

THE INDEPENDENT.

VOL. XVIII.

HONOLULU, T. H., TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1904.

No. 2708

Oceanic Steamship Company. TIME TABLE:

The Fine Passenger Steamers of This Line Will Arrive and Leave This Port as Hereunder.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO: FOR SAN FRANCISCO:

ALAMEDA.....DEC 4	ALAMEDA.....DEC 9
VENTURA.....DEC 16	SIERRA.....DEC 15
ALAMEDA.....DEC 25	ALAMEDA.....DEC 30
1904	1904
ALAMEDA.....JAN 15	ALAMEDA.....JAN 20
SONOMA.....JAN 27	VENTURA.....JAN 26
ALAMEDA.....FEB 5	ALAMEDA.....FEB 10
VENTURA.....FEB 17	SIERRA.....FEB 16
ALAMEDA.....FEB 26	ALAMEDA.....MAR 2
SIERRA.....MAR 9	SONOMA.....MAR 8
ALAMEDA.....MAR 18	ALAMEDA.....MAR 23
SONOMA.....MAR 30	VENTURA.....MAR 29
.....
.....
.....

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Russia and Japan.

It seems that the general opinion in naval circles, as regards the comparison of the Japanese fleet with that of Russia, is that Japan is superior in point of speed and homogeneity; otherwise, in actual fighting strength the two are well matched. On the other hand, Russia can augment her naval forces with a few armored cruisers, which Japan is at present not in a position to do. With trait to her military strength, Russia has 250,000 troops in the Far East and could mobilize two army corps if required. Her military authorities consider that they could not be attacked at any point by a superior Japanese force; but they are not quite so sanguine about their fleet, though they do not admit that the Japanese are superior to themselves in this department. As a matter of fact, to all outward appearances, these two Powers in the Far East, are very evenly matched all round in material. In these columns we recently gave a short sketch of the Japanese army system, and we shall now proceed to examine her naval strength as compared with that of Russia. Of battleships, she has eight altogether, two being more in the nature of armored cruisers and the others larger and more powerful. Four out of these six—the Mikasa, Araki, Shikishima and Hatsue are thoroughly modern and the other two—namely the Fuji and Yashima are more seven years old. These ships are all about 15,000 tons displacement and heavily armed, with a high speed and large coal capacity. The Fosco and Ching Yuen are somewhat smaller. The Japanese cruiser squadron is fast and homogeneous with an average tonnage of about 10,000. There are six of these thoroughly up to date and fast vessels with several in reserve that could be quickly put into commission. Russia has, in Chinese waters, eight battleships, only five of which however, may be ranked as first-class. There are the Relvian, Petropavlovsk, Poltava, Sevastopol and Tsarevitch. All these ships are equally well armed, and average something under 13,000 tons. Thus, it will be seen that, in point of tonnage, the Japanese battle fleet is superior and, as regards first-class battleships, Japan has one more. On the other hand, Russia has three second-class battleships, the Peresviot, Pebeida and Oshaliabya. Their speed is good and, unless handicapped by sailing with the rest of the fleet, they could do about eighteen knots, which would allow of their being used as heavily armored cruisers. It is doubtful if the rest of the fleet could, as a whole, do more than fourteen knots under normal conditions. The Tsarevitch, which is the newest, is only about three years old. Russian cruisers in the East are rather mixed, but, of the largest, there is no one vessel of similar build in Japan that can favorably compare in point of tonnage. Take, for instance, the Gromoboi, of over 12,000 tons, and very powerful. There are also the Bayan, Rurik and Rossiia, the two latter being about ten years old. Then come the Diana, Pallada and Varyag, fast, but a good deal smaller. With respect to torpedo vessels and small craft, the two fleets are about equally well matched Japan having perhaps the advantage. Altogether,

(Continued to 4th page.)

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TUESDAY, JAN. 12, 1904.

RETRENCHMENT POLICY.

