

Hawaiians manifested a desire for English instruction, English schools were instituted in localities upon the request of a certain number of residents.

Thus the large school in Honolulu, still called the "Royal School" and flourishing as part of the public system, was established and given its name to become the place where the scions of royalty and chiefly rank were to be educated. King Kalakaua and Queen Liliuokalani attended this school. English was early taught as a classic in the large mission schools. It was recognized as the vernacular in 1876 at Lahainaluna Seminary, afterwards becoming there the dominant medium of instruction.

Gradually the transformation went on until 1896, when teaching in this language became obligatory in all schools. American text-books are employed almost exclusively in the public schools, those for the higher grades including the cream of English classics. The only exceptions to the rule are Hawaiian geography and history.

Select schools, where tuition fees are charged, are permitted in the state system, and, as a matter of fact, exist in a group centering in the Honolulu High School. This is under a section of the law which provides "that the department may, in its discretion, establish, maintain, and discontinue select schools, taught in the English language, at a charge of such tuition fees for attendance as it may deem proper: *Provided, however,* That such select schools shall be established only in places where free schools of the same grade for pupils within the compulsory age are readily accessible to the children of such district."

The Honolulu High School is organized in three departments of English, mathematics, and natural science. Good work is also done in foreign languages.

Under the constitution of the republic of Hawaii, aid from the public treasury to sectarian schools was prohibited. Formerly it was the regular practice of successive legislatures to pass grants of money to schools under the control of different denominations. Instead of becoming weaker from the withdrawal of public aid, the independent schools in 1896 exhibited an increase of attendance proportionate to that of the public schools.

There are several noble institutions, under both Protestant and Catholic auspices, established in the islands. Oahu College, at Honolulu, a foundation of the American mission, has a handsome group of public buildings. It has chairs in the ancient and modern languages and natural philosophy, besides the usual academic branches. St. Louis College, also at Honolulu, is conducted by Roman Catholic brothers, giving instruction from primary to classical grades, with music and drawing as specialties. It is exclusively for boys and has the longest roll of all the schools in the islands. Iolani College, owned and directed by the Anglican bishop of Honolulu, with an able staff of instructors, does substantial work.

There are schools for girls, giving industrial as well as scholastic instruction, conducted by the successors of the American mission, the Anglican, and the Catholic sisters, respectively, not only in Honolulu but in country towns. The Kamehameha schools, for native boys and girls, were founded by the will of the late Mrs. Charles E. Bishop, a Hawaiian princess eligible for the crown, but refusing nomination therefor. These, besides giving tuition from primary to high school grades, inclusive, afford the benefits of manual training in various branches of mechanical and domestic industry.

For many years past the greater part of the trade of the islands has been with the United States. In 1897 the exports to the United States amounted to \$15,311,685; in 1896, \$16,587,311, and in 1895, \$22,188,206. During these and many previous years the balance of trade has been largely in favor of the Hawaiian Islands.

In 1897 we exported to the Hawaiian Islands \$5,478,224; in 1898, \$6,827,848, and in 1899, \$11,305,537. The trade of the islands during these years with nations other than the United States has been very small, and it is a remarkable showing of the fertility and capabilities of the islands from an agricultural standpoint. The average in their favor for each of the three years amounting to nearly \$10,000,000. The trade of the islands, amounting now to more than \$83,000,000 annually, will probably within the next decade amount to \$60,000,000 or \$70,000,000; and I do not know of any reason why, when the agricultural resources of the island are fully developed, we may not count on a trade of \$100,000,000 annually.

It must not be concluded, however, that the Hawaiian people reap all the advantages of this enormous and greatly increasing trade. As a matter of fact, the bulk of the valuable sugar, coffee, and rice lands in cultivation are owned and controlled by great corporations, and very few Hawaiians are interested in these corporations. Some of the great sugar plantations make enormous profits. One of them, it is said, on a capital of more than \$2,000,000, in one year made a profit of about 80 per cent. Nor is it true that all of the stockholders in these great and money-making corporations are residents of the islands. Numbers of them reside elsewhere; consequently the blighting effects of absentee landlordism, so much complained of in Ireland, are in evidence to some extent in the Hawaiian Islands. In other words, the islands have been developed largely through the efforts of speculators and capitalists, and one result of this has been to place the bulk of the rich sugar, coffee, and rice producing lands in cultivation in the hands of persons other than the native Hawaiians.

