

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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

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SUBSCRIPTION, IN ADVANCE \$1.50
AT END OF YEAR 1.75
SIX MONTHS .75

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PEOPLE WANT RETURNS FOR TAX MONEYS

People of Oregon and especially of Linn county, do not object to paying taxes, if they think they get anything like an adequate return therefor. But they do object to being taxed to finance visionary projects or to maintain dozens of useless state commissions whose officials do but little other than draw their salaries. They object to the erection of palatial state buildings in which to house our state wards while they, themselves, must be content to live in houses of the most modest construction. They object to being taxed to finance the construction of fancy roads and bridges, beneficial almost exclusively for joy riders, etc.

As an evidence of the fact that people here in Linn county are willing to tax themselves when they know that they get adequate returns therefor, we have but to look at the bill boards at the county court house at Albany, and there see the twenty to thirty notices for road elections to levy special taxes in their respective road districts with the levy to be fixed at from two to ten mills. The people are willing to vote these special taxes, because the money is to be spent in their own road districts and on roads which they use almost every day in the year. They can see that they get direct benefit for the tax money. At the same time, these same road districts voted, overwhelmingly, against the issue of state bonds with which to build paved roads, because they did not think they would get 25 cents worth of value from the one dollar of bonds issued, while they know they will get a full measure of value from these special taxes.

The same is true of nearly every school district in the county. The district is willing to vote special taxes with which to build new or improve old school houses and to support its school or schools, because each individual taxpayer realizes that he is getting direct benefit.

So the negative vote for road bonds and for the building of a new penitentiary, last year, was not because the people were niggardly, nor that they were unwilling to provide more modern quarters for the states unwilling guests. The people believed that they, the people of Linn county, would get little if any benefit from the sale of road bonds and that the state's unwilling guests need not enjoy (?) the hospitality of the present state penitentiary, if they would simply obey the law and do right.

The rejection of the proposition to double the pay of our legislators, was another evidence that the people were unwilling to be taxed for a purpose which does not give them a fair return for the cost. As a matter of fact, the people of the valley have become suspicious of their legislature. They are beginning to

look upon that body as an enemy, rather than a friend. They are beginning to think it is a Portland legislature rather than a state body, because whatever Portland wants, as a rule, goes through. Our lawmakers might as well meet in Portland as at the state capitol.

Some way the laws which Portland wants enacted, do not suit the cow counties. The Portland delegation when combined with those of Marion, Lane, Benton and Polk counties, all of which want big appropriations, dominate the legislature. Whatever the Portland delegation says, as a rule, becomes the law. Linn county has and can have but little influence. All Linn or any other county not mentioned above can do, is to help pay the bills. So Portland may expect that whenever the cow counties have the chance, they will register their protest against the Portland legislative machine. Therefore they refused to pay the legislator \$6 per day, for they think he is very dear at the present constitutional pay of \$3 per diem.

So the people of Linn county should not be classed as opposers of good roads, because they voted against the paving bonds, nor as being inhumanitarians because they help defeat the building of a new penitentiary, nor for opposing the paying of legislators a fair salary, because they refused to increase the pay of the bunch of grafters, misnamed the Oregon legislature, which meets biennially at Salem. They are willing to pay the price providing they get the goods, but renege after being buncoed too often.

In these days, when the people are called upon to finance the great war in which we are engaged, and when our young men are being sent to the battle front to fight the war for humanity, it is quite time for the wastage of money in maintaining an army of useless public employes, and the appropriation of public money for doubtful public purposes, to cease. We now have subscribed liberally for two war loans and probably will have to subscribe for many more. We have donated liberally for the Red Cross and other extraordinary expenses due to the war and we are, just now, beginning to pay war taxes upon nearly every thing we eat or wear. Yet the people are willing to vote extra taxes for meritorious purposes, when adequate returns are assured, but not a cent for purposes which vanish in the air.

