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Scio Weekly Press.

VOL. VIII. SCIO, LINN COUNTY, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1897. NO. 50

Scio Press.

IS PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY, BY

T. L. DUGGER,

IN THE CITY OF

SCIO, LINN CO., OREGON.

TERMS:

Per annum, invariably in advance.....$1 50
Six months, " " " 1 00
Per annum if not paid in advance, 2 00

Advertising rates at fair, living rates, to be paid monthly.

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REDUCE THE SALARIES.

President McKinley has convened congress in special session, for the purpose of increasing the cost of living, under the guise of increasing the revenue. An abundant revenue, all will admit, is a governmental necessity. By "abundant," we mean a sum sufficient to pay all the just demands against the government. Our government should be able to pay all claims, when properly vouched for, upon presentation. This, every patriotic citizen recognizes as necessary, and any reasonable tax, whether levied by tariff or by direct taxation, ought to and is paid willingly.

However, there ought to be a limit, by which governmental expenses could be controlled. Our law makers should consider the amount of toil and sweat that is required, to earn every dollar of the money they so glibly and carelessly appropriate and authorize expended. Instead of seeking ways and means to increase the revenue so that it will satisfy the present extravagant demands, congress should rather attempt to curtail expenditures; so that the government's present income would be ample for all demands against it.

It is conceded by all, congressmen as well as everybody else, that the purchasing power of a dollar is twice as great now as it was a few years ago. Producers of food products and of other commodities that are regarded as the necessities of life, as well as those who produce luxuries, are all compelled to sell their products for about one-half what they received for them eight or ten years ago. Does the federal office holder submit to a like reduction? No, indeed. His salary is fixed by act of congress and can be changed only by action of that body. His salary continues at the old figure, while the necessary cost of his living has been reduced one half. He is enabled, if he is frugal, to accumulate double the amount that he could formerly. For this reason office holding has become vastly more profitable than it was formerly and the horde of office seekers vastly more numerous. As men in all private business undertakings are compelled to be satisfied with one-half the earnings of former times, the office holder should be required to submit to the same reduction. Congress should divide every salary, from president down to postmaster by the figure 2. This reduction should extend throughout every governmental department. The salaries should all be reduced to the gold standard basis. Could this be done, the present or existing tariff and revenue incomes, would be abundant. But congress does not seem to be in the economic mood. It seemingly has never occurred to that body that, by a single act, it could place the government in posession of more than sufficient income to satisfy its needs; yet not treating the employee unjustly. The private business man or corporation, when it is found that his income is less than his expense account, reduces the wages of employe, until a margin of profit is shown. Why should not the general government be controlled by the same economic law or necessity? No apprehension need be felt that office seekers will become scarce; nor that the efficiency of the public service will be impaired. Salaries in many of the county offices in Oregon have been reduced by legislative enactment fully fifty per cent, in some instances. Has there been any lack of available material in making up tickets at our county conventions on that account?

Did President McKinley and congress have the real interest of the American people at heart, and were governed by the same principles that actuate the prudent business man, he would recommend and congress would enact a salary reduction law, beginning with their own salaries, that would at once bring the government out of all her financial difficulties. Such action would stamp the republican party as the true friend of the wage earning and wealth producing classes. It would set a precedent for economy in government affairs, that would astonish the world, be the admiration of all lovers of freedom and justice, and idealize that party in the hearts of the American people. But, the republican party is not built that way and because of that fact American labor will have to submit to four years more of extravagance—of fat official salaries and have the burden of state made a little heavier. But our misguided masters should beware that a limit can be reached, when overburdened humanity will refuse to submit longer to the unjust increase. A long and bitter war was fought to remove African slavery from our land and financial servitude will be removed by like means if necessary.

