

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.

THE GOVERNOR-SECRETARY MUDDLE

The editor of The Tribune is not a lawyer nor the son of a lawyer, but he has the right to express an opinion on matters which affect the welfare of the state the same as any other citizen.

As a matter of fact no man in accordance with the state constitution has or should have the right to hold two lucrative offices at the same time. The state constitution makers never contemplated that such should be the case; yet they made no provision why the official could not hold the two offices, as in the case now under consideration.

The main cause of the present muddle was the death of the late secretary of state, Benson, causing the election of his successor at an election two years after the general state election.

The term of office of the secretary of state is four years, the same as governor and other elective state officials. It is possible, therefore, for a muddle like the present one to occur at any time in the future. If it is possible this matter should now be adjusted that it will set aside all difficulties of like nature in the future. Had the people created the office of lieutenant-governor the matter would have been fixed for the future though not for the present. Therefore a precedent should now be established which would repair the neglect of the constitution makers.

The governor, secretary of state and state treasurer constitute the state board of control. When the death, resignation or any other cause removes the governor and the secretary is advanced to the governor's chair, the secretary-governor becomes two members of the board of control. Certainly, the constitution makers never contemplated such a contingency else they would have provided for it.

When the office of governor becomes vacant the secretary of state becomes governor in fact. But the fact cannot be dodged—he becomes governor by virtue of being secretary of state.

Secretary of State Olcott as secretary will go out of office in January, 1921; his successor will be elected next year. If, as Chief Justice McBride held, he is governor in fact for the full term for which the late governor, Withycombe, was elected he, Olcott, will hold the office of governor from January, 1921,

to January, 1923, without any authority whatever.

There is no question whatever of the right of any public official to resign his office at his pleasure. Governor Olcott has the right to resign as secretary of state. But if he does so will he not destroy his right to be governor the minute he resigns? He holds the governorship by virtue of constitutional authority. Therefore if he resigns that authority he has no other authority to sustain his occupancy of the governor's chair.

The Tribune believes this reasoning cannot be overcome unless by an arbitrary decision of the supreme court. Then Mr. Olcott would be governor (1921-1923) not by virtue of being secretary of state, but by authority of a decision of the supreme court, something which the constitution makers never contemplated.

We honor Governor Olcott for wishing to appoint a successor to himself as secretary of state. He does not wish the responsibility of the state board of control to rest upon his shoulders alone, as it does at the present time. No matter what may be the action of the board of control the responsibility rests upon Governor Olcott. No matter if he casts but one vote on questions which come before the board, in case of tie he must use the other vote. Consequently, the state treasurer being but one-third while the governor is two-thirds of the board, becomes a mere nonentity.

The supreme court cannot amend the constitution nor create laws. Its province is to interpret the constitution and laws bearing upon questions which may be brought before it. Yet it is the court of last resort. It will have to decide this muddle in some way or declare it has no authority to do so. Governor Olcott will have to go along until the next election when his successor as secretary will be chosen and a governor should be chosen at the same time. The Tribune thinks.

The Tribune suggests that the republican party nominates Governor Olcott for governor next year and the muddle will be disposed of. The governor and secretary would then go into office at the same time, as the constitution makers contemplated which would end muddles in the future of the like nature of the present.

It is very plain that an appointed state official cannot hold his appointment only until the next general election. We believe the constitution makers in specifying the succession to the governor's chair simply assumed the appointing power for the constitution.

REPUBLICAN EFFRONTERY

In a recent speech in Philadelphia Representative Gillett of Massachusetts, speaker of the house, called President Wilson a dreamer and an idealist. More than that Mr. Gillett said the president "is an egoist; he is not a man of practical affairs; the people do not want a repetition of the indecision, apparent aimlessness and blundering of the past few years in Washington."

The record of the democratic party during the last several years of control will bear comparison with that set up by the republicans who held the reins of government unbrokenly from 1896 to 1912.

Mr. Gillett's party conducted the war with Spain. As wars go it wasn't much of a war; about one per cent as large an undertaking as our part in the world war, which was conducted with about one hundred times as much efficiency. It wasn't fought long enough ago for the public to have forgotten the embalmed beef scandal, the kind of food the soldiers ate; the plagues that swept them away in the camps

until the death rate appalled the country because of poor sanitation, or no sanitation at all, and a hopelessly incompetent medical service. Nor has the country forgotten that favoritism ruled over efficiency in the commissioning of officers; that the expeditionary force to Cuba was commanded by a general too fat to walk and who had to be carried about on a litter, and who owed his preferment to his personal friendship for the secretary of war. Compare the record of Shafter in Cuba with a handful of men, with that of Pershing in France with two million, and then think of the impudence of republicans in mentioning such a thing as "indecision," "aimlessness" or "blundering."

During successive administrations from 1896 to 1912 republicans talked of banking reform; the democrats established the federal reserve system; republicans talked of farm loans; the democrats established the farm loan bank system under which farmers have borrowed nearly \$200,000,000 at a low rate of interest and on very long terms. The democratic administration substituted deeds for words.

