

# THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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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 21, 1921

## PRESIDENT'S BONUS CONCLUS- IONS SANE.

President Harding's conclusions that the soldier bonus legislation should be postponed for at least a few years is wise. He and Secretary Mellon think the country's financial condition should become stabilized somewhat before a burden of several billions of dollars should be taken on. This conclusion will be endorsed by all thinking and patriotic citizens.

Our country owes a debt of gratitude to the boys who went over to France in defense of the principles of democracy, and in time, no doubt, all of these khaki clad heroes will be rewarded by a bonus or liberal pension.

But there are nearly 100,000,000 people who kept the home fires burning who are just as patriotic as the boys who wore the khaki. Our government is in duty bound to look after the welfare of all, the citizen as well as the soldier.

The boys who wore the blue and who hurled back the enemies of democracy, who preserved an undivided nation, performed even a greater service for humanity than did our world war veterans, and who endured greater hardships to make treason odious.

Yet the Civil war veteran was not rewarded with a service pension until 25 years after the war closed. Yet in less than three years after doffing the khaki the world war veterans are striving and even demanding that our nation be financially embarrassed in order that a bonus—something to which they are not justly entitled, but which they are endeavoring to extort from a grateful nation be given them.

Our nation's gratitude to the Civil war veteran has never perished. Neither will the nation's gratitude to the world war veteran perish. When our country has recovered her financial breath, then a claim for a bonus or pension can be made with some show of success.

It is somewhat strange that much of the largest share of the clamor for the bonus is being made by the men who never crossed the water and whose service was limited to a few weeks or months. The men who saw real service in France are saying but little. As a matter of fact, the boys who never left camps of instruction are hardly entitled to either service pension or bonus. True, they did their duty, not because they really wanted to do it, but because they had to. Every citizen, old or young, in time of need, can be called upon to render this duty. They have done so in the past and will do so in the future if needed.

President Harding should not be censured because he considers him-

self a president of all the people and that he thinks his duty is to consider the interests of the great majority before that of a special few.

Nor should the fact that certain campaign promises were made influence his actions. If the promises were wrong he does well to refuse or postpone their fulfillment. He could not have been wise to all the angles of this bonus question during his candidacy.

Now that he has considered the matter of bonus from all viewpoints and concluded that such legislation is not for the best interests of the nation as a whole, he should be commended rather than condemned.

## ARE SEEING THE LIGHT.

The seven millions majority was not after all a vote by the American people against the ratification of the Versailles treaty and the league of nations, nevertheless the "bitter-enders" of the U. S. senate tried to so construe it.

For more than two years the U. S. was, technically, at war with Germany. When the attempt by congress to establish a separate peace with Germany was made congress found itself impotent, because when our Teutonic friends accepted the requirements of the Versailles treaty, they practically gave the allied nations a mortgage upon Germany's resources. So when congress came down to brass tacks she found that a second mortgage was all that Germany could give as a guarantee for her future action. In other words a separate peace about which Senator Lodge and his fellow conspirators talked about so bombastically would have to have the consent of the allied powers.

So the ratification of the Versailles treaty by the senate in some form seems about the only way out of the dilemma in which Lodge and his followers, because of blind partisanship, placed our nation. When President Harding invited the allied nations to meet in Washington, D. C., and which is endorsed by the vast majority of the American people, he followed in the footsteps of his predecessor though in a modified form.

And as the nations invited have accepted this invitation the groundwork for a league and one to which the opponents of the Wilson league will probably consent, is laid. If the proposed Harding disarmament conference amounts to anything it must be some sort of a league or association with teeth in it, with this difference. President Wilson sought to establish a league big enough to take in all the nations of the world, while President Harding is limiting his league to five or six nations. Which of these plans is the broader from a humanitarian viewpoint?

But on the principle that a small loaf of bread is better than no loaf at all, the lovers of the peace are gladly welcoming President Harding's modified league plan, which is sailing under the alluring name of "disarmament" agreement; for the world is war weary and is willing to today to republican partyism in order to reach the great desideratum.

The central purpose of the Wilson league is to put an end to war between nations. The Harding disarmament convention is intended to accomplish the same result. Let us hope republican partyism will be satisfied.

Let Mr. Harding have all the glory the movement will reflect. At the same time The Tribune remarks that the same result might have been reached a year ago but for political jealousy. But in accordance with the old maxim "better late than never," the American people will shout "Bully for you, President Harding!"

However, the nations of the world will remember that Woodrow Wilson gave birth to the idea in his famous 14 points, and point to him as the great humanitarian statesman of the world. He gave birth to the idea and we hope President Harding will make it a living, breathing reality.

Almost every day the Albany papers state that "Mrs. A. and Mrs. B of Scio are shopping" in the "hub" city. Now then, ladies have a perfect right to patronize the Albany merchants. They evidently think it pays them to do so. Yet we know that every dollar spent in trade in Albany by Scio people is so much lost to the Scio merchants. Our merchants should make an effort to retain this trade at home. Surely they can sell goods as cheaply and, moreover, this trade which goes to Albany is spot cash.

Despite the decree of the Mexican government prohibiting the importation and circulation in Mexico of all foreign monies except gold, became effective July 1, the Mexican authorities have made no effort to enforce it. The reason for the failure to enforce the decree in Lower California is said to be the inability to obtain Mexican money to place in circulation.

Public utilities securities are rapidly gaining favor with conservative investors. This is based largely upon the broad and constructive position taken by the various state commissioners.

The farmers suffered a cut of about 66 per cent in their income, so naturally they think the rail employes should be willing to take a cut of 10 to 15 per cent.

Chairman Good of the house appropriations committee finds that the average cost of government to every person in the United States last year was \$61.88. This is about \$300 per family.

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