

THE MAUI NEWS

Entered at the Post Office at Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii, as second-class matter.

A Republican Paper Published in the Interest of the People
Issued Every Saturday.

MAUI PUBLISHING COMPANY, LIMITED,
Proprietors and Publishers

SUBSCRIPTION RATES, \$2.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

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SATURDAY, : : : DECEMBER 5, 1914.

SUBSIDIZING THE SMALL FARMER.

An effort will probably be made during the next session of the legislature to have a bill passed by which the Territory will furnish the financial backing necessary to put Glenwood creamery upon its feet. The matter has been suggested by F. A. Clowes, superintendent of the Oloa experiment sub-station, and there is evidence that the idea will find considerable support. The plan will of course be dubbed paternalistic, or socialistic, but it is certainly worthy of a careful hearing. Here are some of the facts as regards the Glenwood proposition.

The district is producing about \$3000 worth of butter per month through individual effort, and under serious disadvantage from want of a creamery. It must produce at least \$6000 worth monthly to make a creamery practicable. The experiment station has demonstrated that the district is amply suited to produce many times this amount of butter. There is no inducement for private capital to establish such a plant because it would be dealing with a large number of small dairymen, and it would take time for herds to be increased and for profits to be assured. The farmers in the district are themselves unable to finance such an undertaking, even could they be brought together, or possessed the ability to successfully manage such a project. And yet there is no question that the whole Oloa district would be, in a few years, a highly prosperous section, could the milk which can be produced there be properly utilized. It is not a gamble, for the Territory would be practically certain to get its money back when the business became established. Why should it not be the function of the government to help in a proposition of this kind in the most practicable and only feasible way possible? Prof. Clowes estimates that about \$300 per month would be necessary for running expenses, about half of which could be drawn from the present \$3000 per month business. The amount of money required is really trifling, yet because the proposition is out of the ordinary, it is certain to meet with stubborn resistance. Dozens of appropriations will be made by the next legislature for landings, roads, bridges, public buildings and salaries, which if analyzed carefully will be found to effect fewer persons, and in much less degree than the proposed Oloa bill, yet because of custom they will go unchallenged. Prof. Clowes' suggestion is novel, but it is not unsound.

DON'T DO IT, GENTLEMEN.

If the supervisors want to put themselves above suspicion in the matter of the county engineer's department, they will not pass the ordinance on the subject as it now stands. To give the county engineer authority to hire and fire every road or water works employe from district overseer down, is the right principle. To tack on the words—"with the approval of the board"—nullifies the whole idea. How much independence can the engineer have when he knows that every appointment or removal he makes, is subject to ratification by men who are looking for votes? And will the engineer be likely to think more of the welfare of the county if he feels that his own job may depend upon his ability in controlling votes? The county needs an engineer, but he won't be any better an engineer for having a lot of political strings tied to him. The ordinance as it stands isn't fair to Hugh Howell; it isn't fair to the people; and it isn't fair to the board that is asked to pass it.

JOY-RIDING BY AUTO TRUCK—A NEW STUNT.

The members of the Wailuku fire department, using the fine new automobile fire truck for the purpose, took a joy-ride on Thanksgiving day to the other side of the island. The entire afternoon was spent in a picnic, and according to reports, there was no lack of refreshments. The place of the picnic was near McGregor's Landing, some eight miles from town, and not even in telephonic communication. We have been asked by prominent citizens not to say much about this stunt because of the effect it may have on the reputation of the town. We will therefore not say anything more unless the board of fire underwriters, the supervisors, or some of our esteemed contemporaries on the other islands get to saying funny things about our fire department, in which case this promise is null and void.

A SPLENDID ADVANCE.

The County of Maui has taken a step in advance by the official act of its board of supervisors at a recent session in pronouncing a ban on booze as far as all persons employed by the county are concerned.

"Hereafter no employe of any department shall be permitted, so the resolution states, during working hours to frequent a saloon under penalty of summary dismissal from county service, and all heads of departments are notified to inform the board of any such violation of said regulation that the offenders may be swiftly brought to justice.

The resolution states that this new ordinance is made for the sake of greater efficiency in the public service. Exactly. This is the new order of the day. Booze and the saloons must go for the sake of efficiency.

What argument could be stronger? Good for Maui!

The intelligent public of Oahu would surely back up the Honolulu board in a move of this kind, and it would mean a long step in advance towards the goal of an efficient and business-like control of public affairs. —Star-Bulletin.

HONOLULU CHAMBER CONFIRMS SUSPICION.

We couldn't figure out what was the matter with our feet, a few weeks ago, but now we know it must have been chilblains. With a mean temperature for the last week in October of 26.0 degrees (the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce's official organ 'HONOLULU' is our authority for the figures) followed by another severe period the first week in November, when the mean temperature was 26.8 degrees, there can scarcely be any doubt about the diagnosis. In light of these authoritative statistics there can be no reason to doubt that the mysterious death in the Capitol grounds which has baffled the police, was a plain case of freezing.

In cases where public support of a function is urged on the score that the proceeds are to be devoted to a charitable cause, a public statement in the newspapers should be made of receipts and disbursements. It is the public's money that is being used in such instances and surely the public has a right to an accounting. —Garden Island.

Since the Anti-saloon league has taken up bill board advertising in Honolulu, it is logical to suppose that the Outdoor Circle and the Advertiser have dropped off the water-wagon with a heavy thud.

The bar being built in the county clerk's office is probably intended to make the place seem more homelike to the county employes.

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