

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY
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Entered at the postoffice at Scio, Oregon as second class matter.

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

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UNWISE CRITICISM.

Colonel Roosevelt's national loyalty may not be questioned. Nor may his patriotic ardor be called lacking. But his continued snarling at and criticism of President Wilson and the members of his cabinet is certainly a very poor way of manifesting his loyalty.

Mr. Roosevelt certainly appreciates that in these strenuous war times, when the government is bending every energy to raise and equip large armies it should have a harmonious support by the people. It has fallen to the lot of President Wilson to be the directing head of these war activities in the United States and he will continue to do so for more than two and one-half years; and he should be permitted to give his undivided attention to these matters.

Yet the doughty Colonel seems to be doing, and has done, everything he can to harass and vex the administration just for political effect. He can have no other purpose in his caustic criticism than to divide the President's attention and to divert him from giving the full power of his mind to the great problems of the war.

What more has the German propagandist or the I. W. W. done than this? We intern the propagandist and imprison the I. W. W.; yet neither has done so much to vex, worry and divert the President from his purpose as have the speeches and writings of the ex-president.

Mr. Roosevelt is mentally a strong man. His speeches, newspaper and magazine articles wield a considerable influence among those who, for political purposes, are willing to destroy, in a measure, the successful prosecution of the war by President Wilson.

President Wilson has, of course, made mistakes. What president has not? As President Wilson did not get his orders from Mr. Roosevelt in the selection of his cabinet officers, nor does he consult the Colonel on questions of state, nor questions relative to war matters, it cannot be a matter of surprise that the Colonel's ideas are not carried out in every instance. Woodrow Wilson is president and is responsible to the American people for his conduct of the office, and not to Mr. Roosevelt individually.

The president has made mistakes, as stated above. Possibly he could replace some of his cabinet officers with men more to Mr. Roosevelt's liking. But as he is responsible to the country for both the acts of himself and subordinates, he will hardly consult the Colonel's wishes in the matter. Anyway, where can he get experienced men?

Nor was Colonel Roosevelt's presidency free from mistakes. When he gave his consent to the United States Steel Corporation to literally rob the Tennessee Coal and Iron company, he committed an act much more heinous in the eyes of the people than anything President Wil-

son has done. His doctrine of good and bad trusts embraced an idea which was obnoxious to most people.

The trouble with the Colonel is that he is overloaded with egotism, which he mistakenly thinks is patriotism. When he connived to have W. H. Taft nominated in 1908, his egotism puffed him up to imagine he could use Mr. Taft as a sort of figurehead in the president's chair so that he could dictate what Mr. Taft should do. Failing in his purpose he became peeved.

When he could not prevent Mr. Taft's re-nomination in 1912, he tried to disrupt his party by organizing a rump convention of his followers, who made him their candidate for president. A three-cornered campaign resulted. A united republican party might have elected Mr. Taft. Certainly Mr. Roosevelt was personally responsible for the election of Mr. Wilson, as was the South for the election of Lincoln in 1860.

Now, Colonel Roosevelt is trying to destroy Mr. Wilson in the minds of the people. He fears the President will reap too much popularity with a successful conclusion of the war for the Allies.

Colonel Roosevelt, under the guise of patriotism, is today in effect, an enemy of the American Government. If the Kaiser could give the Colonel orders he would surely endorse Roosevelt's campaign of criticism of the President and the members of his cabinet. Sometimes a person is justified in prying to be delivered from his friends. Certainly our government would be a great gainer to be delivered from the egotistical and false friendship of Colonel Roosevelt. A man who tries to harry and knock the government at a time so grave as the present must be considered as aiding and comforting the enemy.

A friendly criticism, which is calculated to assist and make better, even in grave times like the present, may be tolerated; but when made to destroy, as is evidently Mr. Roosevelt's purpose, merits the severest condemnation.

President Lincoln had critics and false friends, just as has President Wilson. Mr. Lincoln answered his critics somewhat as follows: "Suppose Blondin was carrying your entire fortune over Niagara Falls, walking on a single wire, would you give him orders from the shore to stand up a little straighter or lean more to the right or left? No, you would fairly hold your breath in suspense, knowing your fortune depended upon the coolness and judgment of Blondin. You would do nothing to distract him from the great and momentous task in hand." President Wilson could very appropriately make this same reply to Mr. Roosevelt.

IT IS TOO LATE, GOVERNOR

Governor Withycombe came out in a newspaper article last week, advising the state road commission to cease road paving until after the war is over, assigning as the reason the high cost of material and labor, and that the work would be needed for the soldier boys when they return. Certainly, the governor's conclusions are right, but his advice is nearly two years late. The milk has already been spilled and it cannot be recovered.

Governor Withycombe had the opportunity to have put a quietus upon the issue of road bonds when the measure was placed in his hands for his signature. He was then in a position to dictate terms to the road paving crowd. He did require that the measure should be submitted to the people for their endorsement.

