lawa...s to tell what it means in the way we have fixed it and what its effect will be—but, as I have said, unless we prevent the judicial tribunal to so interpret the law, and unless we prohibit such contracts, and unless we emancipate those contract laborers, they will be forced to carry out their contracts, and there is no hope for them outside of this Capitol.

I asked the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. Hoar] this morning, a man who I know abhors this whole scheme, as I do, to have this bill reprinted with all the amendments in it before a vote is taken, and then let us take it and study it carefully. It is certain some way will be found, some loophole through the judiciary to be appointed by that governor, by which they can enforce those contracts by some amendment of the provisions which have been put in here. It will certainly be done if we are not careful.

Mr. President, I have very little more to say. As I have tried to say a half dozen times in the Senate, I sympathize with the white people in Hawaii. I believe it is the only race there capable of self-government. I know that through their instrumentality the islands have been made more wealthy and that conditions are better for the few who are now there than they were formerly.

Is there any provision here by which any American who will want to go there and engage in the cultivation of coffee, or some other product which would promote the health of this country, be invited there? Is that a country where the negroes will go? I do not see any such provision. There is no inducement for a man to go there to get a living where has he got to show that he owns a thousand dollars in clean cash or in property before he can participate in the Government in any effectual way? Is that American? Is it republican? I propose to make the proposal at the proper time—and I inquire of the Chair if there is an amendment now pending?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is a pending amendment, offered by the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. Platt].

Mr. TILLMAN. I am going to propose, at the proper time, to put a question to the Senate. I do not want to point any one out, but to put a question to the Senate, so that the Senator from Colorado [Mr. WOLCOTT], who is so solicitous about the suppression of the negro vote in South Carolina, can go upon record, that we incorporate as the suffrage provision of the Hawaiian Islands the constitution of South Carolina to-day, and I dare say it for vote for it, and I dare say it for the negro voter.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. I regret, Mr. President, that the attack on the Senator from Colorado [Mr. Wolcott] is made in his absence.

Mr. TILLMAN. I notified him that I was going to reply to his speech. He ceased to attack.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. The Senator from Colorado will undoubtedly be able, at the proper time, to take care of himself.

Mr. TILLMAN. President, I am in sympathy with the Senator from South Carolina on the pending amendment; but it seems to me that when he charges the Republican party with doing this bill because of his views, or because of the views of the Hawaiian Islands, or because of bad grace from a Senator who, in the same speech, declares that, by the Eternal God, the vote of South Carolina never shall be cast as it was registered.

Mr. TILLMAN. I have never declared anything of that kind.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. The Senator declared that the white population of the South would always control that portion of the country.

Mr. TILLMAN. My language is capable of no such interpretation. I declared that our registered vote numbers to-day 114,000 under the Constitution, and I now declare it 114,000 and have their votes counted as free to go to the polls and vote as they please, and have their voices counted as part of the honest return as is the case anywhere else in the United States.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. Will the Senator from South Carolina declare on this floor to-day that every method has not been used, and is not now being used, to disfranchise the colored people of South Carolina?

Mr. TILLMAN. I know nothing about other States; but I acknowledge openly and boldly in the sight of God that we did our level best to keep every negro in our State from voting. [Laughter.]

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. When the Senator charges the Republican party with hypocrisy, I ask him to first sweep his own doorstep. I did not intend to say anything of this character when I rose, but I am in sympathy with this amendment. I believe, as I said a few days ago, that the Hawaiian Islands should accord the fullest possible measure of self-government consistent with our interests. I do not believe there is any crying desire on the part of the people of the Hawaiian Islands for anything more than our territorial form of government. Neither the Senator from South Carolina nor anybody else can accuse me of being especially interested in what he calls ‘the gang’ or ‘the family compact.’ In fact, Mr. President, perhaps I am a little outside of their good will, because I have been much more interested in the people, in the inhabitants of the islands, than I have been in those who control; but yet it will not do for any Senator of the United States, without information, upon mere hearsay, to rise in his place in the Senate of the United States and assail the government which now exists.

Is there anything in the Hawaiian Islands to-day which tends toward civilization, if there is anything in the islands of Hawaii to-day which tends toward republican institutions, if there is anything in the Hawaiian Islands to-day which tends toward education and good government, it can all be laid at the hands of the men from whom we have taken the islands, and who, nearly one hundred years ago, went to the Hawaiian Islands to spread the gospel of Christ and civilize them. The same character of men are in control of affairs there to-day. I do not agree with the system they have inaugurated there. I am in sympathy with the Senator from South Carolina in many particulars.

Mr. TILLMAN. Will the Senator allow me to ask him a question?

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. Certainley.

Mr. TILLMAN. These missionaries, these God-fearing men, these Christians, inaugurated and have practiced for years this system to make it perfect. Was that right?

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. I am not here to defend that.

Mr. TILLMAN. Was that in accordance with Republican theories and doctrines and provisions?

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. I am not here to defend any contract-labor system. The Senator can not put me in that position.

Mr. TILLMAN. Whenever you defend the government of Hawaii as such a high and noble type of government, you must shoulder the responsibility of defending all the acts of that government or else pick out of the category those which you do not desire.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. When the Senator gets through with his bulldozing methods, I will proceed.

Mr. TILLMAN. I shall not interrupt the Senator any further.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. Whenever there was of Christ.

Mr. TILLMAN. In those islands, whatever there was of good government in those islands, whatever there was of republicanism in those islands, was due to the efforts of the men who went there from New England one hundred years ago; and the Senator himself knows it.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. Yes; I know it.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. Their whole system is not perfect; but the Senator can not put me in the attitude of defending contract labor when he knows my position on this bill; when he knows I am antagonizing my own committee on this bill, he can not do it, and I will not allow it, President; but I say it is not in the interest of this country to rise up and condemn those people on imperfect information.

Mr. FORAKER. The Senator having made the remark that he had been antagonizing his own committee in regard to the question of contract labor, does he infer from that that he does not care for Foreign Relations favor contract labor?

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. I did not speak of contract labor especially. I spoke of various amendments which I had offered, which were submitted to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. FORAKER. Certainly nothing should be more distinctly understood, for such is the fact, than that it was the purpose of the committee in reporting the bill—at least I so understood it—to cut off contract labor; and we made an effort to have the bill passed on that ground at the last session of Congress.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. I impeach the strictly right on that ground, I was speaking of offering amendments to the bill; the bill was being considered by a committee of which I am a member.

Mr. FORAKER. The Senator used the expression in connection with contract labor, and I thought he might be misunderstood.

Mr. CLARK of Wyoming. I did not intend to do anything of that nature.

But, Mr. President, to get to the point of the amendment which is now under consideration, it is whether or not the government of this proposed Territory of Hawaii shall appoint the judges of the circuit and supreme courts, or, whether there shall be vested in the President of the United States, as has been the case with all our other Territories.

We have provided in this bill that the governor of the Territory shall be appointed by the President. Nobody, as I said to the Senator from South Carolina, can accuse me of being more than friendly toward the present government of Hawaii; nobody can accuse me of being inimical to the native population of Hawaii. I want those people to have the largest amount of local self-government possible. I do not believe that they should be granted