ITALY'S COLAPSE

As a war power Russia has broken down and it now seems probable that Italy will no longer be a power to be reckoned as of very great importance by the Teutonic empire. It makes but little difference what is the cause of these breakdowns. To simply say they are due to German intrigue, does not destroy the fact that both nations are as broken reeds, when considering future operations against the central powers. They are a burden rather than a help to France, England and the United States, the nations which must fight the war to a finish.

Italy may be able to regenerate or revivify her army, but she will have to have a new commander, if the morale of the troops is restored. There is something wrong with the commander of a huge army, who permits the enemy to steal upon him and inflict a surprise attack. His air service or outposts certainly were asleep on the job.

The result of Italy's crushing defeat will reinspire the Austrians, who were so greatly discouraged that they were almost ready to sue for a separate peace. Now, with revived courage and the capture of a large area of territory, they are

likely to deliver a more stubborn battle.

If both Italy and Russia become non-reliable factors and release a large part of the enemy armies from their immediate fronts to reinforce the fronts against the French and English, a prolongation of the war can only result.

But, in any event, Germany must be defeated. No other conclusion is tenable. A German domination of the world, with power to levy tribute from all nations, is unthinkable. It would mean the collapse of modern civilization and, at least, a partial return to the ways of barbarism.

However, the United States is not into the war to any great extent as yet and, as this country is yet to fail to win a war in which she has engaged, our own people and those of England, France and other entente nations, have unbounded faith in the American soldier. The contest may be longer because of the collapse of Italy and Russia, but we shall win in the end. The fighting power of the United States has scarcely been touched yet. With our resources to arm and equip five or six times our present army and with the men to fill the ranks, and the further fact that the German U-boat campaign is becoming less effective, we have no reason to fear what the final result will be. The war may be very costly to us in life and treasure, but we must pay the price and win. We are not only fighting the battle for America, but for modern civilization. It is the death struggle of autocracy and democracy must win.

If the report is true that 50 per cent of the German U-boats have been sunken, in which the American destroyer has been a large factor, we have reason to feel encouraged. The further report that Germany has to force her sailors to man her U-boats, gives color to the statement. Also, the great reduction in the number of merchant ships destroyed by these sea sharks, is evidence that American troops and supplies can be transported over to France with much less danger of loss.

About all the road work contemplated in North and South Scio precincts, except the road to West Scio which is expected to be graveled during the winter. There has been more good work done on Scio streets than ever before in one season. In fact Scio is now out of the mud except on Mill street, where old conditions yet prevail.

Ex-Governor Oswald West turned over to Sheriff Bodine the sum of \$43,124.17, Saturday, delinquent tax money on Oregon & California grant lands. The money was paid by the government. There are several thousand dollars yet to come this being but a part of the taxes.

NOTICE OF DISTRICT ROAD MEETING

Pursuant to a petition signed by a legal number of resident freeholders, taxpayers and legal voters of Road District No. 33 of Linn County, Oregon, Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the legal voters of Road District No. 33 of Linn County, Oregon, will be held at the hour of one o'clock p. m., on the 24th day of November, 1917, at the Munkers School House, in said Road District, to determine whether or not said Road District shall vote a special tax of 5 mills upon all taxable property within said Road District for the improvement of the roads therein as follows, to-wit, grading, graveling, draining and repairing said roads.

By order of the County Court of Linn County, Oregon.

Dated this 22nd day of October, 1917.
Attest:
R. M. Russell County Clerk
D. R. McKnight County Judge
J. D. Irvine, County Commissioner
Posted this 22nd day of October, 1917
by W. M. Phillips, appointed by the Court.

Mortgage Loans Negotiated Notary Public
N. M. Newport
Attorney at Law
CITY ATTORNEY

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Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned by order of the County Court of Linn County, Oregon, has been appointed and duly qualified and acting executor of the estate of Lydia Large, late of said County and State.

All persons having claims against the estate of said deceased are required to present the same with the proper vouchers within six (6) months from the date of this notice to the undersigned executor at his residence in Scio Linn County, Oregon.

Dated and first published this 11th day of October, 1917.

Thomas J. Large
Executor.

Willard L. Marks,
Atty. for Executor

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SCIO

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Many changes of Climate
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