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Thursday, December 15, 1949

Vet-Apprentice Injured, Talks

HAOLE-RULED COF C WOOS NON-HAOLES

By SPECIAL WRITER

Celebrating its centennial in October of next year, the Chamber of Commerce of Honolulu is engaged in a strenuous drive to increase its membership to an all-time high of 2,000. As each firm is limited to one representative, it is obvious that the new members will be dragged in from among the small, family businesses, mostly Oriental and Filipino.

Control of the Chamber, as always, will continue to rest in the hands of haoles representing the large corporations.

Already, the Oriental and Filipino membership amounts to well over 40 per cent of the total, but of the 28 officers and directors, only three, or less than 11 per cent, are of Oriental ancestry. Of 20 committee chairmen, one is a Chinese and 19 are haoles.

Speaks for All

With few exceptions, the officers and directors are drawn from large firms with Big Five connections.

None the less, the Chamber of Commerce undertakes to speak for the entire business community and points to its wide membership as proof that it does in fact, speak for all — salmin stands equally with Castle & Cooke. Special emphasis is placed on the large Oriental membership.

In the making of decisions, how-
(more on page 4)

Tax Exemption Turns Sour For Koko Head, Blow Hole Leasees

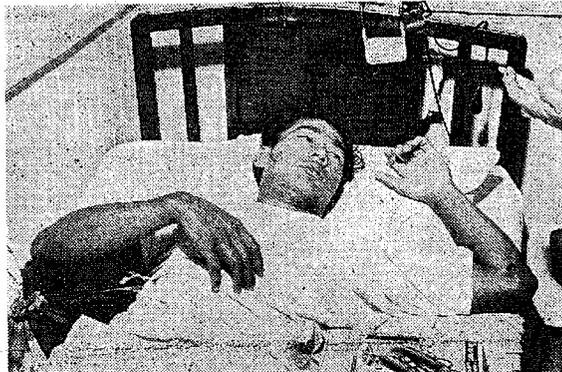
Recording of leases at total fees estimated at about \$7,500 will get tax exemptions of about \$2,500 for leaseholders at Koko Head and the Blow Hole areas. These figures are based on 250 leases.

Residents of Koko Head areas learned that they must pay three times more than they will save in taking advantage of the new act on leaseholders' property exemption. The law was passed by the special session of the legislature.

Some farmers from Koko Head learned this week from the Hawaiian Trust Co., agents for the Wawamalu Ranch which leased out land to them, that in order to record their leases at the Bureau of Conveyance, they must pay \$2 a page of a lease contract. Most of the contracts run to about 10 pages.

The farmers were also informed that they must make a supplementary lease with the Hawaiian Trust Co. because their leases are not in order.

But, the leaseholders said, they have been paying taxes on the
(more on page 4)



AT TOP, Tamotsu Okuhara, veteran, lies in his bed at Kuakini Hospital suffering from an internal injury which makes it difficult for him to eat. He received the injury when a ditch-side caved in on him while he worked as a carpenter-apprentice on Sand Island.

BOTTOM: The veteran's father and mother, Sochu and Unto Okuhara, look anxiously toward their son, who says he learned little of carpentry working for the Oahu Construction Co., but was kept working at other jobs.

Used As "Cheap Labor," Learned Little: Okuhara

A cave-in of a ditch wall on the Hart St. sewage project at Sand Island half-buried one worker Tuesday before last and put another in the hospital, but it may have done more than that. It may have brought public attention to focus on the manner in which, veterans allege, local contracting companies use their work under sponsorship of the Territorial Apprenticeship Council as a source of cheap labor—at the same time failing to provide job-training for the veterans as the plan intends.

Tamotsu Okuhara, 22, who served with the Military Intelligence School and the 2nd Division, was one of the workers caught by the cave-in, which occurred on the section of ditch under construction by the Oahu Construction Co.

Okuhara received an internal bruise of a nature that makes it painful for him to swallow and which, his doctor says, will require only time for healing. The other worker, though half-buried, escaped serious injury.

Okuhara was working as a mucker in the ditch at what he says was a depth of from 11 to 13 feet. Part of the time he has handled a shovel on the job, part of the time a jack-hammer. Earlier, he drove a truck.

"If they didn't have me doing those things," he says, "they'd have to hire truck-drivers and regular jack-hammer men at higher wages."

Okuhara, after 13 months on the apprentice plan with the Oahu Construction Co., now receives 96 and three-fourths cents per hour. The laborer who was caught with him by the cave-in, he believes, gets either \$1.10 or \$1.25 per hour. Feels Time Wasted

But more important to Okuhara
(more on page 5)

Okay of Dillingham Project Said Lesson to Small Shops

On January 6, 1950, if five City-County supervisors do not vote otherwise, some 20 acres of land will be rezoned from the "hotel and apartment" classification to the "business" classification. Together with 20 more acres of land originally zoned for business, these go to make up the Hawaiian Dredging Company's new super-market center on Ala Moana Boulevard—a merchandising project that will cover an area larger than many major league baseball stadiums.

Although the City-County Planning Board believes there is already proportionately too much of

Honolulu's land zoned for business, it approved the Dillingham project. The reason, says George K. Houghtailing, the board's supervising engineer, is that the Dillingham enterprise is conceived "in terms of centers."

City-County planners, Mr. Houghtailing says, are out to eliminate so far as possible the "string" or "ribbon" type of business district largely because it intensifies the traffic problems that already exist.

Does that mean, he was asked, that only people who have a mil-
(more on page 6)

Jobless Organizing Drive Draws Hundreds

With 200 members already, a new organization of unemployed has rolled into high gear in its organizing drive during the past week. The name of the organization is the "Unemployed Workers Organization of Hawaii," and its president is Albert Akima, its secretary, Boyd Asamura.

"We're getting workers from all kinds of trades from long-shore to butchers," Asamura told the RECORD. "Plenty of them

have been out of work for a year."

Other occupations listed by members are: truck driver, crane operator, auto mechanic, steel worker, rigger, boilermaker, metal cutter, plumber, electrician, radio technician, acid stainer, watchmaker, fireman and machinist.

"The Unemployment Commission meets today," says Asamura, speaking of a body appointed by Governor Stainback, "but I doubt that it will do anything. We don't

feel it has done anything yet, but we're the guys that can push them and make them do something. That's the reason we're organizing."

Asamura, who was also secretary of the Territorial Unemployment Organization which held meetings last year, says a number of the members of that group have joined the new organization.

A recruiting leaflet issued this
(more on page 4)

Whipping Boy

"S. O. B.—Sell or Bust! Sell what? Sell our way of life—or else."

LIKE A PREP school cheer leader, President Lee H. Bristol of Bristol-Myers Co., gave this rallying cry to fat cat businessmen at a pep-talking three-day session of the National Association of Manufacturers, held in the plush Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York.

"S. O. B." caught the imagination of the 3,000 middle-aged and white-haired delegates to the NAM's 54th convention, for this was the phrase the President had used against a columnist who exposed "deep freeze" and other dealings of his physician, General Vaughan.

TRAINED PROPAGANDISTS, the speakers stirred the imagination of the tired listeners who were worried over a world more concerned about economic well being and security than slogans about "free enterprise."

Said NAM Vice President Walter Chamblin Jr., Washington lobbyist for the outfit: President Truman's "British-patterned welfare state" has an eight-point program—"federal jobs, federal food, federal health, federal security, federal housing, federal education, federal heat and federal free-

dom for the Big Labor Boss." This, he indicated, was a graphic picture.

WHAT THE NAM needed was to get on the offensive and take a constructive approach, said Bristol of Bristol-Myers Co. His suggestion: "You've all heard about our 'one-third ill-clad, ill-housed, ill-fed.' Isn't it time we challenged that one on two grounds: first, that it isn't one-third but a smaller percentage, and second, that this segment which rightfully attracts our sympathy . . . is still far better off than great masses of people in almost every other country."

The big bosses seemed too reserved for their hired propagandist, President Clarence B. Goshorn of Benton & Bowles, Inc., board chairman of the American Association of Advertising, who said the word "welfare" attracts most people. He lectured his audience that business was handicapped because it was afraid to use words like "profits" and "private enterprise."

SAID STRAIGHT-TALKING Goshorn: "Sometimes we seem to pretend that General Motors is really only a crossroads blacksmith shop, A & P a corner grocery store

and duPont a neighborhood chemist's, just because great service companies like these look big only to the Department of Justice—an appraisal not shared by either small business or the general public."

Challenge Ruling

Deep rumblings came from the ranks of West Coast longshore, warehouse and maritime workers as NLRB trial examiner Irving Rogosin ruled that hiring halls are illegal. Old longshoremen who had spent decades on the West Coast waterfront, cursed the ruling, talked of pre-hiring hall days when they practically starved if they did not grease the palms of gang foremen and bosses who picked their "favorites" from job-hungry men.

THE EMPLOYERS liked the "shape-up" which pitted worker against worker, which kept men from getting organized, but they had to give in to a hiring hall, a fair system of distributing work, run by the union and the companies, after the mid-1930 strikes on California's waterfronts.

Last week the Northern California Con-

ference of the ILWU condemned Rogosin's ruling as "outright union-busting" and that it will be appealed. The conference charged "the foundation of economic security, equal work opportunity and protection against favoritism and discrimination . . ."

30-Hour Week

The fight for an eight-hour day during the latter part of the last century was bloody, with employers standing fast for a 10-hour day. Finally the employers gave in, as the workers stood their ground, for new machines driven by electric power brought speedup, higher productivity and physical exhaustion.

FOR QUITE some time workers have been talking of a 30-hour week as the next goal. Last week the AFL called on the UN to set the 40-hour week as an immediate target for all workers of the world, and immediately began a study for the purpose of cutting to a 30-hour week the work schedule in highly industrialized countries.

The document will go to the UN Economic and Social Council. The employers are ready to resist the shorter work week.

