

## THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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T. L. DUGGER, EDITOR AND PROP.

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### GERMAN KULTUR

The Eugene Register, of last week, published an article explanatory of the meaning of the German word "kultur." The article holds out the idea that the German people have been educated to think that the Germanic peoples are superior to the other peoples of the earth in point of scientific attainment and in general civilization, and it is their duty to disseminate this so called "kultur" in the other nations of the earth, even to the extent of using force to do so. They assume that they should, because of their fancied superiority in some of the fields of science, become the rulers and masters of all other peoples and the present war was inaugurated to enforce or establish this falsely assumed superiority. The opinion sent forth by the Register seems to have good grounds. Let us see.

One of Germany's stock in trade assertions is: "The war was forced upon us and we are simply defending the Fatherland." The developments and history of the war does not warrant this assertion. Indeed, the very opposite seems to be true. An Austrian prince went over into the neighboring state of Serbia and was assassinated by a fanatic. Austria, within two or three days, demanded apology and surrender of the assassin. Within a few days thereafter, the Austrian government issued an ultimatum to Serbia, followed closely with a declaration of war on Serbia. Russia then came into action by declaring war on Austria-Hungary. Germany then got busy and declared war on Russia and at once set her armies in motion.

Strange to say these German armies, instead of marching eastward to meet the country upon which she had declared war, took up a westward line of march, with France and her capitol, Paris, as their goal of attainment. Belgium imposed a block to the march on Paris and her country was laid waste and devastated as a consequence. But the Belgium troops held up the German advance long enough for France to mobilize her armies. This is a synopsis of Germany's activities at the beginning of the war. Does these facts indicate that Germany was forced into the war? Does it indicate that the German empire was in danger of invasion by the French? On the contrary, does it not indicate that Germany was the aggressor all along the line?

Austria-Hungary and Serbia were in a fair way to settle their difficulties and would have done so if Germany had not imposed a veto thereto. Again, history does not show that Germany was forced into war, but that the contrary is true.

Is Germany entitled to claim superiority in the things which go to make up what constitutes the

advance in civilization? History does not show that such is the case. The steam railroad, steam ship, telegraph, wireless telegraphy, airship, submarine boats and the telephone are productions which have been leading factors in the advance of civilization and not one of which is due to German inventive genius. Wireless telegraphy was invented by an Italian and the steam engine and railroad was first thought out by an Englishman. All the rest of the above mentioned inventions are due to American genius. True, Germany has made great strides in discoveries in the field of chemistry and in the development of surgery. The German, as a rule, is not a discoverer but a developer. Give him an invention in its crudest form and he will develop it into practicality. The air plane and submarine are the two things with which she hopes to win the war. Both are American inventions, but Germany has developed them into a great efficiency. Her much heralded Zepelin, a development of the balloon as an added war device has proven a failure.

The German people have been taught to believe, for the past four or five decades that they are the superior people and that they should be dictators to the rest of the world, that they should be the rulers and the other peoples of the world slaves. This ideom the German people term "kultur." Three years ago, they started in to force Belgium, France and England to adopt German kultur as a ruling feature of their respective governments. The Germans have loaded their big guns and torpedo tubes with kultur and have dropped lumps of kultur, on defenseless towns, from their flying ships.

Someway kultur does not seem to be such an effective weapon of war as they expected. The French and English soldiers do not seem to have much respect for it, but some Russian regiments seem to be greatly affected by it and refuse to fire on the German kultur teachers.

The American people, while they have great admiration for the achievements in chemistry and other sciences and for the great efficiency of German surgeons, musicians, etc., have but small respect for the so-called kultur. Here in America we have a different name for the disease. We call it swellheadedness. Sometimes people recover from it and the German people are due to recover sometime in the future.

Americans are now in the war over there and in a few weeks will be on the firing line. Their guns, cannons, and airships, will not be loaded with "kultur." Oh, no. The material which makes up their bullets, will be altogether different. It is the central thought of our Declaration of Independence and means Liberty to all mankind, including the German people as well. Germany would enslave the world and make the German people dominant over all other nations, while America would make every nation free and allow the people, not kings or despots, to rule themselves. This is the difference between the motives which now inspire the American and German peoples.

### DRAFT EXEMPTIONS

While The Tribune believes the selective draft is the fairest plan for raising an army, it believes that some of the causes of exemption from service is hardly a fair deal.

Of course a dependent family or parents is a proper cause of exemption. During the Civil war, many families were left in absolute destitute circumstances and became subjects to the bounty of neighbors. President Wilson desired to avoid this condition and properly makes

dependency a just cause of exemption.

Another most sensible cause of exemption is the farmer whose personal supervision of the farm seems necessary to produce the food products which his farm should grow. Food is as necessary for the efficiency of an army as are bullets. Hunger is a generally conceded weapon of offense against an enemy and the army which runs short of food will soon capitulate. Hence the food producer is just as necessary in the successful prosecution of a war as the soldier in the ranks.

But there is a class of people which are exempt which The Tribune thinks is unjust and unfair to the rest of the people. We allude to ministers and theological students. These people are protected by our laws, just the same as the farmer's boy who will soon be called to the colors, or the wage earner in the city. They are men just the same as others and subject to all the faults and frailties of mankind. It is their duty to help protect the government which protects them, just the same as the farmer, merchant or mechanic and most of them, especially single men, can go soldiering at as small sacrifice as anybody.

Another class of men who are exempted from service, is the alien. He enjoys the protection and privileges of our laws just the same as our native born citizens. Of course the German or Austrian alien should be exempt because, as a soldier he might prove a harm instead of a benefit. But all aliens of neutral countries or nations allied with us in the war, should be made to do their bit, either in ranks of our armies or in those of their native land. Their fealty and duty is due either to the country in which they reside or to that from which they came.

Of course no man in private life will join the army or navy because of the love of the service, else he would have made soldiering a profession as soon as he reached the proper age. They go because they believe it a patriotic duty to do so. But some are slackers and will not join the colors unless made to do so. These same chaps when called on for service will give all manner of excuses to their respective examining boards for not going. Other men, who really ought to be exempt, will be too proud to ask exemption or to furnish the necessary affidavits, etc.

No man; however, who has allied himself with a church whose tenets forbid war, should be given privileges over other men. They enjoy the protection and safety which our flag gives and they should be willing to defend it against whomsoever would desecrate it.

The burial of the late Will C. Miller, of Amity, occurred last Sunday, which was the 73rd birthday of his father, R. B. Miller, who was present at the grave side.

### Local Market Report

|                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Wheat per bushel          | \$ 2.00 |
| Oats " "                  | .85     |
| Bran per ton              | 40.00   |
| Wheat chop per ton        |         |
| Oat chop " "              | 50.00   |
| Barley Chop " "           | 48.00   |
| Flour per sack            | 3.00    |
| Eggs per dozen            | .33     |
| Butter fat per lb         | .42     |
| Chickens, hens per lb     | .18     |
| " spring " "              | .18     |
| " roosters " "            | .09     |
| Turkeys " "               | .17     |
| Geese " "                 | .16     |
| Ducks " "                 | .18     |
| Beef " "                  | .08     |
| Veal " "                  | .12     |
| Hogs, live per hundred lb | 14.75   |
| Hogs, dressed " "         | .17     |
| Mutton " "                | 11.00   |

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