

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY
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AT END OF YEAR 1.50
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UNDESIRABLE CITIZENS

When people from foreign lands come to the United States and, after the short period of probation, become citizens, they renounce allegiance to all foreign governments and in particular that government of which they are natives. In consequence of our liberal naturalization laws, we have acquired many citizens from every European country. They come to us because they can here enjoy greater liberty, have a better opportunity to secure a livelihood and, in fact, to become men in a sense not understood nor enjoyed in most European states.

Having renounced the land of their nationality and having sworn allegiance to the government of the United States, we reasonably expect them to become American citizens in the fullest sense the word implies. That is to say, should war occur between the United States and their native land, they are obligated under any and all conditions, to support the land of their adoption. We suppose that every naturalized citizen of the United States realizes the grave importance of the oath he subscribes to when he becomes a citizen of this country and that he or she will live and act loyal in every respect to the naturalization oath. Not to do this is to commit treason in intent.

But, it is reasonable that a citizen of foreign birth should have a fondness for his native land where, perhaps, many of his kindred live. His sympathies will naturally be with the land of his birth, should it be involved in war with another foreign land. But, should his native land become involved in war with the land of his adoption, his loyalty and sympathy is due to the land wherein he lives.

The right of free speech and free action, so long as the rights of others are not infringed upon, is one of the blessings our federal constitution confers. But the limit of these guaranteed privileges can be transgressed and has been frequent on the part of some of our naturalized fellow citizens since the European war began. Interference with industrial plants, threats against bankers who contemplate making loans to belligerents, treasonable talk, etc., has not been infrequent during the past few weeks.

All of these acts, threats and talk are treasonable. The United States as well as any other neutral nation has the right to sell food and munitions of war to these belligerents. During our civil war and the war with Spain, England and France and Germany sold freely to both the North and South during the civil war and to Spain during the Spanish-American war. It is a right recognized by all the nations of the world. Germany can buy from us just as freely as can England and France if she desires. It is not our fault that England maintains a rigid blockade

of the German ports, just as the North did the ports of the South during the civil war. Nor did the North question the right of those countries to sell to the South. Blockade running became a very profitable business until the North made the business too risky, just as now is the case with Germany.

The efforts of German and American agents and sympathizers to cripple our munition and arms factories makes them, to say the least, undesirable citizens. The United States government is justified, if thought proper, to cancel the citizenship papers of such characters and deport them to the land from whence they came.

As a matter of fact about all the trouble which our mining and industrial plants have with labor is due, mainly, to foreign born people. Having had but small wages and little liberty in the land of their birth, they soon become dissatisfied with a wage double what they received in "the old country," foment strikes, etc. But they have never manifested a disloyal spirit to the United States government until the present war. Congress should do some legislating relative to this matter. No man can serve two masters, especially if their interests clash. An American citizen cannot be loyal in spirit to a foreign government and the United States at the same time. We have no room for citizens of that character.

NEW CHARTER NEEDED

When Scio was incorporated as a city, the assessed valuation of property included in the city limits was, probably, about one-fourth of what it is now. A limit of indebtedness to \$5000 and a tax levy to eight mills fitted the conditions of that day, but they do not fit those of the present. For this reason an effort will be made at the annual city election to have a new charter replace the old one.

The proposed new one is the same in the main as that submitted last year, with the then thought objectionable features eliminated. Copies of the same will soon be ready for distribution and it behooves every voter to study its provisions carefully.

At the time the old charter was adopted, we will assume the assessed valuation of the property was \$40,000. An indebtedness limit of \$5000 would be 12½ per cent of this sum. The new charter proposes an indebtedness limit of eight per cent on the assessed valuation and will fit the conditions of the future as well as those of today.

Scio will be in debt at the close of the year somewhat and this indebtedness must be taken care of in the tax levy this fall as well as to provide for the running expenses for next year. It is doubtful if an eight mill levy will provide a sufficient sum and take care of our streets, cross walks, etc., as they should be cared for. The new charter allows for contingencies of this character.

There is no doubt but what, in the near future, some sort of sewer system must be provided and our streets brought to grade. Necessarily the city will be required to expend considerable money for this purpose. The ironbound clause in our present charter together with the 8 mill tax levy will bar the city from undertaking these improvements which modern conditions require. In the proposed new charter all such extraordinary expenses must be first authorized by a majority vote of the people and to this a bar is fixed, limiting general indebtedness to 8 per cent of the assessed property value.

Again we say, study the printed proposed charter carefully. Let us

be sure we are right before we go ahead. But a careful study will convince any fair minded person that the interests of the people are carefully guarded but it gives them the right to have modern improvements if they desire them.

Sweet Home Items

Mr. and Mrs. O. L. McClure are the proud parents of a baby boy born last Thursday.

Bert Swink has returned from the east and is visiting relatives and friends here.

We notice in The Tribune of two weeks ago that Mr. Swink has built a new house and barn with the exception of a few days help by Mr. Duncan and son. Now Mr. Swink and the writer have had some dispute over the matter. I was informed that Mr. Bowser and son had been doing some of the work. Now I am confident I am right for Mr. Swink came to me and wanted to borrow some money, saying he wanted to pay Mr. Bowser and son for their work, but when told that we had no money to loan he wanted me to dig my potatoes and sell them and loan him the money to pay for the work. Therefore, we believe we are right in saying that Mr. Bowser and son were doing the work. And another thing we are right here in Sweet Home and not at Holley.

The public school began in Sweet Home Monday morning with L. K. Geil as principal and Miss Opal Russell as primary teacher. We understand that the high school will not begin until October 4.

J. A. Rowell has rented his place and will give possession soon.

W. M. Watkins went to Lebanon Monday morning, returning drove back an extra Ford.

J. C. Banks, Miss Opal Russell, L. K. Geil and R. W. Van Fleet attended the institute at Albany last week.

Mr. Cook and wife, father and mother of Mrs. I. E. Bellinger, were Sweet Home visitors last week, returning home Sunday.

H. S. Lawrence has purchased an Overland touring car.

Dr. Luther is preparing to erect a 74 foot flag pole near his drug store.

Holley Items

C. F. Bigby, a former teacher of this place and R. W. Van Fleet, also a former teacher here, attended our school meeting Saturday. There were 42 votes cast in favor of the high school board. They also elected Joseph Crocker as clerk for one year term.

Virgil Rice got a fall Monday and hurt his side so bad that they had to have the doctor. We cannot tell how bad he is hurt at this writing.

C. L. Malone has returned from the teachers institute and is preparing to start school next Monday.

Quite a number of the Holley people attended the show at Sweet Home Saturday night.

Joseph Thompson is hauling lumber from the Weddle mill. He is going to build a dwelling house in the near future.

They are preparing the hall for the fair Saturday. Every body is cordially invited to come and bring some exhibit. They are going to try and have a better fair than ever before.

We make a specialty of Friendship, Engagement and Wedding Rings. F. M. French & Son, Albany, Oregon.

For Sale

A valuable farm—310 acres, six miles west of Lebanon, 190 acres in cultivation, balance oak scrub pasture land. Fair house and barn, good small orchard, within one-half

mile of railroad, on R. F. D. route. The farm has good natural drainage and is regarded as one of the best farms in that locality. All of the cultivated land has been seeded to clover. For price and terms write or see The Scio Tribune, Scio, Ore

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