

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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

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NEED ECONOMICAL GOVERNOR

Next November the people will select either Governor Withycombe or Senator Pierce for the gubernatorial office for the ensuing four years beginning in the following January.

The question for the people to now consider is which of these gentlemen gives promise of making the most economical and efficient governor for Oregon?

Since the people select United States senators by direct vote politics have largely been eliminated from our legislative halls and so far as administering the government of Oregon there never should have been and should not now be political partisanship manifested in the administration of the governor's office. While it is true the governor secures his office through the activities of his particular party he should forget that fact when he subscribes to his oath of office. He should remember that he is to serve the people of all Oregon, including the membership of all political organizations within the boundary lines of the state, and to enforce the laws irrespective of political friend or foe.

As between Governor Withycombe and Senator Pierce there can be no choice from a patriotic viewpoint. Both are loyally supporting President Wilson's administration and each gives aid and sympathy towards the winning of the war by every means within his power. Therefore the choice can be limited to the economic features.

In these war times when the people are being called upon every few weeks to subscribe for liberty bonds, donate to the Red Cross, etc., it is simply good horse sense to conduct our city, county and state governments along severe economic lines in order that the burden of taxation may be held to the lowest notch consistent with a reasonable efficiency of government. By this we mean that no new public improvements should be undertaken not absolutely necessary; nor should there be new offices created unless the war activities should create a necessity therefor. The conduct of government along these lines will probably be endorsed by every taxpayer. The war must be supported with men and money and we, the people, must supply both. We are urged to economize in our homes that we may be able to do more to aid the war. Hence it is but just to the taxpayer that our public officials shall be controlled in a like economic manner.

We have a six per cent increase of taxation limit law on our statute books. Governor Withycombe thinks this law should be repealed and is now seeking a plan by which its re-

quirements may be circumvented. Petitions were circulated prior to the primary election to place a special war tax levy of one per cent to provide for war contingencies. Because of lack of signatures to the petition the measure fell down before it had even made a start. Now Governor Withycombe with the other members of the state board of control, is seeking a plan to have the measure placed on the ballot nevertheless the people to the contrary notwithstanding. Of course, one of the leading purposes of this emergency tax would be the payment of the per diem and keep of the governor's state police or constabulary. Senator Pierce, who will oppose the governor at the polls in November, is said to be the originator of the six per cent limitation law. He would undoubtedly, if elected, conduct the state government in a manner that an emergency would not arise. Surely he would not unnecessarily create an emergency and then ask the people to vote a special tax to pay for it. It is safe to say that one of Governor Pierce's first official acts will be to fire the state police, root and branch.

When the \$5,000,000 bond measure was pending in the legislature Senator Pierce sought in every way he could to substitute a millage tax in lieu of the bonds. Governor Withycombe is said to have favored giving the people choice as between a state tax or bonds, but changed his mind to favor bonds, showing that some powerful influence had been used to bring about the change.

Personally Governor Withycombe is a very likable man, but being of years well advanced he cannot give the activity and vigor to the governor's office which it should have. Should he be elected next fall he will be well towards 75 years of age before the end of his term of office, and we all know that at that age no man can give the mind activity to matters he could have given when a score of years younger.

Senator Pierce is an active business farmer; has never been a salaried man other than as a member of the legislature, and draws his inspiration from the taxpayers' rather than the taxeaters' viewpoint.

There is another feature relative to the governorship which might be well to consider. While there should be no partisan politics neither in the legislative halls nor in the governor's office, there is. It might be well for taxpayers to have a governor of different political sentiment from the legislature. Mere political jealousy might cause greater care to be used in making appropriations and in expenditures in general.

At all events we have Governor Withycombe's record before us and we may reasonably expect that his future policies will not differ materially from that of the past.

We also have Senator Pierce's record as a successful and active business farmer and his acts in legislative matters. Should he be elected the people can rest assured he will be governor. He no doubt will listen to counsel and accept such advice as he may. But in the end the decision will be that of Governor Pierce and not that of some commercial club governed by the wishes of some one particular locality.

THE CRIME OF GERMANY.

It is exceedingly strange that Kaiser Wilhelm does not make an effort to bring about, not a German but a peace which the Allies will accept. He well knows since the French army held up his boasted unwhipable armies at the first battle of the Marne, that his first purpose of conquering and dominating the world is doomed to failure. And if this were not enough to convince his square head majesty his every

military effort since his first defeat has proven he should do so.

He has not captured Paris. He has not brought England to her knees.

His U-boat campaign, which was intended to prevent food from reaching England and France and to prevent the landing of American troops on the shores of France, all, all have failed.

