

Conditions in Hawaii.

"Twenty years ago, when I used to ply between San Francisco and the islands, conditions were entirely different from those existing at the present time," said Joel Nash, who has just returned from a trip to Honolulu, says the Telegram. "In the early days the islands were wide open, as you might say. There were no locks on the doors of the houses, and the people gave no thought to robberies. Living as they did in a land of plenty, where all that was needed to make life happy was a little work, they thought nothing of other wealth and were satisfied to drift on and live an easy life. At night time the doors were thrown open in order that the cool night winds might be taken advantage of, and as there was little of value to steal, those in the house slept without fear.

"Since the coming of the white man, however, conditions have materially changed. Now all the houses are equipped with modern doors and locks. When the Spanish-American war came Honolulu was made the half-way station for the transports bound across the Pacific, and thousands of hard characters drifted into the country. The Hawaiians received the American soldiers with open arms at first. They feasted them and did everything in their power to make their stay on the island pleasant. After the transports had sailed there were always a number of articles missed, such as bicycles and other things of value. Nothing was thought of the matter at first, but the Hawaiians and American residents finally became suspicious, and a change came over them. They did not act so hospitably and kept everything under lock and key. The fault did not lie with the American soldier as a type, but in a quickly organized army a few undesirable characters are sure to get in, and these did enough pilfering to cast a bad name on thousands of as honorable and brave soldiers as ever marched into battle. The crowds that gathered to meet the transports grew smaller and smaller, and offerings of fruit and hospitalities became rarer as the misdeeds of some of the soldiers became generally known.

"Another factor which made the natives protect themselves was the advent of Japanese, Chinese and other foreigners. Contract labor has been brought in, and consists of Porto Ricans, who are nothing less than slaves, and who steal anything they can lay their hands on. "The natives themselves have developed dishonest traits from their environments, and prove apt pupils. The police force is totally inadequate to guard the public safety. It is made up of natives who are unacquainted with the methods of white burglars, and are unable to cope with them. They look well on parade, but when it comes to hunting down a criminal are at a loss how to proceed, and that is about all. There is a mounted squad, both bicycle and horse, and the natives are the finest built men in the islands. For the detection of treason and political crimes they are as good as in former days, but for actual police duty are of little value. It is a shame that conditions should have undergone such a change."

Pleanty of Winter Underwear, Hosiery for Big Men, Little Men, Big Ladies, and Little Ladies. Boys and girls, and don't forget the little tots at home. See See Five.

Wood and Stone in Forest Reserves

SALEM, Jan. 28.—Captain S. B. Ormsby, superintendent of the Cascade Forest Reserve, is in receipt of an amendment to the rules regulating the forest reserve, regarding the manner of permitting settlers to use wood or stone from the reserves. The instructions quote from the laws passed by congress to regulate the matter of caring for the reserves as follows:

"The secretary of the interior may permit, under regulations to be prescribed by him, the use of timber and stone found upon such reservations, free of charge, by bona fide settlers, miners, residents and prospectors for minerals, for firewood, fencing, buildings, mining, prospecting and other domestic purposes, as may be needed by such persons for such purposes; such timber to be used within the state or territory, respectively, where such reservation may be located."

The instructions state that corporations are not allowed to profit under this rule, and continues:

"Before any timber or stone can be taken hereunder from the forest reserves, the person entitled thereto must first make application to the forest supervisor in charge of the reservation. Upon receipt of the application, the supervisor will immediately make investigation of the facts in the case. If, in his judgment, the application be meritorious and no injury to the forest cover will result from the removal of such timber, he will thereupon approve such application, giving the party permission to remove the timber under the supervision of a forest officer; Provided, That where the stumpage value of the timber exceeds \$20, permission must be obtained from the department. In cases of emergency, where needy persons require immediate relief in the form of a load of dry firewood, the supervisor has authority to grant such privilege without marking or measuring the material beyond assigning to the applicant the particular area where to cut this material."

Representative Tongue intends if possible to put a stop to lieu-land frauds. He has introduced a bill providing that hereafter, when tracts within forest reserves are relinquished, the other lands selected shall be vacant surveyed public lands subject to homestead entry and shall be approximately the same value as the lands relinquished. This bill was introduced after a conference with Commissioner Hermann, who gives it his hearty endorsement. A favorable report is also expected from Secretary Hitchcock, who is known to desire such legislation. Representative Tongue has also introduced a bill providing that adult heirs of any deceased Indian to whom a patent has been issued for lands allotted in the former Siletz Indian reservation may sell their inheritance; also a bill ratifying the agreement with the Grand Ronde Indians and appropriating \$28,500 to pay them for a tract of 25,791 acres thereby relinquished.

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