

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.*

SCIO, OREGON, JULY 22, 1920

APPEALS TO PREJUDICE.

The indications of the present political outlook are the appeal to prejudice and ridicule are to be almost the leading factors in the conduct of the campaign.

Last Sunday the Oregonian published the Bryan San Francisco convention speech in full. Why? The Oregonian has no special love for Mr. Bryan that would cause the publication of this speech. Nor was the speech made in Portland where the Oregonian would, as a duty to its readers, publish the speech. No. The speech was published as an appeal to democrat prohis to prejudice them against candidate Cox, whom that paper tries to herald as a "wet" candidate.

The Oregonian well knows that Mr. Cox is no more entitled to be styled a "wet" candidate than is Mr. Harding. Mr. Cox advocates the enforcement of law and as an evidence of the fact, when Ohio enacted the Sunday law against the sale of liquor, Mr. Cox as governor gave his state the first "dry" Sunday she ever had.

Nor is the Oregonian famed for being a "dry" newspaper. It became "dry" after it had become popular to be "dry".

The same appeals to prejudice would have existed if McAdoo had been nominated. It, like other old guard newspapers, was ready to ring all the changes which could be devised as to McAdoo being the "crown prince".

Such methods of campaigning are hardly fair to the American people to say the least. Nor are the o. g. newspapers willing to recite anything about the many splendid pieces of legislation a democratic president and congress placed upon the statute books. Only what can be construed as evil is given publicity by them. They want the voter to remember only such acts on the part of democracy as they or their party oppose and to forget or overlook the good. This appeal is to prejudice and to partisanship.

This may be the methods of modern politics. It is a method or methods devised to defeat good candidates and elect bad ones. And these appeals is what prevents the election of good men and prevents the enactment of good legislation.

Mr. Bryan or any other man has the right to make speeches and to try to convince his hearers that his thoughts are correct and for the best interests of the American people. But he nor others is entitled to have his or their speeches used as a basis for appeals to prejudice and to cause the voter to cast his ballot for something he does not really want.

Present the unbiased facts to the American people; let them make up

their opinions thereupon and they will not go very far wrong. Prejudice, misrepresentation and deliberate lying in politics never get men or women who think, very far. It is only the ignorant and people who won't take the trouble to dig out the facts that such methods reach.

STRAW BALLOT ERA.

Now that the national tickets are made up and the political campaign about to open we may expect straw ballots to be reported under every and all kinds of conditions. Favorable or unfavorable ballots may be expected owing to the character of the crowd and who conducts the ballot.

Nor will men or women always vote their true sentiments when participating in these straw votes. They are apt to vote with what they think will be the majority. Only on general election day, when their votes are counted and are made effective, may we expect the voter to indicate his or her true sentiments, and too often then voters through neglect to scan the ticket carefully vote for men or measures which they do not favor.

Voters are not careful enough in exercising their rights of franchise on election day. Too many are governed by the passing influences, prejudice or whim of the moment, and the participating in the straw vote helps to nurture an undesirable carelessness in casting a ballot which counts on election day.

Anyway, the straw ballot is a foolish procedure. It is simply to satisfy a morbid curiosity and which does not satisfy it. It is for the purpose of influencing the voter who is figuratively on the fence, and voters often cast an untrue ballot for this one purpose of influencing the on-the-fence voter. Therefore, the straw ballot should not be encouraged.

THE DIVIDED SESSION.

One of the measures to be voted upon at the next general election is what is known as "the divided session of the legislature." It is a substitute for our present law of 40-day legislature. If the substitute is made we will have in lieu of the 40-day session a divided session of 50 and 10 days respectively.

Without doubt Oregon has made such growth that a longer session is needed to dispose of the increase of legislative business required; for one of the complaints against our present session of 40 days is that it does not give time for the proper deliberation and discussion of proposed laws. As a result, many of the laws enacted go to the people in a half baked condition and have to be amended or repealed at subsequent sessions.

It is proposed in the new law to devote the first 50-day period to the introduction of bills, to be carried to the second reading, discussed and submitted to the people. At the 10-day period no new bills may be introduced except under emergency conditions; but bills introduced at the first session may be amended or rejected.