Farmers Sell Children

In the rural farms of Japan the practice of selling human beings was back again, and landlords and businessmen were making good money through the exchange and from the labor of slaves. The revived practice was reminiscent of the sale of girls to the cities' tea houses by poor farmers.

THIS TIME the victims of the sales were still farm children. In Yamagata prefecture alone, known cases of child slave transactions totaled 2,500. In another prefecture 4,000 boys and girls were sold by parents for 500 to 8,000 yen.

Child slavery stories focused the attention of Japanese economists on the "land reform" measures passed in 1945 under General MacArthur's orders. A survey reported that of the land bought by the government for redistribution, only 26 per cent was sold to the peasants this year. Prices are too high for poor peasants and there was a danger of big land holders gulping the land titles. Small peasants who comprise 75 per cent of the rural population are still without land. Tax collection is far behind. Last year, 60,000 tax collectors dispatched to villages returned with only 32 per cent of the unpaid taxes, totaling 316 million yen.

450 Million Customers

Two chambers of commerce in the U. S. differed widely on the question of establishing relations with the new People's Government of China. In Honolulu the Chamber of Commerce voted to defer recognition of the new government indefinitely and to ask the U. S. Chamber of Commerce to back its stand.

IN SAN FRANCISCO the city's chamber stood for continued business and diplomatic relations with the Chinese and asked the U. S. chamber for support. For the West Coast, China trade was a must to improve the slumped business condition, to provide employment and to export such items as cotton produced in California.

For the Honolulu chamber, which is interested primarily in tourist trade, sugar

and pineapple, the concern was not the 450 million customers in China, but federal employment that would not compete with private enterprise. Thus, Frank E. Midkiff, secretary of the chamber's armed forces committee, was sent to Washington to point up the "concern" of Hawaiian businessmen on the spread of communism in Asia. He reported back last week, said he had asked for a carrier task force in Asiatic waters, with Pearl Harbor base and shipyard going at full blast.

AS THE HONOLULU and San Francisco chambers made their positions clear, the Chung-Sai Yat Po, San Francisco's second largest Chinese daily with 30,000 circulation, officially dumped its pro-Kuomintang policy. Its front-page editorial hit at Chiang Kai-shek's corrupt regime, then proclaimed "neutrality."

Chung-Sai Yat Po's owners shifted ground as Chiang fled from the continent, as his defection-filled troops deserted to the People's Government's forces. Chengtu, the provisional Kuomintang capital, was abandoned, and Kunming was turned over to the new government by local Yunnan forces. All of the populous China was under the new government, except the hinterland like Sikang, mountainous and sparsely populated. Chiang, in a face saving speech, said he would carry on guerrilla warfare from Sikang, which observers pooch-pooched. "Chiang fight guerrilla warfare?" they asked. Guerrillas need people's support for protection, and essentially they must be local volunteers. At this stage Chiang's power of impressing peasants into his army was practically nil.

ONLY FORMOSA was left to Chiang, but his control there was sorely limited. Reliable reports from the Philippines said U. S. shipments of military supplies were on the way to Formosa. U. S. militarists, reports said, were going to strengthen American control of Formosa. Chiang has always welcomed help, but being a dictator, he wanted autonomy over his area

to employ or dispose of supplies given him.

Colonials Rock Boat

As two international labor organizations met, one in London and the other in Peking, strong emphasis was put on self-government of peoples everywhere.

IN LONDON the new International Confederation of Free Trade Unions faced some embarrassing situations. In its preamble to the constitution is the phrase, "the right of all peoples to self-government." The delegates of right-wing colonial unions, certified as anti-Communist and therefore qualified to take part in the confederation, demanded to know if this really meant what it said.

The phrase contrasted sharply with the pupil-teacher relationship expected of them by the officers of the British Trades Union Congress. In a pre-conference release Denis Healey, BTUC international secretary, had written: "At this meeting, representatives of infant organizations in Asia and Africa will mix on equal terms with experienced leaders of long-established unions in the western world."

A CYPRUS delegate disconcerted the BTUC delegation by attacking "British tyranny" over his own country. Invited, like other colonials for anti-communism, he had this complaint: No anti-Communist movement could succeed among Cyprus workers while the island remains "a slave to another country."

British Guiana delegate H. Critchlow, of an extreme right-wing union, stirred the waters and further rocked the fledgling organization led by the AFL, CIO and BTUC. Said he: Workers in his country get \$1.52 a day, work 64 hours a week. "The moment a worker asks for more money he is called a Communist."

A HEATED controversy started at the conference over the admission of Catholic church-controlled unions. Asian and colonial delegates opposed their admission persistently, while European Socialist delegates

finally abandoned their opposition. The colonials lost but the Catholic unions were directed to disaffiliate from "an outside source" that directs them.

In Peking, capital of the new government of China, the Trade Union Conference of Asian and Australasian Countries, meeting under WFTU auspices, progressed more smoothly. The conference appealed to all U. S., British, French and Dutch workers to act in support of the fight of Asia's colonial peoples for full independence.

Messerschmidt To India

In the halls of the Indian Parliament Supply Minister Mookerjee made a startling announcement last week. Willi Messerschmidt, famous designer of the Nazi fighter planes that bore his name during World War II, Mookerjee said, was going to India. At the Hindustan Aircraft Corp., owned by Nehru's government, Messerschmidt would build fighters for India.

IN GERMANY, Messerschmidt's secretary equivocated during an interview. Said he: "India does not have the necessary facilities." His boss was going to build "prefabricated houses" for India, not fighters. The question arose—doesn't the employer decide who's to build what?

Nazi Revival

A political party that sloganizes: "We are fascists!" and "We will make lampshades out of you!" has come out in the open in Austria. Anti-fascists are intimidated as the former Nazis and the new Nazis shout these threatening words.

DRESSING IN Nazi SS uniforms, the members of the Union of Independents (the new Nazi party) attend meetings. Their spokesmen declare that "all Jews must be exterminated in the end."

Political developments of this sort get by, under the cold war climate. Among the leaders of the outfit are prominent wartime Nazis who joined the Socialist Party in 1945 to escape denazification. Now comfortably in the open in their true colors, they feel confident that the Western bloc will not be unwilling to use them against Eastern Europe and Russia.

World Summary

Anti-Statehood Elements Use War-With-Russia Line

While in Hawaii during the MIKI maneuvers, James McClatchy of the Bee newspapers of Sacramento, Modesto and Fresno, lent his ears to statehood and anti-statehood elements.

In commenting on the statehood articles written by McClatchy, Larry Tajiri, editor of the Pacific Citizen, official publication of the Japanese American Citizens League, wrote in his column, "Ni-sei U.S.A.":

"The McClatchy name may have attracted the statehood opposition which has been led in the past by a one-time Territorial senator, Alice Kamokila Campbell. The McClatchys as a family, were personally identified with the anti-Japanese movement in California and H. J. McClatchy still sends occasional letters to newspapers in all parts of the United States in a rather feeble attempt to incite prejudice against Japanese Americans and others of Oriental background."

Tajiri says that McClatchy tried to do an objective job of giving the arguments for and against

statehood, but "it may be that he has given too much publicity and credence to the views of a small minority of Hawaii's residents who are fighting statehood status on racial grounds."

Here are some quotes from McClatchy's articles:

"If Hawaii becomes a state—which may occur in the not too distant future—it is likely that the Congress of the United States will acquire at least one and may be more Japanese and other non-Caucasian members. The reason is that only 180,000 of the islands' population of 550,000 persons are Caucasians.

New Line of Argument
"Interestingly enough, some of the descendants of the original Hawaiians are leaders among statehood's opponents. They fear they would be smothered by the domination of the more enterprising Japanese and Chinese and would lose the special status and legal privileges they enjoy.

"These objectors also say that in war with Russia, China would side with Moscow, with Japan probably following along. Immediately, they argue, the Japanese and Chinese in Hawaii would turn Communist and take over the islands."

The logical conclusion of such an argument is that Hawaii should not become a state as long as 450 million people in China support the new government.

Demo Women Will Fight For Rights

A Bill of Rights for the Territory was indicated as a major aim of the Women's Division of the Democratic Party at the constitutional convention, at their membership meeting Tuesday night at the Central Intermediate School. Eight other elements were discussed by the membership and will be brought up at the open forum on the constitutional convention to be held at the Central Intermediate School next Tuesday night, Dec. 20.

Harriet Bouslog, attorney, speaking to the membership on the constitutional proposals, told them the Bill of Rights and proposed liberalization of the judiciary system will probably receive the strongest opposition from Republican delegates.

Wide Range

The Bill of Rights, Mrs. Bouslog told the membership, should include provisions for equal rights for women, elimination of discrimination against aliens in employment and against anyone because of his race, color, or political beliefs.

Other elements discussed at Tuesday's meeting, and to be brought before the forum, were under the following heads: Legislative, executive department, judiciary, school system, home rule (city-county), initiative and referendum, public lands and homesteads and provision for amending.

Speakers at next Tuesday night's forum will be Harriet Bouslog, Mitsuyuki Kido, Sakae Takahashi, Arthur Trask, and Chuck Mau, County Committee Chairman Jack Burns announced Wednesday.

Industry Retrenches

WASHINGTON (FP) — While big business talked of growing employment, cold facts pointed to industrial retrenchment.

Expenditures for plant and equipment in the U. S. are expected to drop 14 per cent below the first quarter of this year during the first quarter of 1950, a statement by the Commerce Department and the Securities and Exchange Commission declared Dec. 9.

Final figures for 1949 are expected to show a drop of 14 per cent in the second half of this year compared with the same period in 1948. Third quarter expenditures in 1949 are estimated at \$4.4 billion. The anticipated figure for the first quarter of 1950 is \$3.8 billion.

