

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

ISSUED EVERY THURSDAY BY
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I pledge allegiance to my flag and the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER.

In Germany's acceptance of President Wilson's peace terms there is hope for an ending of the war. Yet the reputation of the German war lords for lying and deception requires that great caution be used by the allied powers in agreeing to an armistice. There must be strong evidence that the Huns mean what they say in the acceptance. There must be no camouflage in the matter.

The German war lords are very adroit in their attempt to bring the war to a close. They have destroyed and looted occupied enemy territory and committed barbarities heretofore unknown to people even half way civilized. But when their armies are about to be driven back upon their own territory they cry for peace. They are now willing to be good dogs in order to escape the doom a defeated dastardly soldiery merits.

The German border is not the place to make peace. Such a peace in a measure would be a German victory. Only a complete surrender of the armies and war material offers any assurance of a lasting peace and this peace should be made in Berlin with our armies in complete control.

The world is anxious for peace but not so anxious that a half peace will be accepted. The allied armies and the world have paid a price too great to accept such a peace as Germany will now probably accept. Only the full fruits of the victory the allied arms have now won should be the terms. And in writing the articles of the peace terms Germany nor Austria should have a voice. They are the vanquished and unless they accept peace terms and its responsibilities and within the gates of Berlin, let the war go on. We are victorious on the battlefield and we must be victorious around the diplomatic table. The German beast must be caged for all time. Unconditional surrender only will satisfy civilization. It is the only guaranty that the Beast of Berlin is completely subdued.

RESISTANCE FOOLISH.

It ought to be and doubtless is very evident to Kaiser Bill that he has lost the war. What he hopes to gain by an impossible resistance is difficult to understand. With his own armies rapidly diminishing and his allies crumbling, if he has a particle of gray matter in his thick tank he'd know his condition is hopeless. He ought to conclude that a

farther continuation of the hopeless struggle will make the final conditions when the battle ceases, more severe.

A man who is brave enough to commence a war of such colossal magnitude ought to be brave enough and humane enough to his suffering troops to abandon a struggle which is absolutely sure of utter defeat.

But his German mind is so stubborn and so astonishingly confident that the great war machine he has been years in constructing must be victorious in the end that it is impossible to entertain any other thought than that of final victory.

The kaiser evidently still believes the reports of his network of spies with which he covered the world cannot be wrong. Being the master deceiver of the world he cannot conceive that he has been deceived.

His eyes must now be opened to the fact that he has been deceived as to the resources and fighting qualities of his enemies and that his boasted wonderful war machine is not invincible. He now sees his strongest fortifications crumble and his strongest battalions fleeing before troops he has despised. Yet he hangs on doubtless with the hope that his German gott will come to his rescue and by some miraculous power turn his defeat and rout into victory. He evidently dreads the day of reckoning. He fears that a victorious foe will be as cruel, as merciless and as destructive as himself. He wants to stave off the day of retribution for himself and family as long as possible; he cares nothing for his people. If the punishment meted out to him should be measured by what he knows he richly deserves he feels it to be terrible in conception.

Nor should the victors fail to remember when the day of retribution arrives the enormity of the offense against civilization he is responsible for. They should not forget that this calamity upon the human family was brought on absolutely without cause other than to try out the principle of might against right.

They should not forget the great cost in lives of the young manhood of the world and the thousands who must go through life as cripples. Nor should they forget the babies which have been impaled upon ruthless Hun bayonets; the children whose hands have been chopped off; the young girls and women who have been ravished by a brutal soldiery, and the thousands of Belgians and French forced into industrial slavery and the vandalism in the destruction of property.

The list of the fiendish cruelties and ruthless destruction is a long one and the barbarism large. No wonder the kaiser, the boss fiend of them all, is putting off the day of retribution as long as possible. No wonder that he shudders at the penalty he should justly pay.

When the final day of victory arrives and the Hun beast is driven to his lair, and when the rock of liberty blocks the entrance, and when the victorious troops of democracy parade the streets of Berlin, there will be assembled the representatives of the victorious democracies around a peace table. At this table there should not be a Hun nor an Austrian nor a Turk; for they will be the prisoners in the dock and should have no voice in the sentence there pronounced. Simply justice, mayhap tempered with mercy, will be the world's demand. The spirit of vengeance no doubt will be present but it should be suppressed. Justice will be the world's demand but justice is just what Kaiser Bill dreads. Hence the prolongation of the war when defeat is as sure as death.

POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Oregon has seven state supreme

judges five of whom hold office through regular election, while the other two, Judges Johns and Olson, are on the bench by virtue of appointment by Governor Withycombe.

