

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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

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SIX MONTHS .75

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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.

LINN COUNTY FOR GOOD ROADS

Linn county people seem almost a unit for good roads. They want them paved where traffic is the heaviest and heavy macadam from neighborhoods to the market towns.

It is estimated that aside from the Pacific highway through the county, some 40 miles of paving will connect all of the main towns of the county with the Pacific highway. Then, probably 150 to 200 miles of macadam will be necessary to connect all neighborhoods with their market towns.

If we estimate the cost of grading and paving at \$10,000 per mile and macadam at \$4000, a bond issue of \$1,000,000 with our regular road tax moneys will give our county first-class roads within the space of three or four years.

It has become quite evident that our plan of road improvement is not getting anywhere. Linn county has expended more than \$1,000,000, if we count special precinct tax levies and volunteer work. We have not received more than 30 per cent benefit from this large sum mainly because the county court could not raise enough money in any one year to carry on road work except in a perfunctory manner. There always has been a scarcity of road-working tools, to do the work in the most economical way; the court could not spare the tax money with which to buy them, hence the people were forced to simply do what they could by the old primitive method.

So now the people propose to put into the hands of the county court enough money at one time so that proper road building tools can be purchased and not one road only, or a piece of a road improved, but that all of the main arteries of travel can be improved.

Nor will it cost any more money than the plan we have been pursuing ever since the old men of today were boys. Our present road taxes if we include the special precinct taxes, will average at least five mills. Five mills will pay the interest on the bonds, supply repair road money and provide a sinking fund which will pay off the bonds in 20 years. And while we would be paying this bonded debt we would be enjoying the benefits.

If we should build good roads about Scio so that milk trucks could gather up the milk with anything like ease, it would cost the milk producer not more than one-half what it does now to get his milk to market. This saving, Mr. Farmer, will

more than pay your share of the bonds—principal and interest.

After the money is provided for the county court, plans and specifications for the improvement of each road should be prepared and the building let by contract. By such procedure road improvement all over the county could be inaugurated at the same time; the people would then be satisfied because no favoritism would be shown.

WHO SHOULD BUY ROAD BONDS?

It seems probable that Linn county will be authorized by the people to issue road bonds at the special election in June. Now the question is: Shall these bonds be sold to bond speculators whose only object is to buy them as cheaply as possible; or shall they be sold to Linn county farmers, mechanics and business men who are all deeply interested in building good roads for Linn county in addition to buying bonds as an investment?

Now these bonds will be a debt against Linn county which the taxpayers must pay, and all should be, and doubtless are, desirous that the best possible price shall be realized from the sale of these bonds, for the proceeds are to be expended on roads from which each individual taxpayer will receive a benefit.

The farmer will receive a twofold benefit; he will be enabled to get his produce to market at a less cost and in case he should desire to sell his farm he can sell it for from \$5 to \$10 more per acre. The business man will have his business increased because of the increase of people to buy his goods; the mechanic will prosper because more people will want homes built, etc.

So any of these people can well afford to loan the county \$200 to start this period of prosperity. Why they could afford to make an outright gift of this amount; but such gift is not required; all you need to do is to invest your \$200 in giltedge securities and you will make it possible for Linn county to build good roads.

The Tribune believes in the old adage, "There are none so independent as those who can and will help themselves." The people of Linn county have wealth enough to pave every road in the county; but paved roads are required only where the heaviest traffic exists. Macadam, or a good gravel surface, is all that is required on what may be termed neighborhood roads.

This newspaper urges that Linn county people buy the bonds when our county court offers them for sale, for we feel sure the people will authorize the court to sell the bonds. Largely the proceeds of these bonds will be paid to Linn county people for labor and material and therefore the money will not leave the county; it will remain here to be employed in the daily transaction of business. Best of all the resulting good roads will increase business and increase the prosperity of Linn county and the state.

CHAMBERLAIN AND THE ADMINISTRATION.

No one who is honest in political thought has any doubt whatever of President Wilson's honesty of purpose in conduct of the government. Most people think also that in going to France he is trying to accomplish for humanity the grandest purpose that could inspire the mind of man. The Tribune hopes and expects the president to be successful in his efforts. The senator who refuses to vote to ratify the treaty and the league of nations is apt to terminate his congressional career. The people want peace and the abolishment of wars in the future if such shall be possible.

It would be foolish to assume that President Wilson and his cabinet advisers have made no mistakes in the conduct of the war, nor that there have not been just grounds for scandals. For there have been errors of judgment, and dishonest and negligent officials have secured responsible positions. This was true of the management and conduct of the war of the Rebellion a-plenty.

When large sums of money must be disbursed regardless of cost, as was the case in the airship business, it would have been a matter of astonishment if there had not been mismanagement, speculation, etc.

Senator Chamberlain as chairman of the senate military committee became cognizant of these wrong conditions. His criticism of Secretary Baker was merited and just had the criticism been delivered before the senator's committee or before the entire senate. But Senator Chamberlain did not do this. He criticized the management of the war department when addressing a New York audience which in the main was hostile to President Wilson and the war department.