"These objectors also say that in war with Russia, China would side with Moscow, with Japan probably following along. Immediately, they argue, the Japanese and Chinese in Hawaii would turn Communist and take over the islands."

The logical conclusion of such an argument is that Hawaii should not become a state as long as 450 million people in China support the new government.

Kohala Vote Marks End of Bosses Dream, Rania Says

The election at Castle & Cooke's Kohala plantation last week marked the end of the "Kohala Dream" for the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, President Antonio Rania of Local 142 told the RECORD.

"They had been telling themselves that maybe this was a method by which they could destroy, or at least, neutralize the union," said Rania. "Now they must begin with some other plan."

Right Wing Ousted

The election of the Kohala unit of Local 142 resulted in a sweeping reversal of last summer's anti-strike vote. Eight-wing officials who had held office at that time were voted out by a majority that averaged something more than 3-1.

"We saw the 'Kohala Plan' instituted at Waialua simultaneously," Rania recalled. "It was a Castle & Cooke plan and it went into effect at all their sugar plantations. Have you noticed that at Waialua, twelve of the union men who were on the union's bargaining unit have now been promoted to supervisory jobs?"

By the C. & C. plan, Rania said, able union leaders are offered higher-paying jobs that would not only remove them from the union's active ranks, but would ally them primarily with company interests.

"Justo dela Cruz and I have been offered such jobs many times," Rania laughed, "but we always refused. It would be expected of us that we would accept the company's point of view. But Waialua is blessed with strong union men."

Dela Cruz, vice president of Local 142's Oahu Division, is also from the Waialua Sugar Company's plant.

"It was the consolidation of our sugar locals into one local—142—that gave us the strength," said Rania, "and to know about the consolidation, you have to go back a little. You have to remember we were in a Taft-Hartley Era."

Taft-Hartley Era

He traced the history of Hawaiian sugar workers through the beginning of the "Taft-Hartley



The RECORD Leads the Way

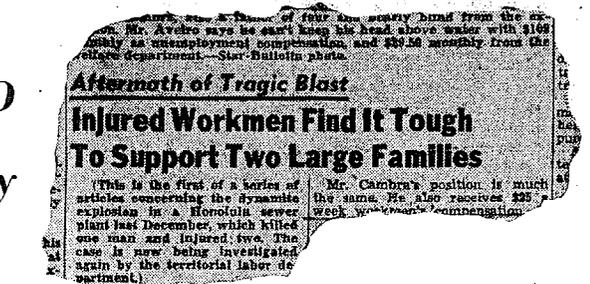
"It's been almost a year," begins a story in the Star-Bulletin Tuesday, Dec. 13, "since a Honolulu sewer explosion killed one man and seriously injured two others."

It's been almost a year, too, since the Star-Bulletin had the story of the Kaimuki Dynamite Case tossed in its lap when its reporter interviewed Joseph Aveira in the hospital. The Star-Bulletin preferred not to print the circumstances of the explosion as Aveira described them, and the case was forgotten.

On Oct. 20, the RECORD printed the first story of how the accident occurred under circumstances in which contractor, Territorial and City-County officials might be legally responsible. In following weeks, the RECORD stories rounded out the picture.

November 24, the Democratic Precinct Club in the 37th of the 4th sent its resolution to Governor Stainback asking a probe and referring to the case, "as related in the Honolulu RECORD."

Now, belatedly, the labor department reopens the Kaimuki case for investigation, and it becomes, justifiably, front-page news in the Star-Bulletin. But all this would have happened a long time ago if the dailies really represented a free press. And none of it would be happening now if the RECORD hadn't led the way.



ting for only a 5-cent cut. It was the strength of consolidation that helped the sugar union hold to its demands, Rania said, and to win the Olaa struggle.

"Now, we have been stymied for nine months in negotiations," Rania said, "by the longshore strike, and our attitude was that the longshoremen must win their strike first. You must have known how strongly our members, supported the longshoremen."

The attitude of the companies has been comparatively tough, Rania said, until the Kohala election.

"They had high hopes of that," he said, "but now their Kohala dream is ended and they are much more reasonable at the negotiating table."

Differentiating among the various sugar companies and their respective labor policies, Rania said Castle & Cooke represents the paternalistic theory of hiring the leaders away from the union until a militant union is reduced to being a mere tool of the com-

pany. American Factors, on the other hand, is a "tough" company, he said, with all its energies bent on union-busting by head-on conflict. Alexander Baldwin, he feels, holds a position somewhere between the two, fluctuating from one extreme to the other as the case seems to indicate.

"You would call them opportunists, I guess," said the union leader.

DON'T TAKE A BOW

Let's not permit any misunderstanding to arise about the CIO because the Communists have been kicked out. We can't accept—in the spirit in which they're meant—all the congratulations of newspapers, radio commentators and certain employers. CIO unions are not going to become "respectable" in the eyes of the Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers or their spokesmen in the press.—Textile Labor, CIO.

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Labor Roundup

Sugar Contract Hinges On Wages, Job Security

Whether or not there will be a Christmas present in the form of a signed contract for 20,000 sugar workers in the Territory was still a moot question today.

Although union sugar negotiators have converged in Honolulu, full negotiations between the union and the industry representatives had still not been resumed at press time.

An off-the-record meeting on Tuesday apparently bore no results—there being no announcements after the meeting by either side.

It is said that settlement still hinges on the resolving of the wage and job security issues.

Pine Union Seeks Guaranteed Weekly Or Annual Wages

Meanwhile, on another ILWU front, pineapple negotiators will resume tomorrow after a one week recess.

It is expected that industry representatives will have an answer to union proposals for a guaranteed weekly wage to offset the reduction of work opportunities from intensive mechanization of the industry.

It will be recalled that union negotiators asked for a guaranteed 40-hour week payroll with overtime, differentials and wage items held in escrow for an accounting at the end of the year.

Under-payment would be made up at the end of the year by the company, with over-payment to be written off to begin the new following year with a clean slate.

Union negotiators point out that the guaranteed annual wage has been one of the aspirations of American labor as well as the federal government.

Other Happenings On The Labor Front

Other items of interest for the week concerned:

● Preparations at Olaa for the distribution of Christmas gifts to longshoremen's children. Gifts are being donated by the Olaa unit of the ILWU and Local 6 of the ILWU in San Francisco.

● Setting of a court hearing by Judge Pence of Hilo for the first week in January of an ILWU petition to vacate the arbitration ruling of Ernest B. de Silva in a case involving the Onomea Sugar Co. and the ILWU.

● Formation of Unemployed Workers of Hawaii, an organization to pressure for solutions to the problem of 33,000 unemployed.

Leaflets announcing the formation of the group appeared today in Honolulu. Details were not immediately available, although unemployed longshoremen have been instrumental in its formation.

Molokai Cannery Hope Revived; "Fat" Crozier For It In 1945

Did C. A. "Fat" Crozier, former senator, get a "bang" out of the radio speech given by Frank E. Midkiff of the Chamber of Commerce armed forces committee, as some radio listeners speculated?

Mr. Midkiff plugged for a cannery on Molokai to can produce which he said can be grown abundantly.

Where was the influential Chamber of Commerce, which lobbies a lot, in 1945 when C. A. Crozier introduced Senate Bill 221 for the construction, operation and maintenance of a cannery on Molokai for canning produce grown by homestead-

ers? The bill proposed that the cannery be maintained by the government until it became self-supporting for the producers.

The Senate passed the measure by 13-2, with Senators William H. Heen and Clem Gomes opposing.

The House killed the measure, however, with the Finance Committee reporting to place SB 221 on file. House Finance Committee members were A. Q. Marcellino, W. F. McGuire, M. S. Carvalho, William M. Furtado, Joseph G. Andrews, Francis K. Aona, James W. Glover and Molokai Homesteader Alfred Apaka Afat.

Campbell Appointment Displeases Some

"We didn't know her name had even been suggested. The first I knew of the appointment was when I saw the news in the papers."

Thus do Hawaiians of the Kalawaha homesteaders express disapproval, not only of the appointment of Mrs. Alice Kamokila Campbell to the Hawaiian Homes Commission, but also the manner of presenting her name. According to the procedure, names were presented by members of the recently-formed Hawaiian Homesteaders Council as suggestions to be forwarded to the governor who then chose two names from the list to fill the vacancies existing on the Hawaiian Homes Commission. The two chosen were Mr. Harry Field and Mrs. Campbell.

Campbell Prejudiced?

Some members of the Kalawaha representation approve Field's appointment, but they don't approve that of Mrs. Campbell because of her opposition to statehood and for another reason which one voiced as follows: "She has been prejudiced against

the Japanese people in the past, and I believe she still is. The time for that kind of thing is past."

Those dissatisfied with Mrs. Campbell's appointment feel they should have had a chance to voice their objections in an open meeting of the homesteaders council before the names were presented to the governor.

Tensions among the homesteaders were reflected to some extent in the circumstances surrounding the testimonial dinner given the retiring chairman of the HHC, Julian Yates, Dec. 3 at the Kamehameha Alumni clubhouse. Invitations had been sent to a number of people who, some homesteaders felt, were not so much entitled to be there as Mrs. Alulu Lyons, Mr. Yates' secretary. Until it was agreed that Mrs. Lyons receive an invitation, one delegation announced its intention of withholding its contribution to the dinner.

The issuance of an invitation set everything straight, temporarily at least.

Haole-Ruled C of C Woos Non-Haoles

(from page 1)

ever, the small businessmen and in particular, those of Oriental descent, have little or no say. Many decisions are made by the directors, 18 of the 21 being haoles and most of them from big businesses. Polls of the membership are taken in such a way that no one dares openly voice opposition to the wishes of big business.

The recent pronouncement of the Chamber against recognition of the Communist government of China is a case in point. Obviously this action was taken as part of the campaign to induce the Department of National Defense to spend more money on Hawaii as a naval base. The interests of a sizable part of the business community, particularly the Chinese importers, would be better served by resumption of trade with China, but their interests were ignored.