The scheme of retrenchment now being inaugurated strenuously by Governor Carter, although somewhat late in coming, is nevertheless welcome and opportune. We sincerely believed that the time to have begun this much-needed policy was when the Legislature was in session. The Independent strongly urged the adoption of such a course at the time, but no heed was taken of our arguments, and instead of instituting a policy of retrenchment, it was only half-heartedly begun, to be finally ignored for increasing of salaries all around. We then saw the danger we were entering into and now we are up against it, a mighty hard problem to unravel.

Business houses over a year ago began the policy by reducing expenses, cutting down where it was urgently necessary and where they could get along without crippling themselves. But the largest business concern of the country, the Government, did not tumble to it soon enough. Instead of cutting out unnecessary officers and of reducing salaries generally, many officials sought to have their salaries increased, and very unreasonably so, as for instance, that of Auditor, Land Commissioner and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, merely bureaux, but virtually making them equal to departmental heads. Of course, we are

only pointing these cases out as a matter of reference upon which to base our side of this all-important subject. There are other cases, but let these suffice for the present.

Reports are abroad with certain proposed retrenchments by the Governor, among which are the cutting down of certain salaries made by the Legislature. In our opinion, he is overstepping his prerogative, for neither he nor the departmental heads have the right to usurp the powers of the law-making body, yet we concede that they have the right to reduce the number of their employees without the right of cutting down the pay of those retained to do the work. It would have been wiser, had the Legislature listened to reason, to have cut down the number of officials and employees, giving one good man a good salary to do the work of two or more clerks, i. e., make the employees do more work for the same amount of pay; if they can't, put them out, and then get somebody else who will do the work for the pay, and we dare say that many will be found only too eager and willing to work for money these hard time days—hard times to those of us who are doing work outside of Government employment.

We are heartily in accord with Governor Carter's policy of retrenchment, providing he is earnest in following it up. But we fear that should he be too strenuous in following it up, he will be doing a beneficial assistance to the Government and an incalculable injury to the various political schemes of his party's machine in controlling votes and offices. He has to be brave in order to carry out such a policy, thinking first of country, party second, and friends, others and everybody and everything else last. But we sincerely believe that in retrenchment is the only salvation of the country.

The conditions at this time are worse than they were last year. Nearly all laboring work are given out to Asiatics and citizens go workless, because no living wages are paid. If the Governor will see to this himself, then much will be overcome of the present hard times. Why keep on employing Asiatics on Government works instead of citizens? In that is retrenchment a failure, and, instead of being of some service, it is working an injury to the laboring masses.

POWER OF OFFICERS.

The complications of the "transition" period through which we are now passing are brought on solely by the officials themselves. Last week, and up to yesterday, it was impossible for a young couple to get a marriage license on the plea that the marriage license law, which is changed by the County Act, was held up by the contest case in the Supreme Court. Yesterday a gentleman applied to Sheriff Brown for a permit to change the location of his business. The Sheriff approved the application and referred the gentleman to County Treasurer Damon. The latter said that he was not yet in office

and that the applicant would have to see Territorial Treasurer Kepolka. This morning Kepolka ruled that Damon having filed his bonds was qualified to act in the matter, and refused to take it up. The gentleman has, therefore, been greatly annoyed, is out of pocket and will have to suspend business until such time as the County officers shall conclude that they are actually in office.

It seems to us that in cases of this sort a little common sense should prevail. When acting upon the County Bill the Legislature did not, of course, apprehend that it would be held up in the courts at this important time. It also did not intend that there should be any disruption of public business on account of any court actions. Had it done so, it is safe to say that there would have been a rider in the bill to guard against any such thing. The intent of the Legislature, and the common sense deduction of the thing is that the Territorial officers should continue to exercise their functions until such time as the county officers had qualified and had been properly installed into office. The ruling of Attorney General Andrews to that effect in regard to marriage licenses is eminently sound. In the Kepolka case referred to the situation is the same. If Mr. Damon is not treasurer—and he says he is not—then Kepolka must carry out such duties as have been transferred by the County Act to the county treasurer. That is common sense. Public business must go on.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

Mr. Supervisor Lucas is making the jackass of himself that we predicted before the election. In his bantering with Assessor Iaukea at the meeting of supervisors yesterday afternoon he showed a leanness of mind that was altogether disgusting. He showed himself to be a narrow-minded make-shift, just as we thought he was. In other words, he showed that his unmentionable was out.

