order to the authorities of Hawaii not to issue any more American
registers? It was done simply because the shipbuilders of
the United States did not want competition. If he could do that,
however, if there was any warrant of law or any authority from
any source which authorized him to do that, he could equally as
well have ordered that they should stop importing slave labor,
but that he did not see fit to do. The property interests of the
United States were the special interests which the President
wished to guard and not the labor of the United States. Conse-
sequently, after our flag went up there were imported into Hawaii
37,000 contract laborers, who were bound to perform service un-
der taskmasters who could decide whether they were sick or well
enough to work during a certain number of years. These men
can now come to the United States from Hawaii.
The President did not see fit to protect the labor of the United
States against this importation of contract laborers, but he did see
fit to stop the registration of Hawaiian ships. Of course, Hawaii
is a part of the United States under the provisions of this law, and
these 37,000 Asiatic laborers can now come, without any hindrance
whatever, to the United States, for under the provisions of this
bill their contracts are declared null and void, and the United
States is authorized to at once notify them of the termination of
their contracts. So I see no reason why large numbers of these
men shall not immediately come to our shores to compete with
the laborers of this country.
This doctrine of imperialism, Mr. President, it seems to me,
must drive the Republican party to the abandonment of the doc-
trine of protection. It practically has done it. That party must
choose between their imperial colonies, which they govern against
the will of the people of those countries, and the protection by law
of the American laborer. The effort to do both will be a failure.
The fœdus præsens will deceive nobody. Fifteen per cent of the Dingley duties is not a protection,
and the importation of slave laborers is certainly not a measure
of protection to the laborers of the United States. Of course I
know the conference report will be adopted. We have eliminated
from the bill many of its most pernicious features as presented
here by the Com. on Foreign Relations. The bill as it came
to us provided for a large property qualification in order to vote;
it provided for the enslavement of men who did not pay their
taxes, for imprisonment at hard labor, and, in my opinion, pro-
vided for the continuance of the labor contract system in that
Territory. I think those objectionable features have been elimi-
nated, and therefore the bill is much better than it was as it was
first presented to us.
The President pro tempore. The question is, Will the Sen-
ate agree to the report of the conference committee?
The report was agreed to.

Issuance of Bonds in Territories:

Mr. Shoup. I ask unanimous consent for
the present consideration of the bill (S. 4075)
to amend an act to prohibit the passage of
special or local laws in the Territories, to
limit the Territorial indebtedness, and so
forth.

The Secretary read the bill.

Mr. Bate. That is a very important bill,
sir, giving power to the Territories to issue
bonds, and it has property qualifications to
enable citizens to vote. I do not think the
bill ought to be disposed of in this manner
this evening.

The President pro tempore. The Senator from
Tennessee objects.

Mr. Bate. I am sorry to do it.

Mr. Shoup. Then I ask that it may go over
without prejudice.

Mr. Bate. Oh certainly.