Although among the founders of the Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce on October 15, 1850, were three Chinese—Alai, Ayong and C. P. Samsing & Co., Oriental participation soon dropped to zero. Until around 1910 the Chamber was a small body composed of the top figures of Hawaiian commerce and industry—a sort of House of Lords of Hawaii.

Two Non-Haoles Recruited

In 1910 the Chamber of Commerce began to expand its ranks, and in this year two non-haoles were elected to membership, Prince Kuhio and Chinese-Hawaiian Albert Afong. In 1914 or 1915, the first Orientals were admitted: C. K. Ai, Setaro Awoki, Chuck Hoy and M. M. Whan.

Until the middle '20s, although the total membership grew to well over 400, there continued to be only three or four Orientals. The 1929 report shows a slight departure from the old pattern. Out of 467 members, 16, or 3½ per cent were Orientals—such figures as Daizo Sumida, Léong Chew, Alfred K. F. Yap, T. Kunikiyo, C. J. Kim, G. J. Watumull, C. Q. Yee Hop and Henry Inn. The following year saw the first Filipino member, Cayetano Ligot.

By 1937 Oriental and Filipino members numbered 95 out of 596, or 16 per cent. From this time on there was a conscious effort to bring in a wide cross section of businessmen of all sizes and colors.

Yet, not until 1946, when the Oriental contingent already amounted to almost 40 per cent, were non-haoles given recognition on the board of directors. In that year Wilfred Tsukiyama, Henry C. H. Chun Hoon and Ernest K. Kai were elected directors. The following year the last two served. In 1948 there were three non-haoles: Kai, Clarence Y. Jim and Clifton H. Yamamoto. In 1949 there were still only three: Jim, Yamamoto and Kam Tai Lee. Of these, Lee was chairman of the committee on Charities and Social Welfare.

No officer, and no head of a key committee, has ever been other than a haole.

More On Jobless

(from page 1)

week criticizes the Legislature for doing nothing to alleviate the predicament of the jobless.

"At the moment, the ILWU is helping us with advice, typing, and mimeograph work," says Asamura. "Now we have no money, for we don't charge any dues. Later we may put the dues at something like ten cents."

Space for a headquarters has also been temporarily donated by the ILWU on the lanai of Pier 11. Later, Asamura says, there will be a more permanent headquarters.

Gadabout

HENRY NYE, deputy controller, according to sources in his own office, has a secretary with a civil service rating, paid by the taxpayers of course, who turns out almost as much work for the Lions Club during working hours as she does for the City and County. Her first name is Sadie.

"IF I HAD THE GOVERNOR where the governor has me, I'd wake up in the morning and I'd turn the governor free." So sang Huddie Ledbetter, doing life for murder, when Governor Pat Neff visited him on the prison farm at Sugarland, Texas. Pat Neff did pardon him and four years later Governor O. K. Allen of Louisiana pardoned him again because of another song. "Lead-belly," as he was known to prisoners, went to New York, married Martha Promise, and thereafter brought into the conscious American culture songs like "Midnight Special," "Stewball," and "Pick a Bale of Cotton," where they should have been long before.

He had tremendous faith in himself, physically as well as in every other way and he once told Gadabout, "John Henry might could drive more steel, or pile more lumber than I could, but I'd pick cotton with him any day."

When he found discrimination in the nation's capital, too, he sang "Home of the Brave! Land of the Free! Lord, I Don't Want To Be Pushed Around By No Bourgeoisie!"

Last week, at 64, he died.

EARL HANSEN, assistant manager of the Waipahu plantation, is notorious among sugar men as being one of the most diligent of managerial snoopers.

"He will pass you," says a sugar worker, "and then he'll whip his car around and be back at you before you know it."

Supervisors, it is said, don't like him any more than do rank-and-filers and for the same reasons.

KALIHU TUNNEL advocates are wondering how the two federal engineers, Hughes and Morris, could have stayed here only 12 days and then come out with the elaborate "four-puka plan" for a Nutanu route through the Pali. Kalihu advocates intimate that the plan must have been something local, put in the engineers' hands to make their efforts to kill the Kalihu project seem plausible.

W.K.B., RILED at the way the "Tiser" reports him as saying, dead-pat, that he would win if he ran for the mayoralty, says for the RECORD: "If Mayor Wilson doesn't run for mayor, I will be a candidate, period."

"HOW IS IT?" asks an observant member of the unemployed, "that while Territorial departments are firing aliens, Jean Porter, an Australian, gets a job with the holdover committee? I hear Ben Dillingham had something to do with that appointment, too."

THE COOKE TRUST CO., advertising its discrimination at so much per line in the "Tiser," has a single studio cottage, gas appliances, view, garage, at 2101-B McKinley St. You guessed it: the (Restricted) is in parentheses. Land titles written with restrictive clauses have been adjudged valueless and many newspapers consider it unethical to accept them. But apparently not the "Tiser."

CONNIE WALTERS, the Chinese bride of Herman Walters, local seaman, brought back from Shanghai, gets interesting letters from her family who live under the new government of China. Her father, an agricultural landlord, has not been affected as yet, since his policies toward tenant farmers were widely known as generous, Connie says. A sister is working with the new government in something like a "Bureau of Conversion," which is one of the agen-

cies for bringing the new policies of limited capitalism to replace those of the feudal Kuomintang era. An old friend who landed in Honolulu recently brought what she (the friend) felt was distressing news. The Communists, she told Connie, were using the first floor of Connie's family's home as "headquarters."

"I don't see why they shouldn't," says Connie. "The Nationalist soldiers used it too, and it's a big house with plenty of room."

MARY'S VERSIFICATION at the head of her column in Sunday's "Tiser" inspires the following: If you rifle through the pages, Through Jan's fantasies, Junior's rages,

It's our guess that you will find In the "Tiser's" front or hind Paid advertisements, large and glary, For the trinkets plugged by Mary.

AUGIE CURTIS, standing out in front of the boxing commission offices, says he may go to the Mainland if he loses his promoting license over the co-promotions with Leo Leavitt. Curtis sounds bitter toward the commission and toward Leavitt, whom he blames for the rat race that now threatens both their licenses. Leavitt doesn't stand to lose so much, Curtis maintains, even if he does lose his license, for he's still a partner with Karasick by virtue of the lease he holds on the auditorium.

One interesting fact, admitted by all concerned, is the reason for differences between Leavitt and Karasick on the one hand and Curtis on the other. The two have long been riled at Curtis because he paid fighters higher percentages than they would.

"What I pay is my business," says Curtis. "The fighter does the fighting and he ought to get the money."

Yet Red McQueen calls Leavitt et al "left-wingers!"

THURSTON VS. LABOR Department. The "Tiser's" first edition Sunday carried a head for its lead story proclaiming "2 Robbed, Slugged Here" with a hanger explaining that one of the victims, a Navy man, had lost \$18. The body of the story also carried the information that a merchant seaman had lost \$300.

Tax Exemp. Sour

(from page 1)

land covered by their leases for 10 to 12 years. Why should the question of a supplementary lease come up now when they apply for exemption? A supplementary lease would take another six pages and recording it would cost \$12. The total recording fee would thus cost about \$30 when a leaseholder would save approximately \$10 in taxes through exemption. Some of the leases are expiring in two and a half years.

NAVY PRAYER

The impact of the Navy-Air Force fight in Washington is currently reflected in Honolulu by a parody being circulated. The author, though anonymous, would almost certainly be someone friendly to the diehard views of the admirals who object to subordinating their navy to the idea of unification. The parody, circulated here from Pearl Harbor sources, is as follows:

NAVY FLIER'S PRAYER

Our father who art in Washington, Truman be thy name; Thy Navy's done, thy Air Force won

On the Atlantic as in the Pacific. Give us this day our appropriations And forgive us our accusations As we forgive our accusers. Lead us not into temptation, but Deliver us from Matthews and Johnson,

For thine is the power of the B-36, The Air Force forever and ever.

"If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything." —Mark Twain.

VET-APPRENTICE INJURED, TALKS

(from page 1)
is the fact that he has completed something like one-fourth of the time allowed for him to learn carpentry under the apprentice plan, yet he does not feel he has learned very much. For what he does know of carpentry, he gives most credit to the Honolulu Vocational School, which he attends each Friday, and very little to the Oahu Construction Co. on whose jobs he has worked to get actual experience.

For one thing, the apprentice plan indicates that work should be done under the direction of, or at least under the observation of a journeyman. Okuhara estimates that he's worked less than half his time with a journeyman carpenter anywhere around. Two other vet apprentices on the same job, he says, are now assigned to night-shift duty at watching the pump which pumps water out of the ditch and makes work possible.

The plan provides that a veteran will work approximately 8,000 hours at jobs of various kinds, named by category, and the experience thus derived is supposed to qualify him as a journeyman carpenter at the end of the course. Okuhara fears that at the end of his 8,000 hours, he will still know little of carpentry.

"Construction of concrete forms" is the category under which Okuhara's present work is listed, but when asked if he thinks that digging in the sewage ditch will teach him anything about building concrete forms, the young veteran just shakes his head.

His older brother, Nobu Okuhara, 4336 Aukoi Place, snorts: "Eight thousand hours! He could learn to be a carpenter in eighty hours if they wanted to teach him."

Nobu Okuhara, a construction contractor himself, feels it is a mistake of the Apprentice Council to assign veterans to large companies where the work is so specialized they have difficulty in learning the variety of jobs a journeyman carpenter should know.

Both brothers point out that, under the present conditions, both veterans and taxpayers are being cheated for the Veterans' Administration subsidizes such veterans, as in Tomatsu's case, to the extent of \$58 per month.

