

Capital Journal

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BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

The work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effort of righteousness, quietness and assurance for ever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.—Isaiah 32:17, 18.

Three Sets of Saviors

As an example, characteristic of government efficiency, we point with pride to the elaborate budget manufacturing system in effect at the state house. At present there is a budget commission with a salaried executive officer with a few weeks work and two years pay to prepare the budget from estimates made by department heads. These estimates are greatly padded, because bureau chiefs know they will be pruned.

The budget commission composed of the executive officer, his assistants and the Board of Control chops down the estimates and then claims it has saved the state so many tens or hundreds of thousands over bureau estimates.

Then the budget is printed and goes to the joint Ways and Means committee of the legislature which indulges in more hard-boiled trimming and the legislature brags of how much it has saved the taxpayers over board estimates.

Then when the biennium nears a close the department heads and institution managers report an unexpended surplus that this year totals over \$150,000 as proof of how much they have saved the taxpayers by economical administration, over legislative allotments.

Here are three different sets of saviors rescuing the taxpayers—despite which taxes continue to increase, because the taxpayers never see any of their money back. The levies made are collected—and there is no rebate, and the constitutional limitation is always considered a mandate for increasing the levies another six percent for the benefit of taxpayers.

Another Investigation

President Coolidge has appointed another commission to investigate agriculture and propose a legislative program for its relief—although a world shortage forcing wheat up to \$1.50 a bushel has solved the farmers' ills, for the time being, and allayed his discontent.

Agricultural ills are economic and not political. As long as the farmer produces a surplus, he will have to sell to the world at prices governed by the law of supply and demand. The government cannot aid him by price fixing unless it can also control his production, as our industrial monopolies control theirs. If he limited his production, by the aid of a tariff he could fix his own prices to local consumers.

Better farming, better marketing and better business methods are within the reach of the farmer but depend upon him, and not upon the government, whose function is not to act as paternal guardian of prosperity. Efficiency enables one farmer to produce wheat at a profit at a dollar a bushel while it costs his less efficient neighbor two dollars. No matter what the price guaranteed, the farmer, who is human, would still clamor for more, as he did in 1920 when he refused \$2.50, demanded \$3.50 and finally sold for a dollar.

The subsidence of the agrarian discontent in the northwest, simply through the increased price paid for wheat, as evidenced by the decline in the LaFollette vote, proves plainly enough the superficial character of the movement. It was not deep enough to really desire a radical change in the political or social order any more than the Populist movement of the 90's was.

The farmer is of all classes the most conservative, which explains his tardiness in revolutionizing his own industry by organization and cheapened production as other business, to meet changing conditions. Those who expect a revolution from the farms, wait in vain, for all that is needed is a little prosperity to place them in the front rank of reaction.

The Klan and the Election

The Capital Journal is in receipt of a note from some Portland Klansmen exulting in the election of Coolidge as a Klan victory and to Klan victories in other states. Of course the note is unsigned—what Klansman dares to acknowledge his clandestine affiliations?

Let us see what the Klan won November 4, passing up the president, who while Klan votes swelled his majority, certainly did not owe his election to the Klan. The Klan elected governors in Indiana, Kansas, and Colorado, and senators from Oklahoma and Colorado. It lost its contest for governor in Texas, its fight for secretary of state in Texas, its senator in Montana and its school bills in Washington and Michigan, and it failed to defeat Smith in New York.

Walton in Oklahoma was beaten by his own cussedness and not by the Klan, for Davis, who denounced the Klan carried the state. In other states than those enumerated above, the Klan was a minor issue. Its successes were in conjunction with the republicans and its defeats at the hands of Democrats. Not a record to brag of, for a concern that claims to control the country.

NECESSITY OF NUISANCE TAX NOT APPARENT

(Continued from page one.)

tax, the aggregate to be raised by direct taxes was \$14,395,242.16. Applying the 6 per cent increase limitation to the 1923-24 direct levy brings the total which may be levied by the coming legislature up to \$15,258,959.69, or only \$863,717.53 less than the total amount available for state purposes from all tax sources during the past two years.

Surplus on Hand. But even this figure does not represent the amount available with the income tax repealed. It has developed that the estimated income tax receipts were placed at far too low a figure and that to date there has been collected approximately \$313,000 more than the estimated income, this sum constituting a surplus to be carried over.

This is the available revenue to meet the cost of state governmental functions during the coming two years run up to \$15,671,956.49, or only \$73,285.47 short of the total cost for the past two years. Repeal of the quarter-mill road

tax, which in reality has only been a road tax when the legislature saw no other convenient means of using it, would automatically top a cold \$504,749 off from the levy limitation which the legislature will face and give them an actual emergency balance of \$431,423.55 over and above the limitation under which they appropriated two years ago when they had the income tax to bolster up their revenues.

Many Savings Possible. In the list of appropriations made by the 1923 legislature there are a host of items in excess of the \$73,000 deficit faced which need not be made again if the legislature will turn deaf ears to pleas not founded upon absolute necessity.

