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There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death: and there is no discharge in that war.—Ecclesiastes 8:8.

WINKING AT GRAFT

Newspapers frequently have been accused of making heroes out of crooks and criminals, but most of the blame should be shouldered by the public, it seems. Newspapers present the facts and the public does the rest.

The majority of people lead rather dull, drab lives devoid of adventure and romance. They long to pull themselves out of the deadening routine of life, but cannot; so they worship the men who can.

For that reason, and because he is a super showman, the people of New York idolize Jimmy Walker, their mayor, in spite of good evidence to prove he is a grafter just like many of his predecessors.

The other day when Mayor Walker appeared in court and was charged with numerous shady deals a worshipping public gloried in the clever retorts which he showered upon the examiners, and cheered his defiant speech delivered just before leaving the stand.

The people are willing to wink at graft and other forms of corruption in public office as long as the grafters are clever. A Tammany leader declared that if Walker were removed from office he would be re-elected by the largest majority he ever received. And such a result would not be surprising. The New Yorkers have re-elected incompetent and dishonest men before.

In the face of such evidence can the people complain about high taxes, inefficient government, and general lawlessness? If enough people wanted to clean up this country they could do it, but as long as they insist upon idolizing criminals and corrupt officials it will never be cleaned up.

ARITHMETIC IN THE SCHOOLS

If any school children could have heard Dr. Robert K. Spear of New York University deliver a little speech the other night, they would have decided that they were listening to a doctrine almost too good to be true.

Dr. Spear, to the surprise of all, declared that at least 85 per cent of the arithmetic taught to school children nowadays is dead wood and might as well be abandoned. Teaching children how to extract cube roots and how to handle complex fractions, he believes, is a waste of time; and he said:

"If we teach all the children the arithmetic necessary in the following actions — buying at a store, making change, reading, writing letters and traveling—we will have covered a large percentage of their total use of arithmetic."

This is all true enough. The youngster who ever has to use the more complicated arithmetical exercises, after he is out in the world, is the exception. Most of us can go through life quite happily without that sort of knowledge.

But this very quickly brings us up against that perennial problem of the schoolmaster; is the pupil to be taught only those things which will be of direct benefit to him later in life, or is he to be put through a stiff course of sprouts with the idea that the mental discipline involved is going to make his mind more capable?

During the last decade or two the tendency in this country has been to emphasize the strictly utilitarian side. Latin, Greek and higher mathematics are declining, to be replaced by courses in economics and business administration; if the schoolboy is to get less arithmetic, that will only be in line with the current trend.

But there is much to be said for the "mental discipline" idea. After all, one of the prime objects of any educational system is to teach pupils how to use their gray matter to the best advantage; and if sweating away at the intricacies of cube root or Caesar's Commentaries helps do that, the job may not be quite as useless as it looks.

Other Papers Say:

FLEXIBLE TAX METHOD TO EASE STRAIN

The farmer's income vanishes, his taxes rise. The businessman finds profits harder to obtain than ever; his taxes double. No sooner has the salaried worker received notice of a reduction in his wages than he is faced with a larger tax bill. Such a

accordance with sound business practice, but its effect as a stabilizer of the economy would check prosperity excesses and lower imports relieve the depressing effect of adversity. But no government for any length of time can continue to spend more and more as the people obtain less and less.

Taxes must fall as the people's capacity to pay falls; and rise only as the capacity to pay rises. How could this be done?

Let us suppose that the federal government abolished all indirect taxation — consumption taxes of every kind, inheritance taxes and capital gains taxes. There would be one tax only — an income tax. It would be paid by everyone and the actual paying would do an additional good in making every individual taxpayer conscious of the federal government.

The trend of business could be better to reflect all conditions. But the calculation of "normal" business, depressed business or prosperous business need not be particularly accurate, for it is an essential part of procedure that errors made in one year be adjusted in the next. There might be a surcharge to cover the amount by which the previous year's revenue fell below the anticipated amount, or in depression there might not only be a reduction in tax rates to correspond with the more difficult business conditions, but also a temporary reduction offsetting the previous year's excess collections or actual economies, on the part of the government.

It is not difficult to imagine that such a plan as had been outlined would be an immense force working towards business stability. No longer would we have the unhealthy booms of a 1929 nor the equally unhealthy depths of a 1932.

While it is obvious that about the most the government can do at the present time is to retrench firmly so that again there may be some reasonable prospect of tax revenues in excess of outgo, it is only at times like the present when adversity bears heavily on everyone that there exists the necessary desire to plan for the future. Now is the time to lay the groundwork for obtaining a business stabilizer whose operation relieves

the onus of adversity and checks the excess of prosperity.—Henry Richmond Jr., in the Magazine of Wall Street.

HOUSES IN TOWN MOSTLY OCCUPIED

(Continued From Page One)

activity, however, in this county is not confined to the man with the gold pan and shovel. A few large outside companies are reported to have representatives here at the present time making investigations and engaging in actual development work.

