

# SEMI-WEEKLY MAUI NEWS

"FOR THE VALLEY DLE FIRST"

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JOSEPH H. GRAY : : : : EDITOR

FRIDAY : : : : AUGUST 18, 1922

## PRIMARIES AND SECRECY

Proposals for direct party primaries as embodied in the Republican platform can be carried out without rending the veil of secrecy around the ballot that some voters desire maintained. That is, the general purposes of the proposal can be carried out without requiring a voter to declare his party affiliation.

Chief objection that has been raised to the proposal in the platform has been that the voter would have to announce his party affiliation before securing and casting his ballot, thus making knowledge of his political views public. It is held that such a plan would be objectionable because the employer would know, or could readily learn, how each and every voter in his or its employ voted. The secret ballot law as it used to prevail in the State of New Jersey removes the objection. Under it there is no need of a declaration of party and no way by which another can know how a voter ballots.

In operation of the New Jersey law a voter on going to the polls was given a set of ballots, one of each of the parties that had tickets in the field, and an official envelope. He took the ballots and the envelope into the booth, placed the ballot he desired to cast in the envelope, came out and gave it to the inspector at the ballot box and the latter deposited it, unopened, in the proper receptacle. The official envelopes bore a facsimile of the county clerk's signature to prevent fraud and the election inspectors had to account for every envelope with which they were entrusted as a further guard against ballot box stuffing. On the shelf of each booth, before the polls were opened, the inspectors scattered numbers of the ballots of all of the parties, each depositing some so that none would know how many of any one party were in the booths. All were printed in the same ink and on the same color and weight of paper.

Carrying out that principal in Hawaii where there are now only two parties, the voter at the primaries would be given a Republican and a Democratic ballot and an envelope instead of a blanket ballot with both tickets printed on it as is the custom at present and would remain the custom at the general election. In the booth he or she would mark the party ballot selected, putting cross marks after the names of the candidates for which the ballot is to be cast, leave the ballot of the party rejected on the shelf of the booth with the numerous other ones scattered there, go to the poll clerks and deliver the ballot enclosed in the official envelope.

In that way a voter would be restricted to a choice from the candidates of one party, which party he or she alone would know. It would be impossible to ballot at the primary for some of the candidates of both parties. Split tickets could be voted at the general election but not at the primaries. There could be a provision in the law that the ballots must be marked strictly according to printed directions upon it and that where it was not so marked the entire ballot would be invalid. In that way a voter would be prevented from voting for only one or two candidates of the several to be nominated and would participate actively in the naming of a full and complete party ticket.

Such a plan might not prevent entirely voters of one party participating in the primary of the other but it would prevent a voter from balloting for some candidates of both parties. He would have to forego the privilege of assisting in the nomination of candidates of his own party if he wished to participate in the selection of the ticket of the other party. It would not, in other words, be a perfect preventive of a Democrat voting in the Republican primary but it would act as such to most intents and purposes.

In New Jersey the law worked well for years at the general elections. The ballot was as secret as the Australian or blanket ballot has proved to be anywhere and much more simple in operation for the tickets are smaller, more compact and more readily voted and counted.

The proposal is not to change the general election law of Hawaii where the blanket ballot would continue in use, but merely to use the separate ballot system at the primaries to make them as nearly representative of party organizations as can be done without making the voter announce his political views before or when exercising his right of suffrage.

## WILL SERVE PURPOSE

Right of the Maui supervisors to demand the resignation of county employes who seek legislative honors and to stop their pay before the holding of the primaries is questioned in a "special" from Wailuku printed in the Honolulu Advertiser of Wednesday. The article quotes Attorney Eugene Murphy as saying that the board might have the right to require resignations after the primaries but not the day before, which would be a difference of two days in office holding for the successful candidates for nomination.

Without going into the rights and powers of the board to enforce its resolution before the primary election, the purpose has been to a great extent met by the passing of the resolution for it puts the board on record and makes its attitude clear. The purpose was not to prevent any man from running for office but to check his taking time from the work for which the county pays him to advance his own interests, to run for the legislature, in other words, at the expense of the tax payers.

Whether or not the board has gone beyond its powers, with the cooperation of the heads of departments it can prevent employes from neglecting their duties to the county in order to campaign. A head of department can refuse to employ legislative candidates leave of absence either with or without pay during the primary campaign. Where a head of department sees an employe neglecting his work he can warn him and where such neglect continues after warning he can discharge such unsatisfactory employe for negligence or for absence from his post. In that way the purposes of the resolution, conservation of the county's interest, can be carried out irrespective of how far the rights of the board of supervisors extend under the law. The board can also make it clear to heads of departments that it demands their full cooperation in carrying out the policy that it has declared in its resolution.