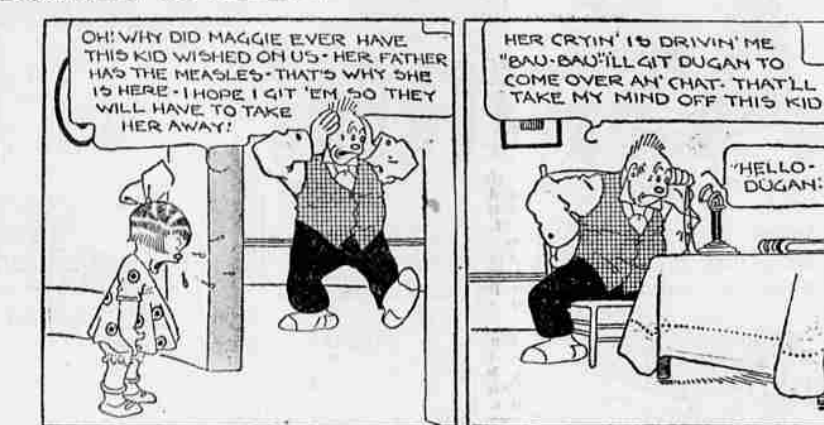
An instance of this is the \$100,000 asked for and received by the governor as a revolving fund for the penitentiary. At the time of his request for this amount Governor Pierce stated that such a request would not have to be made again, and that with this money he expected to pay the prison on a self-supporting basis. Unless the governor has changed his mind this one item will not be among the appropriations sought at the next session, and the threatened deficit bugaboo will be a myth.

KIRBY'S DAILY CARTOON FOR CAPITAL JOURNAL READERS



RIGHT ON THE JOB AGAIN.

BRINGING UP FATHER



BARNEY GOOGLE AND SPARK PLUG



KRAZY KAT



IGNATZ ENJOYS ISOLATION



MUTT AND JEFF



The flower of the family

A Thrilling Love Story by DAVID McCLONE GIBSON

Like Father, Like Daughter
"I'm not crazy about the bright lights, Norrie," said her father, "and I like them less tonight. To tell the truth it does seem to me as though my wife might spend an evening with me once in a while."
"Dad, that's unfair to mother. You have not shown any deep desire for mother's attention lately. You know very well that for the last month you have not spent an evening at home unless mother was giving a dinner party, and if I remember rightly doing one of these at the last minute you called up and said it would be impossible for you to come."
"However, we didn't miss you very much, as Kent Summers played host for mother."
"Kent Summers! What do you know about Kent Summers, Norrie?"
"Only that he is your dearest friend and one of the most charming men I have ever met. He is wonderful to Marta and me always. I do not know what we would do without him, you have been home so little."
A slow blush suffused Norrie's face.
"Dad, I've something very important to say to you. I don't want to parry with you about Kent Summers and the opera. I want you to do something for me." Norrie's face became white.
"Why, what's the matter, dear? Have you talked to your mother about it?"
"No. I have decided it is something only you can arrange."
Harold Ralston reached out his hand and clasped the trembling one of his daughter. There was concern in his voice. The fact that his daughter wanted him to do something that she thought only he could do aroused his fatherly tenderness and pride.
"What is it, Norrie? Tell your old Daddy. You may be sure what ever it is he'll stand by you."
"Dad, I love Rafe Satterly devotedly."
"But you're too young to love—to think about such things. You should be playing around, having a good time."
"Mother was about my age when she married you, father. Did you or she think at that time either of you were too young to love?"
"But I want you to have more youth than we had. I want you to have more play."
"That's just what I don't want to do any longer. Rafe and I have played together until I'm afraid I love him. I think he wants me as his wife, but I do also think he has had enough of me as just a girl to play around with. Perhaps I have been too lavish of myself. A girl's kisses can be given too often. I have learned the truth that there is nothing one gets tired of so quickly as a half satisfied emotion."
"I am sure Rafe feels that way, too. He knows he cannot marry without his father's consent; consequently he is afraid to see me much more for fear we will get into trouble. He knows I am wax for him to mould as he pleases, for rather than lose him I would give myself to him body and soul tomorrow."
"Norrie, Norrie, you must stop talking like that. I cannot think it is a daughter of mine who shamelessly makes such admissions to me, her own father!"
"Do you think I am more shameless in making these admissions to you than I would be in making them to some one else?"
"Dad—I am coming to you asking you for help, and I am trying to tell you how necessary it is to me."

"You are not really sorry for my sympathy with me. You are just annoyed that you have to be bothered by me. It means trouble for you. It means taking you out of your usual sybaritic habit of life."
"Hush, Norrie, I will not let you talk that way to me. It is indecent. I cannot go to Rafe Satterly's father and say that my daughter is mad with love for his son and demand that he make it possible for his son to marry her. I cannot compromise my dignity, and the respect in which I want my daughter's name held."
"I'll send you and your mother abroad as soon as possible. After a few months over there you will laugh at these silly speeches if you are not too much ashamed of them."
"Father, you know you are just trying to lie to yourself to avoid your responsibility in the matter."
"Well, listen, if you will not compromise your dignity, I will mine, and I promise you it will be in such a way that I shall lose that mythical respect of other people of which you speak. Do you realize that tomorrow or day after tomorrow it will be found out that Rafe owned a car which was confiscated at a notorious roadhouse? Then my name will be connected with his as sure as I am telling you this."
For answer Harold Ralston reached for the telephone.
His daughter's face lighted, but sank into lines of despair as she heard him call the number of a steamship line. She got up quickly and walked to the window.
She told herself she would never make any one her confident again. Her own father would not understand her.
Tomorrow—The Father Confesses.

Plague Rains in India
Secundabad, British India, Nov. 12.—An epidemic of the bubonic plague which has already caused four thousand deaths, has broken out in the native quarter of Trimalgiri near here. One victim was a British soldier.

By George McManus

By Billy de Beck

By Herriman

By Bud Fisher