

## THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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

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justice for all.*

### UNDESIRABLE CITIZENS

It is a matter of extreme gratification to every true red blooded American citizen to know that the government is at last taking hold of the deportation of foreigners—men and women who come to America not to become an asset to our country, but to create trouble and preach discontent. Such people are a liability instead of a benefit to our political fabric. Instead of doing their mite to add to our national wealth they at once become a bill of expense. Instead of coming here to be benefited by our laws and free institutions, they come to do harm.

Until the beginning of the great war we did not realize that Germany was filling our land with spies whose only purpose was to inspire and foment discontent in the ranks of organized labor and elsewhere. Until then we thought the industrious German a valuable asset to our national wealth producers, and the so-called German-American was of our best citizenry. But the war has opened American eyes. We have found that the term "German-American" is translated too literally. They construe it to mean Germany first in all things wherein the interests of the two nations seemed to clash. That is to say, some of them do. The large majority, we are glad to note, have dropped the word "German" as a prefix and now proudly write themselves "American" without any prefix or suffix.

What has proven true of German born is true of almost all other nationalities in a more or less degree. They do not accept American citizenship without a mental reservation. They are not dependable under all conditions and circumstances as citizens.

Now we are deporting many aliens who do not seem to care to become citizens as well as those who made the start to become citizens and then renounced their first papers rather than fight.

The time has arrived when our government must adopt more stringent laws governing the alien. We must know before the alien lands at our ports of entry what his purpose is in seeking a residence among us. If he be a propagandist whose preachments would be detrimental to free government, as embodied in the present American form, we do not want him. If the alien asks to become a citizen he should be required to furnish a bond sufficient to make his declaratory purpose good under any and all circumstances.

Probably a better plan would be to require the alien who seeks American citizenship to obtain a certificate with his photograph attached from the American consul at the port from whence he sails, that he is of good character and a person as would become a good American citizen. By such procedure all foreigners who would seek asylum among us would be excluded from coming and before they could do us harm.

It is not feared that foreign born propagandists will ever be able to disrupt our government. The American citizen is sufficiently educated to understand our form and method of government to detect the man or woman who seeks to do us harm. But such people involve a heavy court expense and for maintenance in our prisons. If by a more careful scrutiny at our ports of entry, or at the foreign port from whence the alien sails, we can bar such people from our land it would be wisdom to do so. The alien who asks to become an American should expect to become an asset to the American government as well as to enjoy the benefit of such citizenship. If he or she is unwilling to furnish a guaranty that such is the purpose we do not want a misfit of this character.

The Tribune would not be understood as opposing the foreigner who comes to America with an honest and loyal purpose. These are not the people whom we would bar. They are welcome until they manifest a spirit of disloyalty, such as were lately deported from Seattle. Then they should be invited to get out in no uncertain terms, be they alien citizens holding first papers or full fledged. Plainly, Mr. Foreigner, or if native born of foreign parents, if you do not like our customs and laws be honest about the matter and go where you may feel better satisfied. Don't endeavor to violently resist our customs and laws. If you see something you would change go about it in a lawful and orderly way. This is a country in which the will of the majority must rule. Majority rule is the basis on which all free governments rest.

### THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

The international delegates, of which President Wilson was the directing head, and who wielded a powerful influence over its deliberations has promulgated a constitution and by-laws or rules for regulating the actions of the nations of the world in the future. The instrument will go down in history as the sum total of the wisdom of the leading statesmen of the world; but there is room for improvement of this admirable document and provision is made for such improvement as the wisdom of the future may develop.

All constitutions are based upon compromise. Unless there could be a compromise of opinions and interests it would be impossible for peoples to advance in the science of government.

When our Federal Constitution was formed and adopted it was far from being the perfect instrument that it is today. Within a dozen or so years after its adoption the congress and the people added no less than 12 amendments.

Slavery was recognized as an evil by our constitution makers but they could not form a "more perfect union" without such recognition. Only by compromise could the union of 13 states or colonies existing at that time (6 slave and 7 free) be effected. Eighty years thereafter a great war made the adoption of the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments, all relating to the black man, possible. Other amendments have since been added.

Our own history is cited to show that when men are groping for free-

dom, opinions differ and by compromise only can the step forward be made.

The Paris constitution, yet to be ratified by the signatory nations, is not probably all that any one of the nations participating in its formation desire. It is a compromise of opinions and desires. Yet no one will say it is not a step forward in the interests of humanity throughout the world.

This admirable instrument provides for future amendment, just as our venerated instrument does. The wisdom of our constitution makers has not served their descendants of later years. Our fathers could not foretell what the wisdom of future years might develop. Neither can the combined wisdom of our leading statesmen who assembled at Paris can tell what the future may develop. They have builded the best they knew for the future welfare of the world. If the wisdom of the future shall develop that this admirable document can be added to or taken from, it will not cast any reflection upon President Wilson and the other peace delegates.