As for the cave-in itself, there are indications that a dangerous situation existed which has been remedied in some measure since. Before the cave-in, the high walls of the ditch towered above men working below, with nothing to hold them back. Since the accident, the company has knocked the edges of the ditch down with a mechanical shovel so that the hazard is less.

"There was nothing to stop the whole thing from caving in on you," says Okuhara. "They still haven't got the shovels out that we were working with."

A government inspector on the job told the RECORD that the only other means of providing absolute safety for workers in the ditch would be to drive piles that would hold back the walls of the ditch. This, he said, was not considered "practical."

Pipe Gets Care

Though it is true that Okuhara went to see a doctor at the suggestion of his foreman, who was worried about his complaints that he had trouble swallowing, it may also be true that the pipe which will go into the ditch has had more attention than the workers or the vet apprentices. It has been learned that George C. Wallace, engineer in charge of the Division of Sewers, made a special trip to the Mainland with the contractor, A. Yoshimoto, to select the pipe and see that it was properly made and packed. The pipe cost an estimated \$250,000 and the freight for shipping another estimated \$50,000.

LOOKING BACKWARD

(from page 8)

"The question may be asked, why, if they are contented, do they desert?"

Strange Sort of Contentment

"There are several reasons. Natural causes may render the work disagreeable and extra burdensome, as rain, cold, mud and overgrowth of weeds. A severe overseer may render all discontented and the boldest will desert. Accumulated debt is a prolific cause. Pure laziness is another. The prospect of getting better wages and the allurements of being with friends entice many away from their contract master."

In fact, even those who did not desert sometimes showed a strange sort of contentment.

"But let some real or fancied grievance break the monotony and the scene changes. A tin pan is beaten noisily to alarm and summon the camp. The motley camp gathers, generally at night. The leaders harangue their followers and the mob, most of them ignorant of the real cause, rush off to demand redress or punishment for the offender."

"The grievance is generally an assault by the overseer upon some laborer, a fine considered unjust, compulsion used to obtain unwilling work or a privilege withdrawn. The grievance is to the individual and the crowd makes it their own. (Nowadays, we call this "solidarity"). It is not generally felt very deeply, and in most cases a little fact smooths out everything and the even flow of events is again attained."

No Safety Valve

From the newspapers, however, we learn that the grievances, though they might not be felt very deeply, sometimes lead to serious riots—a foreman or an interpreter knocked on the head, or, in one case at Kahuku, the massacre of several Chinese by Japanese laborers. There were no unions to act as safety valves for the steam of resentment.

Dr. Peterson, not so picturesque a writer as Mr. Taylor, but less inclined to look on the sunny side, points out that "the grounds of complaint have been corporal punishment"—strictly forbidden by law—"abusive language, unjust retention of pay, overtime and Sunday work and minor trivial matters."

The system of docking, or "fines" for laziness and bad behavior was considered a progressive step by some plantations—it was better and safer than horsewhipping a disorderly laborer! But the men, with their low wages, hated it.

"When the power of fining, by deduction of one-quarter or one-half or a whole day's wages, is left to the discretion of a luna in the field, the abuse of such power is bound to follow," observes Dr. Peterson. "Is it legal?"

"Willfully Misunderstands"

Both Peterson and Taylor pointed out that the luna sometimes had good reason to lose his temper. "I have found that when complaints are made of ill-treatment and are true, the laborer often has been as much to blame as the luna," says Peterson, and adds that "the brutal luna is the exception . . . and only a self-controlled man can make a successful overseer."

"The laborer complains that the overseer abuses him and uses foul language, even strikes him, and that the Hawaiian words for 'hurry! hurry!' are being constantly hurled at him; that this much he does understand but much that is said he does not understand."

"The overseer takes the stand and testifies that the complainant is a lazy fellow, that he just moves and no more, that he willfully misunderstands and will fight if he is even led to his work, and 'what can a man do?'"

What, indeed, except haul off and kick the worker's backside?

10-Year Canvasser Tells How Bosses Fool Themselves, Public

By A CANVASSER
(As Told To the RECORD)

I'm going to start a union of salesmen. It might make these companies understand the commissions they give us aren't enough anyway.

You know how much I get on this car I'm selling now? Three per cent! Three per cent on a car that sells for almost \$2,000, and if I have to take an old car on a trade-in, my commission comes out of the cash part of the payment. I don't get anything of the rest unless the company can sell it at a profit and then I get five per cent of the profit. Big chance! B-I-I-G chance!

I've been selling and canvassing for ten years now—everything from the Book of Knowledge to pots and pans. These companies, some of them, fool the people all the time. Some are so phony they even fool themselves.

Slogans Mean Little

I think the phoniest outfit I ever worked for is that one that sold pots and pans. They had a lot of slogans like "All for one and one for all" and "Help one another," but ask somebody for help around there. Boy!

They expect you to go out and sell, but to sell you had to demonstrate. Well, if you demonstrate, you had to cook a meal, only the company didn't buy the food to cook. After you sold \$5,000 worth, they had some sort of bonus they gave you that was supposed

to make up for what you put out. It didn't come close.

Chart Phony, Too

They kept a chart up on the wall with all the salesmen's names and figures for how much they sold, only those figures were phony, too. I know because when the manager asked me how much I sold, I told him about \$2,000 worth. He asked me, "None promised?"

"Sure, I got some more promised," I said.

He yelled, "Well, put it up! Put it up!"

So he put up about \$4,000 for the figure to make other guys work harder, and to build up everybody's morale, he said. Boy, they were fooling themselves. They even had meetings where they spent the time fooling each other. You were supposed to get mental energy from the meetings.

You know how phony that outfit was? One time they let a lot of us go and they said they just wanted married men. Well, one of the guys that worked with me saw an advertisement a few days later. It gave room something or other at the Young Hotel and said they wanted salesmen. He went to the hotel and there was the same manager of that same company, all dressed up with a coat and tie and acting like a big shot from New York. My friend just waved at the manager and grinned.

Red-Baiter, Top

I'll tell you how phony that outfit was. During this last strike, there was a Filipino guy who was for the ILWU, and you know, they did their best to fire him. They couldn't because he still owed them some money or something.

I hear they're still trying to get rid of him because they say he's a Communist. I talked to one guy about it, and when I said it sounded like a lot of bunk, he said I talked like a Communist, too. It reminds me of this Hollenbach case.

But you get so you pull a lot of phony stuff in this selling and canvassing. I was canvassing for a sewing machine company and I used to knock at the door and get the lady interested, and then I'd introduce the salesman.

I'd say, "Now I want you to meet our advertising manager."

Sometimes she'd get suspicious and call the office to find out and the manager would tell her, "Yes, Mr. Soandso is our advertising manager."

Once we even called him our West Coast manager. You pull all kinds of stuff.

Like these women that sell magazines on Hotel St. now. They begin talking about how they're just sending samples and all you have to do is pay the postage, and before you realize it, they've got you taking the magazine for 36 issues or 72 issues, or something like that. It sounds better to a customer if you say 36 issues than if you say three years.

Haole-Style Selling

That's haole-style selling. Now don't get me wrong, I've got nothing against haoles. A haole taught me. But I don't like haole-style selling very much. You know, that's where you get your foot in the door and start talking and you don't quit.

We were selling a kind of vacuum cleaner and I worked with a haole as canvasser. We worked out along the Ala Wai and most of the homes were haole places. I got a lot of them to look at the vacuum cleaner, and the company wanted to know how I got so many. I didn't tell them.

Here was the way. I'd knock at the door and, you know haoles don't like to be bothered, so I'd say: "Excuse me madam, but would

you like to see me make fifty cents?"

Usually they'd say: "Sure, I don't mind your making fifty cents."

So then, I'd say: "Well, I'll make fifty cents if you'll look at a vacuum cleaner."

It worked most of the time.

Then, once when I was selling that cleaner out in Kaimuki, there was a time when a girl answered the door. She said her folks were living in the country. I guess that confession's off the record, though.

Fitch On Kauai

The best I ever had it was selling the Book of Knowledge. I was selling on Kauai and a lot of people there had been brought up on that book, so when I had a new edition, it was easy. It sold itself, and I was the only guy on the island selling it. Right after the war you could sell all that stuff, but not now. Times are tough. Really tough!

I sold the Encyclopedia Britannica, too, but it's no good working for that outfit. They want you to begin selling the junior set, and even if somebody wants the senior set, you can't sell it. You've got to call a guy that's selling the senior set and he sells it.

You see, the junior set isn't recommended, anyhow. Well, how can you have any faith in something you know isn't recommended and there you are out trying to sell it.

Once when I was selling the Book of Knowledge on the Big Island, I ran into a customer who wanted the senior set of the Encyclopedia Britannica. I hunted up a salesman and told him about it and asked him how much cut he was going to give me.

Dog Eat Dog

You know what he said? Five dollars! The commission is about forty to fifty dollars and he was going to give me only five and he wouldn't have to do any work at all. He said the company didn't believe in big commissions. I told him to forget it. I heard he was looking for me for the next two days. They think they're a high-toned outfit.

Canvassing and selling aren't so bad a lot of the time, but they're bad now. You get thrown out of places by husbands because their wives buy stuff when they're away and they get stuck for it. I understand how they feel and I never get mad, even if they get mad and swear at me. If I answer quietly, they get ashamed and the next time I go around they may apologize.

You know the worst kind? That's the guy who always wants to see every demonstration and always asks how much and never buys. The next worst kind is the big shot. He's the guy that always wants to buy from some other big shot, like the manager of the company, or something. He thinks he's too big a shot to buy from a salesman. Boy!

I tell you, I'm going to start a union for salesmen. Maybe I can get better than that three per cent I'm getting now, anyway.

About one-fifth of the 16 million unionists in the U. S. are women.