During May the local bank handled approximately \$3200 worth of gold in quantities amounting to more than three ounces. Palmer Brothers purchased a considerable quantity of gold during the month.

C. C. Palmer stated that he bought small quantities of gold from 20 persons Tuesday. The smallest purchase that he has made was for 40 cents. Other purchases amounted to as high as \$125.

Baker, La Grande Junior Leaguers Play Here Sunday

The American Legion Junior League team of Baker and La Grande will play a practice game in La Grande at the L. H. S. field Sunday, beginning at noon, according to announcement here today. The game originally was scheduled to be played in Baker but conflicting events caused its removal to La Grande.

The game will be ended in time for the Eagles-Missions game scheduled for later in the afternoon on the same field. It will be the first intercity game for either team and a close contest is anticipated.

FIRE GODDESS OF HAWAII CLAIMS HUMAN SACRIFICE

(Continued From Page One)

to reach the spot where the two fell, only 50 feet from the ever-boiling lava, is by climbing down a rope. The girl's parents said they might prefer to leave the two where they had fallen if there was some means of covering them up. Their attitude was in deference to the legend that Kilauea was the scene where ancient

slanders plighted troths in death. The volcano is not now in active eruption.

There is no record of any other deaths in Halemaumau, and whether Hawaiians once offered human sacrifices to Pele by hurling the victims into the first pit is a moot question. The fire goddess was unquestionably the most feared of all the island deities, and in olden times none dared approach the pit without first making offerings of Oheo berries.

Halemaumau, commonly referred to as the house of ferns, so named because ferns were thrown into the crater to appease Pele's wrath.

MAY RECOVER BODIES

WASHINGTON, June 3 (AP) — The national park service today authorized Superintendent E. P. Leavitt, of the Hawaiian national park, to try to recover the bodies of William Runes and Margaret Enos from Kilauea crater.

Runes, after shooting the Enos girl, tossed her body into the crater and jumped in himself. The tragedy was the result of a family quarrel. The bodies are about 900 feet below the surface of the rim. Leavitt outlined a plan to lower rangers into the pit.

An alternate plan was to bury the bodies where they are by dropping dynamite close to them.

CONFEREES MAKE TAX BILL REPORT

(Continued From Page One)

and eight per cent on income over \$4,000 with a surtax schedule graduating to a maximum of 55 per cent income in excess of \$1,000,000. The corporation tax voted by the senate is 14 per cent.

Complete details of the new revenue bill were withheld pending preparation of the report to be submitted to the house.

Experts said the bill passed by the senate raised \$1,117,000,000 in new revenue. They reported the compromise measure provides within a couple of millions of dollars the sum the administration has declared will balance the budget with the aid of the national economy bill pending in the senate.

It was authoritatively learned that the house conferees surrendered on virtually every provision inserted in the revenue bill by the senate.

RAINEY WITHHOLDS SIGNATURE

WASHINGTON, June 3 (AP) — Representative Rainey, the Democratic floor leader, was revealed today to have withheld his signature from the conference report adjusting differences between the house and senate on the billion dollar tax bill.

He opposed the tariffs on lumber and copper, voted into the measure by the senate after the house had approved import levies on oil and coal.

Arrangements were made this morning to get copies of the final version of the bill printed, and to seek house and possibly senate sanction tomorrow.

In Washington

By Herbert Plummer

WASHINGTON — In a small office in a secluded part of the senate office building on Capitol Hill a senator from Kentucky engaged in a task which he believes is the hardest single job he has tackled in his whole career.

He is Senator Barkley and he is writing the keynote speech he is to deliver at the Democratic national convention next month at Chicago.

"I feel exactly as I did the few days before I got married years ago," he admitted. "I can't get the subject off my mind. I think about it while I am eating, while I am sitting in the senate chamber listening to the tax debates, when I am walking home—in fact it is on my mind practically every one of my waking minutes."

Already he has spent more than 200 hours in compiling, reading and writing the speech. And he believes that before he gets through he will have spent at least 500 hours in its preparation.

Seeks Seclusion

Barkley obtained this secluded spot because he didn't wish to be disturbed. Almost the reverse of what he had wanted has happened. He no sooner gets settled down for work when a long, raucous sound of a bell sends him scurrying across the hall for a vote on some item in the tax bill.

And when it is remembered that the senate has been in session day and night of late, his troubles may be readily understood.

"But wait until we get through with the tax bill," he said. "Then I'm going into seclusion. Nothing will bother me then."

An Hour Speech

His keynote address will be as near to one hour long as he can make it.

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Mrs. C. B. Osborne, Iowa State Jelly Champion, shown in the artist's sketch above, is only one of the many State Fair jam and jelly prize winners who use Certo in making all their blue ribbon jams and jellies.

IT'S STRAWBERRY JAM TIME!