

Intermountain Tribune

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

SUBSCRIPTION, IN ADVANCE.....\$1.25
AT END OF YEAR 1.50
SIX MONTHS75

ADVERTISING RATES:
Local advertising, per line.....5c
Display advertising, per inch.....10c
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COMMERCIAL CLUBS

There is not a doubt but what commercial clubs are very beneficial to their respective cities and towns throughout the state. They generate a spirit of cooperation on the part of the citizenry in public and municipal undertakings which, if left to individual initiative, would never materialize. They are, also, in a measure public advertising agencies to make known to the outside world the meritorious qualities of their respective communities, all of which are praiseworthy.

But when these organized bodies of business men exert pressure upon tax levying bodies to appropriate public money to further their high pressure exploitations then, instead of being a benefit to their communities they become a sort of menace to the public in general.

It is a fact that when Portland desires public money from the state to be appropriated or especial privileges granted, her commercial club and others assail the legislature with such a crowd of lobbyists that the aforesaid legislature is fairly carried off its feet and is almost driven to appropriate money which would, if left uninfluenced, remain in the state treasury. The same is true in respect to our county courts in many instances. Commercial bodies have visited our Linn county court in the past in large numbers and by force of their influence, have persuaded the court to appropriate the people's money for the purposes of doubtful propriety. And this same plan or idea has been employed to the extent of forcing promises from candidates favorable to their schemes, else these same bodies would exert their influence to defeat the candidate. Now every fair thinking man, who believes that officials should go into office untrammelled, unpledged and with a purpose to conscientiously administer the affairs of his office with justice to all and special favors to none, knows this is wrong and that it cannot result in good government. It is whispered that in the interests of the proposed Pacific highway and a bridge at Harrisburg, such tactics are to be employed during the coming campaign.

Without the overwhelming influence of Portland commercial bodies our legislature would never have appropriated \$50,000 of the people's money for a purpose for which there can be no warrant found in the state constitution and which is an absolute waste, so far as the state at large is concerned.

The state of Oregon is not confined to the limits of the city of Portland, nor is Linn county enveloped within those of Albany. Without the people of Oregon in general as a support, many of Portland's skyscrapers would be tenantless. Without the support of Linn county farmers and the surrounding towns, grass would grow in the streets of Albany. Therefore, the people of the state and county should be con-

sidered an important factor whenever these commercial bodies, by mere force of numbers and threats, attempt to wield an undue influence over legislature or county court.

An unfortunate feature of our direct primary law makes it possible for population centers to nominate and elect nearly all candidates for office. As evidence of this fact, with one or two exceptions, all departments of our county government are presided over by citizens of Albany. As Albany contains but one-fourth of the population of Linn county, she is justly entitled to like proportion of the offices. A like fact is true of Portland and Salem. Nearly all of our officials, both national and state, are taken from those two cities. Hence, the commercial clubs of these cities enjoy special advantage whenever they undertake to influence the action of the legislature or county court.

Commercial bodies, as before stated, are of great value to their respective communities. They furnish organizations, whenever any public or civic improvement is undertaken, around which the people can rally and their paid managers furnish an encyclopedia of information to the newcomer. But when these bodies become semi-political in their activities, they are entirely out of place and endanger the body politic.

The Tribune hopes that its information relative to the Albany Commercial club is incorrect in respect to its members attempting to control members of the county court. It hopes that the best of feeling shall exist between Albany and the rest of the county. And to this end let us hope that Albany, herself, will assist in nominating and electing a reasonable portion of our county officials who are not residents of that city. Such action will go far towards that amity which should exist between county and county seat.

QUITE TIME TO ACT

Late press reports from Mexico, if true, are evidence of the fact that the point has been reached when the United States is in duty bound to intervene in the affairs of that unhappy country. For many months all civilized nations have known that Mexico was impotent to settle her own internal affairs and that the United States would, finally, have to take a hand and pacify this turbulent people, a matter that neither faction in this so-called republic seems utterly able to accomplish.

The Mexican people are incapable of self government. They have not yet reached that stage of civilization wherein the minority of the people will obediently bow to the majority. The Mexican people is composed of two distinct classes—the educated ruling class and the peon or serf class. Unfortunately for the nation the educated ruling class are almost invariably grafters. They have so manipulated the government in the past that this educated class, through government grants, own about all of the land, save what has been acquired by foreigners. The peon class are but little if any better than slaves, have but small ambition and seem satisfied to serve their masters for a mere pittance. Nor will their condition ever be better until the peon is educated sufficient to think and act as an individual entity. Only some sort of a public school system will bring about a different condition. The peon will never become capable of self government until, through education, he becomes capable of thought with a fair understanding of his duty as a citizen of a republic. He will then become

less easily influenced by revolutionary ideas.

President Wilson and congress have acted wisely in abstaining from armed intervention until all the civilized nations of the world see that it is the duty of the United States, in the interests of humanity, to interfere. Had we declared war against Mexico one year ago, we could not then have escaped being accused of seeking territory by conquest. Also, a majority of our own people would not have justified intervention at that time and would have accused the administration of a desire to protect American property interests.

Now forbearance no longer seems tolerable. If we maintain our dignity as a powerful nation and would protect the lives, not only of our own citizens but those of other nations as well, we must interfere. Our much talked of Monroe Doctrine, if it is maintained, will force us to take this step. England, because of the murder of one of her citizens by the rebel General Villa, is likely to demand that we protect her citizens, else get out of the way and allow her to do the job. Again, it would be an act of mercy in the interests of humanity for the United States to intervene and force the Mexicans to cease cutting each other's throats. While it is the policy of the United States to declare war upon any nation reluctantly, there is a point when reached which leaves no other alternative. After we had assisted Cuba in gaining her independence from Spain the Cubans, being much of the same nature with the Mexicans, began internecine war. The more intelligent Cubans soon appealed to the United States to restore pacification. Since when the Cubans seem to be getting on nicely and able to manage the problem of self government. The Tribune believes that Mexico is quite ready for a like pacification. But, of course, war is deplored at any time; yet peace, with dishonor, is far more deplorable.

If a man has a suspicious breath he is liable to be pulled, in Harrisburg, if a late ordinance is rigidly enforced.

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Feed and Livery Barn in connection with Hotel
Prices are Reasonable.

SWEET HOME - - OREGON

Notice for Publication—Isolated Tract (PUBLISHER)

PUBLIC LAND SALE
Department of the Interior
U. S. Land Office at Portland, Ore.

December 28, 1913.

Notice is hereby given that, as directed by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under provisions of Act of Congress approved June 27, 1906 (34 Stat., 517.) pursuant to the application of Joseph Strickler, Serial No. 03883, we will offer at public sale, to the highest bidder, but at not less than \$2.00 per acre, at 10 o'clock a. m., on the 19th day of February, 1914, at this office, the following tract of land: Lot 1, Section 28, Township 13 South, Range 1 West, Willamette Meridian.

Any persons claiming adversely the above described land are advised to file their claims, or objections, on or before the time designated for sale.

H. F. HIGBY, Register.
J. C. ARDREY, Receiver

Farmers—Stockmen

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Now is the time of year that your work horses should be put in condition for the hard work of spring and summer, so that when the sun shines, your horses will be rid of their old coat and ready for business. Be sure, also, that your milk cows are thoroughly conditioned for the long, heavy milking season, and that those with calves are vigorous and fit.

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OREGON

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