## THE OPTIMISTIC PESSIMIST

It is remarked that if, as Conan Doyle says, there is no hell the average vocabulary of profanity will be one word reduced and that would be hell.

"Garden Sass" is used to describe "green things" rather than the irate words that are passed across back fences regarding children and chickens of the spokeswomen.

Some office forces would not need any vacation if the boss would take one, they'd be sufficiently rested up when he returned.

To be a best seller the contents of the book should be like the cellar of a house that was stocked before the 18th amendment went into effect, not too dry.

Life says that perhaps one reason that fat men appear to be so good natured is that nobody loves them, indicating that beloved objects are subjected to so much care and attention that it makes them cross.

The truly disinterested maiden wants a husband not so much for herself as to stop pa's worries about meeting her bills.

One advantage about the beach homes in Honolulu is that one does not have to get a radio set to listen in. The houses have grown up so close together that one hears the whole neighborhood sleep o' nights.

There is a vast difference between saving up for a "rainy day" and making ready for a "wet night."

It is remarked that it is the things one never did really want that have fallen in price.

It is the Wall Street Journal that remarks that the reason congress stalls so much is to establish a stable government.

The stamp of failure on a man is usually self applied.

A man can spread sympathy and sentiment most of the night but there's no use in his being sorry for himself next day because he lacks sleep.

Fools Hill is a long climb but one laughs at it once he has passed its crest.

One thing that is much worse than riding a hobby is to let the hobby do the riding, hobbies have their use in life.

The best way to reach a goal is with the aid and help of others rather than against them.

In the same issue of the Advertiser appears an editorial which commends the action of the Maui County supervisors and recommends it to the attention of the boards of the other counties. Public sentiment is with the Maui supervisors in all parts of Hawaii.

## PROBABLE LIFE LENGTH

Every man and woman has a deep interest in the question of, barring accidents, how long can he or she expect to live and the department of commerce has compiled considerable data on the all important subject and made comparison in figures taken from the 1920 and 1910 census figures. In ten years the expectation of life of each healthy child born has lengthened three years and nine months if he is a white boy or two years eight months and a few days over if a girl. The life chances of the man of 32 have lengthened a year and seven months and of the woman of the same age a little more than eight months. When a man reaches the age of 62 he may expect to go on living past the age of 75 and the woman of the same age may look forward to 14 years more of living.

Kansas is the home of average longevity, according to the table issued from Washington this month, though some may unkindly say that life only seems longer in the rigorous climates of that state, Wisconsin and Minnesota than under the blue skies and in the balmy airs of Hawaii. However the table gives 12 years longer expectation of life to the white boy baby of Kansas and 13 years more for the white girl baby than for the boys and girls born in Hawaii, irrespective of race or color. The expected length of life for the man in Kansas is 59 years and nine months and in Hawaii only 47 years and two months. The Kansas woman ought to live to the age of 60 years and 10 months while the woman in Hawaii may expect a life of 47 years three months and 11 days.

Only between the ages of 17 and 32, says the report has expectation of life decreased and the cause for that decrease is the effect which the epidemics of influenza had upon the mortality figures upon persons between those ages.

Hearst to try for presidency in 1924 and is preparing to spend a large part of his great wealth in his effort. Why not try it now, and get it over with once and for all.

The senate may finish its tariff tinkering and pass a measure this week and then will come the conference between the two houses. Meantime some members of both houses are anxious to get back home for their campaigns for reelection.

Molokai residents come in for a fair proportion of allotments in the last announcement made by the Hawaiian Homes Commission. The Island of Maui is not so well cared for, however, though not forgotten in the earlier selections.

Unity effort in community matters was discussed at a meeting in Hilo last week, an effort to bring about a fine community spirit is proposed. The Tribune rightfully calls it the biggest effort in that community launched in recent years. Other Islands have regretted and have sympathized with the Big Island because of apparent inability to get together and pull together for the general community interests when personal interests were in any way in-

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involved as they almost invariably are. Good luck, neighbor, is Maui's wish. And, by the way, if the Big Islanders will go away from home occasionally to learn how community undertakings are carried out elsewhere, they will be able to learn much in a very short time. Hilo and Hawaii want to broaden out.

News of the resignation of A. Lewis, Jr., as territorial treasurer will be received with general regret for he has made an excellent official and has had a constructive policy underlying all of his plans and efforts. He is a stickler for detail always and that has been one of the few criticisms of him in any way adverse to be heard.

Maui News will not take up a controversy between an individual and another newspaper until that other paper has had the opportunity to publish the matter sought. In the Sing matter it would appear such an opportunity has been afforded and the Maui man seems to have the right to demand that his side be told that a story that tends to injure his business may be made to stand out in a different light.

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