

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY
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WHY NOT GO FURTHER?

State Senator Cusick, of Albany, has announced that he will endeavor to have the office of county recorder abolished at the next session of the legislature. As this is a step in the direction of economy, The Tribune applauds.

But why, Senator, stop your activities in office smashing with the one office of county recorder? Why not go all along the line and trim off officials not at all necessary for a well managed public service? We might suggest that the office of school supervisor is of as little real benefit to the people as that of recorder. We might also suggest that the third judicial district does not need two judges, when one could easily do the work. Also that our prosecuting attorney who now has but half the work he formerly had, should have his salary reduced in accordance therewith.

And, Senator, if you will look into the state commission business, you will there find a rich field in which you can apply the pruning hook. And, again, when the legislature meets, there will be 100 or more clerks that can be dispensed with without injury to the public service.

The field for economy along these lines, Senator, is almost unlimited. You will cover yourself with glory, Senator, if you will inaugurate a campaign to abolish needless offices. And, the state house could reduce clerical employes by one-half without injury to the public service.

Whenever a legislative official undertakes to reduce public expense either in the county or state, he will strike a responsive chord with the people which will redound his popularity.

Senator Cusick, we doff our hat to you, for you have started a movement which has long been desired by the people. Your intention is admirable and we hope a majority of the members of the legislature will be of your mind.

THE RICH SHOULD

FOOT THE BILL

Congress will, probably, enact some sort of preparedness legislation at the present session. If the army and navy are increased, new battle-ships erected and the other necessary elements of preparedness provided for, a very large amount of money in addition to our present national revenue, must be arranged for.

One plan for raising a considerable part of the money, is a graduated income tax on incomes from \$3000 up. The rate on the small income would be low but the increase in the tax will be rapid as the income increases, until the half million mark is reached when the tax would be 50 per cent.

Of course our millionaires and billionaires will kick at being so

heavily taxed. They will have less money to donate to churches, colleges and libraries, but these things can wait for a spell, for the country's demands are superior to charity donations.

Anyway, why shall not these inordinately rich people be required to give up from 25 to 50 per cent of their incomes at the country's need? They have more at stake than anybody and should our country be successfully invaded, they would be the greatest losers. Anyway they accumulated their huge fortunes by laws most favorable, enacted too often at their dictation. The laboring world will look upon the burden thus placed upon the rich, not with any great regret, to say the least.

Should our country be attacked, the able-bodied poor man must give all he has—his life, if need be, for the protection of his country. The rich should certainly be willing to provide the guns and the ships the soldiers and sailors man.

If congress will drop the pork barrel business and get down to hard thinking, our country can be placed in a condition of defense without working a hardship on anybody.

MOST IMPORTANT OFFICES

You may think the offices of county clerk, county sheriff, county recorder, county treasurer and county school superintendent the most important county offices we have in the county, but that is just where you are mistaken. The above mentioned offices are purely executive in their functions, if we except the school superintendent. The law defines what their duties are and they can't do anything beyond that without getting into trouble. We think these are the most important because these officials draw down fat salaries as compared with officials who are most important to the people.

The offices of county judge and county commissioner are largely administrative rather than executive. These are the men who have their hands in our pockets. They tell us how much we must spend for the public welfare. If to these we add our members of the legislature, then we have named all officials who have power over our pocketbooks and the pay for these last mentioned officials is much less than that of the former mentioned. As a result, we are less careful in the selection of men to fill them. When we can persuade three men to become candidates for state representative and two for the state senate, we think them sufficient. Here is where both the political parties and the people individually are radically wrong. Our members of the legislature are certainly the most important officials we have. They make laws for us to obey, else we pay a penalty. They say how much money we must spend for the benefit of our state, just as our county judge and commissioners do for the county. They tell us what we must spend for our state colleges, for our state eleemosynary institutions, for our state penitentiary and reformatory concerns. They create new officials for us to pay, new commissions, etc., fix their salaries and define their duties. They can increase the salaries of state officials, but they rarely reduce salaries or abolish an office.

Then why should we not select our wisest and most level headed men for these offices? Why should not the pay be sufficient to justify competent men to accept these offices?

It is very evident that we pay some of our officials too much and others not enough. Good competent men cannot afford to pay campaign expenses for the beggarly sum of \$3 per day, unless they are actuated

EULOGY ON AN EARLY PIONEER

(Continued from page 1)

legal guardian of her own children, she pays taxes and has a voice in saying how those taxes shall be expended. In Oregon no sex inequality or sex inferiority is recognized by law, and it can be truthfully said that no man living or dead has done more to incorporate those sacred and inalienable rights of the people into our statutes than our departed and beloved friend, John Minto.

Mr. Minto was a most retiring man who accepted office and position of public trust as a duty imposed upon citizenship. He was eminently qualified and might have filled any office in the gift of the people of his adopted state. He preferred his muse and worked solely in developing the latent resources of his state. He was a path finder in searching for high-ways and means of communication with other sections of this great northwest and the eastern states. I believe Mr. Minto would have preferred the honor of discovering an improved mountain passageway for egress and ingress to the Willamette valley or the improvement of some species of our domestic animals than the honors of a membership in congress.

In politics Mr. Minto was a democrat until the civil war when he associated himself with the republican party, though he was never a strict partisan in any sense. He was a member of the Odd Fellows and Elk orders and when he passed away was the oldest member of those orders in the state.

Mr. Minto was a student to the very last moment of his long and useful life, he read and wrote continuously and has left his impress upon every page of Oregon history. He loved the birds of the air and the beasts of the forest, yes, everything in nature from the flowers of the valley to the snow capped peak of Mount Hood. With such a soul and heart it is but natural that the writings of the great Scotch poet Burns should have held first place in his literary affections.

Mr. Minto died at the age of 92 years, beloved by all who knew him or had ever felt the inspiration of his pen and muse.

by patriotic motives and can afford the expense. Other purely administrative offices are paid too much. Plenty of capable men would accept most of our county offices at half the salary they are paid. When both our county and state governments were provided for more than fifty years ago, conditions were entirely different from what they now are, and the methods then employed do not fit the conditions of today. The offices of county judge and commissioner are now our most important ones. Yet the pay is so modest that few men are willing to accept them. The pay of our legislators is but \$3 per day. As a consequence these offices go begging or are filled by anyone who offers himself as a candidate.

Let us endeavor, this year, to get our best men for the legislature regardless of their political sentiments. We want men who are thoroughly acquainted with the needs of the people, who are honest and who will be governed in their legislative acts by the greatest good for the great majority of the people. We want men who, down deep in their hearts are patriotic and are willing to, practically, give their service to the state, even if it means a business sacrifice to themselves.

Scio Tribune one year for \$1.25

Dr. T. K. Sanderson

DENTIST

Phone 27-7

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