

THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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

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Oregon as second class matter.

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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.*

NEAR TREASON.

The purpose of the miners in bringing about the coal strike can have but one interpretation and that is to starve the public for fuel into granting their demands. It is very much of the character of the German submarine war, which was to starve and terrorize the world into conceding German demands. Regardless of the rights of other peoples and the suffering a successful submarine war would result in bringing about, and in violation of Germany's pledged word made at The Hague, in the conduct of war, the submarine campaign was launched. Regardless of their agreement to not bring on a strike until the final conclusion of peace these miners have brought on a strike which, if successful, will bring on untold suffering and death throughout not only the United States but the nations of Europe as well. The German submarine campaign failed and so will the coal strike fail.

But let us suppose the government at Washington remained passive and allowed these mine strikers to work their wills. What would result within a short time, say before the holiday season is here? As coal is a vital necessity in the operation of our transportation systems, the population centers would be both freezing and starving in a short time and the poorest of the citizens of these centers would be those to suffer first and most.

While the farmer would have an abundance of food and fuel in the timbered sections and would gladly ship his surplus to the city, he could not do so because the railroad motive power would be cold for lack of fuel, so trains could not operate.

There is a sort of selfish satisfaction in knowing that these strikers would suffer for food as well as others.

The strikers seek to bring about a fuel famine. Why would it not be good policy to prohibit the sale of food to them, placing the food seller under heavy penalty, until these miners are willing to go to work? They ought not to complain if their same methods are employed against them.

The general public is willing that the coal miner shall receive a fair wage for his labor, but for half a million of men, a large majority of whom are illiterate foreigners, to attempt to bring about a governmental chaos, if not treason, is the next door to it.

President Wilson is right in invoking the strong arm of the gov-

ernment to curb this attempt of this small bunch of bolsheviks to rule by force. We are justly proud that our American congress stands behind the president to a man in his prompt action.

Our government recognizes the right of working men and others to form unions for the purpose of bettering their own conditions. But when this right is abused and seeks to injure others it then violates the constitutional provision which guarantees equality of rights to all.

The Tribune hopes that this crisis brought upon the government will result in a just and sensible compulsory arbitration law. We have been enacting laws for several years to prevent capital from oppressing labor and the people. Now give us a law to prevent labor from oppressing capital and the people, and especially when this labor is largely illiterate foreigners who should never have been permitted to land upon our shores.

ILLITERACY

There are thousands of illiterate foreigners and those who cannot read English newspapers and books who are severely handicapped as American citizens and who are an actual menace to our government. In almost every community, even on the Pacific Coast, there are men and women who go to the polls to vote on election day who have but little knowledge of why they vote for this or that candidate or for this or that measure; yet their votes count as heavily in the election returns as those of the best informed or highly educated voters.

This condition is greatly emphasized in the manufacturing and coal mining districts of the east and middle west. In some way or some how this undesirable condition should be remedied. Either the voting franchise should be denied these illiterates or non English reading foreigners or some remedial legislation enacted which will gradually remove this menace.

Nor should we forget that we have thousands of American citizens who have the ability to read yet for one reason or another neglect to prepare themselves to vote intelligently.

Right at the present time our nation is in the midst of a labor crisis which menaces our entire industrial system. If all of those coal miners were capable of reading English newspapers and books they would not be made the mere tools of the walking delegate. They would do some of the thinking themselves and form their own conclusions.

We have our common schools which will remedy this condition in time, but if we continue to permit the flood of indiscriminate immigration the future outlook is not encouraging.

The time is not distant when the foreigner who is not willing to prepare himself for American citizenship will be invited to return to the land from whence he came and where the alien laborer will be denied the right to be an employee in our industries. We will be compelled to enact such laws as a means of self protection as a nation.

In Oregon, where the people enact laws if they see proper, the illiterate or the person who does not have "time to read" becomes a source of danger. He may be the means of the enactment of mischievous laws or of defeating much needed and meritorious ones.

Unless a man or woman thinks enough of the voting franchise to prepare themselves to vote intelligently, he or she should not be allowed to vote.

When the present voting ballot was adopted with the initiative and referendum provision, the Oregon voter assumed a heavy responsibility.

ity. He ought to know enough to discharge his duty as an elector intelligently. He ought to embrace every opportunity to perform this function of American citizenship in a manner creditable to himself and to his state.

So should it be throughout the nation. Means should be provided so that the illiterate or non-English reading foreigner could thus prepare himself for intelligent citizenship else he should be denied a voice in the conduct of government. And if he, in reasonable time should neglect to so prepare himself, he should be invited to return to his native land. In this day and age there is no reason, especially in America, why every one should not be able to read. We pay heavy taxes to support our public school system and we should provide evening schools for our foreign friends as well. It is not expected that everyone shall be college men or women; oh! no. But we should expect everyone, American or foreign born, to be able to exercise the functions of American citizenship intelligently.

