

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY
T. L. DUGGER, EDITOR AND PROP.

Entered at the postoffice at Scio,
Oregon as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION, IN ADVANCE \$1.50
AT END OF YEAR 1.50
SIX MONTHS .75

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THAT \$6,000,000 BOND ISSUE

The Tribune has ever advocated good roads and good public schools for Oregon. Its editor has used reams of copy paper during the past 25 or more years in the endeavor to promote these most important features of modern civilization. Whether the thoughts he has given have accomplished anything towards causing the people to think of good roads and good schools, is difficult to establish. But such stuff as he has written and published, must have shown that, upon these questions his heart is in the right place.

On June 4 the people of Oregon will adopt or reject the embarking of the state in system of hard surface road building and for a starter along this line, we are invited to loan the state's credit for \$6,000,000.

Now The Tribune admits that if we had our public highways hard-surfaced, it would be very nice and would, in a great measure, solve the problem of marketing the products of our fields and forests at the lowest possible cost. It also admits that the state could easily take care of the proposed \$6,000,000 bond issue without overburdening the taxpayer. But the issue in consideration will simply be a starter. By the time all the main highways have been paved, our bonded indebtedness will have become \$50,000,000 or more. No other conclusion than this seems tenable. If we give one or more sections of the state hard-surfaced roads, the people of other sections would of a right, demand that the roads in their particular localities shall be treated in like manner. Nor could their demands be ignored, for have not the tax payers from all over the state been compelled to bear the expense for the favored sections? The clamor to treat all sections alike would become irresistible and a big bonded debt would be on the state for all time.

Many years ago our state embarked in the college business. The demands of the colleges upon the state treasury were very light at first and the people made no complaint whatever to the very small increase in the tax burden the colleges caused. In fact the Monmouth college was to cost the tax payer practically nothing. That college only asked to be recognized as a state college and that the diplomas of her graduates should be equivalent to a life certificate to teach in our Oregon schools. This desire was granted by the legislature and proved so easy that three other normals were created, making six state colleges for the state to support. What has been the result? At the present time about one-third of the state's tax moneys are required to support these schools. The people became alarmed and dumped all of the state normals overboard. Monmouth finally was reopened at state expense and Ashland and Weston are clamor-

ing to be treated likewise. And they have a right to make such demands, for they are entitled to have their schools supported equally with Monmouth and every other county in the state would have an equal right to have a state supported college. Now we are forced to erect a \$50,000 to \$100,000 stone building for each of these state schools every two years. And if we embark in paving our highways, will we not have the growing demands from all sections of the state as has been the case with the state colleges?

The question is, can the state afford to bond itself for \$50,000,000 or more for the sake of hard surfaced roads? That is what it will come to, for this \$6,000,000 is just a starter.

The present scheme is purely for the benefit of Portland merchants and automobile joyriders. True Portland has magnanimously (?) provided in the measure that no part of the bond issue shall be expended in Multnomah county. But that county knows that the amount of additional business her business men and hotels will get from up the state will richly reimburse them for their magnanimity. So their modest \$6,000,000 starter which creates the impression that the auto license tax will take care of the debt, is not unlike the beginning of our state colleges, made easy with which to fool the taxpayer. It is just the entering wedge for subsequent and larger bond issues. Can the state afford to thus burden herself which in the end will mean bankruptcy to many farmers and business men? Would it not be a far better plan to work along as we have been doing and gradually build up our road system to an eventuality of good, fair and servicable roads? We can do this and save our farms at their present values.

As stated heretofore in this article paved roads would be nice, convenient and of economic value. That is to say they would be economic value if they were not to parallel railway lines. If they were to be located where railways are too far away for practical transportation.

If the people, on June 4, decide in favor of hard surface roads then, of course, bonds are the only course for by the ordinary means of taxation, not enough of money can be had at any one time to get anywhere with. In which case the people may expect a perpetual bonded indebtedness of not less than \$50,000,000. The people should consider this step seriously. Heretofore, nevertheless our taxes are very high, Oregon has had no bonded indebtedness. Now we are invited to bond ourselves for the benefit, not of the people in general, but for those who live in the proposed favored sections. Can we afford to and dare to do it?

PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON

Monday President Wilson begun his second term as the director of the destinies of the American people. He is the first democratic president to become his own successor since the days of Andrew Jackson.