They have evolved a long step in the progress of the world in the interest of humanity. They have endeavored to substitute peaceable arbitration for war between nations. It is the wise product of a great world war which entailed the death and maiming of 15,000,000 people and the utter destruction of \$200,000,000,000 of the world's wealth.

### REFERENDUM TO BE CALLED.

It seems probable that the legislature will provide for the holding of a referendum election early in June to enable the people to pass upon several measures which will be referred by our law makers.

Most of these measures are those appropriating money in excess of the sum the legislature can legally appropriate.

Strange to say, the four good roads measures are not among those referred. These four measures, taken as a whole, call for the expenditure of a large sum of money. It is by far the largest expenditure of the people's money ever contemplated by an Oregon legislature in the history of our state.

Why not, Mr. Legislator, allow the people to pass upon a matter in which they are interested to the amount of \$10,000,000 as well as on the other measures, which involve only a few hundred thousand dollars? Are you afraid to trust the people?

These four road measures can be referred to the people without costing the taxpayers anything, or but a trifle at most, as the special election is to be called anyway. If, as it is claimed, the people will endorse the road measures, what have you to fear? If they fail to do so you will be forcing something upon the taxpayer against his will. While you may think it unnecessary to refer the \$10,000,000 bond bill and feel sure the people will give the same an affirmative vote, your actions belie your words. In using the emergency you say by implication, "We know what you people want better than you do yourselves, so we will not let you bother your heads about it."

When the people are called upon to shoulder a large bonded indebtedness, common decency should require that those who must bear the burden should not be denied the privilege of saying yea or nay. It is claimed that the automobile owners will pay the debt, principal and interest. Very well, let the automobile owners vote on the matter.

The Tribune seriously doubts that the auto owners will pay the debt; anyway the horse owner will use the roads and help wear them out. He ought to pay his reasonable share of

the debt. Then he, too, should be allowed to express his assent or dissent.

The fact of the business is, gentlemen, there is no just reason why the road measures should not be placed upon the referendum ballot, but very many why they should be.

This is a people's government. On your every bill which you propose for consideration, gentlemen, your enacting clause states, "Be it enacted by the people of Oregon." This clause implies that the people should have a voice in the matter if they so desire. How can you know, gentlemen of the legislature, that you are expressing the voice of the people if by misuse of the emergency clause you deny them the privilege of doing so?

Leave the matter open and if the people are overwhelmingly in favor of the bill there will be no referendum. Then the bonding bill will become a law in 90 days. But the better plan, Mr. Legislator, is for you to refer the measure. It is very sure to involve your political future if you do not refer it; and as it will cost nothing to give the people a chance to vote yea or nay, you can hardly afford not to do so.

### Bolsheviki at War With America.

Those senators who object to American patriotism in the allied military operations against the bolsheviki on the ground that we are not at war with Russia or with the bolsheviki may as well make up their minds to one thing—the bolsheviki are making war on the United States not only in Russia but in the United States, nor do they make any secret about it. They have adopted a new definition of "imperialist" to cover this country, and they are attacking us at present with propaganda and with revolts such as that at Seattle but they do not hide their intention to resort to fire and sword.

All the radicals of every stripe in this country have been gathered into their fold, and they already have among their number a large sprinkling of Americans who abuse their liberty by conduct hostile to the American constitution such as would quickly end their liberty, probably their lives, if pursued against the soviet in Russia. They held a meeting on February 2 in Washington, under the shadow of the capitol, at which bolshevism was lauded by Rhys Williams and Louise Bryant, who is the wife of John Reed, the would-be bolshevik consul to the United States. The 1500 persons present cheered their sentiments and shouted "Hurrah for the bolsheviki!" Williams attempted to justify the slaughter and ruin which have accompanied bolshevik progress, and minimized the loss of life by saying it was less than that which resulted from the war.

The propaganda has reached congress, for Representative-elect William Mason made a speech approving the new gospel of terror, and Representatives Dillon of South Dakota and Gordon of Ohio were also present, merely in search of information, let us hope. The whole trend of the speeches was to disparage the American and praise the soviet form of government.

In the discussion of this meeting by the senate, Senator Kellogg declared that "throughout the length and breadth of the land there is today a propaganda, public only to the extent that it dares to show itself, advising and teaching the lawless element of this country to overthrow the government with fire and sword." He summed up the radical element in these words:

"It is the I. W. W.; it is the escaped nihilists who come to this country from Russia; it is the scum of Europe, comprised of men who call themselves socialists but who are mere anarchists. They are trying to incite the dissatisfied element of this country to a class warfare."—Oregonian.

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