

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, : : : MARCH 13, 1915.

OUR DUTY TO MEXICO.

Mexico would be a splendid place for Americans were it not for the Mexicans. Since we can't very conveniently eliminate the Mexicans (there are some very enthusiastic advocates of some such policy) the best thing we can do is to keep out and keep our hands off. If there are still foreigners in that unhappy land, as President Wilson's near-ultimatum indicates there are, it might be well to once more help them to get out, though what they are doing there at this stage of the game, is a mystery. As for sending an American army into the country with the idea of bringing order out of the general chaos, the game isn't worth it. Some of our loud-mouthed patriots and advocates of peace with a big stick, who slop over with sentimental gush about our brave soldiers, value the lives of these same Americans so lightly that they would willingly sacrifice untold numbers of them in a nasty guerilla warfare that in all probability would last for years. We say again, it isn't worth it. Give the Mexicans time, and there is every reason to believe they will work out their own salvation. "Butt in," and we not only instantly unite all of the fighting factions in venomous hatred against ourselves as the common enemy, but we complicate the situation past any possibility of foreseeing the outcome. Racially the Mexicans are practically identical with most of the Central and South American nations. Most of these appear to have pretty well passed their stage of national measles and mumps, such as now afflicts Mexico. And what is more they did it without outside help, for the most part. Mexico can do as well. The present state of anarchy below the Rio Grande is nothing unexpected. For years the saying was: "After Diaz, the deluge." That storm is now raging. The dammed up passion of half a century of iron despotism, cannot expend itself in a day. The situation is not at all unnatural. But what of the egotism of the man who tells us that we are the appointed agents of providence in this matter. Maybe we are, but the American people want to hear the call a good deal more clearly than it has yet come, and through prophets who flaunt the fetish of militarism a little less enthusiastically.

***** BLOCKING THE MARKETING DIVISION.

The protest of the Kula farmers' association against the interference of the House agricultural committee in purchasing of supplies through the Territorial Marketing Division, is well taken, if the facts are what they seem to be. The Marketing Division was organized solely to help the farmers of the islands. If it is right for it to do this by selling the farmers' crops to best advantage for him, it is also right for it to help him save money in the purchase of his supplies. When the division was started not a few protests were made that private rights to gouge the small producer were being invaded. As results have proved, the farmer has been helped, the consuming public has profited, the regular tradesmen have had their business improved, and nobody has been hurt. The same thing will be true with the purchasing end of the work.

***** KEEP THE MOVIES CLEAN.

Honolulu just at present is being agitated over a number of moving picture plays now being billed, which are declared to be highly objectionable as tending to excite race prejudice and to subvert morality. It is probable that the Honolulu theater men will recognize the significance of these protests and withdraw the pictures in question. It is also still less likely that Maui managers, who are closely identified with the life of the community, and have the interests of Maui at heart as citizens, will take any chances in bringing questionable attractions here. The fact that the public has not up to the present insisted on a censorship of plays offered anywhere in the Territory, is a high compliment to the movie men; but it is a means that may always be invoked in case protection loes become necessary.

***** LET US HAVE A DECISION.

If Maui won the Carnival baseball series, she should have the cup. If she didn't win, she doesn't want a trophy that was won by another team. The All-Chinese team was entirely too quick with its generosity. If it won the cup and desired to make Maui a present of it, as a mark of good feeling, it should have waited until the committee formally decided the winner. As it is, the Honolulu sport writers and the Honolulu fans generally take the attitude that the Chinese were the real winners of the tied game. It isn't the cup that Maui wants, but a decision. This is the stand that the Maui Athletic Association has taken, and it is a stand that all Maui will approve.

Complaint comes from Oahu that Maui school teachers do not take much interest in the proposed teachers pension bill now before the legislature. This is easily explained. Very few of Maui's school ma'ams expect to teach after they are married. The few men teachers in the county don't count.

How'd you like to be a lawyer in the Smart case?

Vote early, but not too often.

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