

Figures From Hawaii.

The latest and fullest information relative to the newly acquired territory of the United States, the Hawaiian islands, has just been given to the public in a special publication by the bureau of statistics. It consists of a series of statements relative to the people of the islands, their number, nativity, occupations, productions, exportations, purchases from other parts of the world, the share which the United States has in their commerce, the methods of raising revenue and the amount annually collected and disbursed, the indebtedness, currency, postal system, railroads and shipping, freight and passenger rates to and from the United States, wages paid in various employments, and prices of provisions and other necessities of life.

A part of this information is in the form of statistical statements of the commerce of the islands during a long period of years, a portion from the Hawaiian Year Book and other publications of that character, and a part from a late report to the state department by Consul-General Haywood, and which, taken together, present the latest and most complete statement of the conditions and business prospects in our new territory that has been given to the public.

Hawaii, it is shown by this statement, at present imports almost everything she uses, aside, of course, from sugar, coffee and fruits, attention having been almost exclusively given to the raising of sugar, all of which, aside from that consumed in the islands, is exported to the United States. Indeed, the United States in 1896 took 99.64 per cent. of the entire exports of the islands, and supplied 76.27 per cent. of all imports, and Consul-General Haywood, in his report, expresses the opinion that in case of annexation over 95 per cent. of the imports into the islands would be the growth, product, or manufacture of the United States, and adds that, if the American tariff were in force in the islands, about \$500,000 worth of imports which now enter free of duty, and are bought in countries other than the United States, would be bought from this country, the free importation of fertilizers and coal alone in 1896 amounting to \$466,319.

The opportunities for travel between the United States and Hawaii are described by Consul-General Haywood, who says that the bulk of the steam passenger and freight traffic between San Francisco and Honolulu is controlled by the Oceanic Steamship Company, their rates being \$75 for cabin passage and \$25 for steerage, though a number of fine sailing vessels which make regular trips between Port Townsend and San Francisco and Honolulu, with limited passenger accommodations, charge \$40 for cabin passage. The time for passage between San Francisco and Honolulu by steamer is from six to seven days.

Freight rates from San Francisco are: By steamer, \$5 per ton and 5 per cent. primage; by sailing vessels, \$3 per ton and 5 per cent. primage, while the rates to Atlantic ports are from \$5 to \$7 per ton, with 5 per cent. primage, and the duration of the voyage between Honolulu and New York from 89 to 134 days.

On the islands there are three railroads, which, however, are used principally in carrying the products of the plantations to the various points of shipment, and aggregate about 70 miles in length.

The currency of the islands is of the same unit of value as that of the United States. The gold is all of American mintage, and United States silver and paper money is in circulation and passes at par. The Hawaiian money is paper, the paper being secured by silver held in reserve. Banks keep two accounts with their depositors, silver and gold, and checks are so worded that the depositor may specify the account from which the check is to be paid, the law provides that the holder may demand gold if the amount is over \$10.

The Hawaiian silver money amounts to \$1,000,000 of which \$300,000 is held by the government to secure a like amount of paper. The total money in circulation is estimated at \$3,500,000. The rate of exchange is 1 1/2 per cent. on eastern cities of the United States and 1 per cent. on the Pacific coast. Gold is at a premium of 1 per cent.

The annual internal taxes average \$6.48 per capita, the total revenue from all sources \$2,283,070 (in 1896) expenditures \$2,137,103, and the public debt \$4,101,174, bearing interest at 5 and 6 per cent.

Commercial travellers are, under the laws now in force, required to take out a license costing at Honolulu for the island upon which it is located, \$570, and on each of the other islands \$255.

The statement is not such as to encourage those desiring to seek employment in Hawaii. The market for all kinds of labor, it says, is overstocked, and it would be very unwise in the consul-general, for any one to visit the islands with no capital, on the mere chance of obtaining employment, many of those who have so arrived being compelled to return disappointed.

Wages on the plantations, including house and firewood, or room and board, range from \$125 to \$175 per month for engineers and sugar boilers, \$50 to \$100 per month for blacksmiths and carpenters, \$40 to \$75 per

month for locomotive drivers, \$100 to \$175 per month for book keepers, \$30 to \$40 per month for teamsters. In Honolulu the rates are \$5 to \$6 per day for bricklayers and masons, \$2.50 to \$5 per day for carpenters and painters, and \$3 to \$5 per day for machinists. Cooks receive from \$3 to \$6 per week, nurses, house servants and gardeners, \$8 to \$12 per month.

Retail prices for provisions are as follows: Hams, 16 to 30 cents per pound; bacon, 16 to 20 cents; flour \$2.50 to \$5 per 100 pounds rice \$3.25 to \$5 per 100 pounds; butter, 25 to \$50 cents per pound; eggs, 25 to 50 cents per dozen; and ice, 1 1/2 cents per pound.

Curiously, the production of the islands are almost entirely a class of articles for which the people of the United States have been compelled in the past to send money outside of their own borders. Sugar, coffee, tropical fruits, and rice, for which we send abroad more than \$200,000,000, annually are the chief productions of the islands, and while the quantity so produced amounts to less than one tenth of this sum, it is believed that it may be materially increased, and to this extent our expenditures for this class of articles be in future, kept within our own borders and among our own people.

