

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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

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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.*

SOFTENING OF THE BRAIN.

The Tribune editor is in receipt of a letter from a reader in which this editor is accused of being affected with softening of the brain. While it is true that the passage of time has added more than the Biblical allotted number of years to our age and that an old time injury, aided by years of rheumatic suffering, has made us a permanent cripple we are vain enough to believe our think tank is yet unimpaired. But let us see.

Our correspondent's caustic criticism was evidently inspired by our editorial in a recent issue of The Tribune under the caption "The Labor Strike a Menace." Now as we gave the article in question considerable hard thought, we feel just a little humiliated to be accused of brain softness. However, there is a question of whose brain is soft.

The central thought of the above mentioned article is advocacy of the rule of the majority and the further conceded fact that any man has a right to quit his job when he pleases to do so, but he has not the right to say another man shall not take his place on the job. If advocacy of the above is an evidence of softening of the brain, then we plead guilty.

Since the article in question was written, the threatened strike to force a new trial for Tom Mooney, convicted of being the cause of the bomb tragedy in the San Francisco preparedness parade, has been declared off, thus showing that the labor leaders are wise and amenable to reason.

The Tribune is very much in favor of labor organizations; of farmer organizations; or of employers organizations for that matter. Any class of the people are justified in effecting organizations for the lawful protection and benefit of its members. But when such organizations assume dictatorial authority and begin to give orders which trespass upon the rights of other men and organizations, then they are wrong and subversive of the rights which the federal constitution guarantees to every citizen.

We have just concluded a great war in which ten millions of men were either killed or crippled. This enormous price has been paid, for what? To establish the principle that Might is not Right; that the weak have a right to live in the world as well as the strong, and that the rule of force is to no longer maintain as the rule of action for nations as well as men.

The strike or lockout is simply

the employment of force in a miniature form, just as Prussia attempted to employ it in a gigantic way. In each instance an attempt is made to set aside established law. It is an attempt to set aside the reciprocal relations of men or nations, which democratic forms of government are instituted to establish and both are subversive of twentieth century civilization.

Tremendous strides have been made in recent years in laws protective of the interests of labor. These favorable laws have not been secured by labor strikes. Oh! No. Labor has appealed to the good sense and justice of the people and succeeded and will succeed so long as labor's appeals are made in accordance with recognized law.

Labor, or any other organization, makes a serious mistake whenever it attempts to shield or protect law breakers or criminals. Tom Mooney may have been unjustly convicted. Yet the higher courts did not seem to think so. When Governor Stephens commuted his sentence to imprisonment he did everything that labor should ask for. Just as great hue and cry went up from labor organizations when the McNamara brothers were being prosecuted for dynamiting the Los Angeles Times building, and killed some 20 laboring men. Labor people spent much money to defend these red-handed murderers and martyred them until the McNamaras confessed their guilt. Mooney's case may be found to be similar. But if his innocence can be established a full pardon can issue.

If our reader who accuses us of brain softening will simply consider the above thoughts calmly and judicially he will conclude that neither in this nor previous articles has The Tribune made war on either capital or labor. We have simply held that labor organizations, as well as those of capital, shall obey law and to abandon the principle of might. If he will, he will not be liable to be accused of having either softening of the brain or brainstorm.

"SO HELP YOU GOD."

The Tribune editor was a spectator recently in the circuit court room at Albany. While there a jury was sworn to try the case being submitted, by the law as defined by the court and by the evidence placed before it and a true verdict give. "So help you God."

The case being tried was for lewd cohabitation and we wondered if God had time to spare or desire to listen to the relation of matters which are discreditable to law and the welfare of society. We felt that the words "so help you God," as assented to by jury and witnesses as used in this case, were almost, if not quite, sacrilege. We thought that in effect, though not with intent, an insult was being offered to the Deity.

And why should these words be used anyway? The oath would be just as binding without them. When a man swears to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, he has obligated himself as deeply and solemnly as can be without the use of the words which are a sort of gratuitous insult to the Supreme Being. The oath of affirmation in which these words are absent is just as binding and is permissible by law. If a witness has conscientious scruples against assenting to the ordinary form of oath he may have that of affirmation or the Quaker oath administered, and one form is just as binding and subjects one to the penalties of perjury as the other. Then why have the two forms?

The oath in which "So help you God" are the concluding words is the form of oath handed down to us

from the days when men were governed by superstition; when a literal hell of fire and brimstone was held up before men to terrorize them and frighten them into doing or saying what was desired; at a time when witches were tortured by fire, and when men were being burned because they thought more of a principle than they did of life.

Men and women assent to this oath in which the help of God is solicited when they expect to and know they will testify falsely. They thus destroy, so far as they are capable, the reverence we should all have and feel for the creator of the universe. Then why require men and women to commit this sacrilege? If a person is truthful and loves truth for truth's sake he will tell the truth without the use of those superfluous and unnecessary words.

Then why should our laws recognize a relic of superstition which the people of the world have entirely discarded? Why not have our laws conform to what both modern and religious thought agree upon?

