

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY
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SUBSCRIPTION, IN ADVANCE \$1.50
AT END OF YEAR 1.50
SIX MONTHS .75

ADVERTISING RATES:

Local advertising, per line 5c
Display advertising, per inch 10c
Display advertising, long time, see
manager.
Extended marriage or death notices
per line 3c
Special rates on long time display
advertising.

LEGISLATURE DID SOME GOOD

It would be wrong to say no good was accomplished by the late legislature, for there were a few measures enacted into law which the people really wanted and which will result in permanent good to the state. Yet the bad things done so overwhelmed the good accomplished that the session will be remembered rather for what it should not have done than for what it did.

When the two houses first assembled and were organized, every member seemed to feel the responsibility resting upon him, for his promises of economy and of enacting such legislation as would make possible a reduction of taxation.

But these promises were soon forgotten and, had it not been for the six per cent tax limitation club enacted by the people, the session just closed would have been the most extravagant one in the history of Oregon. The chief effort seems to have been, not to see how small the appropriations could be made without injury to the efficiency of our state government, but to see how large the appropriations could be made without transcending the limit which the people had established. To justify this conclusion one has simply to glance at the record made.

Knowing the pledges of economy the people had required legislative candidates to make, this legislature in point of clerical expense, has been the most extravagant in the history of Oregon. It was caused by the payment of \$5 to \$10 per day for stenographers who do not earn more than \$3 per day in private life and to the employment of a clerk for a member who was not present during a single day of the session. This same member who did not attend, would have been voted per diem and mileage if the extravagance had not appeared too glaring.

The usual number of increased salaries for officers in counties throughout the state has resulted. In fact any county officer in the state, who asked for it, had his salary increased, providing he had sufficient political pull. The legislature could do this easily, as the aforesaid increase would not be figured in appropriations limited by the peoples six per cent mandate.

There was no reason for increasing the salaries of our supreme judges \$500 each, for there is no trouble whatever to persuade our best lawyers to become candidates for that office. But the beneficiaries are lawyers and their interests must be cared for even if tax payers complain of the burden of taxation. The taxpayers be damned seemed to be the sentiment of such lawyer members as Brownell of Clackamas county.

Most people think the placing of entire management of the state penitentiary and the continuation of

the flax raising experiment, in the exclusive control of Governor Withycombe, is not wise. The management of the prison, mainly under his direction, fell down last year when the governor threw up his hands and asked for help. In like manner the flax experiment fell down, because of lack of proper management. Governor Withycombe mixes politics in his administration entirely too much. His English character is such that he cannot see a wrong until it has become patent to everybody else and his determination to do everything exactly contrary to that of his predecessor, Governor West, has caused him to make several serious mistakes. The people feel that the less responsibility placed upon the governor's shoulders the better. Let him give his attention to the public semi-society functions for which he seems best adapted.

The legislature did manage to pass an appropriation of \$20,000 to establish a state lime plant, to furnish to farmers with which to increase the fertility of their farms, and to employ prison labor in the production. This was a measure much desired by farmers and the appropriation should have been double the amount given. The beneficial effect of lime on certain sour lands is now well known by most farmers and the only preventative to its extensive use has been the prohibitive prices. Give it to them at \$1.50 to \$2 per ton and lime will soon become generally used.

On the other hand the appropriation of \$45,000 to advertise Oregon made before that for the lime plant, makes one feel like withdrawing all credit for meritorious work from the legislature. We all know that its only purpose is to finance the Portland booster bunch and to please the railroads. So far as bringing new people to Oregon, who have means with which to purchase homes is concerned, the money will be an entire waste. What is keeping the people away from Oregon is the high rate of taxation and this \$45,000 only helps maintain this high rate.

The merit of the \$6,000,000 bond bill remains yet to be seen. The chief present merit to the bill is the fact that it is to be submitted to the people on June 4, which gives ample time to thoroughly discuss the same. The \$400,000 new penitentiary bill may be needed, though additions to the present one at one-fourth the cost, would probably serve all purposes.