Of course about all democrats and a very large percentage of republicans regard his first four years as being fairly successful. It would be untrue to say he has not made some mistakes during his first term, for he has. But most fortunately he is sufficiently honest to correct his mistakes when he became convinced they were such. No president since Lincoln has had the difficult problems to solve that Mr. Wilson has had. Indeed if we except the state of civil war which then existed Mr. Wilson has had a more difficult position to fill than confronted Mr. Lincoln. With the exception of the diplomatic tangle

with England right at the beginning of the Civil war, Mr. Lincoln was dealing with American citizens and few men have understood American character better than did our martyred president. While the southern people were the victims of wiley politicians and were deceived and misled, they were honorable gentlemen and scorned to do a downright mean treachery.

President Wilson has had a far more treacherous people to deal with. Mexico is a nation almost without honor, especially when dealing with the much hated but feared "Gringo." With Germany there was treachery and deception almost in unlimited quantities. We suddenly awoke to the fact that the United States was honey combed with German spies. The broad liberty which we allow our own citizens to enjoy, which has been extended to visitors from foreign lands, made it easy for the spy system to be employed. Even in the German diplomatic corps gentlemen, whom we deemed to have a high sense of social and national honor, have not hesitated to resort to intrigue and deception in order to further their designs. And it is now known that much of the mixup down in Mexico and hatred for the United States is due almost entirely to German influence.

Germany seems to think it no dishonor to resort to such means. In fact one is almost forced to conclude that German diplomacy will resort to almost any means to further the interests of the fatherland. So, President Wilson has found German diplomacy a hard nut to crack. Hard, because he had to revise his estimate of German character before he could cope with German methods.

Now, with citizens of the south during the Civil war, a pledge or parole was regarded as the pledge of honorable gentlemen and which was rarely violated. Nor did the south wage war on women and children nor non-combatants. This cannot be said of neither Mexico nor Germany. Hence, Mr. Wilson has had to revise his opinion of both Mexico and German characters.

President Wilson has been able so far to maintain a reasonable peace with both Mexico and Germany, though peace with Germany is now sustained by a very slender cord and a call to the colors is expected at almost any hour.

In domestic affairs President Wilson and congress have accomplished more real reform legislation, which makes the condition of the American people better, in a brief four years, than for the previous 50 years.

In another year, let us hope that war on either side of the ocean will have ceased and that President Wilson can have at least three years which he can devote to the ways of peace and in the development of American progress. He commences his second term enjoying the confidence of the American people almost regardless of party clique or klan. With the experience of the past four years, he should have, by far, a happier and less troubled road to travel and he should be able to give the American people the greatest prosperity they have ever enjoyed. So Mr. President, we people in far off Oregon wish you abundant success as the executive of one of, if not the leading nation of the world. It is due to you and to the American people.

OREGON IS HUMILIATED

In the action of Senator Harry Lane and eleven other senators in securing the defeat of the measure authorizing President Wilson to take measures to protect our citizens, sailors and commerce, when lawfully traveling on the high seas, Oregon is humiliated. We are ashamed

to acknowledge that we have a senator, who is a democrat, but elected by both democrats and republicans, who has refused to authorize a democratic president to protect American lives and American property when on a lawful errand upon the great highway of the world. We are ashamed to know that we have a high state official who manifests a disloyal spirit and a lack of confidence in our chief executive whose sworn duty is to do what he asked congress to authorize him to do. We are humiliated to know that our American senate has a fool rule that will permit a small minority to defeat the will of the great majority of senators and the vast majority of the American people.

The American people supposed that all of our public officials from president down to constable, are their servants to do the lawful will of their master, the people. Here we have a dozen senators who as-

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Scio Meat Market

HOLECHEK BROS., Props

Fresh Meats of All Kinds

Reasonable Prices

Main Street

Scio, Ore.

Mortgage Loans Negotiated

Notary Public

N. M. Newport

Attorney at Law

(CITY ATTORNEY)

LEBANON

OREGON

DR. A. G. PRILL
Physician and Surgeon

Calls Attended
Day or Night

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ORE.

SANITARY MARKET

That Grade of Meats

Home Made Lard, Bacon
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We invite Pure Food and Sanitary Inspection

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J. F. WESELY

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Staple and Fancy Groceries
Queensware, Glassware, Etc.
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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"