People in discussing the effects of the failure of the legislature to organize, should not forget the relative membership. The senate was composed of 24 republicans, 3 populist and 3 democrats; The house 39 republicans, 14 populist, 4 democratic and 3 unionbimetallic. In joint assembly the republicans numbered 63 all others 27. If the republicans fell out over the spoils of office, 17 populists, 7 democrats and 3 union bimetallic members ought not to be held responsible. Had harmony prevailed among republicans instead of dissension, you would not have known that there were any populist, democratic, or union-bimetallic members, except by the noise that they would make, now and then, in opposing extravagant and unjust legislation. Yet the legislature failed to organize, and the pops are to blame in the estimation of defeated and disgusted politicians. These pops are very bad and dangerous fellows. They are a thorn in the flesh to certain political combinations. They are accused of all manner of evil by these politicians who failed to control the actions of the despised pops as they might desire; yet they will admit that these same populists are honest men and are controlled by honest though mistaken motives.

A sort of organized withholding of taxes due the state from the various counties, is taking place through out the state. It is argued that as the state has use for but a small percent of the taxes due until legislative appropriation is made, that the money should be kept in circulation instead of being locked up indolencss in the vaults of the state treasury. Those counties which have floating debts that are drawing interest, desire to use the state tax money in liquidating these obligations. They hold that as their county is paying interest on this floating debt, it can well afford to pay interest on overdue state taxes and the people will be the gainers by having the money circulating in channels of business. Linn county fortunately has no floating debt and Judge Barton having no legitimate use in which the state's tax money can be employed with safety and profit, will pay Linn's amount over as usual and save the interests charges. By the way, Linn county is in pretty good financial condition. Out of debt and has the lowest tax levy of any county in the state, showing judicious managements by our county courts of the past and present. It ought to present these facts, properly, to the large emigration that is said will come to Oregon this year.

Scio is certainly a very healthy town having had but two deaths among her citizens during the past year. While it is true that we have some sickness, there has been no disease of an epidemic nature in this city for years. This speaks volumes for the healthfulness of the location, purity of water, etc. Emigrants desiring a healthful location, with good church and school privileges, will do well to visit Scio, before locating permanently

Because of an averse decission by the United States supreme court, the railroad passenger and traffic associations and corporations are disbanding and will each and all become competitors with eachother in transportation of freight and passengers. This puts the railroads on the same basis of ordinary business ventures, and is a hard blow at pools and combines.

The silver republican senators announce that they will not oppose the Dingley tariff bill.

COUNCIL TO ROAD SUPERVISORS.

The following information and suggestions are submitted for the guidance of the supervisors of Linn County:—

1. Every road supervisor shall keep the correct date of every day's work for which he claims credit and pay from the county.

2. He must produce receipts showing when, to whom and for what purpose he paid out the cash collected in his district, which receipt he must file with his report when he settles with the county court.

3. He shall carefully inspect every bridge in his district and promptly make any needed repairs thereon, using the road tax and labor of his district for that purpose.

4. He shall promptly report to one of the commissioners or county judge by letter or otherwise any urgent repairs that are needed on the larger bridges of his district.

5. In a wooded and mountainous district he should build his small and medium sized bridges and culverts out of hewed timbers and poles, using the road labor of his district for that purpose.

6. He should use some of the labor of his district for hauling all lumber used therein, for the county court will allow only mill or yard prices for lumber used.

7. When men appear to work on the roads, if they spend their time in idleness or neglect their work, you will credit them only with the number of hours they work, and dock them for the number of hours they are idle.

8. If men refuse to work when warned out, remember that there are no property exemptions, but for payment of a poll or road tax, any and all property is liable, and persons who are delinquent on their road tax can be compelled to pay.

9. You will please collect and keep at your residence all tools, scrapers, etc., belonging to the county, when the same are not required for use on the roads.

10. You are expected to state the kinds, conditions and number of tools in your district in your annual report.

11. You are requested to purchase lumber of no greater value than $10.00 without consulting some member of the county court, and we repeat only the cash mill or yard price will be allowed for the same, and you are expected to state where and for what purpose the lumber was used when you certify to the correctness of the bill.

12. The law contemplates that a supervisor shall oversee and superintend the road work of his district, not perform the labor thereon, recognizing this fact the county court, to assist an equitable and satisfactory settlement with the supervisors adopted for such settlement the following basis for allowance of time, viz: In hilly, timbered districts, which are sparcely settled, one day's work for the supervisor for every seven to nine day's work his report shows was performed on roads and superintended by him in his district. In the valley or more thickley populated districts, one day's allowance to the supervisor for every ten to twelve day's work his report shows was done under his supervision in his district.