BREAKFAST — LUNCH
SANDWICHES
Monday Through Saturday
5:30 a. m. to 3:00 p. m.
Skipper's Lunchroom
Pier 15
(Under Demo. Party Office)
New Management—Reasonable

Kendall's Memory May Be At Fault

Charles R. Kendall, executive director of the Hawaiian Government Employees Association, in attempting to discredit the Gallas Report on City-County civil service practices, has apparently forgotten how he was taken in by a phony—the exposure of whom was one of the incidents that led Mayor Wilson to order the investigation by Research Associates.

In "The Hawaii Public Employee," HGEA's house organ, for Oct.-Nov. 1948, page five is entirely devoted to a eulogistic spread on K. C. Warford whom Kendall had just hired to make a study of salaries paid HGEA workers. According to the spread, Warford attended the University of Oklahoma, was a member of the civil service commission and later acting manager for Miami, Fla. The spread is set off by a portrait of Warford in his navy uniform.

As the reading public knows, Warford was exposed by the City-County civil service commission as having done and been very few of the things he claimed. It is a fact that he narrowly escaped trial on charges of perjury and subsequently left the Territory, having become the object of interest of Navy Intelligence which was wondering why he was drawing a disability pension while holding civilian jobs.

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WASHINGTON PATTERN

By RICHARD SASULY (Federated Press)

FORGET ABOUT MONOPOLY, SAWYER COUNSELS

Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer now tells us in a learned way that American industry is not growing more concentrated, as many of us had been led to believe.

On Dec. 5 he sent 25 pages of statistics and text to Chairman Emanuel Celler (D., N. Y.) of a House subcommittee investigating monopoly in American economic life. Drawn up by Commerce Department men and based on his department's Census of Manufactures of 1947, Sawyer's material is an attempt to show that U. S. industry is less concentrated than it was in 1935.

Wet Blanket On Celler

This runs counter to the belief of Celler himself, whose concern over growing control over the nation's production machine by fewer and fewer corporations led him to set up his subcommittee investigation. The Federal Trade Commission several times since World War II, and the House small business committee in 1946, have furnished proof of this trend, complete with names, tables and charts.

Sawyer's attempt to put down criticism of the power of the giants of industry was not a crude one. He didn't say that General Motors and duPont and Standard Oil of New Jersey are losing out to Podunk Motors and Squeedunk Oil. He'd be laughed out of office for that kind of claim.

But he did offer a mass of statistics, with names of no companies attached, a Commerce Department regulation forbidding any reference to individual firms. Covering 453 industries, the Sawyer documents amounted to a wet blanket on Celler, the FTC and others concerned with the monopoly problem.

At the same time, Sawyer announced that President Truman has asked him to set up an interagency committee of government officials to map out a "positive" approach to businessmen to get them to abide by the anti-trust laws. Sawyer himself said the laws are too difficult for businessmen to understand. He said nothing about the need to strengthen them.

Commerce Department Methods Distort Picture

The methods used by the Commerce Department in analyzing industrial control in 1947 are far different from those used by the FTC last summer in a study of the same period. That explains why their results are so far apart.

A Commerce Department spokesman told Federated Press: "Our trend is toward more and more industries," explaining that industries are classified according to the products turned out. A single company, he said, may play a part in 20 industries in the classification used by the Commerce Department.

The Sawyer measure of a company's size was in terms of the value of the goods it shipped in 1947, whereas the FTC used as a measure the net capital assets (plant and equipment) of the firm in that year.

The FTC report last summer rejected the method of measurement used by the Commerce Department because the number of sales from small suppliers of larger firms distorts the picture in numerous industries. The Commerce Department took special steps to correct this distortion in its figures for only 12 of its 453 industries.

Sawyer For Soft Approach To Big Monopolies

We find the FTC telling us that the big four in motor vehicles had 70.7 per cent of the capacity of the industry, which in effect means the power to produce, as well as to hire workers. But the Commerce Department, taking into account nut and bolt makers for the auto trade, finds only 55.7 per cent of 1947 sales went to the big four in the industry in terms of "motor vehicles and parts."

Likewise, the FTC finds Armour, Swift, Wilson and Cudahy, the big four in meat products, had 69 per cent of the facilities. Sawyer says only 41 per cent of "wholesale meat packing" is done by four companies. Lower on his list appears "prepared meats," only 29 1/2 per cent controlled by the first four manufacturers.

The difference between the Commerce Department figures and the FTC findings can be listed at length. The point is that Sawyer apparently is trying to justify a soft approach to big business. The FTC is warning us of what that old policy has led to.

Frank-ly Speaking

(from page 8)

that I will accept the support of anybody, no matter of what political persuasion, so long as he wants to help me get the first class citizenship to which I am entitled. But if we are dominated by the kind of thinking that threatened to oust Miss Hollenbach from her job, not only will I and other members of minority groups have our fight against discrimination fatally weakened but we will face charges of being un-American for even daring to defend any member of ADA.

PEOPLE WISING UP

For many years we have wondered just what process of self-deludement coal operators—as well as leaders of other industries—go through to repeat the time-proven mistake over and over again of depending upon newspaper advertising as a means of negotiating wage agreements. Even the Chicago newspapers failed to accomplish such an achievement in the typographical strike and certainly, let it be known that the Chicago Tribune, Daily News, Journal of Commerce and Sun-Times have at their disposal expert copywriters. — United Mine Workers Journal.

Okay of Dillingham Project Said Lesson

(from page 1)

tion dollars, and are thus able to plan on a large scale, will be able to get business zoning?

"No," said Houghtailing. "The little fellows can do the same thing. They can get together and build shopping centers, still keeping their individual establishments separate. Maybe they'll have to do it. Maybe the downtown businesses will, too."

Houghtailing says he thought there would be objections to the project at the public hearing Nov. 10, from either downtown businessmen or from residents of the area who opposed the rezoning, but there were none.

"I expected objections from downtown businessmen because the center will certainly compete with them."

Although some individual applications for business zoning in the same general area have been rejected by the board, Houghtailing says that is because they would have represented "spot" zoning of the sort that has already congested main thoroughfares like Beretania St. and Wai-aleae Rd. with traffic that is rapidly becoming one of the city's major problems.

One of the chief inducements to the planning board offered by the Dillingham project, Houghtailing says, is the large area to be used for "off-the-street" parking. In his original letter to the board, Lowell S. Dillingham proposed to give 40 per cent of the space for parking, but the figure was later rewritten at 50, and Houghtailing says he thinks two-thirds of the area will eventually be used for parking.

Some small businessmen have taken traffic problems into consideration in their requests for rezoning, and these have had the cooperation of the board, Houghtailing says. He cites the Times Supermarket on South King St., near McCully, as an example.

If small merchants, feeling the hot breath of Lowell Dillingham's competition on their necks, decide to follow Houghtailing's advice, they may well find themselves emulating the taxmen who have organized into a union, the better to compete with Ben Dillingham's ORAL cabs.

"If they'll only get together," Houghtailing says, "we'll furnish our brains to help them build centers that we can approve."

Having received the approval of the planning board, the resolution, No. 339, which creates the Dillingham project, is now in the hands of the City-County clerk where it will remain until Jan. 6. If, by that time, no complaint has arisen strong enough to influence five supervisors to vote against it, the resolution becomes law.

11,000 NAZIS TEACH AGAIN

MUNICH (ALN)—Out of 12,000 teachers kicked out after the war in Bavaria for being Nazis, more than 11,000 are again teaching German children, an official survey reveals. The survey documents many cases in which officials in Bavaria, a part of the U. S. occupation zone, have reversed the denazification process by firing anti-Nazis and putting back teachers appointed by Hitler.

our sports world

By Wilfred Oka



ALONG BOXING BOULEVARD

The talk in town was that Earl Turner, who fought Carl (Bobo) Olson last Tuesday night was no match for the Territorial middleweight champion. In the gym where we watched Turner train, we felt that he didn't rate a chance against Bobo. However, in the ten-rounder held at the Civic, we had to admit that he gave Bobo a good fight, unlike many of the blokes who have been imported for the local cauliflower trade.

Olson hurt Turner a number of times during the ten rounds and he had the crowd with him as far as a knockout was concerned, but Turner fought his way out of every bad situation instead of running away. Turner was in excellent shape and in many of the inside exchanges he gave Olson a run for his money. The crowd was satisfied with the fight and we felt that the decision and the scoring was not off the beam. We figure also that the Kim-Karasick Kombo made a few bucks, with an attendance of over 4,100 fans.

Al Kalua, a boy who should not be fighting at all, was matched with Lou Langley who definitely is not the world's best fighter. Prior to the fight, Bill Kim, the matchmaker, came up to the writer and kidded me that Al Kalua was going all out for dear ole alma yammy and that he had to get pork chops for his family. However, we wanted to see this boy Kalua make a turn for the good so, we didn't put up an argument with Kim.

Before the fight started, we turned to Edward Toner, city and county Health Administrative officer and told him that if Lou Langley knocked Al out, then our contention about Al would be borne out. That is exactly what happened to Al Kalua. In the second round he was helpless against the ropes and Lou was pounding him unmercifully when the bout was stopped. This boy Al Kalua must be stopped from getting further punishment as this is the third in a row that he has lost either by a kayo or a TKO.

In one of the preliminaries, Bobby Sanders and Ray Carvalho fought a four-rounder with Sanders the winner. This decision was booed rather loudly. We figured Carvalho the winner in this match and we disagree vehemently with the officials on this one. Carl Arakaki fought Eddie Reyes from Lau Ah Chew's stable. Reyes got hurt in the third round and he decided to hang 'em up for the night in the third.

The Willie Jackson-Johnny Dias match was called off due to the fact that Dias did not make an appearance for the weigh-in. In his place was substituted Harry Clyde, seconded by Sad Sam Ichinose. It was a tough fight with Clyde on the receiving end most of the way. From the first round on Clyde got a severe beating. The manager should have thrown in the towel in the fourth, as he was in no shape to continue. It is from such beatings as this one that fighters start hearing bells ringing. For Sad Sam, a papini let for not throwing in the towel sooner, to prevent his boy from having to take this punishment.

THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM ON THE PLANTATIONS

Realizing that sooner or later unionism would hit the last outpost of the open shop in the Pacific, the Big Five and their plantations have set up an organization in the different islands to promote what we term "company recreation." The various associations set up by the recreation and personnel men have for years been intended to keep the workers from becoming union conscious. However, the organization of the ILWU in the plantation communities has meant that the workers have become pork-chop minded and have not been taken in too much by this so-called program.

History in the islands shows the hand of company recreation making its appearance especially on the waterfront when the Matson Athletic Association was organized with Danny Wise, who recently figured in the Hawaii Stevedoring Company, in charge. Recreation was made available without cost, equipment was furnished, and even a rest camp was provided on the other side of the island. Of course no mention was ever made that this expense of running the program was deductible as expense by Castle & Cooke, and that the profits realized from the labor of the working stiff on the waterfront all went to the company. With the growth of the union, the club died a natural death, aided of course, by militant union men who saw this club as nothing more than a company union move.

Today, McCabe, Hamilton and Renny is making its first move to dislodge the union by starting an athletic association. The spearhead in this organization is Marcus Colburn, who has fought unions and who is being aided and pushed by the company. The Maldonado group is helping in this program. We see the ugly head of company unionism again appearing on the waterfront. The Big Five could not bust the union in an open fight, as witness the last strike when they threw a barrage of money, propaganda, a number of Maldonados, Gibbons, Bob Shields and company stooges at the rank and file. Their bait now is the athletic and recreation program. Watch this move!

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Opinion From England

(From "A London Diary," New Statesman and Nation, English Liberal Weekly)

So far the U. S. "loyalty" program has cost \$12,460,000. In return for that, 2,350,000 federal employes have been "screened." In only 7,700 of the records was anything suspicious found; of these, disloyalty charges were brought against 1,300, of whom 134 resigned and another 103 were found by the review boards to be ineligible for government employment, and of these, several were reinstated on appeal. Altogether 200 were "purged." Some senators think that at least at \$62,300 per "urgee," they are not getting their money's worth. But that is not the complaint of liberty-loving Americans; they are uneasy about even the 200. I take these statistics from a speech by Professor Cushman, of Cornell University, whose speech to the American Physical Society is reported in the American "Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists." Here are some of the questions suspects were asked:

- Do you read a good many books?
- What books do you read?
- What magazines do you read?
- What newspapers do you buy or subscribe to?
- Do you think that Russian Communism is likely to succeed?
- How do you explain the fact that you have an album of Paul Robeson in your home?
- Do you ever entertain Negroes in your home?
- Do you believe that Negro blood should be segregated in the Red Cross blood bank?
- One employe was asked: "Is it not true that you lived next door to, and, therefore, were closely associated with a member of the I. W. W.?"
- When he replied that it was true but that he was eight years old at the time, the questioner remarked: "Children are very impressionable."
- "Points" are given as a measure of a person's loyalty. If he buys the "Daily Worker" from a newsstand, that rates so many points; if he subscribes to it, the rating is a bit higher. If he joined a left-wing bookshop or gave money to the Spanish Loyalists or petitioned for the pardon of Earl Browder, or, as a college student, belonged to the American Student Union, each fact is weighted. One safeguard we have against such a purge in this country is that not many members of the British government would survive such a questionnaire. A number of them are quite well-read.—CRITIC

Breakfast For Children Can Be Cheap, Delicious, Nutritious

By ELEANOR AGNEW

Most American housewives are by now pretty vitamin conscious. At least we hear so much talk about vitamins that we feel guilty if we allow the kids to stuff themselves with white bread and soda after school.

However, we are apt to be rather vague about just what our families should eat meal by meal for good health on a minimum of money.

When going into town on the HRT you may have cast a glance at a placard showing a gleaming child, devouring a breakfast of eggs, milk, fruit and meat. For several months now some council in town has been emphasizing such a diet to us mothers.

Perhaps some mothers added up the cost of this health-making breakfast shown per child in their family and realized that the rent couldn't be paid if they fed their children the meal they should have according to the unrealistic council.

For though we would like to serve our children their most interesting breakfast, most of us can't. However, we can see that they get the same food values as the fortunate child who beams healthily at us on HRT.



Eleanor Agnew

Here is a low-cost breakfast that has sent my children charging out of the house, frighteningly full of energy, for the past several years:

- Quick oats with milk (or cold cereal)
- Juice
- Toast

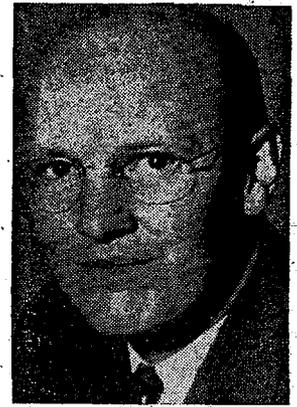
The oats cook in a few minutes. They are more nutritious than cold cereals (though these are fine for variety). Canned milk mixed with equal parts of water is much cheaper than fresh milk and most children don't seem to mind it on cereals. The food value of canned milk is equal to that of fresh.

Fresh oranges are too expensive for most of us in Honolulu. Canned orange juice can be mixed with other fruit juices to make a drink both palatable and vitamin-packed.

Tomato juice is also an excellent source of vitamins and is cheaper than canned fruit juice. A little lemon juice, Worcestershire sauce, salt and pepper, do very nice things for this juice when it has been thoroughly chilled.

Labor Govt. Loses

SYDNEY, Australia.—Australia, like New Zealand, moved further to the right by voting out the labor government which has been in power for eight years. The New Zealand election took place recently.



UNDER PRESSURE—Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan (above) is being pressured by sugar lobbyists. Their object: To raise prices. Leading the campaign for the U. S. Beet Sugar Association is Robert H. Shields, who used to head the Agriculture Department's sugar branch.

Coffee Tie-Up Cracks

WASHINGTON (TP)—The solid front of coffee producers and importers had begun to break Dec. 9 as the price remained in the higher altitudes.

Otávio Parangua, Brazilian delegate to the economic and social council of the Pan American union, told a special session of the council that the price of green coffee sold by producers is \$30 a bag while the same coffee is being sold on the New York exchange for \$52 a bag.

CONSUMERS POTLUCK

Christmas Buying

NEW YORK—Of 21 models of automatic electric toasters tested by Consumers Union, one qualified as a Best Buy by reason of good performance and construction and relatively low price. Toasters were tested to determine speed and evenness of toasting, range of toasting, from lightest to darkest, and need for pre-heating. Convenience features were also checked and all toasters were put through fire and electrical safety tests. Most of the toasters rated "Not Acceptable" were so rated because of severe shock hazard.

The Best Buy and best model, regardless of price, was the Proctor 1468A, \$15.95, a-c only. Other toasters considered acceptable by CU, and of best over-all quality next to the Best Buy Proctor were the Camfield C-3, \$21.95, a-c or d-c; General Electric 129T81, \$21.50, a-c or d-c, and Toastmaster 1B14, \$21.50, a-c or d-c.

Non-Automatic Toasters

Non-automatic toasters lack many conveniences which automatic toasters offer, and to many consumers the conveniences may be well worth the extra cost, says CU in the Christmas Buying issue of Consumer Reports. Four of the 10 non-automatic toasters tested by CU were rated Not Acceptable because their handles became hot enough to burn the fingers; two others were so rated because of shock-hazard and table burn hazard. Check the toaster you intend to buy to make sure its doors open readily and its toast-turning mechanism works well.

Non-automatic toasters found Acceptable by CU were Universal EA-2105, \$7.95; Handyhot 5902, \$4.95, and Westinghouse TT-72, \$4.95.

Table Model Radios

Of 32 table model radios tested by Consumers Union, none were outstanding for quality. Only AM sets selling for less than \$30 were included in the project. All sets presented some degree of shock hazard, and four were rated Not Acceptable because of short circuit hazard.

Two sets judged to offer the greatest value per dollar were the Ward's Airline, Oct. No.

1527M, and Admiral 5x12-N, \$16.95. The Ward's set was also at the top of the acceptable list for quality, followed by RCA 8x521, \$24.95; Philco 50-522, Code 121, \$22.95, and Westinghouse H124, \$24.95.

Children's Records

Before buying children's records, be sure that they play at a speed for which the recipient has a record player, says Consumer Reports in an article on records as Christmas gifts for children. For example, the regular or standard speed is 78 revolutions per minute, but there are new slow speed records, 33 1-3 r.p.m. and 45 r.p.m. which require special players. Consumers Union's consultant on children's records recommends a number of companies producing inexpensive records, most of them unbreakable (all records listed below are standard speed):

Little Golden Records, 25 cents; 7-inch unbreakable. Outstanding among their recordings are "The Taxi That Hurried" and "Hansel and Gretel Dance," No. 15; "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" and "The Owl and the Pussy Cat," No. 16; "Turkey in the Straw" and "Oh, Susanna," No. 17.

Lincoln records, 25 cents and 35 cents; 7 and 10-inch unbreakable. Generally liked are the following of the Teddy Bear series (35 cents, 10-inch): "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" and "Little Boy Blue," No. 202; "Whoopie-Ti-Yo-Yo" and "Lone Prairie," No. 206, and "Pop Goes the Weasel" and "Pied Piper," No. 211. Popular in the Bobolink series (25 cents, 7-in.) are "Alphabet Song" and "Old Mother Hubbard," No. 351; "Chicken Licken" and "The Muffin Man," No. 354; "Ride a Cock Horse" and "Over in the Meadow," No. 361.

Karousel, 79 cents, unbreakable. Three participation records are "Sing a Song of Animals," No. TC2; "Songs of Mother Goose," No. TC1; "Songs About Kittens," No. TC4.