Now The Tribune is not disposed to be critical because both these gentlemen are residents of Portland, nor because they are men of but ordinary legal qualification. But we do find fault with Governor Withycombe for appointing two republicans to the bench within the space of a few months while the democratic party is without representation thereon.

Politically at least one-third of the people of Oregon adhere to the democratic party. This one-third is justly entitled to representation on our highest court. Governor Withycombe should have been broad enough and non partisan sufficient to have appointed a democrat to one of these seats, yet he was not. He was essentially an adherent to the old school doctrine "to the victor belongs the spoils." He thinks the appointment of public officials is the perquisite of the appointing power and that an official can legitimately use his appointing power with which to pay political debts.

Such action has been the bane of American politics and is responsible for the major portion of graft wherein our government must necessarily mingle with business.

These two judges above referred to have not demonstrated that they are lawyers of even moderate ability. If republican lawyers who live in Portland must be chosen there are many of recognized legal attainments who might have been selected. Judge Johns owes his appointment to the fact that he was opposed in the primary election by two legal gentlemen who have established their ability as learned judges on the circuit bench. They divided the vote opposing Judge Johns, making his nomination possible, when either of them in a race against Johns would have won the nomination.

Nor should it be forgotten that Judge Johns was defeated as a candidate for governor a few years ago when the average majority in favor of his party was more than 25,000. But this was before he removed to Portland and had become lined up with the political clique in that city.

Judge Olson, like Judge Johns, has lived in Portland but a few years. Being a politician he soon wormed himself into the good graces of this same political clique and was sent to the legislature for two or three terms. He there demonstrated his usefulness to the Portland bunch. He was particularly useful in pushing the state (Portland) road bond measure through the legislature and was one of its chief advocates during the following campaign. Judge Olson was also Governor Withycombe's chief manager in the campaign for governor four years ago.

These are the classes of men Governor Withycombe has selected for places on the bench of our highest court whose duty it is to interpret our laws; whose dicta are the final arbitrament of suits at law brought before them. Both Portland men of intense partisanship, who owe their elevation to our highest court to their political activities by appointment of a senile governor.

Now should Governor Withycombe be re-elected we have a right to assume that in case of vacancies he would appoint other just such political partisans to supply the vacancies, for he evidently does not believe in a non partisan supreme bench.

It is but a short time now until the election and nevertheless state politics are second in importance to the war, we should take time enough to think about these secondary matters. Our supreme court is most

important to the state and the people. If we have a court unaffected by partisan bias and which is composed of men of good legal attainment their decisions probably will be fair and creditable; but if inferior in legal knowledge and who permit themselves to be influenced by partisan feeling great harm and injustice may result.

Our supreme judiciary should be non partisan. Indeed our constitution should require as nearly an equal division of political sentiment on the part of its members as possible. Governor Withycombe should have considered this fact when he supplied the vacancies on the bench. But he did not.

The governor is depending upon his reputation of patriotism to carry him through. Yet as all true American citizens are patriots and supporters of the war and the administration he deserves no especial credit therefor. He is simply doing his duty in this respect. He would not be tolerated in the office of governor of Oregon if he was disposed to be otherwise. When all are patriots the old saw of not changing horses when crossing a stream does not apply. Senator Pierce also is a patriot and the average voter should consider honors easy as to this phase of the campaign. Governor Withycombe will be measured by what he has done while in the office he now holds, aside from his patriotic activities.

The Brownsville Times seems to think politics should be relegated to the shades of innocuous desecration and rather criticizes The Tribune for writing something about our state and county candidates. While it is true that the war absorbs almost completely public attention and in one way or another makes up the central thought of almost every one, we should not neglect to keep the home fires burning. The greatest war in all history is in progress for the purpose of maintaining democracy against the encroachments of autocracy. Shall we neglect to maintain democracy at home when we are fighting for it abroad? The selection of officials at our biennial elections to care for and give us the best quality of democratic government at home is as important as to maintain it abroad, and the selection of the best officials possible is the proper and right method to maintain it. With this view of matters we are neglecting our duty as patriotic citizens to remain dormant. The newspaper is in duty bound to remind the people of their duty in this respect and cause them to give a thought to the candidates to be voted for the fifth of next month.

Some of Hon. Frank Porter's friends are trying to manufacture a political sympathy for him because he is confined at home with a broken leg. While all will feel sorry for his misfortune, sympathy should not be considered in the light of a political charity. Mr. Porter would not have his friends attempt to work a sympathetic dodge of this character. He stands upon his merit as a man and citizen. This only should be considered when the voter goes into the election booth in November. Any attempt to manufacture sympathy for him on this account will result to his political injury.

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