But he should have gone a step further and required a clause inserted in the measure that the bonds should not be sold at less than par. This would have defended the credit

of the state and at the same time have dropped a bomb into the bond-buying camp.

But the governor missed his opportunity. He was in a measure hypnotized by the Portland crowd and unwisely turned the people's interests over to the money sharks, the road paving enthusiasts, and the road paving companies.

Just why Governor Withycombe could not see as well as a majority of the people outside of Portland did see how the taxpayers of the state were to be victimized in the matter, is difficult to understand. Now he does see it but it is too late. He is powerless to prevent what he knows was a great wrong against the taxpayers' interests. The state road commission is all powerful in the matter, so long as it complies with the provisions of the law. Only a new law which would nullify the road bonds law can stop the commission from further action.

Undoubtedly, if the governor now could pass upon the measure it would receive his veto. His eyes have been opened to the scheme which was hatched in one night at a banquet in Portland and then crowded through the legislature during the last days, so that the people could not register a protest to the scheme. The governor then showed lack of judgment or foresight to forestall what he now knows was a serious blunder. It cannot now be recalled.

Nor would it now be much of a disappointment to the Portland bunch if the unexpended portion of the bond issue should be recalled. They have their Columbia highway about completed so that they can take their joy rides to the seaside.

The governor is blamable in that he did not seem to comprehend what the Portland bunch was trying to put over when the scheme was originated. Clatsop, Columbia and Hood River counties were bankrupt for county bonding purposes. Portland wanted her joy riding highway completed but did not want to pay for it. In order to make the state pay, an elaborate system of paving and improving state roads was publicly planned to get the measure made a law. But the completion of paving the Columbia highway was the inspiration of the scheme. Governor Withycombe should have been wise enough to see the secret purpose when he had power to block the scheme.

PUTS FRANCE ON THE MAP

The most colossal advertising scheme which has been developed in the world's history is that which is now under way over in France. It has certainly placed that country on the map in a way not even dreamed of by the frog eaters. People throughout the civilized world now know more about the geography of France, the location of her rivers and cities than could have been brought about by any other possible means. Many people in the world did not know there was such a river as the Marne; or if they had heard of it, they did not know in what country it was located. Now they know it is in northern France and that it flows in a general westerly direction.

There is an excellent reason why this knowledge is sought; for many American families are represented somewhere on the four or five hundred miles battle line, extending from the North sea to the Alps mountains. We follow every movement of our troops, from town to town, etc., so that we in a measure become familiar with the unpronounceable named French towns. We have located the American sector, where General Pershing commands, etc.

But we will soon know the geography of northern France, and we would be glad to begin study of the

topography of western Germany, with the German army as pilots, and for which study we are just now somewhat anxious. We are particularly anxious to try conclusions with the Huns on German soil and give that country some of the same medicine Belgium and France have been receiving.

Some people grumble when they cannot buy white flour. And they have a right to grumble so long as white flour is being sold to bakers, logging camps and hospitals. Graham flour is a necessity to some people in order to keep out of the hospital. Moreover, the ordinary housewife thinks she is just as trustworthy as the average baker or logging camp cook. Everybody is willing to live without wheat flour as a necessary war measure, but there should be no class legislation about the matter. One person should be treated the same as another. Almost every one is a patriot and willing to do anything to help win the war. But to require one class of people to do

something as a matter of patriotic self denial, while some others are not required to do so, causes one to think this patriotic business does not bear alike on all people. If the government desires the people to respond to every call for men or money there should be absolute impartiality in the demands. The people will not tolerate very long favoritism shown to one class of people more than another.

The Portland Telegram is starting in to elect Ex-Governor West next fall by misrepresenting his every motive in the primary campaign and to show that the ex-governor's friendship for Senator McNary is false. As a matter of fact, a great many of Senator McNary's friends who gave him so large a majority before the primaries, will support Mr. West next fall if they are driven too hard by Senator McNary's false newspaper friends, as for instance, the Telegram of last Monday.

The Scio Tribune, \$1.50 the year

FARM LOANS

We have loaned more than one million dollars on Willamette Valley farms and we have more to loan at the best terms ever offered. You can pay \$50.00 or more at any time and stop the interest. But if your crop is short you don't have to pay anything except the interest.

J. M. and H. M. Hawkins

Albany, 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.

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Scio Milling Company

SUCCESSOR TO
SCIO ROLLER MILLS

INCORPORATED DECEMBER 28 1904

Our Flour is as good as any made in the Willamette Valley

EVERY SACK GUARANTEED

We do a General Custom Milling Business. Flour and Feed on Sale. Wheat Bought and Exchanged for Flour. We are in the Field for Business and Will Treat You Right

PICTURE PRINTING

We are prepared to take your pictures, develop your plates, films, film packs, do your printing, enlarging and framing

We charge nothing for developing films or plates when twelve prints are ordered.

We have had fifteen years of practical work in picture taking. If we can be of any help to you in getting good results from your kodak or camera, we will gladly give you pointers.

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All work guaranteed and done promptly. Give us a trial

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We do not carry any cameras or camera supplies