We wish to draw the special attention of readers to the article on pages 1 and 4 of this issue, reprinted from the Hongkong Telegraph, and bearing reference to the respective strength of the Japanese and Russian navies in the Orient. The article was written by an Englishman who is an authority on the subject, and gives in succinct form the exact relative strength of the two powers, as well as casting a strong side-light on events in case of hostilities.

The public almshouse is a recognized American institution, and is considered a valuable and necessary thing. The Associated Charities was designed to meet the demand in Honolulu but has failed altogether to carry out the purposes for which it was intended. Something of a more substantial character is demanded. As the Advertiser suggests, there should be, in conjunction with the almshouse, a farm or some other industry in which such persons as are able might work. The almshouse system is a

good one and is particularly needed in a community of our kind. We do not believe its privileges would be abused, or would be allowed to be abused, here any more than elsewhere.

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LOCAL AND GENERAL NEWS.

The INDEPENDENT 50 cents per month.

Chinese New Year will begin on February 15.

A concert will be given by the band at the Young hotel this evening.

The trial jury has been called to appear in the Federal Court tomorrow morning.

The Maui Board of County Supervisors have adopted the Hawaiian flag in its seal.

Canon Ault will arrive in this city either Saturday or Sunday to attend the Convocation.

I Kaisan was fined \$50 by Judge Dole yesterday on the charge of unlawful importation of goods.

Revenue Collector Chamberlain and his deputy, W F Drake, left in the Kinsu today for a tour of Hawaii.

Treasurer Kepoikai leaves in the Claudine tonight for Maui on business. Mrs Kepoiksi may accompany him.

The Hoola Lahui Society will hold its monthly meeting at the Maternity Home at 10 a m tomorrow.

The Buckeye Club will have a business meeting at the residence of Mr and Mrs Raymond C Brown this evening.

The office of THE INDEPENDENT is in the brick building next to the Hawaiian hotel grounds on Beretania street, Waikiki of Alaska. First floor.

Hankiehi Terayama and Mura Kurihara, Japanese man and woman, were each given six months imprisonment by Judge Dole yesterday for immorality.

County government is still held up by the Supreme Court; but the sale of first class liquors at the Shemrock, on Nuuanu street between King and Hotel, goes merrily on.

There is great dissatisfaction among the sailors of the Conemaugh and most of them want to be paid off and discharged here. They have appealed to the shipping commissioner in regard to the matter.

Judge Robinson has ordered the balance of the estate of the late H F Glade delivered to his widow in Berlin. The property consists 1058 shares Pioneer Mill, 500 shares Hackfeld & Company and \$5924.35 in cash.

The Aloha saloon at the corner of Queen and Richards has introduced a novelty in the way of a Hawaiian as well as a haole lunch every day. It consists of soups (native style), poi, fish and other things. E hele mai e haole!

Attorney General Andrews has decided that agents to grant marriage licenses shall serve until the proper county officers have duly qualified, which removes a multitude of perplexities from the pathway of the immediately marriageable.

Rev F Fitz returned this morning by the Mauna Loa from Maui. While in Wailuku with Canon Ault, on Sunday last, he celebrated Holy Communion in the morning, preached at the morning service, and preached at Puunene in the evening. During the 11 o'clock service, he baptized the Canon's infant son.

Passengers Departed.