One fact was demonstrated by the late legislature and that is, one house will serve our purpose better than two as at present. It would practically cut the cost in two and place the entire legislative responsibility on the one body. Now there is a disposition to thrust responsibility on one or the other houses as the case may be. Oftentimes a bill passes one house with the expectation that it will be killed by the other, when it should have been killed in the house where it originated. Anyway, with the veto ax in the hands of the governor and the referendum to be invoked, if necessary, all the checks needed to unworthy legislation seems to be provided. Some \$50,000 legislative cost could be thus saved and, The Tribune believes, better results would be secured. We know it would be the case if professional and constant lobbyists were barred from the state house.

FACTIONS

Probably it is true that every town, large or small, has its factions and, generally, these factions lock horns on nearly every question of public importance. This is particu-

PRESIDENT ASKS CONGRESS TO ACT

Wilson's Advisors Hold That Delay Will
Convince Germany Nation is
Not United

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ority to use "other instrumentalities" is the principal sticking point. Even the republicans and some of the democrats, who hesitate to give him what he asks, say they would be willing to give him authority to arm American ships or act on a definite proposal, but are reluctant to "sign a blank check."

The administration faces this division in its own ranks in its effort to convince the kaiser that the United States is now preparing to enforce respect for its rights on the high seas. Some democrats point to the president's own statement in his address today that he considered he already had implied authority to act and might do so without sanction of congress.

lary true of the small towns like Scio.

Scio has factions on our public school, on the fair, on street improvement and on city affairs and management in general. What one side wants and proposes to carry out, the other side will oppose. If one side wants to build up our school, especially the high school and maintain the school building and grounds in a good state of repair, the expense is opposed by the other side. If one side desires to improve our streets and place them in a condition in keeping with the streets of other towns of like size, the other side opposes or has a different plan of improvement. If one side desires to maintain the Linn county fair in Scio and is willing, if necessary, to dig up a few dollars in order to do so, the other side will say "better let Albany have the fair if she wants it" and refuse to contribute a dollar to keep it here.

So it is all along the line. Some would build Scio up and make it a model home town and a pleasant place in which to live, while others say old conditions are good enough.

Now fellow citizens, these factional differences are all wrong. In all cases the majority should rule and when the majority decides to make a public improvement, it is the duty of all to join in and make the improvement the best success possible. Do not attempt to defeat or block it by all possible dilatory tactics. What we need is to make our town prosperous and a real happy home town in harmony and a determination to get the best out of everything. We have no room for and but little patience with knockers. If you do not like the town and the people, both the town and the people will be vastly the better if you will move elsewhere. If you cannot have your own way about the school, the town, the fair or anything else for that matter, be willing to help make somebody else's way a success. Don't sulk. Sulking will never get you or the town anywhere and above all, if you cannot say something good for your neighbor or your townsman or towns-woman, don't say anything. He or she, whom you dislike, may be better in many respects than yourself, for everyone has something good about him.

Morrison & Lowe UNDERTAKERS

Calls Attended to Promptly
Day or Night

SCIO - - - OREGON

PICTURE SHOW

Saturday and Sunday
March 3 and 4

5 Reel Drama "It Happened in Honolulu"
1 Reel Comedy "Girtie's Awful Fix"
1 Reel Weekly News

Show commences a 8 o'clock sharp
Admission 10 and 15 cents

PEOPLES THEATER, Scio, Ore.

SANITARY MARKET

That Grade of Meats

Home Made Lard, Bacon
and Sausage

We invite Pure Food and Sanitary Inspection
McKNIGHT & DALEY, PROPS.

J. F. WESELY

DEALER IN

Staple and Fancy Groceries
Queensware, Glassware, Etc.
Field and Garden Seeds



Cash Paid for Veal, Hogs, Hides and Cascara Bark
Prices Right

Our Motto: Live and Let Live

J. F. WESELY

SCIO

OREGON

Blossom Time in the Golden State

A friend just back from Southern California says: "The weather was fine, in fact too warm for heavy clothes. Many were bathing at the beaches. Oranges were ripe in the valleys, while the mountains nearby were covered with snow."

With warm sunny weather it will not be long before the blossoms on the trees will be everywhere announcing spring is here

Take a vacation trip now where life is different; where climate surroundings and amusements are out of the ordinary. Spend a different February.

Three Trains Daily

Scenic Shasta Route

will take you there in comfort.
Ask the agent

John M. Scott, General Passenger Agent
Portland, Oregon

SOUTHERN PACIFIC LINES
"California Orange Day March 10"