluminous, requiring time and study for its comprehension, but says he wants to obtain a thorough understanding of the situation.

The Governor yesterday received the reports of various heads of departments relative to current matters in their charge. There was no finished business to give out at the close of office hours.

Things are moving in the Public Works Department about as rapidly as might be expected at the far end of one set of current appropriations and the beginning of loan fund availability.

The contract for erecting the Royal School building has been awarded to the American-Hawaiian Engineering Co., represented by Chas. H. Gilman. The site for the building, on the old lot, will be laid out this morning.

F. W. Knight has been awarded the contract for erecting No. 2 building of the Boys' Industrial School at Waialea. H. F. Bertelmann will begin work on his contract for erecting a teacher's cottage at the same place on Monday next.

Cotton Bros. & Co. have been awarded the contract for building the abutment of Waimea bridge, Kauai.

This morning the steamer Alameda makes her first departure from the new Oceanic dock. Construction work has kept the San Francisco local liner away from her old berth for about ten months.

The Inter-Island Steam Navigation Co. partially occupies its new docking quarters. Some scales are yet to be installed.

Plans and specifications are being completed for Brewer's wharf, to construct which tenders will be invited the beginning of the year.

Property owners on Nuuanu above Kukui street are going to put in sewers to connect with the sanitary system.

Today will see the completion of the storm sewer at King and Keaomoku streets. Also the portion of the system to avert floods at Beretania and Punch-bowl streets will be completed today. The storm sewer system has long ago, even in its partly finished state, demonstrated its great value as a public improvement. Besides its prevention of both discomfort and material loss, public and private, it has undoubtedly sanitary virtue in draining residence sections of surplus moisture.

WOULD ANNEX US TO CALIFORNIA

Senator Newlands in a speech before the Senate on his Cuba annexation resolution said something interesting about Hawaii in the following paragraphs:

"This is a part of the proper expansion of the Republic, the traditional expansion of the Republic, not the modern expansion of the empire over countries in distant seas. Hawaii is a military outpost in the Pacific controlling our defensive line. Why should we have her? She occupies such a position as she would if she were only a hundred miles from San Francisco, and practically protects the entire coast from foreign invasion. No fleet can sail from the Orient and reach the Pacific Coast without coaling, and with Hawaii in our possession the ships of such a fleet would be derelicts upon the ocean before reaching our shore. And so as a matter of economy and of wise administration and of wise adjustments of the boundaries of this country we have taken Hawaii into the Union as a Territory with a Delegate. She has today the position of an infant State, is in a transitional stage toward statehood; not, perhaps, independent statehood; but I trust that some method will be found in the future to incorporate her in the State of California as a county, and thus give her that representation in the Union to which every foot of ground over which the American flag floats is, in my judgment, entitled."

The danger to Hawaii in the matter of maintaining herself began with annexation. Prior to that time there was no danger of war or of a siege.—Independent.

Indeed? Is any one so foolish as to suppose that a strong naval power at war with the United States would not have tried to seize Honolulu and use it as a base against San Francisco? In that case what would Hawaii have done—let loose a pol dog and scared the perfidious foe away?