

# THE SCIO TRIBUNE

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

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## WILL HAVE A PICNIC

Next Monday, January 11, the Oregon legislature will be in session. Most of the individual members thereof have pledged themselves, either directly or indirectly, to retrenchment and reform in the matter of reducing the cost of our state government. Will the members live up to their pledges, is a question which deeply interests the average of our taxpayers.

It is said by a person who has taken the trouble to look up the statistics, that Oregon pays the highest per capita tax of any state in the Union. Whether this is true or not, The Tribune is not in a position to say. But it will say without fear of successful contradiction, that taxes are unnecessarily high and are burdensome to the people. Yet the people want good roads, good schools and good school houses, and voluntarily vote special taxes upon themselves to secure them. Nor are the people disposed to give our state government a niggardly support. They want our state penal and egyptian institutions to be maintained in a reasonably economic manner. But they do not want the system of exploitation in the various branches of our state government, which now prevails, to be continued. For instance: They cannot see any benefit to be derived from an annual appropriation of \$25,000 for the purpose of advertising the state's resources to bring in new settlers, when the tax levy's are so high that the hard-headed practical business men and farmers will give our state the "go by." They cannot see the utility of the state employing two men at large salaries to do certain work, when one can do the job equally well. They cannot see the justice of making special appropriations for our state colleges when a special millage tax, sufficient for their maintenance, new buildings, football fields, etc. included, has been voted by the people.

The above examples cited are but a few of the unnecessary and extravagant leaks to which our state treasury is subjected. The entire state government has become saturated with the spirit of exploitation and which has resulted in this unenviable reputation of being the highest taxed of any of the United States.

Gentlemen of the legislature, you have an almost impossible duty to perform. You will be surrounded by a small army of taxeaters down at the state capitol, all of whom will be most plausibly insistent that their particular jobs shall be retained. They will say, "yes, cut useless jobs, appropriations, etc., but, if you take away my job, the state will be irreparably injured." All of these state leeches will talk economy and the reduction of taxation, but they will want it down at the other fellows expense.

These are some of the things, Mr. Member-of-the-legislature, which

you will butt up against. Also, when a special appropriation is up for a state college, a pet Portland project or an Eastern Oregon irrigation scheme, etc., you will be almost smothered by the lobbyists for the respective measures.

Oh, yes! Mr. Cusick, Mr. Garland, Mr. Elmore, Mr. Pierce and Mr. Childs, you are in for a picnic. You will conclude that you are attending an Irish wake or an old-fashioned democratic primary. Yet, The Tribune thinks you will all make good. It believes you are made of stuff that will enable you to resist the demands of this army of scoundrels. Just as a pointer, say to these fellows, "Yes, we will retain your jobs, but you must submit to having your salary cut in the middle." If you are firm in this matter and do all you can to clear our state government of these grafters, you will have the approbation of every taxpayer in Linn county. Otherwise, so far as future preferment is concerned, this county would be a good place from which for you to emigrate.

The taxpayers of Oregon, that is to say a vast majority of them, are very weary of this continually piling up of taxation for needless and useless state commissions and the small army of employes required to carry them on. They are getting tired of erecting \$50,000 to \$100,000 stone buildings for our state colleges. In other words, they are opposed to taxing the entire people of the state for the benefit of a few of her towns or citizens. Unless these extravagancies are checked and placed in a condition of final extinction, the people will become so angry that they soon will renege. They will take matters in their own hands and dump the whole business overboard.

Taxation can be so increased that it will amount to confiscation. Indeed, with the state, county, city, road and school taxes, some of our towns are dangerously near that condition now. When the total of taxation amounts to from three to four per cent. in a town, people are very leary of investing in the property of that town. They think it is cheaper to rent than to own property.

The legislature to meet next Monday, is the first to be elected, pledged to reform along the lines of taxation and the people will watch the proceedings of the daily session of that body, with an interest never manifested before, for they are personally interested. It is a matter which effects their pocketbooks.

The republican party has about absolute control of both branches of the legislature and all of the state offices and the the people will hold that party responsible for the acts of its agents. Another extravagant session, similar to that of two years ago, is apt to spell disaster to that party two years hence. The people can be counted upon to be controlled by their political prejudices to a certain limit and that limit is their pocketbooks. Touch their pockets too deeply and political principles go to the winds.

## WE COULD RETALIATE

Every patriotic American citizen will justify President Wilson in his demand upon the English nation that unnecessary search of American cargoes, destined for a neutral port, shall cease. Shippers of non-contraband articles are very much put out because of the unnecessary delay their cargoes are subjected to.

England should not find fault, if the United States should retaliate for her actions towards the American merchant marine in the past.

Just about one hundred years ago, England's war ships assumed

the right to halt American merchant vessels when at sea, search them for English born sailors and impress them into service aboard the English war vessels. Thousands of American sailors were so treated. Possibly some of them were English subjects. Others were born in England but had become naturalized American citizens. Others, who were American born, were so impressed under the pretense that they were English subjects. It is said that two nephews of our first president were so treated. After many years and much diplomatic red tape, the practice was discontinued.

