The joint resolution declared also that said cession is accepted, ratified, and confirmed and that the islands and their dependencies are annexed as part of the territory of the United States and subject to the sovereign dominion of the United States. The joint resolution of annexation also provided that the United States shall not apply to such lands as the United States should enact special laws for their management and disposition, and that all revenue from or proceeds of the same should be used solely for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Hawaiian Islands for educational and other public purposes.

Mr. CULLOM. Certainly.

Mr. LINDSAY. With the Senator's consent, I will ask him whether the provisions of the joint resolution of the two Houses of Congress ratified or accepted by any legislative action on the part of the government of Hawaii?

Mr. MORGAN. They were.

Mr. CULLOM. I think they did accept it.

Mr. LINDSAY. But this resolution, as said, the joint resolution followed the voluntary cession by the Hawaiian government, as expressed in the treaty which we failed to ratify.

Mr. CULLOM. The treaty failed.

Mr. LINDSAY. The treaty failed.

Mr. CULLOM. The treaty failed here.

Mr. CULLOM. The treaty failed here.

Mr. LINDSAY. At the last paragraph in the joint resolution further than to say that the public debt of the Republic of Hawaii, existing at the date of the passage of the joint resolution, including the amounts due to depositors in the Hawaiian Postal Savings Bank, should be assumed by the Government of the United States, but the United States in this respect should in no case exceed $4,000,000.

Mr. President, the commission charged with the duty of investigating and reporting to Congress undertook the duty imposed upon it by the act, and made their report, which is before the Senate, and a year and more of the Congress, the Commission on Foreign Relations, considered and reported to the Senate, but not acted upon by the Senate during that session, which was re-introduced at the beginning of this session, acted upon by the Foreign Relations Committee, and reported again to the Senate.

The bill under consideration is the result, first, of the work in part by the commission, but subsequently amended in a number of particulars and reported to the Senate for consideration.

I will not undertake to call attention of the committee to each of the sections as they appear in the bill, because it would require more time than I deem necessary to call at the hands of the Senate, and secondly, because I do not think there will be much opposition to any sections of the bill. The Committee undertook to prepare a bill which would be best in the interest of the people of those islands and as near as possible, as we thought, satisfactory to the people as a whole. I think the islands are the Republic of Hawaii, the island of Hawaii being the larger island of the group.

The bill under consideration provides substantially for a territorial government, very largely in harmony with the governments of our Territories as they have existed in this country. There is, under a monarchical government, with supreme court, with circuit courts and other minor judicial offices.

When the commission visited those islands we found that, according to their last census, the population numbered from 110,000 to 120,000 people and that there is about 7,000 square miles of territory, much of the larger island being the island of Kauai, and that the other islands range from 760 to about 100 square miles. The population of those islands is composed of about 31,000 native Hawaiians, about 8,000 half-castes, about 3,000 British, 1,400 or 1,500 Germans, between 3,000 and 4,000 Americans, 15,000 Portuguese, 24,000 Japanese, 21,000 Chinese, and 2,000 of several other nationalities. It is believed now that there are perhaps 150,000 people in the Territory.

The commission and the committee deemed it wise to prepare and report a measure disturbing conditions there as little as might be consistent with the best interests of both the islands and this country. Hence the bill under consideration recognizes the existence of their system of court, recognizes their legislature, and provides for many local offices for administering the laws of the Territory.

The commission also made a pretty thorough examination of the local government and condition of the Territory. From the independent government to the Territorial government of the United States, proposed to repeal the bills before us such laws as we found in their statutes would necessarily have to be repealed either by their legislature or by the Congress of the United States; so that in the work of consultation performed the laws to be left in force.

Mr. President, I know it will be said that these laws referred to be repealed and laws referred to be continued are unknown as to exactly what they are by the Senate or the House of Representatives. But the laws to be retained are in a volume connected with the report, and the subject was thoroughly investigated by the commission, having on it two gentlemen, President Dole, of the republic, and Judge Frear, of the supreme court, both of them very familiar with the statutes, and both of them at least partly, if not entirely, in the work, in selecting for repeal those laws which would evidently and plainly be in gymnastics with the provisions of the bill which we reported; and most of them also are unnecessary in view of the changed condition of that government into a Territorial government.

The bill also by its fourth section declares that all persons who were citizens of the republic of Hawaii on the 12th of August, 1898, are declared to be citizens of the United States, and in the fifth section it is declared that all the laws of the United States not locally applicable are declared to be in force in the Territory, as well as in the United States.

The section provides, however, that section 250 of the Revised Statutes of the United States shall not be applicable to the Territory. But it is provided in the sixth section that the law of Hawaii not inconsistent with the Constitution or laws of the United States shall continue in force, subject to repeal or amendment by the legislature of Hawaii or the Congress of the United States.

The question is raised whether, under that section, any act passed in the future would be subject to repeal or amendment by the Senate or the House of Representatives. I am not aware that any act passed in the future would be subject to repeal or amendment by the Senate or the House of Representatives.