

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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

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ENORMOUS COST OF WAR.

Will European countries ever be able to pay the enormous war debt they are now amassing? This should be a serious problem to them as it should be to people on this side of the ocean.

When this great war began each of the leading European nations now engaged in the war game had a per capita national debt of from \$90 to \$150. Just what this per capita will be increased to before peace is finally declared cannot now be foretold. And while they are acquiring this vast debt they are daily destroying their wealth producers by thousands.

Any of these countries will owe \$500 for every man, woman and child of their inhabitants. This would mean that even a small family of five persons must earn in addition to their living expenses the interest on this sum, else their government would be bankrupt, with repudiation of the debt as the alternative.

The United States in point of wealth and wealth producing power is far better situated than any of these European countries. Yet we, in our one year of war, have spent more than three times the cost of the four years of the Civil war and we are yet paying interest on the Civil war debt. When we entered the war our per capita debt was but something like \$10. What it will be when the war is over no one can now foretell.

But whatever the cost, if it is the last man and the last dollar, the war must be won for the democratic peoples of the world. No other result is thinkable. And when we analyze the cause of this awful destruction of life and wealth and find it is solely due to the greed, avarice and lust for power of just a few self-important German war lords headed by the Kaiser, the self-appointed senior member of "Me und Gott," we are thankful that the hottest corner of hell is available for them.

But looking at the awful cost of the war from the viewpoint of wealth as represented by the gold in the world, the gold wealth is not being destroyed other than that which has been and is being sunk in the oceans. It is simply changing hands and will be in the world when the war is over. It is the wealth as represented by the fruits of the labor of men which is being destroyed. All of this property destroyed must be restored by the labor of men and women before the debt is paid, and that means many, many years of toil by the workers.

The thought almost paralyzes one's mentality to attempt to comprehend it and all so useless and unnecessary.

Prussia and Austria ought to pay an enormous penalty for the great harm they have done the world. As

nations they should be compelled to live within themselves and not be allowed to mix and mingle with other nations. Their people should not be allowed to migrate to other countries. But the pro-German of this and other countries should be sent back to the land to which they prefer to be loyal. It should be no hardship to send them back to the land they love.

CONSOLIDATE COMMISSIONS.

At the last session of the legislature a committee was named to devise a scheme by which the very undesirable numerous state commissions might be reduced in number, with the consequent reduction of the heavy expense which they involve. The committee, we are informed, will report a measure which will materially reduce the number of commissions and also a different method of handling the business now in the hands of the forty or more state commissions.

The time is most opportune to make the change by which numerous commissioners and clerks, who have been drawing down fat salaries from the state treasury, will be retired to private callings; because there are so many positions in private business undertakings now open at as good or better salaries, that these state pay suckers will make less effort to stay on the state's payroll than they would if private situations were scarce. Their only objection will be that in private employment they will be required to earn their salaries, a requirement not rigidly enforced by the state.

If this matter should be reconstructed in a way which will be at all satisfactory to the public, it is up to the people to elect as legislators the very best men available as lawmakers at the fall elections. We want legislators who will only consider the interests of the state from an economical and efficient viewpoint and not to create positions for the benefit of individuals.

In these war times, when we are paying war prices for things we eat and wear, and we are expected to buy liberty bonds whenever the Government requires, give to the Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and other funds, our state and county governments should bear as lightly as possible on the taxpayer. Therefore the necessity of having level-headed, practical men who desire to legislate in the interests of taxpayers, to enact the law.

But this is but one feature of our state government which needs fixing. Legislatures of the past have seemed to be controlled by the idea that the taxpayer had no rights which they as the law making power was in duty bound to respect, and that there was no limit to the resources of the state treasury.

Let us hope that the reconstruction of the state commissions will be but the beginning of an economical reconstruction of the entire state government.

ROAD IMPROVEMENT

As noticed on the first page of this paper Commissioner Irvine was improving the road from the Green bridge to Scio last week. The outfit in use does the work rapidly and well. But one feature is lacking to make the outfit a complete success and that is a steam roller to follow up and pack the newly surfaced roadway.

On all gravel roadways there are more or less stones as large as one's fist left on the surface after the road has been treated. A heavy roller would settle these stones while the surface is still soft and they would not become a nuisance and injury to the road as if the packing is left for vehicles to do.

Roads can be put in good condition if the proper machinery is furnished and the same is operated by experienced hands. It can be done much more cheaply and better by the plan now being employed than by the old method of grader drawn by team.

The experienced boss will accomplish twice as much as the inexperienced with the same travel. It has taken our county court a long time to reach its present conclusions and plans, and by the addition of the heavy steam roller the outfit will get the very best results from the crush rock, gravel and dirt road. If to this should be added the oil sprinkler, there would be but small demand for paved roads.

AIRCRAFT AFTER THE WAR.

Backward as is execution of the aircraft program for the war, progress is being made which points to immense use of air transportation for all purposes in the near future. Production capacity is now monopolized by war, but the improvements made for military purposes will serve for the uses of peace. Some of these are described in the Curtiss Flyleaf.

Huge planes now made for fighting and bombing may be adapted for carrying passengers and express matter. Long distance flights are made without stops, the record being held by Captain Laureati, of the Italian army, with one of 920 miles from Turin to Naples and back, the previous record being held by Sub-Lieutenant Merchal of the French army, for a flight of 812 miles from Nancy to Chelm, Poland.

