

**THE ENTERPRISE.**

OREGON CITY, OREGON, MAR. 27, 1874.

Must take in Salt.

From the San Francisco Examiner.

The Hon. Henry L. Dawes is a Radical member of Congress from Massachusetts and Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means. His statements, therefore, on matters appertaining to the public finances are entitled to consideration greater than is usually accorded to ordinary members; especially so when they tell against the interest of the party of which he is the leader, as in a recent speech made by him in the House of Representatives. This speech by Mr. Dawes, in the condition of the Federal Treasury is both interesting and instructive, and makes a startling exhibit of the financial affairs of the Government. As the speaker is in perfect harmony with the Administration, and is a member in the best standing in his party, it may naturally be understood that what he said revealed nothing that was longer possible to conceal, and his remarks are not liable to the charge of malicious insinuation which might be held against a member of the opposition dealing with the same state of facts.

It appears from the speech alluded to by us, that on the first of July, 1873, the Treasury had on hand sixty millions of dollars. Its actual receipts between that date and February 1, and its estimated receipts for the remainder of the year, amount to \$281,777,972; its liabilities, or the sums it may be called upon to pay during the current year, amount to \$333,841,650. Its available resources for the year made up of cash on hand and receipts, amount to \$341,780,001; so that, if it had to pay all it might be called on to pay, there would be a deficit of \$92,061,649. But among these liabilities count a good many Congressional appropriations which are not likely to be called for and some accounts which, though not formally closed, are really all but paid off, amounting in all to \$72,389,034. So that the Treasury, instead of having a deficit to show at the end of the fiscal year, will probably have \$29,392,355 cash in hand, after providing for the sinking fund. Out of this twenty millions odd, however, there has to come all the deficiencies which may arise in the course of the year. These sometimes fall as low as three millions and they sometimes rise as high as five millions. Mr. Dawes estimates that including the Government contribution to the Washington improvements and the sum awarded by the Mixed Claims Commission, they will not this year fall much short of ten millions, cutting the Treasury balance down to ten millions, a very unsafe amount with which to face contingencies when Congress is not in session. So that, as the general result of the year's operations, the Government will have spent ten millions of its cash and increased the public debt nine millions; and in this calculation the issues of the forty-four millions "reserve" are not included. Nor is the panic to blame for this state of things altogether. There is a falling off, actual and estimated, in the customs and internal revenue receipts, during the current year, of \$28,315,702, as compared with last year. But, then, Congress, by taking off the duty on tea and coffee in May, 1873, took from the revenue \$25,019,463; and, by making other reductions in June following, took from it nineteen millions or altogether about forty-four million dollars. Mr. Dawes, therefore, though his speech is by no means and ill-founded imputations upon the honesty and economy of the Democratic Administration, preceding the first Radical quarrel, makes an extremely hard showing for his party, which was to have inaugurated and maintained an era of honest and economical management of public affairs.

In Mr. Dawes' speech and other details of a character pleasant to those innocent souls who have been confiding in the wisdom and integrity of the Radical Republican party, such as this comparative statement of the public expenses: 1870, expenses, \$390,000,000; amount of public debt paid, \$100,000,000; 1871, expenses, \$292,000,000; amount of public debt paid, \$34,000,000; 1872, expenses, \$277,000,000; amount of public debt paid, \$93,000,000; 1873, expenses, \$240,000,000; amount of public debt paid, \$13,000,000; 1874, expenses, \$319,000,000, and no payment on account of the debt, and plenty of irredeemable paper put out. Mr. Dawes was very rough and ill-tempered in his remarks on the Democratic party; but we may repeat to him this query, which a leading journal, quite as initial to that party as is Mr. Dawes, propounds: "Will he tell us, in any other country a free boundary, ever descended so low in the scale of financial expedients as to allow the Minister of Finance to issue irredeemable paper at a discount in a time of profound peace, or his own responsibility, first to 'prove crops,' and then to meet the current expenses of the Government?"