Per stmr Kinsu, for Hilo and way ports, Jan 12—T Scott, W P Zwilling and wife, Dr W Hoffmann, W F Drake, R W Chamberlain, Miss Alexander, Miss Wimple, C B Dicksey, S T Alexander, W Green, D Conway, D B Macdonald, Mrs F Carty and child, Miss G Dowsett, Miss N Makee, Geo H Emerson, wife and son, Arthur Arrowsmith, Douglas Grant, W B Milne, S G Peck, L M Whitehouse, Mrs J H Raymond and son.

Honors Ka-ne.

In Supreme Court yesterday the following resolutions were adopted: "S K Ka-ne was highly respected by all his acquaintances and greatly beloved by all his friends. His bright and well-cultivated mind, his quiet demeanor, his genial disposition secured for him a high place not only at the bar, but also in public life. As a lawyer, he was careful and painstaking; and in public affairs, he was steadfast in holding his course, if he believed himself to be in the right. When he died the Bar lost an honorable member and the Territory lost a useful citizen, whose influence was exerted to allay racial strife, and promote good government; therefore

"Resolved, That the Bar Association of the Hawaiian Islands hereby expresses its deep sorrow at the loss it has sustained in the death of Mr Ka-ne and its sympathy for his widow and relatives, and respectfully moves this Honorable Court to spread this memorial upon its records."

School Calendar.

The Department of Education has published the following school calendar for 1904:

Monday, January 4th—Winter term begins.

Monday, February 22—Washington's Birthday (National Holiday.)

Thursday, March 31st—Winter term ends (13 week).

Friday, April 1st—Good Friday. Easter Vacation (1 week).

Monday, April 11th—Term begins.

* Thursday, May 12th—Ascension.

Monday, May 30th—Decoration Day.

* Thursday, June 2nd—Corpus Christi.

Saturday, June 11th—Kamehameha Day (Hawaiian Holiday).

Friday, June 17th—Spring term ends (10 weeks).

Summer Vacation (11 weeks).

* Days of obligation in the Roman Catholic church. Children of Catholic parents are not compelled to attend school on those days.

Iaukes's Bond.

In place of a bond of \$150,000, as finally decided upon by the supervisors, Colonel C P Iaukes, the new tax assessor, has advanced one of \$300,000, made up as follows:

Princess Abigail W Kawasaka, \$50,000; Charles A Brown, \$10,000; C W Booth, \$10,000; J Alfred Magoon, \$10,000; August Dreier, \$60,000; Abraham Fernandez, \$10,000; John S McGrew, \$10,000; C B Maile, \$10,000; Helen Boyd, \$10,000; H M Whitney, Jr, \$5,000; Godfrey Brown, \$10,000; A Herbert, \$10,000; George Charles Beckley, \$75,000; Abigail K Parker, \$15,000; E A Moienery, \$5,000; total, \$300,000.

Thistle Club Officers.

The following have been elected officers of the Scottish Thistle Club for the new year: Chief, R Anderson; Chieftain, D A Mackintosh; Secretary, James F Fenwick; Treasurer, J H Catton; Master-at-Arms, Wm Ball; Trustees, W White, James C McGill and D W Anderson.

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Russia and Japan.

(Continued from 1st page)

the balance appears slightly in favor of Japan, though it is difficult to foresee what would be the exact part played by modern armored cruisers in a fleet action, however, there is no doubt that efficient scouting, which is the cruiser's main business, is absolutely essential, and it appears that, here, Japan should have a marked advantage under the present state of affairs. Moreover, the Russian seaman has not got a very good name; he is tested, in some cases, with a harshness almost amounting to brutality, and this is not most calculated to develop intelligence which, now-a-days, is so much required at the guns. It was different in the old days of three deckers, where the main thing was to fire the guns as rapidly as possible towards a large target. Russian seamen are pressed men and have not got the reputation of taking the same pride in their service as the Japanese. The development of the Japanese Navy has, been so rapid during the past fifteen years that one hesitates to form a definite opinion as to its thoroughness, and it remains to be seen in a naval engagement how much will depend upon the fortune of war, how much will depend upon the education of officers and men and, lastly, how much upon the individuality of character in the nations engaged.—Hongkong Telegraph.

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