Senator Chamberlain made a serious blunder in delivering his New York address. While it had the effect of turning the airship business topsy turvy and the appointment of a new superintendent for the airship department, it seriously offended the president and Secretary Baker; they felt the criticism to be an insult when delivered at the time and place.

Senator Chamberlain is courageous enough to condemn wrong even when found in his own political party. No one doubts the senator's patriotic honesty nor that of the president, but the criticism has resulted in estrangement when there should be warm friendship and confidence.

Compare the conduct of the present great war, with the enormously increased cost, with that of the Civil war. Mr. Wilson's administration will not suffer from the comparison. Yet no one questioned the honesty and purity of heart of Abraham Lincoln.

The capability of General Pershing and his divisional generals; the pay and treatment of the troops; the method of conducting the draft, and the method of raising the enormous sums of money with which to finance the war, reflects credit upon the Wilson administration in every particular above mentioned.

A BIG JOB

President Wilson has about the biggest job on his hands which has ever been undertaken by any man in the history of the world. If he succeeds in the great work it will be due to the fact that all the nations of Europe are both sickened and exhausted by the four years of useless and senseless bloody war.

All European wars heretofore had for a basis the grabbing of territory and usually large indemnity. The losing nation has generally had the costs of the war on both sides to pay. But this war has been so stupendous and the cost bill so enormous that it is impossible for the central powers to even think of paying. If Germany simply pays for the damage she inflicted upon France and Belgium and for the merchant vessels her submarines sent to the bottom of the sea, her ability to pay will be stretched to the utmost.

All of these conditions, jealousies and greed Mr. Wilson must harmonize if a league of nations is effected. It is sure some job. If order can be brought out of the chaotic condition of Russia, Germany, Austria and the Balkan countries, and the world again started on the ways of peace, the president will have accomplished the heretofore impossible.

Fruitless Panaceas.

The poor old world is sick abed and around his couch crowd medicine men of every name and fame. In their bags are nostrums, cathartics, elixirs of life and panaceas a-plenty. The mental scientist tells him that he is not ill at all, but only thinks he is. Prohibitionist declares that he will soon be well if he only stops taking his toddy. The single taxer affirms that he has only to lay his imposts on the land instead of on other forms of wealth and that he will straitway get upon his feet. The suffragette insists that he has only to bestow the franchise upon women to double his weight. The socialist, tiptoe on a soap box, swears that if he will only put his property in the hands of the state and make every citizen an employee of the government he will "be around again as well as ever." The trade unionist confidently asserts that his trouble originates in too long hours and too small wages. The I. W. W. insists that he ought not to work at all, but find "a place in the sun" and "while his time away in everlasting bliss." The bolshevist makes bold to say that he has only to organize soviets, but all business into the hands of the proletariat, abolish religion, nationalize women for the free use of men and let the state bring up his children, to relieve himself of all his aches and pains.

The Paris conference is more conservative in its diagnosis and prescription, but it holds out the modest assurance that if he will only form a league of nations, quit his quarreling with his neighbors and "put his nose to the grindstone," he will live to a green old age.

As for ourselves, we have no faith in panaceas. We do not believe that any one of these doses will set the old fellow upon his feet for good and all. We put our faith in the cultivation of a good character, in the exercise of all the christian virtues, in justice, charity, industry, economy, temperance, chastity and religion.

If we can only get the old roisterer patched up after this last debacle, in which he gave the reins to all his passions, persuade him to settle down to work again and do business under the principle enunciated in the "golden rule," we shall cherish the fondest hopes of his future health of body, mind and spirit.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

This daylight saving business is a failure so far as The Tribune force is concerned. Sometimes we beat them to the office at 7:30 a. m. and then they accuse this editor of staying in the office all night. Then at 5:30 p. m. we find them still at work and we ask: "Don't you fellows know that eight hours is a legal day's work for printers?" Their answer is: "Besides looking after the widows and orphans and old maids, we have nothing to do but work or go a-fishing; and as the water is too high for fishing we are compelled to work." As a result the fair annual (premium list) has been gotten out in five days, besides the regular newspaper work and two men have done all the work. The book comprises 72 pages and the school fair 13 pages. This is quick work for a country print shop with a limited force.

The office frog pond is back to its normal winter condition by reason of the heavy rains. So the fishing prohibition is still on though we have failed to hear any croaking from the aforesaid carp or frogs. The animals must have departed to where water conditions were more stable.

The Scio Tribune \$1.50 the year.

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Woodburn-Springfield Branch
WEST SCIO
North 7:55 a.m.
South 5:09 p.m.
Corvallis & Eastern
MUNKERS
To Albany 8:11 a.m.
To Detroit 1:44 p.m.
Motor service discontinued.

Mortgage Loans Negotiated Notary Public

H. B. CHESSE

Attorney at Law

Office on Sherman St. Lebanon, Ore.

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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

Riley Shelton

Real Estate Broker
and Notary Public

Abstracts Obtained, Examined

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