Cubs, 79 cents, 10-inch unbreakable (for the 2-5-year-old group). Some recommendations are "Lullabies," Cub 1; "Learning Songs," Cub 2; "Grow, Grow" and "Swim, Swim," Cub 4; "Race You Down the Mountain" and "The Merry Go Round," Cub 6.

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ERA OF THE INDIVIDUAL

During the last waterfront strike, Ather-ton Richards sounded off on the "Era of the Individual" in a prominently-placed series of articles in the Advertiser.

This former president and general manager of the Hawaiian Pineapple Co., who is described as a business consultant in New York, said that encouragement should be given to small industries, to people owning their own homes and where practicable, to their owning subsistence land.

The articles may have given some the illusion that he is a generous, liberal capitalist.

Last week, the Kahua Ranch Co., of which Ather-ton Richards is president, got into a terrific battle with Big Island ranchers Lyman and Anna Perry-Fiske, over a 10,000-acre tract in Kohala, put up for lease by the Territory.

Counsel for the two ranchers argued before the board of public lands that subdividing the vast acreage for leasing would give small ranchers the opportunity to put in their bids, while the position of the Kahua Ranch favoring "one parcel" would freeze out small bidders.

Kahua Ranch, in which Castle & Cooke is interested, won, or in other words, the board of public lands voted for leasing the 10,000 acres to one party.

In reading over Mr. Richards' articles in the Advertiser, one would expect that being president of Kahua Ranch, he would even go to the extent of favoring subdivision of land areas suitable for farming, and of opening homesteads, not to speak of encouraging smaller ranches.

* * * *

WORDS AGAINST DEEDS

Recently, the Chamber of Commerce announced that it was going ahead on a program of developing small industries. This sounds good, but we'll start believing this portion of the Chamber's report when we actually see action taken in the right direction.

There are small industries here run by medium-sized capitalists who are not having an easy time. Instead of getting encouragement and help from the Chamber or its economically influential members, the smaller capitalists say they are being squeezed out. Ironically, if the new enterprises show financial potentialities, the chances of their being gulped up by the big capitalists become greater.

The picture which the Chamber's publicists give is one of harmony among its members, one of assisting new enterprises in the community. This we know is far from the truth. One glaring example is the hard fight of the TPA against Hawaiian Airlines' opposition.

But it was TPA which brought air travel rates down to a point where the common people can better afford transportation between the islands. Does TPA get the Chamber's support?

Talk of more small industries leads to the matter of finances. What has the Chamber done to help in the financing of medium capitalists who are competing with capitalists of Big Five and Dillingham caliber?

The RECORD last week reported of the overwhelming ignorance among businessmen regarding federal RFC loans. Why hasn't the Chamber publicized this agency's work? How does the Chamber feel towards the banks and Big Five houses that regard RFC as competition? And also where local big banks forbid small banks from entering into "participation loans" (bank and RFC dividing loans)? Or is the Chamber silent because it is dominated by big business?



frank-ly speaking

By FRANK MARSHALL DAVIS

THAT HOLLENBACH CASE

The attempt to oust Marion Hollenbach from her position as community consultant for the PTA brings into sharp focus the whole struggle for civil rights against thought control.

Miss Hollenbach was not charged with being either a Communist or a fellow-traveller. She is a liberal who is linked with Americans for Democratic Action, a strongly anti-Communist organization. But to some persons merely being liberal is grounds for calling out the militia.

I contend that the charges against Miss Hollenbach never would have become an issue had not the way been prepared by the mounting anti-Communist hysteria of the past four years. As has been said by many staunch defenders of civil liberties, the idea is not merely to shut up Communists but to silence anybody else who holds opinions contrary to those sanctioned by whoever is in an authoritative position.



MR. DAVIS

The opposition to Miss Hollenbach failed to remove her because of bad timing. Although we are headed in that direction, it so happens that in December 1949, Hawaii has not yet sunk to the depths of hysteria which would permit a liberal to be kicked out of a job. Purge victims as of now are merely suspected Communists and fellow-travellers.

But let's face it. Unless the public recognizes the threat to its freedom, it could easily be that within a year or even six months, similar vague charges could be brought against Miss Hollenbach and she would be fired without the lifting of an eyebrow. That's the way we are going.

However, it is encouraging to know that we have not as yet fully accepted thought control. Letters and editorials in the daily press in support of the PTA consultant indicate that many are articulate defenders of the constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech. It is unfortunate that this guarantee is jealously guarded only for anti-Communists.

There is still this tendency to try to divide civil rights, yet, the Hollenbach case proves that it can't be done. I repeat that if there were no anti-Red hysteria, there would be no threat to liberals such as Miss Hollenbach; that if the Communists are silenced, then the next target will be the liberals and after that, anybody who dares voice disagreement with those in control of government. That is the kind of dictatorship that threatens all of us—and it is being peddled as democracy.

Let me put it even more bluntly. Despite its strong anti-Communist stand and the leadership of such distinguished Americans as Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Senator Humphrey and others, Americans for Democratic Action is looked upon by some reactionaries as only slightly less dangerous than the Communist party. It has been blasted locally for opposing formation of an un-American activities committee and for not giving 100 per cent support to the program of the Territory's ultra-conservatives.

In other words, ADA has not purchased immunity for itself by its act of swelling the chorus of Red-baiters. It has not learned that you just can't compromise with reaction. It does not realize that if it helps reaction silence and destroy Communists and fellow-travellers, the strengthened beast of reaction will then turn upon ADA and other liberals for its next big meal.

While this failure to realize that civil rights are indivisible and that it cannot save its skin by adding to the fermenting hysteria is a major weakness of ADA I nevertheless support the right of Miss Hollenbach to hold any job for which she is prepared, as well as the right of her husband, Dr. Allen Saunders of the University of Hawaii, to continue his outspoken criticism of undemocratic practices.

I recall that ADA performed a useful function in the 1948 elections in getting the Democratic party on record in support of civil rights—even if ADA did back a man who seems determined to use this fundamental matter of civil rights for all only as political bait or trading material with the Dixiecrats.

Since I am a member of a minority group that has traditionally been denied its civil rights in violation of the constitution, I will support that part of the program of any group which aims at equality for all. Each minority group needs the aid and support of all other minority groups in the uphill struggle for full equality. Americans for Democratic Action is a minority group. So, for that matter, is the Communist party. And I might add that I have no more taste for Red-baiting than I have for Jew-baiting.

I do not know how long it will be possible to express an opposition to Red-baiting or to admit

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor, The RECORD:

This is just the humble opinion of one very dissatisfied parent who came away from tonight's PTA meeting at Lincoln School. Among the subjects discussed was the stand taken by Marcus Colburn on Mrs. Saunders' (nee Hollenbach) unfitness to relay to us her teachings.

I could not see where the constitution of the Lincoln PTA had vested enough powers in Colburn to warrant his rejection of Mrs. Saunders' services to our PTA.

A Mr. Chapple contended that the subject was a closed issue. I was not in accord with his contention, or else why would we be discussing this subject at this particular meeting.

Many wanted the floor but were not given the opportunity to speak. Mr. Chapple made a motion to the effect that Colburn be given a vote of confidence for services rendered in the past. Mr. Colburn offered to resign if he could not exercise his prerogative as president to reject Mrs. Saunders' services.

Mr. Chapple's motion did not state that Mr. Colburn's services as president were to be retained. And yet, Vice President Carter put that motion to a vote before others had an opportunity to clarify that motion in their minds. When the vote had been

taken (the said vote was not taken by a show of hands) Carter told Colburn that he was still in as president.

Parliamentary procedure was not observed very well at that meeting. I contend that anyone who accepts any executive position should at least know the first simple rules of parliamentary procedure.

One member of the PTA amended Chapple's motion and was voted out of order by Carter; when that particular member had a perfect right to amend that motion.

Furthermore, any motion before the house could be discussed fully by anyone before a vote could be taken.

I do not know Mrs. Saunders, but as an interested believer in fair play, and since Mrs. Saunders has talent and services to offer us, I feel that the decision rests with all the members and that we are adult-minded enough to accept or reject her teachings.

These are just the sentiments of one parent. I wonder how many more parents went away from the meeting dissatisfied and feeling frustrated because he or she had not been recognized by the chair so that he or she could voice his thoughts as a free-thinking American.

MRS. ROSE LEE PAI
Dec. 14, 1949 1438 Wilder Ave.

looking backward

Plantation Life 50 Years Ago

(Conclusion)

What of social life on a plantation of 50 years ago? Secretary Wray Taylor of the Board of Immigration, in his 1899 report, paints an idyllic picture of the plantation laborer's life.

"Generally, they are contented. The sewing machine is common in every camp. The tailoress plies her trade. The petty storekeeper, with his room nearly filled with goods, drives his bargains with his countryman. All day long the simple laundering is in progress. The mother works with her babe near at hand while the older children are at school. The happy chatter of women's tongues does not evidence discontent. (Most men, however, had no women to chatter!)

"There is food enough. A place to eat and sleep and live in, equal in comfort to that which they have left behind."

High Desertion Rate

But Taylor's colleague, Dr. Charles A. Peterson, points out that in the barracks where the single men lived, "where all things are in common except the small 3x6 feet of space for sleeping, 'what is everyone's business is no one's business,' and neatness in anyone is undone by others." He says, too: "Some plantations have thought it advisable to place more than one married couple in a single room and even located them in open barracks with single men."

Returning now to Taylor's delightful picture: "Conveniences are multiplying. The laborer returns to his home in the evening and every repression is relaxed. Sunday is a day for rest, indeed, in most cases. Discontent is not thought of. . . For amusements there are wrestling matches, peculiar dramatic entertainments and gambling games with all sorts of counters."

But elsewhere in the report, Mr. Taylor had pointed out a very high desertion rate on several plantations.

(more on page 5)

(more on page 6)