

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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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.*

THE STRIKE AT SEATTLE.

Seattle is now in a state of labor
paralysis. Ship workers who were
receiving from \$4.50 to \$25 per day
thought their pay insufficient and
the strike for higher wage was
voted.

Other labor organizations in the
sound city, in sympathy with the
ship workers but who had no grievance
whatever, quit their jobs as
well. So far there has been no dis-
order or attempts to violate law. A
few days hence, however, the law
breaking will begin and then the
real trouble will commence.

Soldiers from Camp Lewis have
been ordered to the strike city and
these khaki clad boys, whose stipend
is but a dollar a day, will have but
little sympathy for men who are
paid from five to twenty-five times
more than they. When these boys
are ordered to shoot, they obey or-
ders. Moreover, they shoot to kill.

The Tribune thinks the Seattle
strike the height of unwisdom. It
is a strike against the government,
and a strike against Uncle Sam never
has won out. In fact about eleven
states tried the project at one time
and failed; and they thought they
had a real grievance, which this Se-
attle bunch has not.

The ship workers are foolish; the
government is closing down ship-
yards everywhere. The emergency
which forced the government to
build ships has ceased. The Seattle
strikers will simply close the Seattle
yards which will result in no jobs
for the strikers when they want to
go to work again.

Workers who have so little judg-
ment as to become involved in a
strike do not, as a rule, have very
long purses. Eats will soon become
scarce, followed by unlawful acts,
and then real trouble begins.

The great American public is in
sympathy with the wage earner. It
knows the wage earner is short
sighted and is largely controlled by
designing men. But there is a limit
to this sympathy. So long as the
strike does not directly interfere
with general business the public
seems disposed to remain dormant,
hoping the trouble will be simply
local and controllable by the ordi-
nary machinery of the law. But let
the strike become general, resulting
in business paralysis, and the gen-
eral public says: "This thing has
gone far enough, settle your dis-
agreement in some way or we will
settle it for you."

The Seattle ship workers may
have a grievance; so have thousands
of other ship workers where yards

have been curtailed or shut down
completely.

The government has simply about
run out of work along these lines
and is closing out the business. It
is simply up to the jobless ship work-
er to look for a job in some other
line of work. Uncle Sam is rather
a difficult proposition to undertake
to force. He is the law, and has
just about 100,000,000 behind him
ready, when called upon, to enforce
the law. He goes about his busi-
ness very leisurely, too leisurely
many think; but when he gets go-
ing there is something doing. Old
Kaiser Bill ascertained this fact to
his chagrin and sorrow.

A labor organization which un-
dertakes to correct a disagreement
by the strike, ought to have at least
some prospect of winning out. These
Seattle Bolsheviks, I. W. W., or
whatsoever they may be, have no
prospect whatever of winning their
contention. Their strike was lost
before it commenced. It simply
means disaster to the ship workers
and those who strike in sympathy.

The Tribune believes that labor is
fully justified in organizing. If by
united action labor can better its
condition, well and good. But when
such action involves violation of law
and the rights of other citizens,
then such organized action is wrong.
It is un-American, and un-patriotic.
It is the opening wedge to anarchy.

GOODBYE ECONOMY.

The Tribune early in the year was
hopeful that the thirtieth legislative
assembly would establish a record
for economy and good common horse
sense. We thought that the six-
per-cent-increase-of-appropriations-
law would be a bar to extravagance,
especially when the emergency board
taking advantage of war conditions,
had authorized overdrafts on the
state treasury to the tune of nearly
a million dollars. Knowing that
this overdraft must be considered
in the estimate of expenditures by
the present legislative body we
thought financial caution would
mark every legislative step.

Well, The Tribune is being com-
pelled to revise that hope. It has
now concluded that if the legisla-
ture has ever known the meaning of
the word "economy" it forgot it
early in the session. We soon con-
cluded that the much talked of con-
solidation of commissions and offices
would go a glimmering and that all
hope of economy in this direction
should be abandoned.

Then Representative Benton Bur-
dick began to get busy with his sal-
ary grabbing bills and we gave up
in despair.

By the way, what manner of man
is this misrepresentative, Benton
Burdick, anyway? We know he
wanted to be speaker of the house
but did not suppose his defeat for
that place would make him an enemy
of the taxpayers of Oregon. In
his make up and legislative activities
he seems bolshevist in his tendencies.
He wants to get something for noth-
ing for office holders and that, we
understand, is the basic principle of
the Russian bolshevist.

Certainly Representative Burdick
is rapidly earning, has earned, the
displeasure of the taxpayers of Ore-
gon by his numerous salary grab-
bing bills. If his constituency does
not consign him to oblivion when he
stands for office in the future, he
will be saved by the non-tax paying
element. Mr. Burdick is an enemy
of the legislature of Oregon. He is
doing more to drive the people to
resorting to some other method of
government than any other legisla-
tor. Certainly Speaker Jones and
the other 58 members of the house
of representatives will make the
people of Oregon rejoice if they will
sit down on Burdick until he is as
flat as the proverbial pancake.

When the immortal Thomas Jeff-
erson penned the Declaration of In-
dependence in Philadelphia nearly
143 years ago he wrought vastly
bigger than he knew. He thought
that the great principle of self gov-
ernment he was promulgating con-
cerned but the 13 colonies which
fringed the Atlantic coast. He
thought he was declaring the right
of self government for but three
millions of people. He could not
then conceive that the declaration
he there gave birth, which made
but three million of people freemen,
was to become the ruling principle
of government throughout the entire
civilized world. He probably then
thought he was writing the death
warrant of autocracy in the new
world. As a matter of fact he was
consigning the heredity of kings and
emperors to rule the people, to ob-
literate for all time.