Mr. Dawes, nor any other man, can venture an affirmative response to this question; for nowhere in history can it be discovered that any government based upon popular sovereignty had the temerity to deal with a few, intelligent, and self-respecting people as the Administration has repeatedly done in the conduct of its financial department. It could not have been, it would not dare have been attempted, at any other time or in any other country at this day. But our American people have a habit of submitting sometimes for long periods to gross abuses in governmental conduct, and their apathy seems so hopeless, that despair enters the heart of him who perceives the evil tendencies of the existing state of affairs, when all at once up rises the popular indignation, and acting with a unity and energy seldom to be held by the people, depose the party which presumes upon its lethargy to perpetrate further robbery. The public, at least the greater portion of the voting population, has been for a long while in this apparently trance-like and apathetic condition in reference to the misrule and waste which characterize the present Administration; but there are premonitory symptoms of one of those general upheavals of the masses, which shall result in the deposition from power and the final destruction of the present dominant party. As a shrewd politician, Mr. Dawes is anxious to avert this catastrophe, and his speech is simply a signal to his party associates in leadership that they must take in salt, if they want to save their mastership of the ship of State.

FRAM GATES.—An exchange truthfully says: "It would be a great convenience if farmers, generally, would have their names painted upon the gates of their farms, and much difficulty in finding the residence of persons of whom they are in search, which would be obviated by this course. Besides, a nice gate, with the name of the occupants, adds greatly to the appearance of a place, and looks as though the inmates were not isolated from the outside world."

"Young man, do you ever drink?" said a mild-looking man, accosting Jones.

"Well, yes, thank you, as its a cold morning I don't mind," replied Mr. Jones, removing his quid of tobacco.

"Don't do it any more," rejoined the mild man, "for you will be eventually damned. Good morning, God bless you!"

There are over 3,000,000 children of the school age in this country. We spend annually for schools over \$95,000,000, equal to one-third of one per cent. of the property, real and personal, of the country, as returned by the last census, and employ 221,000 teachers. The National Government has already set aside for educational purposes 140,000,000 acres of the public lands.

FAST PRINTING PRESS.—The New York Herald has under operation an improved Bullock self-feeding press, which prints a quadruple sheet of that paper at one impression, and required the assistance of three men only. The press is fed from a web, the sheet is printed on both sides, and each paper is cut off from the roll. The press, it is stated, will print 20,000 papers an hour.

A story is told of a young lady teacher of a Sunday school, who, a few days ago, asked a youngster what was matrimony. The boy mistook the question for purgatory, and answered promptly: "It is a place or state of punishment in this life, where souls suffer for a short time before they go to heaven."

WANTED TO SNEEZE.—A negro was buried alive in a well at Butler, Ga., recently. On being dug out from his perilous situation he launched forth as follows: "Tell you what an act of fact, gemmen, I nobar want to sneeze so bad in my life, but was a rail to, 'case it might jar down mo' dirt."

A clergyman lately addressed his female auditory as follows: "Be not proud that the blessed Lord paid your sex the distinguished compliment of appearing first to a female before the resurrection, for it was only done that the good tidings might be spread sooner."

AN OVER-WORKED SCHOOL-'MARM.' The school commissioner of Fulton county, N. Y., recently, while visiting his school came upon a district, where there were but four pupils in attendance. Three young men were sparring the school "marm" in one corner of the room.

The Albany Register says: "A much larger breadth of grain will be sown in Linn county this season and with an average crop we will have a tremendous surplus to sell."

Almond trees are in blossom in Healdsburg.

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EUCALYPTUS. Completely corroborative of the summary of Dr. Wooster, are the reports of the experiments with Eucalyptus by Dr. Lorrimer, of Berlin, Frassin, and Dr. Koelzer, Chief Physician of the Austrian Railway Co., published in the American Medical Journal, July, 1872.

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