

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY
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THE AMERICAN SOLDIER

Almost every American citizen is proud of the things our American boys are now doing over in France. We are proud of the intrepid conduct of the boys on the battle front, of the dash and courage they display, and their utter disregard of danger, which duty demands they shall face; of their manifestations of chivalry when dealing and associating with the war worn inhabitants, whose homes are within the zone of carnage. Yet they are doing just what we expected they would do when they left their homes to battle for humanity on a foreign shore. We are not at all astonished that these American boys are tender to the unfortunate, respectful to age, and courteous to women; for they are gentlemen in the true sense of the word and are maintaining the American character in respect for the rights of others.

But why should not these boys of ours be brave, resourceful and almost unlickable? They are the sons and grandsons of men who fought at Gettysburg, at Shiloh, at Vicksburg, the Wilderness, and hundreds of the battles of the Civil war. They are the descendants of men who fought in the battles of Bunker Hill to Yorktown in the Revolutionary war, and of those who won the battle over British veterans at New Orleans. No wonder our boys "over there" think they are the best soldiers in the world. They have a wealth of traditional bravery and strategy in battle for their inspiration, and the proud fact that they are fighting for humanity and to make men free. Those boys, in point of education, initiative and resourcefulness, have the trained thought of manhood, born under the flag of the free, to urge them on to do and to dare. They have the intrepid bravery of Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Lee and "Stonewall" Jackson for inspiration. Moreover, they are paying our debt to France, who came to our aid in the darkest days of our Revolutionary war, and who divided honors with us at Yorktown, the final battle of that war.

America is not military in the German sense of the word. Our boys, who refused to be driven back from Cantigny, one year ago were tilling American farms, selling goods or plying some trade or profession. Most of them knew nothing of military life, save what they read and may have been told. Yet a few weeks of training has made them capable of meeting the Kaiser's hosts, which he has been training and preparing for this great world war for many years. They are proving to the German war lords that the air of freedom and fair treatment breeds men capable of becoming soldiers of the A-class in a very short time, and that when they have fought one battle they become veterans.

Yes, we have a right to expect

that our American boys will make good. They are introducing to the European people true American manhood as it exists among the everyday work people of the Western world. Heretofore the European has gathered his idea of the American people from the idle tourists who, as a rule have more money than brains. To the European these idlers were but birds to be plucked. The soldier boy is different. He is of the brawn and sinew, men who earn bread by the sweat of their brows; who are extraordinarily good marksmen, and who are very handy with the bayonet. In fact, these foreigners are now becoming acquainted, especially so the Huns, with the real thing in American citizenship. We say acquainted, when we mean a simple introduction. The acquaintance is yet to come when the war is forced back onto German soil and when the treaty at Berlin spells finis to Kaiserism.

USURPING POWER.

When the emergency board usurped power to organize and establish a state constabulary, it assumed a power which belonged solely to the lawmaking power of our state—a power never delegated to the emergency board.

The Tribune is well aware that the people will stand for almost anything in time of war that is necessary for the protection of public property and the execution of the laws. But it must be shown that an emergency of this character did exist or now exists. Such fact was not shown when the order to establish the state police was made, nor has there been made an attempt to do so since.

When the Oregon National Guard was merged into and made a part of the U. S. army, it is true that the state was left without any military protection. Yet the home guard companies were organized almost immediately, uniformed and armed, and which could be called into service by the governor whenever an emergency should arise, thus replacing the O. N. G.

This state police has been called into service without a shadow of authority. Had Governor Withycombe, with the emergency board, thought such a force necessary, it was an easy matter to call a special session of the legislature and get legal authority for such action. Evidently the board thought the people would stand for the order just in the same way they are standing for the doubling up of the cost of living.

There was no excuse whatever for increasing the cost of running the state government up \$300,000 to \$400,000, as the governor's police will require. If guards for the yards building ships for the national government were necessary, let the national government supply them and the expense would have been borne equally by all the states.

Now, the people are to be asked to vote a one-mill tax to support this soft snap for 200 to 300 men to do nothing more than what sheriffs and their deputies are by law required to do.

In these war times, when people are called upon almost every month to donate to the Red Cross and to buy liberty bonds, the state and the counties should hold public expense down to the lowest possible notch. It is no time to build paved roads or to take on any other unnecessary expense.