13. The county clerk in extending the road tax on the rolls of each district is satisfied that through the bungling and incomplete county assessment roll, many pieces of taxable property are left out of their proper road district, hence we would admonish each supervisor to be diligent in his search for taxable property located in his district and not enumerated in his road list, and it becomes the supervisor's duty under the law to list such property, assess and collect the road tax thereon.

14. We would suggest to each supervisor the plan of starting at some given point on a well traveled main road in his district, and begin a systematic plan of permanent road building; which in other words means in this valley the throwing up to the center of the road a narrow ridge, giving a perfect drainage on the sides, and the hauling of 18 to 20 inches of not too coarse gravel and dumping it in the center of grade, and by all means avoid spreading it out wide and thin, the primary object to be attained should be to make the center narrow, solid and a perfect water shed. Try this plan in each district of the county, and by all means fully COMPLETE the work as far as you go, and make it permanent if you do not exceed five rods of road. Next season let the good work go on and extend this grade as far as your work will justify, and we assure you in three or four years our people will begin to realize that their annual road labor is not a waste of time and energy, as the history of road building in the past would justify the prevailing sentiment of lost labor, by summer following the highways, or dumping a load of gravel here and there invariably resulting in diggings out a worse hole on either side of said dump the following winter.

We repeat that it is our belief that if the above outlined system is adopted and the execution of it started this very season the farmers and others will soon realize the substantial progress made in permanent good road building, and it will be an incentive to them to donate many days of volunteer service in the future and the good work will go merrily on, with happy and beneficial results.

J. M. WATERS,
L. M. CURL, County Com.
GEO. D. BARTON, County Judge.

THE LEGAL TENDER FUNCTION OF MONEY.

Nothing is money which does not possess some legal tender function. Money which must be taken in payment of all debts and dues is full legal tender, and is the best money, because it will perform all the functions which money can perform. Money which, by law, must be taken in payment of public demands is limited legal tender, and the second best money that circulates. Money which must be taken in payment of debts or dues to the individual, bank or corporation issuing it is very limited legal tender, and is the lowest grade of a circulating medium. Every form of commercial paper has an element of legal tender, without which it would be worthless. Somebody must be bound by law to pay it or receive it in payment of some obligation. It is not the paper, but is the legal obligation which the writing or printing on it imports, which gives it value.

The confusion which exists in the discussion of the money question arises from mistaking the metals (when gold and silver are used) for the legal obligations which are shown by the stamp on the metals. This mistake arises from the long use of the metals upon which to stamp the law which compels the creditor to receive them in payment of the obligations due him. The immemorial usage of the metals leads men to suppose that the metals themselves, not the law which is indicated by the stamp, are money. This mistake is not made when the law creating money is printed on paper. No one confuses the law in the latter case with the paper upon which it is printed. Everybody knows that the paper upon which a greenback is printed is no more money than any other paper, nor does anybody suppose for a moment that the paper upon which a bank check is written compels the bank to pay out money. But everyone knows that it is the writing on the paper demanding money which compels the bank to honor the check if the writer has money to his credit.

If people would reflect they would see that the creditor is under no more obligation to receive either gold or silver bullion without the stamp of the government upon it in payment of the obligations he holds than the bank is to pay money to its depositor on a blank piece of paper. The legal obligation to receive in payment of debts or dues is the foundation of every kind of money and all forms of commercial paper. This brings us back to Aristotle's definition—"Money is the creation of law." The law of legal tender compels men who hold legal obligations payable in money to receive in payment the money which the law declares to be legal tender in payment. It is the law which compels the payment of debts and it is the law which prescribes what is payment. The one is necessary as the other. Contracts are made with reference to the law which forms a part of all contracts. A legal tender is a legal obligation binding on both parties to the contract. The one party must pay and the other must receive what the law makes money.