In nearly all of the state papers of the late Kaiser Wilhelm II the words "by the help of God" are used. Common sense and justice refuse to admit that God aided German soldiers to ravish women and young girls; to cut off the hands of innocent and inoffending children; to thrust bayonets through babes, and to drive men and women into slavery. No one believes that our just God would aid or help in such fiendish acts. Yet there is just as much reason to believe that God aided the Kaiser and his soldiers in the commission of their fiendish crimes as there is to believe he helps a witness in the prosecution of the criminal for lewd cohabitation to tell "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." Surely the ordinary form of oath as used by our courts should be relieved of this near sacrilege and to conform to the now recognized relations of God to man. It is quite time to cut out all idioms and theories handed down to us from the dark ages, which the world now knows to be both false and impossible.

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

Some of our legislators should get busy and evolve a plan by which the faults of our primary law would be overcome. We refer in particular to the nomination of candidates for the legislature and for county judge and commissioners.

To illustrate: Three of the Linn county members of our next legislative assembly reside, practically, in one neighborhood or within six or seven miles of each other. Also, the larger half of Linn county lies north and east of the South Santiam river. Yet this larger half of the county has not supplied a member of the county court for a great many years.

Now our present primary law is to blame for this inequality of representation. It can be remedied by dividing the county into three nominating districts and the inequality will be overcome in a large degree. Other counties may be as unequally represented.

When a fault or injustice is discovered in any law it is the duty of our lawmakers to provide a remedy, if possible. Representative government should be representative in fact as well as in name.

HARD TO PLEASE.

Almost from the date when Woodrow Wilson was inducted to the office of president in March, 1913, congressmen and others have complained of his domination in congressional legislation. On measures of importance to the country President Wilson has used his influence

to have them enacted into laws.

As a result, there has been more real reform legislation which has inured to the interests of the working and wealth producing classes of the people during the presidency of Woodrow Wilson than had been enacted during the entire previous history of our country. Just think what our financial condition would now be if it had been left to the tender mercies of Wall street! The regional bank law destroyed Wall street's power over the finances of our country.

Now the president has gone to Europe and has left congress completely unhampered by his presence. And yet congress kicks. One bright (?) light, a member from Illinois, wants the office of president declared vacant. Congress seems about as hard to please and as turbulent as some ladies Red Cross organizations that we could name.

Keller Should Be Fired.

If Governor Withycombe desires his new warden to be successful and the trouble at the pen to subside, he will do well to dismiss parole officer Joe Keller. A stream can never be pure so long as the source of impurity remains.

Keller may be absolutely clear of wrongdoing, meddling, tale bearing, etc., but there is good reason for doubt. Where there is so much smoke there must be some fire. It is hardly probable that the four ex-wardens under the Withycombe regime are all bad men and inefficient. Is it not more reasonable to conclude that Keller is the source of the trouble?

Parole officer Keller says voluntarily that if the new warden, R. L. Stevens, complains of him in any way that he (Keller) will at once resign. This is tantamount to admitting that these other wardens had cause to complain.

So, governor, if you want your penitentiary team to pull evenly and without friction, turn out the horse which disturbs the harmony of team action.



Notice to Farmers.

I have about 30 walking plows of various makes and sizes, including Syracuse, Oliver, Case and Vulcan which until December 15 I will make a special discount. There is no use in using your old worn out plows when you can buy as cheap as the price I will make you. It will be at least two years before machinery prices will drop.

Also I have some harrows, both disc and drag; riding cultivator. On account of the autos, instead of advancing buggies and surreys have dropped in price. I have some on hand that I will sell at your own price if I can possibly stand it. Gas engine, corn sheller, feed cutter, ensilage cutter, and many other things too numerous to mention will be sold at a great discount.

Get prices at other places so you will know my prices are cheap. Don't wait until the other fellow gets ahead of you. The sale is now on until the 15th. I need the cash. N. I. MORRISON, Scio, Oregon

PLENTY OF MONEY to loan on good farms; low interest rates; five years time; privilege to pay \$100 or multiple on any; interest date. Call or write J. M. and H. M. Hawkins, Albany, Oregon.

Railroad Time Table

Arrival and Departure of Passenger Trains

Woodburn-Springfield Branch	
WEST SCIO	
North	7:55 a.m.
South	5:19 p.m.
Corvallis & Eastern	
MUNKERS	
To Albany	8:11 a.m.
To Detroit	1:34 p.m.
Motor service discontinued.	

Mortgage Loans Negotiated Notary Public

H. B. CHESS

Attorney at Law

Office on Sherman St Lebanon, Ore.

THE SCIO STATE BANK

W. A. Ewing, President A. E. Randall, Vice Pres.

E. D. Myers, Cashier

Does a general banking business, receives deposits subject to check, pays interest on time deposits, sells travelers checks and drafts, and makes collections.

MUNKERS and WEST SCIO STAGE

Walter Bilyeu, Prop. Phone 6-515

STAGE MEETS ALL TRAINS

Leaves Scio Postoffice—
at 7:10 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. for West Scio
and 12:45 p.m. for Munkers

R. SHELTON

Notary Public and Conveyancer

Abstracts of Title Examined

SCIO OREGON

Morrison & Lowe

UNDERTAKERS

Calls Attended to Promptly Day or Night

SCIO OREGON

H. C. ROLOFF

AUCTIONEER

WATERLOO OREGON
R. F. D. No. 1 Phone 12x Sweet Home

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C. C. BRYANT

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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