

CREDIT WHERE DUE.

Alexander Hume Ford has come into his own at last and the Territory has dignified with a semi-official position the hardest working and best publicity man it has ever had, bar none. In naming Mr. Ford to the position on the Promotion Committee left vacant by the resignation of Captain Angus the Governor has again shown himself capable of looking beneath the surface of things and—to mix the figure a bit—putting the right man in the right place. This is as always, a sign of real executive ability.

In Ford Hawaii has always had a friend. Probably no man in the Islands has done more for them and their real development than this South Carolina idealist, with his wild-appearing schemes, embracing every thing from the Brotherhood of Man to the best way of painting carnival posters. Utterly unselfish Ford has done the work and the other fellow has gobbled the praise and the money, when there has been any. When both were lacking Ford has shouldered the debt and the blame and gone on his way to some new achievement or failure "with heart unshook."

No one could call Ford self-effacing, and the things that he has done have been accomplished by means of methods that no one but Ford would think of and most of us would be unable to make use of even after they had been shown us. "Ford comes into my office and insults me, talks about by most private family affairs and goes out with a check." That is the way the late J. P. Cook once described Ford's methods in the hearing of the editor of this paper. In spite of these methods or because of them, for a student of Ford is never quite able to tell which, Ford gets away with the most amazing things in the most amazing way. Probably the real secret of his success has been his unselfish devotion to his ideals.

In that way he founded and developed the Outrigger Canoe Club of Honolulu. The club has kicked Ford out to all intents and purposes now, but Ford don't care. He goes out to the beach and enjoys his swim in exactly the same way he did in the days when he was the dictator of the organization. "I started it—they can finish it," is the way he regards the changed status.

His work for the carnival—the last carnival of any importance, a year and a half ago, was branded as a failure. Possibly it was, but the idea back of that failure was well worth all the money and the pains and the labor that it cost. Anyhow Ford did his best. That satisfied him.

But Ford's real work in the Territory has been bigger and broader than all of these things. His Brotherhood of Man idea as exemplified in his Pan-Pacific Movement is far too big for the cramped quarters where it was born. Hawaii needing it more than any other spot on the Footstool regards its least. True there have been a number of meetings and many, many addresses, some of them good, many of them poor and most of them bad. But the real recognition of Ford and his work has come from Australia, from New Zealand, from Japan, from China, from Canada, from Chile and from the Mainland of the United States. And it has come from the big men of those countries. Even in Hawaii—and a prophet is, as every one knows not without honor save at home—Ford has been coming into his own. Whenever he starts out, and his always started Alexander Hume Ford does things. More power to him in the future.