

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY
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Entered at the postoffice at Scio, Oregon as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION, IN ADVANCE \$1.25
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TERM HALF OUT

On March 4 President Wilson's term of office was half out. Probably no other president of the United States has accomplished so much, in the way of constructive legislation as he. We do not mean that he has usurped the functions of congress, but that he has seen the legislation which was demanded by the people and has pressed these subjects upon congress, early and late, until the bills have been passed. Perhaps no feature of President Wilson's administration stands out more boldly than the currency and banking bills. Ever since national banks were established, during the civil war, thinkers have known and urged a measure more servicable to the people than our former national bank laws. They knew that a law enacted in the money lenders interests, enacted during the civil war, did not conserve the public's interests as it should. Efforts have been made during the sessions of congress in the past, to have a national bank law enacted, which would be more acceptable to the people than the old law, but republican as well as democratic congresses, turned it down. It remained for the sixty-third congress, under the influence of President Wilson to do the work. How well they have done this work is told by our republican friends in words which admit of no doubt. If this had been the only measure of importance enacted by the congress just adjourned, it should be enough to cover the administration with glory.

But there have been other measures, of almost equal importance, enacted by this congress and measures which had the almost universal will of the people behind them.

It is seldom that a demand for the enactment of a law goes up from the people to the law making powers more insistent than that for the reduction of the tariff. It was made the central thought of the presidential campaign and President Wilson owes his election to this sentiment among the people. The republicans had failed to make their promises good in this regard during the previous four years and the people turned to the democratic party as being the only hope of relief from high tariff taxes. President Wilson made the enactment of a tariff reduction law his first purpose and called congress in special session to carry it out.

The Alaska railroad bill, more effective intercommerce legislation are other prominent features, enacted into law by the sixty-third congress are leading features.

President Wilson has endeavored to have the legislation demanded by the people enacted as quickly as possible and, to this end, has kept congress in almost continuous session since his inauguration. Only one of his leading pet measures failed to become law—the ship pur-

chase measure. This measure will, probably, be a leading feature of the sixty-fourth congress.

No other congress since the civil war has accomplished so much constructive legislation as the body just closed and no other president in the history of our nation, has so insistently pressed congress to enact laws the people demanded.

Of course President Wilson has made enemies by his aggressive insistence, some even in his own party. But he has the unlimited confidence of the people and that counts. If the last half of his administration should be as successful as the first, the country may be congratulated.

FORMER RAIDS ON THE BRITISH SHIPS

Germany's creation of a war zone in British waters is not the first time that Britain's naval supremacy has been disputed on her own coasts. The damage done by German submarines and mines to British shipping in some waters is so far small compared with that done by daring American skippers in the Revolutionary war and the war of 1812.

At Benjamin Franklin's suggestion Paul Jones was sent with the Ranger, Alliance and Bonhomme Richard, and Conyngham was sent with the Revenge to cruise the Irish sea, the English channel and North sea and prey upon British ships. They were aided by a swarm of privateers under letters of marque. Such was the alarm that the great fair at Chester was abandoned, insurance rates were raised, merchants feared to ship goods in British vessels and linen ships sailed from Ireland to Liverpool under armed convoy. Jones spread panic by firing the ships at Whitehaven, by his raid on the Earl of Selkirk's castle, by his victory over the Duke, which he captured off Carrickfergus and by his memorable victory over the Serapis. There were 10,000 men at sea on Yankee privateers and they captured or destroyed more than a thousand British ships in the course of the war.

In the war of 1812 the United States had only twenty-three ships in the navy, but 500 privateers were given letters of marque and ravaged the British seas, where they captured 1500 prizes. Sir Walter Scott narrowly escaped capture by one of them. A great meeting of merchants was held at Glasgow in 1814 and deplored "that in the short space of less than twenty-four months about 800 vessels have been captured by that power whose maritime strength we have hitherto impolitically held in contempt."

The merchants complained that, though they were paying a tax for convoys, "it is equally distressing and mortifying that our ships cannot with safety traverse our channels, that insurance cannot be effected but at an expensive premium and that a hord of American cruisers should be allowed, unresisted and unmolested, to take, burn or sink our own vessels in our own inlet and almost in sight of our own harbors."

Although the American ships were small and were overmatched by the British cruisers, haste never prevented them from rescuing non-combatants and sending them home at the first opportunity.—Oregonian.

THE MEXICAN SITUATION

In the language of somebody, we have forgotten who, of the past, the Mexican situation is getting no better fast. It is, almost, a jumping-out-of-the-frying-pan-into-the-fire, with every change of the governmental control. What promises to be good, turns out to be bad, in progressive degrees. Now the United States has given Carranza,

the present controlling power, what is equivalent to an ultimatum. War vessels have again been ordered to Vera Cruz. This indicates that the patience of the United States government has been about exhausted. If United States troops are not in the City of Mexico within three or four months, The Tribune has simply guessed wrong.

It is a fact and President Wilson seems now convinced of it, the Mexican people will never settle their difficulties. Until those people are controlled by absolute fear, they never will become peaceful. They have formed the war habit and, unless war can be made more terrible to them, it will continue indefinitely. Until those people can become better educated and better thinkers, they are sure to adhere to the thought that might is right.

Of course all American citizens deprecate war, because war results only in the control of the stronger power. In the case of Mexico, the United States has far more cause to interfere than in the case of Cuba. It is a case where humanity calls us to action. Let us hope that the present temper of the administration will remain until our neighbor republic will become one in fact as well as in name. The Mexican people are anxious for peace and so are all other American people.

People who condemn a democratic congress and President Wilson for the falling off of our tariff revenues, are doing so unjustly. Let us remember that for revenue to be realized from the tariff, foreign goods must be imported. We get almost nothing from Germany, compared with what it would have been with no war. England's trade has also been greatly reduced. Under ordinary conditions, a reduction of the tariff greatly increases importations. The war has prevented the Underwood tariff from bearing fruit. It has amounted to what a prohibitory tariff would. This is what has made war taxes in time of peace necessary. The administration should not be blamed for things over which it cannot have control.

Not a Square Deal.

Miss Mason was explaining to her Sunday school class the lesson for the day, the subject being the tares and the wheat.

"Now, remember, children, the tares represent the bad people and the wheat the good ones."

"Why, Miss Mason?" exclaimed a rosy checked boy, who had been listening through the lesson with deep interest. "Did you say the tares are the bad folks and the wheat the good ones?"

"Yes, James," replied the teacher, pleased at the lad's interest.

"Well, that's funny, I think!" remarked the matter of fact child. "It's the wheat that gets thrashed; the tares don't."—Country Gentleman

Lost—A tail lamp for an automobile on the road between Scio and Jefferson. Number 6,865 was with in the lamp. Finder please leave same at The Scio Tribune office.

Local Market Report

Wheat per bushel	\$ 1.24
Oats " "	.50
Bran per ton	35.00
Wheat chop per ton	45.00
Oat chop " "	35.00
Barley Chop " "	37.00
Flour per sack	1.70
Eggs per dozen	.15
Butter per pound	.25
Chickens, hens per lb	.11
" spring " "	.10
" roosters " "	.07
Turkeys " "	.16
Geese " "	.08
Ducks " "	8 to 11
Beef " "	5 1/2
Veal " "	10
Hogs, live per hundred lb	6.35
Hogs, dressed " "	8.00
Mutton " "	6.00

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