Should the people refuse to vote this one-mill tax next fall, which they ought to do, the emergency board will be placed in an uncomfortable position. The state police is being paid with state treasury funds, yet there is no law authorizing such expenditure.

The Tribune thinks the emergency

board has usurped a power belonging exclusively to the legislature, and that any money expended in maintaining this unauthorized and unlawful police, is expended without a shadow of law and should be rejected by the people at the election next fall.

The emergency board seems unwilling to furnish a paltry \$10,000 to complete and place in operation the state lime plant, that would supply the farmers with a means which would greatly increase the volume of their crops; but it does not bat an eye in spending many times this sum to pay a state police to chase bootleggers and hunt escaped convicts. But as Portland does not want the state to make cheap lime and does want the state constabulary, the people will have to stand for it.

WHEN THE WAR IS OVER.

We frequently hear "when this war is over and prices of commodities resume a normal level, we are sure to have a period of very close times." Presumably it is thought that a money contraction, similar to that following the Civil war, will again occur. The Tribune thinks there is no reason to expect such a result, for conditions are not at all similar.

Soon after the Civil war commenced, gold and silver disappeared from circulation and were replaced by a largely inflated greenback and banknote circulation. The finances of the nation were entirely under control of Wall street bankers who did not hesitate to indulge in money exploitation to accomplish their own prosperity. In 1866, when the first steps were taken to again resume a specie basis, something near a half billion of dollars in currency were replaced with government bonds and the currency destroyed. As a matter of course, the cutting down of the money circulation resulted in the depression of the price of commodities, farm products, labor, etc. This brought on very close times, which culminated in one of the greatest financial panics in 1872, which our nation has ever experienced. The tremendous financial reverse was nation wide and many, very many men, who had thought themselves in comfortable circumstances, were reduced to penury. Nor did the business of the nation become normally adjusted until specie payments were resumed in 1876, when the currency dollar became equal to gold.

The finances of the nation are in a much more stable condition now than in the Civil war days. Currency is interchangeable with gold and Wall street has no control of the nation's finances whatever. Instead of borrowing from Wall street and other banks, the government is borrowing from the people by selling liberty bonds. Instead of collecting the revenue very largely from the common people, a graduated income and excess profits tax are causing the rich to bear their just portion of the war burden. Instead of allowing Wall street bankers to have absolute control of the finances of our country, the control is placed in the hands of twelve regional banks, scattered all over the nation, over which the government exercises a general supervision.

Of course, when the present war is over, there will be a general readjustment of prices to a lower, or perhaps a normal level, which may cause some small trouble. But the reduction of ocean freights to a reasonable basis, with the great foreign demand for American products, together with the large merchant marine we will then have, must result in prosperous rather than depressed conditions. We need not expect that prices for commodities will be reduced to the low level of five or

six years ago. Wheat and other products which are grown by the farmer, will never be so low as in previous days. Owing to the fact that the United States has become the creditor nation of the world, we will not be required to ship our gold bullion to other countries to adjust business balances.

So there is no reason to expect anything like a business collapse when the war is over. England and France, as well as nearly all other foreign nations, will have need for enormous supplies which the United States alone can furnish. We may have to extend credit to the impoverished nations until they can get on their feet again, but at the same time our farmers and manufacturers will enjoy a good demand for what they produce and at fair prices.

The Corvallis Courier states that Oregon and Texas are the only states which are required to go upon an absolute wheatless diet. If so, there is something wrong somewhere.

These two states should not be made goats of. Unless a wheatless diet be required of all states, the requirement should not be regarded as binding.

Those U-boats on the Atlantic coast should never be allowed to return to their home ports. They should be sent to the bottom of the sea as a warning to other like boats which may think of coming over on this side.

It is said the government will change the standard of condensed milk somewhat which will give Oregon condenseries a better show in the government market. Milk from Jersey cows makes splendid condensed milk, but does not have enough solids to comply with the present government standard.

The warm sunshine we are now having is just what the crops need. Abnormally cool weather, which we have been having all spring, has not been favorable for the growth of vegetation.

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

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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

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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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We do not carry any cameras or camera supplies