Why, then, we are asked, do you advocate the restoration of silver? We answer: Because so many people think that money must be stamped on the precious metals and are not prepared to adopt any other material for that purpose, no matter what reasons may be given for or against such adoption. All admit that there is not gold enough upon which to stamp a sufficient amount of legal tender money. The volume of money can be largely increased, and relief obtained, in returning to the custom of ages by using both metals without limit and without discrimination against either.

The full use of both gold and silver is no experiment. The custom is sanctioned by the usage of all the ages. Besides, six and a half millions of voters have already declared their purpose to restore the law of bimetallism, which is sanctioned by the Constitution, and was in force at all times previous to 1873. If this cannot be done the combination, which has a corner on all the gold of the world, will continue to hold the people in their power, and civilization must perish. The coinage of both metals at the ratio of 16 to 1 must be the paramount issue in this country until relief comes, or permanent slavery to the money powers is established.—W. M. S. in the Silver Knight.

IN FULL ACCORD WITH THE MONEY CLIQUE.

Over the great question of policy that distracts the country Mr. McKinley and Mr. Cleveland are at one. With the policy pursued by Mr. Cleveland, and which has engendered paralysis of trade and industry, Mr. McKinley is in accord. That policy is, of course, the policy of contraction, hidden with a coat of deception it may be, but still there. It is this policy that we have followed intermittently for a generation, that Mr. Cleveland has followed with dogged persistence.

Mr. McCulloch, appointed by Lincoln in 1863, as his Secretary of the Treasury, in the belief that he was opposed to a contraction of the currency such as would depress prices, undermine profits and stifle industry, inaugurated this policy. Lincoln was killed and McCulloch turned out to be all that which Mr. Lincoln believed he was not. Then came Mr. Sherman to push along this policy that meant the enrichment of the few and the improvishment of the many. At first it was war on our interest-bearing legal tender notes and greenbacks, then on silver. The interest-bearing notes were taken out of circulation and funded into long-time bonds. Retirement of our greenbacks was set in motion, stoped, set in motion again and finally stopped after about $100,000,000 had been destroyed. Our mints were closed to free silver coinage in 1873 and the legal tender quality of our silver dollar was taken away in 1874 to be partially restored in 1878 along with the passage of the Bland act, a compromise measure, with its shortcomings as such, but which served a valuable end in providing for a yearly addition to our currency of something over 25,000,000 for twelve years. The addition thus provided for did not keep pace with the increasing demands of a growing country, and was therefore not sufficient to prevent prices from falling, but it was sufficient to much minimize this fall and lessen the resulting hardships. In 1890 another compromise was effected, the Sherman act being substituted for the Bland act. But the substitution was fatal, although it provided for a greater addition to our currency than the Bland act. It was fatal because, as executed by the executive department of our government, it did not provide any basis upon which to rest the notes issued thereunder in payment for purchases of silver. Instead of redeeming these notes in silver dollars, as was the plain intent of the law which left it with the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem these notes in either gold or silver at his discretion and directed him to coin out of the silver bullion purchased a sufficient number of silver dollars to provide for such redemptions, the redemption of these notes in gold whenever demanded by the noteholders was directed. Thus they made gold obligations outstanding the difficulty of the government in keeping up the gold reserve. This was made the excuse for the unconditional repeal of the law in 1893. Then last summer Mr. Carlisle announced that he regarded it as his duty to direct redemption of silver certificates in gold coin should there be any indication of those notes falling below parity with gold. And now comes Mr. McKinley, telling us we must pay all our obligations, express or implied, that is bonded debt, greenbacks, treasury notes, silver certificates, all our currency, in the dearest money known to the world—gold.

So we see how Mr. McKinley is in full march along the course of contraction that the money cliques, bent on making the dollar dearer, and thus robbing debtors for their own enrichment, have aimed at ever since the war. And it is pursuit of this policy that has cast an ever-thickening gloom over our people, a gloom lightening when the moneyed interests have been forced to relax their efforts towards contaction as at the time of the passage of the Bland act, and thickening again on the resumption of contraction's sway.—From the Philadelphia American.