When our civil war was on, England recognized the South as belligerents before a battle had been fought. When Ministers Mason and Slidell were taken from the British mail steamer "Trent," England kicked up a terrible rumpus and we narrowly escaped having a war with that country at the same time of the rebellion. During the war, she permitted the Confederates to build and equip privateers in her harbors and placed English cannon aboard of them when a few miles at sea. The privateer Alabama, commanded by the notorious Captain Raphael Semes, of the south, and which nearly destroyed the American merchant marine, was one of the vessels so constructed. After the civil war was over, England was compelled to pay the United States the sum of \$15,500,000 on that account.

If we suppose that Germany represents the South, England occupies an almost identical position with that of the United States during our great struggle. We attempted to and did blockade the Rebel ports of entry and, as compared with the South, had full control of the sea. By shrewd maneuvering a few rebel war vessels were at sea and preyed upon our merchant marine disastrously. It was asserted that these marauding rebel vessels were permitted to enter English harbors and refit and revictual. England is attempting to blockade the German harbors, as we did those of the South. Germany had some war vessels at sea which preyed successfully upon the English merchant marine. The German vessel "Emden" lately destroyed, is a notable example. If we had allowed these German war vessels the privilege of our harbors to refit, buy coal, etc., then the simile would be complete. But the United States has strictly observed neutrality laws. Neither English nor German war vessels have been permitted harborage in our harbors more than the stipulated number of hours as provided by neutrality laws. England did not live up to the law governing neutrals during our war. When Captain Semes' privateer "Alabama" was destroyed by an United States war vessel, almost within an English harbor, an English vessel was near at hand to succor the Rebel Captain Semes and many of his crew, and carried them to England in order to prevent them falling into the hands of United States authorities. During the entire war and until the South surrendered, the British parliament was composed of sympathizers with the South. Many of the speeches then made were as ultra against the Union as any made in the Confederate congress.

Yes indeed, England should be very good to the United States at this time. She should be more than willing to accede to President Wilson's demands. Should the United States show her teeth in order to enforce this demand, it would spell disaster to England's success in her great war. Most of the food supplies to sustain both England and France, to sustain this great struggle, must come from the United States. Also, it would be possible for the United States war vessels to

drive the English merchant marine from the seas.

However, such thoughts as those above are nonsense. The United States is too honorable to take advantage of another nation's misfortunes. President Wilson's conduct towards the warring nations has been most honorable.

When we consider how patient the president has been with Mexico, and how readily he has made this most just demand of England, we are forced to conclude he thinks of Mexico as an impotent child for which he has great forbearance, while England, he considers, as a full grown man and to be held to the responsibility of a man.

It is almost laughable to read about England's anxious readiness to conclude an agreement, by which we would not follow the precedent established by that country during our civil war. When it was proposed that England pay for the damages inflicted by the Rebel privateers, built and outfitted in her own harbors, she refused the proposition with scorn. But when President Grant recommended to congress that the United States should pay and take over these private claims, making them debts due our nation, then England awoke to the importance of conditions and was very willing to submit the whole matter to a court of arbitration. She suddenly concluded that she might, some day, be placed in the condition she now is in and in which the United States could richly retaliate.

However, there is no danger of trouble between England and ourselves about this matter. That country cannot afford to abrogate a precedent she, herself, has established, much less go to war with the United States at the present time.

## MISUNDERSTANDS US

The ex-president of Richardson Gap Union misunderstands the purport of The Tribune's article of December 3. The Tribune is very much in favor of farmers and every

body else, for that matter, buying where they can buy cheapest and to sell where they can get the highest price. It is human nature and economy to do so. Our purpose was and is, to try to bring about a condition of affairs wherein our home merchants can sell as cheaply as the city merchant. By concentrating trade at home, you will make it possible for the home merchant, all things considered, to do so. Pay the home merchant the cash, just the same as you are compelled to pay the city merchant, and he can do so. But if you say "charge it" when you buy, he cannot.

It is a fact that some people, who are liberal patrons of mail order houses, go to the local merchant when they are out of money, to buy their goods. Their cash is for the

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## Local Market Report

Wheat per bushel	\$ 1.10
Oats	.40
Bran per ton	28.00
Wheat chop per ton	40.00
Oat chop	28.00
Barley Chop	34.00
Flour per sack	1.40
Eggs per dozen	.40
Butter per pound	.40
Chickens, hens per lb	.10
" spring	.09
" roosters	.08
Turkeys	.15
Geese	.09
Ducks	8 to 10
Beef	5½
Veal	10½
Hogs, live per hundred lb	6.50
Hogs, dressed	8.25
Mutton	4.75

Mortgage Loans Negotiated Notary Public

N. M. Newport

Attorney at Law

(CITY ATTORNEY)

LEBANON

OREGON

## Scio Livery and Feed Stables

Having lately purchased these stables, it is our aim to conduct a first-class livery and feed stable in every respect. We are adding new teams and rigs which, with accomodating and courteous service, we feel sure will appeal to the public. Hacks meet all trains. Rigs for commercial men a specialty. Our prices are reasonable

TURNER & WILEY, Proprietors.

## Phonograph Records

Now on Sale

PER DOZEN \$1.50 while they last

These records contain some choice numbers both in the two and three minute records This is a bargain that you cannot afford to let pass.

E. C. PEERY, DRUGGIST

The Rexall Store

SCIO

OREGON