Italy also holds the record for altitude with Lieutenant Brachpapa's climb of 23,048 feet. The American record of 20,250 feet was made by Caleb Bragg last September.

Speed in distance and climbing is constantly gained, and looping-the-loop, to attempt which was considered certain death a few years ago, has become such a commonplace that only the number of loops in a series is deemed worth mention. Ed Stinson made 74 loops and landed safely on one day last August.

The United States Government has begun to apply the latest improvements to every day use by appropriating money for mail-carrying by airplane, and has set aside \$100,000 for map-making, location and establishment of landing fields, for laying out mail routes and for aerial and land surveying.

Glenn H. Curtiss has started a campaign to interest municipalities in providing landing fields, which may become as important in putting cities on the commercial map as railroad terminals formerly were. Spokane is to the front, having provided a landing field in its new city plan, and a score of other cities are expected to do likewise in the spring.

Parts and construction have been standardized so completely in this country that when quantity production gets in full swing America will take the lead, which it should have by virtue of the fact that the airplane is an American invention. Patents have been pooled for the period of the war and Mr. Curtiss holds out hope that this agreement will continue afterward, greatly promoting American supremacy.—Oregonian.

What an abominable and unpatriotic expenditure of state money is forcing the sale of state good roads bonds at a discount when the commission knows it will have to pay an extra fancy price for labor to build the highways. If the state must sell its bonds now and at a sacrifice, for goodness sake invest the money in war bonds to help lick the Kaiser. When the war is over and our boys are at home again they will need the work of building the roads. Any-

way there are no men to spare from the farms, shipyards, sawmills and logging woods to build paved roads for joy riders. Our Farmer Union friends should get busy with that initiatory measure to recall \$3,000,000 of the bonds authorized before Old Man Benson gets his fingers on the cash.

Our fellow-townsmen D. C. Thoms has filed his intention to become one of Linn county's lawmakers, providing he is successful at the polls. Mr. Thoms came to Scio something over one year ago, but was a citizen of our neighboring town, Jefferson, for several years. He has proven his usefulness as a legislator by two terms as a member from Marion, and The Tribune does not hesitate to say he will make good as a member from Linn. He is a practical man, broad in his ideas and the taxpayers' interests are safe in his hands. Moreover, his location, being the only candidate from the eastern half of the county, should win him the nomination and election.

It is the duty of everyone who by close economy can spare the money, to buy a Liberty Bond. If we are not willing to help protect the Government in this small way we are unworthy to wield the right of citizenship. Remember, you are not asked to give a penny but simply to make a small loan at a good rate of interest. Add to the interest the Government pays, your rate of taxation and you get at the rate your bond or bonds will earn for you, for the bonds are not taxed.

Mr. Eastburn, a prominent member of the Albany Commercial Club, has shied his hat in the ring as a candidate for county judge. It will be remembered that this same club, of which Mr. Eastburn is and has been an active and influential member, has tried time and again to raid the county treasury by consent of the court, if they could by hook or crook, but the court held firm. Nominate and elect Mr. Eastburn and your taxes will soar several notches very quickly. Judge McKnight could not have easier opposition, for the people know this booster bunch well.

The one reason why the English lost so many field guns when the Huns were driving them back was the suffocation of the horses by the Hun gas shells. The artillerymen had masks to protect themselves but none to protect the poor horses. Without horses to withdraw the guns the only alternative was to leave them for capture. Motors to move the guns instead of horses might supply the need.

In Civil war days the universal prescription for heavy colds, which lead to pneumonia, was whiskey and quinine. Few deaths resulted from pneumonia. Presumably this old-fashioned remedy is not now used. Two-thirds of the deaths among our Army boys is due to pneumonia.

Strange how many men think they should be selected to fill Governor Withycombe's shoes—men to whom the salary paid the Governor is no object. They evidently feel that each can do the job a little better than the other fellow, else they have some special object to serve.

Both Albany dailies are very light editorially, not for the quality of the matter written but for the absence of it. Get busy brothers, else hire a hand.

Portland barbers say 25 cents for a shave now. A lot of us will sharpen up our old razors if the custom is introduced here.

How did you like The Tribune last week? Give us the patronage to justify and we will give you a like paper every week.

The man who is able to buy a Liberty Bond and refuses to do so places himself in a position of doubtful loyalty. If his neighbors question his loyalty to the Government he has but himself to blame.

School teachers will hereafter be required to subscribe to the oath of allegiance to the United States before their teaching contracts are made valid.

The Scio Tribune, \$1.50 per year

FARMERS' Produce & Cream Depot

THOMAS LARGE, Proprietor

SCIO OREGON

As I have done business with the people of Scio and vicinity for several years, you know me in a business way. I will now be glad to do business in the future along the same lines. Come in and get my prices. I handle cream for the Hazelwood Co.

THOMAS LARGE, SCIO, OREGON

OUR GROCERY DEPARTMENT

Is complete and our stock fresh and clean.

We carry a full line of Tea, Coffee, Spices, Canned Goods, and in fact, everything needed for the table.

HIBLER & GILL CO.