Thomas Jefferson wrote the Decla-
ration of Independence to declare
the right of self government for
13 colonies. Woodrow Wilson, his
successor in writing his fourteen
principles as a basic foundation for

If the emergency clause shall be
attached to the \$10,000,000 road
bonding bill The Tribune will be dis-
appointed some more. A legisla-
ture which is so blind as to prohibit
the people of Oregon from passing
upon a measure of such great im-
portance as this bill, certainly has
no expectation of a political future.
They are bolshevists of the first wa-
ter; they are afraid to trust the
people and by such action assert
themselves to be masters rather
than servants of the people.

The Tribune is well aware that
Oregon legislatures are and have
been for many years unpopular. The
people have come to think and they
have just cause for so thinking, that
a bunch of enemies or freebooters
assemble every two years down at
Salem for legalized robbery in a
small way. When the session ends
the people draw deep breaths of
relief. They feel that the agony
has ended and that they are reason-
ably financially safe for another two
years.

Nor do we have reason to hope
for the use of more horse sense on
the part of our law makers in the
future. Every recurring session
seems to assemble a bunch seem-
ingly determined to establish a record
for spending the people's money.
The six per cent limit seems to vex
and make them angry. New schemes
are evolved at each session to pro-
vide more money to appropriate.

Our various state elemosynary
institutes and reformatories are
never satisfied. Every new supe-
has some new scheme to filch money
from the taxpayer and the extrava-
gances of legislatures seem to gen-
erate these demands.

Now the people are more than
willing to be taxed to build good
roads, support our state institutions
with reasonable economy and to pay
our state and county officials reason-
able salaries. But the people are
down on graft and salary boosting;
and wherever a large amount of
money is to be expended they want
and demand the privilege of passing
upon the same if they so desire.

The Tribune is glad to state that
Linn county members do not seem
to be lined up with the Burdicks.
They seem to be in closer touch
with the people and want to do the
people's business with wisdom and
economy. But the Burdicks and
Portland Bolsheviks are too many
for them. In fact, the state might
as well turn the legislature over to
Portland and the few Burdicks the
hope counties elect. They run the
business anyway and besides smirch
the good name of the few members
who would be decent if they could.

Declaration of Independence.

When the immortal Thomas Jeff-
erson penned the Declaration of In-
dependence in Philadelphia nearly
143 years ago he wrought vastly
bigger than he knew. He thought
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a league or society of nations, has
written the declaration of independ-
ence for the world. The principle
of self government planted on the
American shore of the Atlantic
ocean in 1776 has grown until all
nations in the Old World as well as
the New, have thrown off the yoke
of autocracy.

It required 156 years for the Amer-
ican colonists to educate them-
selves up to the point of declaring
their right of self government. It
has taken 143 years for the peoples
of all the great nations of the civil-
ized world to awaken to the same
thought our revolutionary sires gave
to the world. Are not these two
periods of the world's history more
than a mere coincidence?

When mankind was governed by
feudal lords the rule of force was
the only recognized principle of gov-
ernment. Then a little reason was
awakened in the minds of men and
feudal government was merged into
states and nations, though the rule
of force or might still maintained.
Then came the birth of self govern-
ment which has finally placed the
civilized world on a higher plane.
The great war, which was the final
struggle for the rule of might, has
made the league or society of all
nations possible and which will spell,
let us hope, the end of wars between
nations.

Thomas Jefferson was the instru-
ment only through which the first
declaration of self government was
made. He epitomized the thought
and spirit of his time into the im-
mortal Declaration of Independence.
President Wilson has written the
thought and spirit of the world to-
day into the 14 peace propositions
which seem to be about to be adopt-
ed at Paris, as a declaration of in-
dependence of the world. That is
to say, independence of autocracy
by all nations which will mark the
end of war between nations.

Of course, it cannot be expected
that this constitution for the world,
now being written at Paris, will be
perfect, for it will not be. Amend-
ments will be added later on as the
wisdom of experience will dictate,
but the great beginning has been
made; the seed is being planted
which will culminate into the tree
of "Peace on Earth and Good Will
Among Men."

The Mann Load.

The three representatives of Ore-
gon in congress will, it is announced,
hold a conference among themselves
and endeavor to unite on a candi-
date for speaker in the forthcoming
congress. It may or it may not be
important that they agree, except
as to a single candidate; and his
name is James R. Mann of Illinois.

Mr. Mann is a republican, but he
has no deserts at all from the party.
What can Mr. Hawley, or Mr. Sin-
not, or Mr. McArthur say to their
loyal constituency if they join in a
plan to deliver the congressional
leadership of the party to a fifty-
fifty American like Mann? It is in-
conceivable that they will do it.
They know Mann and his record.

Mann opposed preparedness for
war during the fateful days of 1914-
15-16. He proclaimed his neutral-
ity and said "we ought to maintain
peace at all hazards." He never
said a word in criticism of Germany
for the Lusitania atrocity.

The best that can be said of Mann
is that he failed in his duty because
he did not see it; the worst is that
he saw it and deliberately refused
to do it in a craven desire to placate
pacifist and pro-German opinion.

The republican party cannot carry
the Mann load. It means a repudi-
ation of all the party's professions
of a sincere, practical, exclusive and
forward-looking Americanism.—Or-
egonian.

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