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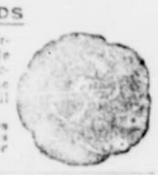

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Mr. J. F. Limburner, widely known for many years as the special representative of the Populists and Free Silver Press of the United States, has kindly forwarded the following letter for publication:

Jan. 25, 1897.

DEAR SIRS—I am anxious for the sake of the suffering and out of gratitude to you to give my personal endorsement of your wonderful remedy. On the 8th of January, 1897, I was in Washington and was suddenly seized with one of inflammatory rheumatism so severe and painful was the attack that within 48 hours my left arm was paralyzed and I was only able to dress with assistance. I secured a bottle of 5 DROPS and took a dose that night, rubbing some on externally as directed. The following morning I was surprised to find myself comfortably relieved, and continuing treatment woke the second morning cured. My arm was absolutely free from pain, and all swelling and stiffness had disappeared. The quickness and completeness of my cure was remarkable. I have known for over a year of the great curative properties of your medicine and have several friends who have been cured by it of **Neuralgia, Catarrh** and **Asthma.** Wishing you every success and trusting that those similarly afflicted will at least give this remedy a trial. Sincerely yours, J. F. LIMEBURNER,

Bureau of Populist and Reform Papers, Old Stock Exchange Building, Chicago, Ill.

CURES THE INCURABLE.

DEAR SIRS—I would like to thank you for your great remedy, "5 DROPS," and tell you what it has done for me. I had rheumatism in every joint, and in the heart, and I had Catarrh of the head for 40 years. I was so poorly that I lost the use of my legs and arms, and could not move without pain. I was so crippled, that I had done but little work for seven years, and our family physician, a good doctor, told me that my Rheumatism and Catarrh were incurable. And I believed him. But now, after using "5 DROPS" only two months, I can truly say I have not felt so well for seven years. This medicine does **more than is claimed** for it. At this time my catarrh is much better, and I have scarcely any Rheumatism at all and the least weakness and pain are gone. My hearing is now good and my eyesight is much better. I have gained more than 10 pounds of flesh and can do a full day's work. It is the best medicine I ever saw. It gives a young child relief, for it has the same effect on the child as on the mother. It warts off Croup and cures the hives of the child and causes sweet and refreshing sleep to both young and old.

Yours respectfully, WM. M. KELLEMS,
Jan. 29, 1896. Siberia, Perry Co., Ind.

We received the following letter from Mr. J. T. Wilson of Omaha, Ill. Mr. Wilson has been for many years an invalid, and reading the above letter which was published, wrote Mr. Kellems, asking if his endorsement was genuine, and received an honest reply, which he forwards.

MR. J. J. WILSON.

DEAR SIR—Your letter of recent date at hand, the testimonial you speak of is genuine. The company who manufactures and sells "5 Drops" published my testimonial just as I gave it to them and every word of it is true, and I could swear to it and prove it by many witnesses. The company did not ask me for this letter. I wrote it from last January for publication in order that poor sufferers, incurable as I once was, and as you are, might be cured. Get "5 Drops" and use it and it will cure you as it has cured me. I have received many letters like yours, and it is a pleasure to me to answer all who write. Tell all your neighbors what I have written about "5 Drops." I know how to sympathize with those who are afflicted, for though I suffered so long, it is now 8 months since I have felt any pain.

Dr. S. W. Kellems, my brother, uses "5 Drops" in his practice, and joins me in endorsing this great remedy. He says for a case like yours it is a positive cure.

Sept. 21, 1896. MR. W. M. AND DR. S. W. KELLEMS.

If you have not sufficient confidence after reading these letters to send for a large bottle, send for a sample bottle, which contains sufficient medicine to convince you of its merit. This wonderful curative gives almost instant relief and is a permanent cure for **Rheumatism, Sciatica,** Neuralgia, **Dyspepsia, Backache, Asthma,** Hay Fever, **Catarrh, Sleeplessness, Nervousness,** Nervous and Neuralgic Headaches, **Heart Weakness, Toothache, Earache, Croup,** "La Grippe," **Malaria, Creeping Numbness, Headaches and Kindred Diseases.**

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F. WOOD, Jun.,

ALBANY, OREGON.

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