America's achievements in the past two years astounded her allies and overwhelmed her enemies; they are the brightest page in history, and they were accomplished under the leadership of a man Mr. Gillett has the effrontery to call a "dreamer" and an "idealist."

REPUBLICAN OPPOSITION TO LEAGUE.

Senators Lodge, Borah, Johnson, Penrose and others are assuming a tremendous responsibility in their efforts to defeat the formation of the league of nations. In defeating the league they will defeat the treaty of peace as well, which would leave the United States in a state of war with Germany. The treaty and league are so interwoven that the document as a whole must either be ratified or rejected by the senate.

From the best information which we can get we believe a large majority of the republican party favors ratification. Nor will these party senatorial objectors represent their constituency if they succeed in defeating this greatest step in the progress of the world which history records. If such defeat is accomplished The Tribune believes it will spell disruption of the republican party. Certainly it will result in defeat of the next republican candidate for the presidency, no matter whom the democrats may nominate.

This great war has saddled an enormous bonded debt upon the people; has caused the deaths of more than 50,000 of our young men and the maiming of more than 200,000. We have paid a fearful price and to have it go for nought just to satisfy a bunch of disgruntled partisan senators is supremely dissatisfying to three-fourths of the American people. It will make them so angry that they will hurl this misrepresentative bunch from power at the first opportunity. Moreover, it will so displease the rank and file of the republican party that they will form a new party, else desert to the democrats in a wholesale manner.

As a matter of course the league constitution is not just what America would have it. Neither was our own revered constitution satisfactory to the thirteen American colonies.

Both of these important instruments are the result of compromise; but our own constitution was the best we could get at that time. So is it the best we can get for a league constitution at the present time. France is not suited; England is not suited; Italy is not suited, and the United States is not suited. Yet, rather than have no league at all, they all are willing to accept the re-

sult of the deliberations at Paris. All believe it to be a starter for a new mark in the world's history and that amendments can be added later on as developments may require.

When the league of our thirteen original states was formed there was not a colony or state at that time but what would have had it different, but it was the best they could then get. Washington's term of office had about expired before all the states had signed, and during his term no less than twelve amendments were adopted and added to the instrument. Why may not the league constitution follow in like footsteps? We are continually adding amendments to our own Oregon constitution. Why? Because new developments and new conditions require new fundamental laws. This has been the history of the federal constitution and will be the history of the league constitution.

These wilful United States senators are assuming the responsibility of placing themselves as a block in the way of human progress. By their actions they say they are unwilling to do anything or make any effort to do anything to attempt to prevent such great wars in the future as this war with Germany. They are willing to have countries devastated, our young men slaughtered and our homes filled with grief. Are such actions human; are they progressive?

These senators are supposed to be of among our brightest Americans. They are supposed to be men of progress and to work for the interests of the people of the United States. But are they doing so when just for party prejudice and advantage they are willing to defeat this forward step in human progress?

Political parties are right and necessary in the conduct of a democratic form of government. Partisanship, or interest in the success of one's party, is right; but when it is carried to the extent of a spirit of rule or ruin, it is all wrong, unparliamentary and subversive to the progress of free government.

Republican candidates last fall promised to stand behind the president; but they were running for office then.

Senator Lodge says he deprecates the discussion of the league of nations as a partisan issue. He merely wanted it to be a republican issue.

"Progressives" in the present congress have surrendered everything to Boss Penrose but their political soubriquet, and he didn't want that.

Press dispatches say that President Wilson expects to sail for home about the 20th of this month, indicating the peace parley will be closed within a few days.

Government reports claim the total wheat acreage this year is 71,525,000 acres. If the average yield is 20 bushels, there sure will be some wheat raised.

The cool nights we're having with the soil moist, is a sure preventive of black rust.

Ask Your Boy

When the fighting was thickest
When the suffering was greatest
Where was the Salvation Army Lassie?

He will say: "SHE WAS RIGHT ON THE JOB!"

And now, back home, in the byways and hidden places, where misery always lives, where a mother needs a home, where men, women and children are on the down grade, she is still "RIGHT ON THE JOB!"

HELP HER TO CARRY ON

The Salvation Army Home Service Fund, June 22-30.

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Successor to Morris Bros.

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Office phone Main 525; Residence phone Main 21

LEBANON, OREGON

Railroad Time Table

Arrival and Departure of Passenger Trains

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. CHESS

Attorney at Law

Office on Sherman St Lebanon, Ore.

MUNKERS and WEST SCIO STAGE

Walter Blyeu, Prop.
Phone 6-515

STAGE LEAVES 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

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

Sale dates arranged for at The Scio

Tribune Office, Scio, Ore.

C. C. FRYANT

ATTORNEY AT LAW

201-2 New First National Bank Bldg.

ALBANY - - - OREGON

RURAL CREDIT LOANS

Our twenty year rural credit plan of loaning money to farmers, helps you to get out of debt. Under our form of loan the total amount of interest paid during its entire period of twenty years is actually less than 5% per cent interest. Write us for booklet.

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