

## THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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

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### THE GOSPEL OF HATE

Christian nations, almost without exception, since our Savior came into the world to teach the principles of the Golden Rule, have endeavored to instil into their peoples a spirit of neighborly charity and comity for their neighbor nations. While systems of government have differed materially in their concepts, they have usually endeavored to cultivate a tolerant spirit in treatment of each other.

Without attempting to discuss whether our neighbors were justified in going to war, we have just cause against Germany for departing from the heretofore established custom of comity and respect for the rights of her neighbor nations.

For the first time we behold a nation, that is to say, her rulers, engaged in the endeavor to inspire a spirit of hatred towards, not only a nation with which she is at war, but towards a nation with which she was at peace. The only purpose of such action is to cause her soldiers to become more ferocious in their activities towards the hated nations. Strange to say this hatred seems to be against English speaking peoples only and must be because these same English speaking peoples are the most prosperous and aggressive in a business way, nations of the world. And the greater the liberty which these nations extend to their citizens, the greater the inspiration seems to be.

No, there is no cause why Germany should cultivate a hatred for America or for the American people. While it is true that very many Germans have left the Fatherland and have elected to become citizens of the United States, they did so of their own free wills and have been treated with the same absolute equality with which our native born or adopted citizens of other nations are treated. They enjoy equal protection of our laws and are expected to assume the same responsibility of citizenship which is required of other citizens. They enjoy the same freedom of speech, of civic and political honors as others, etc., and be it said to their honor, these German-Americans, as a rule, are most excellent citizens. They are industrious, law abiding and good neighbors and the vast majority of them are true patriots and are willing to defend the flag of their adoption. They are willing to live up to the requirements of the oath they subscribed to when they were granted citizenship papers. They are honorable descendants of the old Germanic fathers of the days before Bismarck began to teach a new Germanism.

Now the present German government is endeavoring to teach her citizens to hate America and her government. Not only does she attempt to inspire this gospel of hate at home, but reaches out and endeavors to inspire this hatred among German speaking American

citizens. She has gone further. She has covered America with her spies, attempts to destroy American property and lives and this, too, when her ambassador was living quietly and pretending to employ none but friendly acts, at our national seat of government. Such acts are the blackest of treachery and merit the severest punishment.

This greatest of all wars is an attack upon modern civilization. It is a war between democracy and autocracy. It is the severest setback to Christianity since Our Savior walked and talked with men on earth. And why? Just to satisfy the autocratic spirit of the German emperor. The German people are not to blame for this world holocaust. They are simply the pawns to move and be moved by the overbearing ambition of their war lord. The greatest and worst enemy today, of the German people, is the kaiser. He is sacrificing his people by the million and has placed a burden upon the shoulders of German labor which children yet unborn will not see lifted. He has lost all of Germany's colonial possessions and has forfeited the good will and respect of the civilized world.

Germany cannot nor must not win. Modern civilization cannot afford to have her win. The German people cannot afford it and the only encouraging outlook of the war is the downfall of the Hohenzollern dynasty. Under a republican form of government, Germany would become one of the leading and most prosperous nations of the world. But under her present rulers, she is bound to defeat.

America does not want the German nation destroyed. We do not wish to engage in this unholy war. But the attack on modern civilization is forcing us into the vortex. The kaiser has shown that he wishes to become a world dictator and seemingly, regardless of the cost to the world, including his own people. Posing as a Christian monarch, he is proving an enemy to Christianity and civilization.

The German people are to be pitied and deserve the sympathy of the other nations. It is most unfortunate that any form of government in these modern days can so hoodwink her people and hold them in such blind subjection that such a bloody causeless war is possible. It should result in the downfall of every automatic government on earth.

Be it said to their honor, the vast majority of German speaking citizens are true to the flag of their adoption and many of their young men are enlisting in its defense. Most if not all of them came to America to escape intolerable rulers and laws and to better their conditions financially. To inspire these men with a hatred for the laws and the people among whom they live—their neighbors, is an act of the blackest treachery. Yet we cannot blame our adopted fellow citizens for retaining an affection for the land which gave them birth. Many of their relatives are still there and they probably are in constant touch, by letter, with the Fatherland. But their allegiance is due to the land of their adoption, to their families and homes. They may have a family affection for the land of their birth, but their love should be for the land which protects their homes and liberties.

### MR. BUTLER'S CIRCULAR LETTER

On the first page of this paper will be found a copy of a circular letter which Commissioner Butler is sending out over the county to people with whom he, no doubt, hopes it will do the most good. The letter is printed in type writer type

and, no doubt, several hundred copies were printed. They were enclosed in stamped envelopes having Mr. Butler's official return card printed in the corner.

The Tribune believes Commissioner Butler has made a mistake in sending out this letter. He is a paid county official and, while holding such position, it is rather unethical for him to manifest a partisan spirit for a measure to which he has reason to believe a large portion and, perhaps a majority of Linn county people are opposed. At least he has not the right to do so at county expense.

Mr. Butler states a large portion of the road from Jefferson to Harrisburg is now ready to receive a hard surface dressing. This statement is surely misleading. It is doubtful if there is a single mile of county road thus ready and it will take at least from \$1000 to \$3000 per mile to make it ready. Then the distance between the towns mentioned will be found near 40 miles instead of 35. If it takes on an average of \$2500 per mile to place the road ready for paving, the cost will be \$100,000. Where will you get this money, Mr. Butler? You cannot increase the levy to supply it, nor have you arranged for it in the annual county budget. The only recourse will be to issue county bonds.

Again, Mr. Butler states a paving company offers to lay the pavement for 30 cents per yard. Now you know, Mr. Butler, no paving company can furnish material and lay pavement at this price. 30 cents will not pay for hauling the crushed rock, say nothing about the cement and labor. Instead of the cost of this strip of Pacific highway being but \$45,240 as you stated, Mr. Butler, you will find the cost will be nearer \$250,000 and it will be cheap at that. If to this sum you will add the cost of preparing the road bed, drainage, etc., \$500,000 would be nearer the correct figure.

We agree with you, Mr. Butler that by our present method of road building, we get but about two-bits worth of road for the dollar expended. But we say, why do you, as county commissioner, allow these conditions to maintain? Why do you not require the supervisors you appoint to make good? Why do you not require them to deliver the goods and build a dollar's worth of road for each dollar expended?

We admit our present system is defective. But will this state commission be more effective, especially when one of its members is said to be quite largely interested in a paving company? We know that with our present system, there is grafting by the \$100; but can we help matters by opening the door to grafting by the \$1000?

As a matter of fact, when the Columbia highway is completed, not more than \$2,000,000 of the \$6,000,000 will be left and this balance will be gone long before the pavers reach Linn county. So we do not need to agitate ourselves about the matter now. Nor will a completed Columbia highway be worth a nickel to the people of Linn county in a financial way.

The Tribune will agree with you, Mr. Butler, that paved roads are nice and very desirable. But everybody knows they cannot be builded for a song. We also know that to get paved roads, bonding is absolutely necessary. Further, we know that a paved road system throughout the state will cost many times \$6,000,000 to build. Can we at the present time, population and wealth considered, afford it?

Commissioner Butler may not like the publicity we are giving his letter but, as the letter is a matter of public importance and as we can save the county some stamped

envelopes, we publish it because it is a matter which all the public should know. It is a matter which should not be kept under the hat. Let us fight in the open and, if possible, get at the silent purpose of these fellows who, by eleventh hour tactics, have succeeded in forcing the state to call a special election at great cost and may succeed in involving the state's credit in a sum yet unknown.

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