The Oregon legislature as it has become almost a stench in the nostrils of the people. It is looked upon almost as an enemy to the great masses of the people and as a special friend to corporations and others who have special interests they want served. Such people have the best lawyers concoct a scheme to propose to the legislature and the people expect their lawmakers, composed of farmers, merchants, mechanics, and lawyers, in the short period of 40 days to detect the "nigger in the woodpile". The lengthened and divided session will give the members and the people more time to find

the "nigger".

The Tribune will not undertake to say the proposed divided session will be vastly superior to the 40-day amule, but it will say the new plan is very apt to be an improvement over the old. At all events it can be no worse. 60 days will cost more than 40 days. But the increased cost may be money well expended.

We can try it for a while and if it proves a failure and not up to expectations, we can repeal the law. We advise the people to vote for the change as the possibilities for improvement over our present system are great and any change is sure to be an improvement over the present system, for it can be no worse.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

Linn county has set up an example in bond road building that the other counties and the state will do well to follow. Over two years ago the voters of Linn county authorized the county court to sell \$600,000 in bonds for road building purposes.

It was stipulated that these bonds should be sold for no less than par and accrued interest and to be offered to Linn county buyers as preferred buyers. \$100,000 were sold last year and taken nearly as soon as offered. \$100,000 have been sold this year by the bankers of the county underwriting the issue and they to become responsible for their sale to Linn county investors. What were apportioned to the Scio bank were taken up by farmers in less than two weeks.

Now the state has been selling the road bond issues at a discount of about 10 per cent. We are not advised as to what other counties have sold their bonds at, but they could not do better than sell them to their own people, as Linn has done. We Linn county people did not try to graft the county as the Portland bond buyers have the state.

A Memorable Day.

Two years ago today (Thursday) the Germans made their final bid for victory. Crossing the Marne at Chateau Thierry, where they were but 45 miles from Paris, they struck for possession of the valley of Surmelin creek, the two wagon roads and the railroad of which, General Dickman said, "are indispensable for the line of supply of an army crossing the Marne." They crossed at other points to the eastward and made good their footing. They attacked on a wide front in Champagne and were thrown back. But the critical point was at Chateau Thierry for it was nearest to Paris and from that town the road led to the capital.

The story of how their progress was blocked was told by Representative McArthur in the house of representatives. The 38th infantry, commanded by Colonel U. G. McAlexander, held the position on the south bank of the river, with another American regiment on its left and a French division on its right. McAlexander was determined not to give ground, and to guard against being outflanked through retirement of the French he dug trenches on that flank.

He had imbued his regiment with the conviction that "it may be killed, but it cannot be conquered." After an intense artillery fire from midnight to 4 a. m. on the 15th, two divisions of Germans undertook to cross the river in boats and on pontoon bridges. McAlexander, contrary to military practice, had left a strong detachment on the bank, which destroyed boatload after boatload of Germans with rifle fire, so that none were able to cross on the 38th's front. Others effected crossings to the right and left and advanced to the railroad which skirts the river bank, but they were stop-

ped by the 38th, which, fighting on three sides, acted in "the spirit of kill or be killed." None crossed the railroad, but 600 Germans died between it and the river. One company of the 38th lost 70 per cent of its men, but the other 30 per cent countercharged and took 410 prisoners.

The fight on the flanks continued for three days and the Americans held their ground against six times their number of Germans, who were also relieved by a reserve division. Receiving an order, "Fall back if you think best," McAlexander asked: "Is it up to my decision?" The answer being "Yes," he said, "Then I hold my lines," thus winning the name, "Rock of the Marne."

That regiment did more than hold the road to Paris. It shook the morale of the Germans, for one of the defeated soldiers, member of a crack

regiment, wrote in his note book: "Our retreat across the river (the Marne) was awful; those Americans certainly did clean us up. They fight like tigers. . . . If those in front of us are fair specimens of the average American troops, and there are as many as they say there are, then goodbye to us."

It also stiffened the morale of the French, for the manner in which the Americans fought at Chateau Thierry, Belleau wood and Cantigny convinced them of the quality of the American army. It nerved them for the offensive which began July 18 and which did not cease till Germany was hopelessly beaten.—Oregonian.

"Women are queer."

"What now?"

"I've seen my wife let down the folding bed and then look under it for a possible burglar."

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land, Shedd. And many others.

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Scio