

# SEMI-WEEKLY MAUI NEWS

FOR THE VALLEY ISLE FIRST

A Republican Paper Published in the Interests of the People  
 Issued Every Tuesday and Friday  
**MAUI PUBLISHING COMPANY, LIMITED**  
 Proprietors and Publishers.  
 M. R. PEREIRA, Manager  
 SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$4.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

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

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JOSEPH H. GRAY : : : : EDITOR  
 TUESDAY : : : : JULY 25, 1922

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Attempts to bribe examiners in the tests for basic licenses to teach in foreign language schools will have a tendency to add further to the sentiment for elimination of such institutions. It is true that of all those who took the examination only two, so far as known, were so fool hardy as to attempt to resort to corrupt practices but the public ever pays more attention to the going astray of one person than to the fact that a thousand toil along the path of rectitude. If a minister of gospel or a pillar or a church goes wrong there is much to do made of it and the fact that overwhelming majority go straight receives no comment. So all foreign language school teachers will share to a greater or less extent the snitching that comes with the befouling of their profession by would be bribe givers.

As a matter of fact the foreign language school teachers are probably no better and no worse than men of their nationalities in other walks of life. The offenders in Honolulu either have not grasped American ideals or they are "too sophisticated" according to an optimistic or pessimistic point of view. Attempted bribery, bribe giving and bribe taking, are, most unfortunately, offenses from which the American social system is by no means free but an American would know better than to attempt to corrupt school heads or school teachers. It is crass ignorance that the two foreigners showed.

However, the point that stands out clearly is that opponents of foreign language schools will use the incidents told of in the news from Honolulu further to strengthen their already strong arguments. Recently a strong effort was made to insert an outspoken statement on the subject in the Republican platform. The issue was not settled but was compromised by the last legislature. It may be expected to come up again at the next legislative session.

From the outset of the agitation against foreign language schools there has been one and only one basic solution of the difficulty and there is a steadily growing recognition of the futility of other means to check the evils that are complained of. The solution is the introduction of an optional course in Japanese in the government public schools with American born and American trained Japanese as the teachers. If it is good for the children of Japanese to know that language then children of American parentage and American born children of parents of other nationalities should be accorded the same advantage. From the geographical location of these islands and from the large proportion of Japanese resident here, the Japanese language will long be commercially important to residents of the islands. On the face of the proposal it would seem to entail a considerable expense but such expenditure would be in the nature of a saving in the end.

It might even be possible to attach a very small tuition fee for those who desire such optional course which would make it in part even if not entirely self sustaining. Under such a plan the department of public instruction would know exactly what was being taught to the pupils and there could no longer be charged that instruction in the Japanese tongue had a tendency to delay Americanization and retard the assimilation of the Nipponese in Hawaii.

## COUNTY COMMITTEE RETAINED.

Nothing drastic was done by the Republican Committee in its revision of the rules of the party relative to the territorial and county committees and the precinct clubs and their powers and jurisdiction. The county organizations are retained with a member of such committee from each precinct, the territorial committee is supreme in all territorial affairs but is not to interfere in campaigns and elections for county offices.

It appears that a breaking down of the county committee in Honolulu was responsible for the proposal to eliminate county committees which was abandoned in committee for the wiser and better plan of building up the county organizations to fulfill the purposes for which they were intended. As a matter of fact such breaking down of the Honolulu Committee probably came, to a large extent, from the tendency of the territorial committee to confuse or combine county affairs with territorial since Honolulu is the capital. There has always been a tendency in Honolulu to look upon the territorial offices as Honolulu offices to be filled by residents of the city and county of Honolulu.

Such a view is borne out from the published interview with A. L. Castle in a Honolulu paper where he said that the Maui and Kauai county committees were functioning well but that in Honolulu it was necessary to revivify the county body.

As this paper said when the proposal was broached about two weeks ago, the county committees are an essential part of a party organization, and in each precinct there must be some one person at least who shall be responsible for the organization there. Such is the view that prevailed with the rules committee at the convention.

## CURRENT ASSESSMENTS FAVORED

Unpleasant, disagreeable and often costly experiences are sometimes necessary in order to convince where clear and lucid arguments have failed and so it comes that the taxation plank in the Republican platform is interpreted by Governor Farrington to mean, among other things that "current assessments ultimately shall be the basis for current taxes."

Before the last session of the legislature committees from the County of Maui and the Maui Chamber of Commerce outlined a list of desirable legislative changes and one of the most important suggestions made was for the basing of current taxes upon a current assessment, not upon the valuation of the preceding year. The bill was introduced but it failed of passage and then came the lesson that has to be learned.