The statement has been made that the average native Hawaiian owns between 2 and 3 acres of land and the corporations and persons other than Chinese and Japanese own, on an average, 400 acres each. These figures, if true, show to some extent how the lands have passed into the hands of persons other than the natives.

The citizens of Hawaii are, as a rule, educated. My information is that of male citizens, 21 years of age and upward, more than 95 per cent can read and write the English or Hawaiian languages. This high degree of intelligence in educational attainments has been brought about by eighty years of persistent effort by the government in educational matters.

It must not be supposed, however, that in Hawaii where among the citizens education and intelligence is and for many years past has been the rule, and where illiteracy is the exception, that since the overthrow of the monarchy any considerable

number of citizens have participated in the elections, as the following statement, taken from the official records, shows:

In the last election under the monarchy, in February, 1892, the total vote was 14,217; of these 9,931 were Hawaiians. This is about the usual proportion of one voter in five of population. After the overthrow of the monarchy in 1893, the first election was for a constitutional convention under the Republic, May, 1894.

The total vote cast was 3,852; of these, 939 were Hawaiians; and in the next general election, held September, 1897, the total vote cast was 2,693; of these, 1,126 were Hawaiians, and this, too, with a population of 110,000. I wish to call the attention of my Republican friends to the fact that in the Hawaiian Islands, as in the South, the government is in the hands of the Anglo-Saxon race.

Wherever this race has gone they have demonstrated that they are the superior race, and when it comes to matters of government they are stronger and more vigorous than other races, and rule accordingly.

The bill before the House provides a strictly republican form of government for the Territory of Hawaii under the letter as well as the spirit of the Constitution of the United States. (We give to them local self-government in unequivocal terms, and to the general assembly of the Territory power is given to enact all local legislation necessary not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States.)

We place in the hands of the citizens of the Territory, by this bill, the means of redressing any local grievances that may now or hereafter exist. The Committee on Territories, having in charge the bill, have endeavored to follow and improve upon all bills heretofore passed by the Congress of the United States for the government of Territories, and to give to the Hawaiian Islands most liberal form of government, strictly in accordance with the letter and under the limitations of the Constitution of the United States.

Whatever criticism may be made upon the action of the committee in other respects, it can not be charged that the members were wanting in liberality, in providing for the future government of the Hawaiian Islands; nor can it be said that by the provisions of the bill the Hawaiians are denied any rights, privileges, or immunities guaranteed by the Constitution to any citizen of the United States.

The people of the Hawaiian Islands understand that annexation means that the islands shall become a part of our territory and be governed under our Constitution as all other Territories of the United States have in the past been governed; and along the line of carrying out this contract between the people of Hawaii and the United States, the President, in his message to Congress in December last, states that "the people of these islands are entitled to the benefits and privileges of our Constitution."

The bill declares all persons who were citizens of the republic of Hawaii on August 12, 1898, to be citizens of the United States, and that the Constitution and the laws of the United States, locally applicable, shall have the same force and effect there as elsewhere in the United States. The right to vote is extended to all male citizens residing in the Territory for one year and in the district in which they register not less than three months, who shall register, pay a poll tax of \$1, and be able to read and write the English or Hawaiian language. These provisions as to suffrage are largely modeled after the constitution and laws of many of the most progressive States of the Union, among others those of Massachusetts and South Carolina.

The committee deemed it wise to strike out the provisions in the original bill requiring voters for certain offices to be possessed of property of the value of \$1,000 or have an annual income of not less than \$600, because it is not believed that the same are necessary to secure good government in the Territory, and because such provisions are contrary to the spirit of a republican form of government, and, if permitted and practiced, would inevitably place the government of the Territory in the hands of a moneyed oligarchy, and in effect would amount to placing dangerous power in the hands of men who happen to be possessed of wealth, and, politically speaking, would tend to make a serf of a man possessed of the highest mental and moral attainments, should he happen not to be the owner of \$1,000 worth of property or have an income of \$600 a year.

To my mind it is not conceivable that the Hawaiian people could be secure in their rights under the Constitution of the United States and continue prosperous, happy, and be good citizens, with the right to vote and have a voice in the government of the Territory restricted in this way.

By the passage of this bill Congress admits that what some of the States have done in the way of denying the right to vote to the ignorant and vicious is not only necessary, but right and proper, and therefore commendable.

Mr. Chairman, since the beginning of the war with Spain many serious and vexed questions have come before Congress for settlement. While that war was in progress, as a matter of necessity