Now that American troops are at the battle front and his last offensive drive on Paris has been successfully stopped and his most highly trained troops hurled back maimed and bleeding, he should certainly be convinced that there is not one chance in ten thousand to win.

Then why ruthlessly drive his men to slaughter? Why utterly destroy the German people in the forlorn hope of saving the rotten Hohenzollern dynasty?

To continue a war, especially one so unjust, so unnecessary and so uncalled for as this, is the blackest of crimes against humanity. No punishment either in this or the next world can be inflicted upon him and his war lords which in the most infinitesimal degree will atone for the suffering and misery thus brought upon the world. Every life lost after the first battle of the Marne has been a criminally useless slaughter.

The best he could hope for after this his first defeat, was simply a draw. He could not hope for the victory he first planned and the misery and suffering he has brought upon his own people ought to cause the stoniest of hearts to bleed.

In the Civil war after the fall of Vicksburg and the defeat at Gettysburg, the wise heads both North and South knew the slave rebellion could not win. The loss of life thereafter and the suffering and destruction of property were worse than useless. The Southern leaders were criminals of the blackest hue to bring destruction and desolation to their own people.

Likewise is Kaiser Wilhelm invoking the hatred and detestation upon the house of Hohenzollern and upon the German people to persist in a war which he must now know and ought to have known before, could bring nothing but defeat to his boasted war machine.

The result will be to make the terms of surrender all the more severe upon the German people. So far as the kaiser is concerned he and his family of sons should simply be turned over to the tender mercies of the Belgians, the people against whom he has most grievously sinned, for punishment.

But what nation will be willing to treat as neighbors a people who would destroy the world in order to rule it? We, people of the United States, who have ever extended the hand of welcome to the German immigrant cannot extend that hand to the German who would have destroyed us if he could in order for the fatherland to win. No, we will have no use whatever for the German who has fought to destroy civilization. We have found out, aye the world has found out, that we can get along very well without the Germany of today and without the things her people manufacture. In fact the world has no use for German kultur with all the word implies. We now know that the Hohenzollerns and creatures educated in kultur are enemies of mankind; and a good way to treat an enemy is to let him severely alone. This we can do and probably will do, socially and commercially.

This foolishly boastful "dying in the last ditch," shows very poor judgment and less mercy for innocent non-combatants. Autocracy dies hard. Yet even an autocratic ruler should have some thought for his people other than his own selfish interests. Otherwise he is nothing else than a brute.

President Kerr Appreciates.

Corvallis, Oregon.

My Dear Mr. Dugger:

Through the courtesy of Mr. Weatherford I have received a copy of the Scio Tribune under date of August 1, containing the account of your recent visit to the Agricultural College. I very much regret I was not at the college at the time of your visit. I am glad however that you had opportunity to look over the campus and see something of the college plant. Being vacation, the regular students of course were not at work, but you could get some idea from the character of the buildings and equipment of the type of work we are doing.

I want to thank you for your favorable comment regarding the plans we are following in the development of the institution. We are anxious to make the best use possible of all available funds in providing for the most efficient work at the college in promoting the advancement of the industries and interests of the people of the state.

I notice your emphasis upon the special work we are doing for the war department with the enlisted men. This work is being emphasized. We feel it is the duty of the institution to do everything possible in helping during the war period.

You will be interested in knowing we have just completed arrangements for an additional detachment of soldiers, bringing the total number up to 800. As soon as the men can be selected by the war department there will be 400 men doing work as radio electricians. Then there will be the other divisions of work such as training of auto mechanics, sheet metal workers and the like. To provide for the accommodation of these men we shall have to put up an additional barrack building and enlarge our special instructional force. The war department however, provides the funds for all the instructional expenses in addition to what we can do with our regular staff.

Communications from Washington indicate that the government desires that we use our plant to the greatest extent possible in providing training for the maximum number of soldiers. General Pershing has called for the training of 225,000 men as quickly as possible.

Again thanking you for your article and expressing a desire that you take advantage of every opportunity you might have to visit the institution in the future, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

W. J. KERR,

President.

Printers Will Rest One Week.

Strange as it may seem, printers get tired and need a vacation just the same as other people. Also they have business not connected in any way with the print shop which must be attended to.

Mr. Brant, our foreman, has private business which demands his personal attention, and as it seems almost impossible to find an unemployed printer in these war days, The Tribune is forced to suspend publication for one week for the above purpose.

During the week beginning August 17 the key of The Tribune office will be turned for at least five days. During this time the editor also will be absent, attending the fifty second national meet of the Grand Army of the Republic, commencing August 19 in Portland.

So we hope our patrons will pardon the lapse of one week and consider that the printer must have relaxation from the daily grind the same as other people.

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