Crucifying the Public.

The coal deposits were formed by nature in the bowels of the earth for the benefit of all mankind.

In its great scheme of things, nature provided soil, forests, the changing seasons, the water, minerals, and all the other resources for sustaining life. The purpose of all this preparation of natural elements through the cycles was preliminary to the coming of man and preparation for sustaining the life of the teeming millions.

It was never intended that any group of men or any two groups of men should be in position to interrupt the processes, for instance, by which coal is supplied for the comfort and survival of human beings. It is abhorrent to nature and the great plan of nature that such a status should ever arise. It would not only be unnatural, but it would be inhuman and barbaric, with winter coming on, for the production of coal to cease as is now threatened by the proposed strike of the soft coal miners of America.

The squabble between the mine owners and their workers is not their private squabble. The mines are not their private mines. The great public has an interest in these mines and government is under obligation to see that this interest is protected. Government itself is in duty bound to see that production does not cease and thereby to provide against the ruinous stagnation of industry, the stoppage of production in industrial plants, the interruption of commerce, the general prostration of activity and the enforced idleness of thousands upon thousands of workers that would result from the proposed coal strike.

All this is full warrant for the position taken by President Wilson, whose public statement clearly indicates that the power and authority of the United States government will be used in keeping the mines in operation in case attempt is made to carry the strike order into effect.

There is statement that the minimum wage in the mines is \$5 and that in certain districts it is \$8 to \$12 per day. The miners claim that they are working on starvation pay. They are asking for an increase of 60 per cent in wages, for a five-day week, and a six-hour day.

The demand for a six-hour day and a five-day week at a time when coal stocks are low and winter coming on evidences the fantastic state of mind into which the miners have drifted. It shows the impossible and impracticable theories which the miners and their leaders are contending for as a basis of industry.

The laborer is worthy of his hire. He has a right to collective bargain-

ing because employers generally are organized for collective bargaining. He has a right to a wage that will enable him to provide for a rainy day. There are thousands upon thousands who do not now have that wage. The workers have a right to organize, but fundamental to it all is this:

They owe something to that great public of which they are a common part, that public which provides them with government, which protects their homes, which guarantees them the right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, which clothes them with freedom and puts the ballot in their hands and makes them sovereign citizens, the peers of kings, the equals of all other men.

The proposal, with winter coming on, to stop the production of coal, is a proposal to deny the public access to the coal deposits of the earth, a natural resource to which the public has equal interest with mine owners and mine workers. They might as well, by the same logic, propose to deny the use by the public of air or water or bread or clothing.

Fuel is as essential to life as either and in attempting to cut off the fuel supply the miners are making war on the very public to which they are indebted for life, property, freedom, the ballot, and all the other priceless privileges of life in America.

A change will come. The mine owners have committed many economic crimes. They went to Europe and brought over pauper workers to slave for them on pauper wages. They thereby put cankers in the heart of the republic. They set the miserable example of bad citizenship which their employes are now pursuing. They put greed above God. They put gain above country.

The public is now paying the price. But that public is becoming weary. The American people have settled every problem as it arose, and some day, perhaps soon, they will put an end to the present indignities which the great impartial, long suffering public is compelled to endure.—Oregon Journal.

The Army Ration.

Washington—Uncle Sam is finding himself confronted with the problem of meeting the high cost of living in provisioning American soldiers and in preserving his reputation as having "the best fed soldiers in the world." The value of the ration (three meals a day) has risen from about 25 cents a day in 1916, to about 50 cents a day in 1919. When the great national army was organized in 1917, the great influx of inexperienced officers, cooks and mess sergeants made necessarily a considerable increase in the ration.

A hog in medium condition, gaining rapidly in weight, yields the best quality of meat. Do not kill a hog that is losing flesh, advises the U. S. department of agriculture. A reasonable amount of fat gives juiciness and flavor to the meat, but large amounts of fat are not essential.

The breeding of animals plays an important part in producing a carcass of high quality, says the U. S. department of agriculture. Selection, long continued care, and intelligent feeding will produce meat of desirable quality.

Notice of Final Settlement.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, executor of the last will and testament and estate of E. C. Rodgers deceased, has filed with the county clerk of Linn County, Oregon, his final account in said estate and the County Court has appointed Monday, the first day of December, 1919, in the county court room in the court house in the city of Albany, Linn County, Oregon, as the time and place for hearing said final account, the objections thereto, if any there be, and for the final settlement of said estate.

Dated this 17th day of October, A. D. 1919. GEORGE E. RODGERS, Executor.
L. M. Curri, Attorney for Executor.



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C. C. BRYANT ATTORNEY AT LAW

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OWEN BEAM, Agent.
133 Lyon St
Albany, Oregon