## THE OPTIMISTIC PESSIMIST

As yet no poet has arisen to sing the praises of the new "oken" bucket that hung near the still.

Cheer up! The Inter-Island Company has not yet chartered any one of the Maalaea Bay sampans to substitute on the Honolulu-Kahului run for the Kilauea.

Those in Honolulu who still complain as to the brevity of bathing costumes appear to spend a considerable part of their time rubbering to see them.

If it were not for woman, man would be in a sorry plight. He would have no excuses to make for his own short comings. Still he would not have to make so many excuses but for lovely woman. The fair sex is the one best and constant alibi man has to offer even to herself.

He or she who offers the excuse "I didn't think" is in reality confessing to another fault and merely aggravating the offense charged.

Underlying humanity is like a beautiful spring of crystal water. Not until it flows through a discoloring environment is its clarity beclouded.

It is pure self conceit that leads a man to expect that the girl who likes to go about before marriage will care for nothing but to sit and watch him read after the honey moon has waned.

Some persons are able to treat their troubles like naughty children, put them to bed and go on about their business. Others nurse their troubles as if they were sick children.

If the jazz is dead as some folk insist it has not yet awakened to the fact.

The man who is sure he is always right should try umpiring a ball game once in a while to learn what others think about it.

Sammy Good is reported from Los Angeles to have his wife for a sparring partner. No news in that; lots of folk find their chief recreation in sparring with their wives.

The old plan and the one which now prevails works finely when business and industry are constantly on the up-grade but breaks down as soon as a reaction sets in. During pre-war and war times for a number of years past there was an increase in assessed valuations year after year and no difficulties in the way of meeting governmental expenses from taxes were encountered. Then—away went the sugar market and like the rest of the world Hawaii encountered decreasing values, reduced incomes from business enterprises. The arguments that had been advanced on Maui were exemplified forthwith. This county has been able to get along as well as it has done only because of two special taxes that were permitted, the special school building tax and the special tax for the support of sanitarium and hospitals. Other counties, especially Hawaii County were not so fortunate.

Revision of tax methods is necessary and the plank in the platform is a proper one. Such revision should be a sweeping one and should provide that a county may determine for itself its own needs, raise such funds by fixing the rate for itself, and that the territorial needs should be met in addition to those of the county, briefly that county needs shall not ever and always be subordinated to those of the territory.

The proposal to include a plank for reapportionment in the Republican platform, surely emanating from Honolulu, came to a sudden end when it was said that if included the legislative candidates from Maui and other counties than Honolulu would have to run as independents.

It was not to be expected that the County of Hawaii would consent to a platform plank which would declare against county officials holding legislative seats. A glance over the Big Island political roster shows why the plank failed of inclusion.

Pele has not left Halemaumau after all. She was just taking a summer vacation and is returning to her home and setting the house to rights preparing for a real housewarming for which invitations may be expected to issue soon.

Those who think that prices have not come down since the war as they should have are recommended to the "What you can get for \$1" page in this issue of this paper. They will have their pessimism disabused. Such a page, also, is a convincing answer to those who say that newspaper advertisements are not generally read. Maui News ventures to say that more than 90 percent of its readers will find the new feature advertising page full of interest. It is proposed to make the page a once a month feature of this paper.

Much complaint is being heard because of the Inter-Island Steam Navigation taking the Kilauea off the Honolulu-Kahului run without a substitute for one trip and with most unsatisfactory substitutes since. The public considers the company a "utility corporation" not a salvage and wrecking company which carries on transportation as a secondary consideration.

The Stanford Crimsons will not be over for games with Maui. The fans will survive and just as a suggestion to the baseball league officials it might be as well to lay off spending money for outside attractions until after the Fifth Annual Maui County Fair. The greater part of the receipts from games with visiting teams goes away from Maui.

## WITH SAFETY

The outstanding feature of the market for bonds during recent months has been the heavy buying for permanent investment.

Notwithstanding that this demand has resulted in a substantial advance in prices for bonds in general, the present outlook indicates a gradual trend toward the level which prevailed some years ago, particularly as applied to issues of the better grade, which still yield a liberal return.

It is doubtful if it will be possible for several years to purchase bonds at prices which will yield the return now possible.

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Over on Kauai fines of \$10 and \$20 are reported as being assessed against confessed violators of the prohibition law. And yet Maui has been called by prohibition advocates "luke warm" as to law enforcement.

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