Of sugar of which it is said that the Hawaiian islands are much more productive in a given area than those of the West Indies, the exportation increased from 594,784,819 pounds in 1895 to 520,158,232 pounds in 1897, and for 1898 will, it is expected, be considerably in excess of last year. Of coffee the exportation increased from 3015 pounds in 1891 to 337,158 pounds in 1897; of rice, the exportation increased from 3,763,762 pounds in 1895 to 5,490,499 in 1897, and in pineapples the increase was equally striking.

In the matter of imports as above indicated nearly all of the necessities of life aside from sugar, fruits and vegetables, are imported, the products of the United States, being given the preference in nearly all cases.—Ex.

Doan Cures Backache.

"I have been troubled for several years with kidney disease, pains in the back, dizziness and sleeplessness, so that at times I could not work. Doan's Kidney Pills which I started taking about two months ago have made me all O. K." P. J. McGINNIS, Belleville, Ont.

The Cuban Insurrectionists.

The small part that the Cuban insurrectionists are playing in the war is a surprise to many people. The war was made on their account, and before it began they had an importance of their own that was considerable. They had held great armies of Spain at bay in their effort to put down the Cuban rebellion. The number of troops sent ineffectually against them has been stated as high as 200,000. A force that could resist such means for its subjugation had, at least the quality of effectiveness. This being made plain, it was natural that the people of this country should hold it in no light estimation. It has not gone out of mind that before the declaration of war was made there was a portion of the Senate of the United States, which it was much apprehended might prove to be a majority, that favored legislation which would have given the Cubans the lead in conducting military operations in that island, making the United States army an adjunct of the Cuban army. We knew the Cubans had made a prolonged resistance to being overcome by the Spanish forces, and a successful one. We naturally endowed them with strength. We credited them with a government as well as an army. One senator of the United States—Senator Foraker of Ohio—went so far as to say that the President and Vice-President of this insurrectionary government would compare favorably with similar officers in any government upon earth, our own; of course, included.

Since the war began nothing has been heard of that government as far as our observation has had cognizance. It appears to have vanished from knowledge. It has had no communication with our government, ostensibly enlisted with it in a common cause. It has faded out of pretension even. Something more in the line of an army has been found, and here, too, there has been disappointment. The Cuban army, which, we were assiduously told, would overcome the Spaniards if we would only give recognition to its alleged government, as far as it has materialized amounts at the most to some 6000 or 8000 men, scattered at different points in the island, or, perhaps, more accurately, having taken to cover in different recesses in its interior. It is composed of good fighting men in their way, very likely, and we have no disposition to depreciate their bravery and their effectiveness in the encounters of partisan warfare; but that they are an important force in themselves, or that they are the nucleus for a general rally on the part of the islanders, there has been as yet no evidence. It is plain that this war is to be fought out in Cuba by the United States soldiers, and the aid that has come to them from the Cubans, now it is in the third month of its progress has been very little.

We are looking at this feature of the war in a practical manner, and are stating facts as they are. We are not inclined to require unreasonable things of the Cubans. If they have claimed for themselves, or some other

parties have claimed for them, greater numbers and greater importance than the facts warranted, we are not blaming the Cubans for it. They wanted the aid of the United States in the war, and with a view to obtaining it they made the best showing for themselves possible. It is not to be wondered that they exaggerated in so doing. There is not a people in the world placed in the straits that they were who would have scrupled to do the same thing. It was a question of success or defeat for them, and their chances of success are disclosed to have been more desperate than anybody but themselves and their Spanish antagonists supposed since the present light has been let in upon their condition. If we failed to appreciate the truth of the situation, our own credulity must bear its share of responsibility for this with Cuban desperation. Neither are we disposed to ask too much of the Cubans in estimating their fitness for self-government. They are Spanish and African in ancestry. Neither separately nor in combination have we been in the habit of estimating these races highly in their qualifications as regards governing capacity.

Perhaps the most important problem of all that this state of affairs has elicited is to be developed in the future. This nation is for self-government in Cuba. We began the war from our desire for its establishment; we have pledged ourselves to bring it about. How is it to come? Here is a vital question soon to be in issue. Do the people of Cuba want self-government at the hands of the insurrectionists? We certainly desire to respect the will of the people of Cuba in this respect. What are the indications with regard to it? It does not look as if the people of Cuba knew much more about the insurrectionists' Cuban government than we have known. Judging by the size of the insurrectionist army, they have no part in it to a general extent. When the question, therefore, comes to be decided as to what shall be the future government of Cuba, is it sure that its people will want the insurrectionist government? There appear to be grave reasons for doubt if they will. If the hand of the United States is lifted from them, may it not be only to invoke an internal conflict with the insurrectionists on one side and the remaining Cubans who have not acted with them on the other? If the United States power remains there to secure a fair expression of opinion, suppose the insurrectionists are voted down? Suppose, further, that that opinion should declare in favor of the island being joined to the United States in its form of government? We should then have this Cuban question in a new form. Is it altogether improbable that it may take that form?—Boston Herald.

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It is well to be thankful under all circumstances. It might be worse. Two sailors were being hauled before the authorities after a night debauch. Says Jack in a half whisper. How de yer feel Bill? Purty darn miserable, thank God, The Federal House closed at Ottawa, on Monday. The country feels pretty d—miserable, thank the Lord.—Ex.

The London correspondents have arranged that Wolsley is to retire as chief of the Army, and came to Canada as boss of Rideau Hall ranche. Lord "Bobs" will become Chief, and Prince Arthur take Bobs place as Commander in Ireland.

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