

# HOW SHALL WE PAY FOR THE WAR?

## A Constructive Criticism on the House Revenue Bill.

### LOANS BETTER THAN TAXES

Five Reasons Why Excessive Taxes at the Outset of War Are Disadvantageous—Great Britain Example Worthy of Emulation—How the Taxes Should Be Apportioned.

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On May 23, 1917, the House of Representatives passed an act "to provide revenue to defray war expenses and for other purposes." In the original bill as presented by the Committee of Ways and Means, the additional revenue to be derived was estimated at \$1,810,420,000. The amendment to the income tax, which was tacked on to the bill during the discussion in the House, was expected to yield another \$400,000,000 or \$500,000,000.

In discussing the House bill, two problems arise:

I. How much should be raised by taxation?

II. In what manner should this sum be raised?

I. How Much Should Be Raised by Taxation?

How was the figure of \$1,800,000,000 arrived at? The answer is simple. When the Secretary of the Treasury came to estimate the additional war expenses for the year 1917-18, he calculated that they would amount to some \$6,000,000,000, of which \$2,000,000,000 was to be allotted to the allies, and \$3,000,000,000 was to be utilized for the domestic purposes. Thinking that it would be a fair proposition to divide this latter sum between loans and taxes, he concluded that the amount to be raised by taxes was \$1,800,000,000.

There are two extreme theories, each of which may be dismissed with scant courtesy. The one is that all war expenditures should be defrayed by loans, and the other is that all war expenditures should be defrayed by taxes. Each theory is untenable.

It is indeed true that the burdens of the war should be borne by the present rather than the future generation; but this does not mean that they should be borne by this year's taxation.

Meeting all war expenses by taxation makes the taxpayers in one or two years bear the burden of benefits that ought to be distributed at least over a decade within the same generation.

In the second place, when expenditures approach the gigantic sums of present-day warfare, the tax-only policy would require more than the total surplus of social income. Were this absolutely necessary, the ensuing havoc in the economic life of the community would have to be endured. But where the disasters are so great and at the same time so unnecessary, the tax-only policy may be declared impracticable.

Secretary McAdoo had the right instinct and highly commendable courage in deciding that a substantial portion, at least, of the revenues should be derived from taxation. But when he hit upon the plan of 50-50 per cent., that is, of raising one-half of all domestic war expenditures by taxes, the question arises whether he did not go too far.

The relative proportion of loans to taxes is after all a purely business proposition. Not to rely to a large extent on loans at the outset of a war is a mistake.

Disadvantages of Excessive Taxes.

The disadvantages of excessive taxes at the outset of the war are as follows:

1. Excessive taxes on consumption will cause popular resentment.

2. Excessive taxes on industry will disarrange business, damp enthusiasm and restrict the spirit of enterprise at the very time when the opposite is needed.

3. Excessive taxes on incomes will deplete the surplus available for investments and interfere with the placing of the enormous loans which will be necessary in any event.

4. Excessive taxes on wealth will cause a serious diminution of the incomes which are at present largely drawn upon for the support of educational and philanthropic enterprises. Moreover, these sources of support would be dried up precisely at the time when the need would be greatest.

5. Excessive taxation at the outset of the war will reduce the elasticity available for the increasing demands that are soon to come.

Great Britain's Policy.

Take Great Britain as an example. During the first year of the war she increased taxes only slightly, in order to keep industries going at top notch. During the second year she raised by new taxes only 9 per cent. of her war expenditures. During the third year she levied by additional taxes (over and above the pre-war level) only slightly more than 17 per cent. of her war expenses.

If we should attempt to do as much in the first year of the war as Great Britain did in the third year it would suffice to raise by taxation \$1,250,000,000. If, in order to be absolutely on the safe side, it seemed advisable to increase the sum to \$1,500,000,000, this should, in our opinion, be the maximum.

# THE "BURNING BUSH."

A Wonderful Plant Whose Vapor May Be Set Aflame.

The "burning bush," which is known to botanists as the *Dictamnus fragrans*, is regarded as one of the most wonderful plants in the world. This plant is native to western Asia, though it is now found in some gardens of the temperate zone. In connection with the dictamnus it is rather remarkable that the species is common where the incident of Moses and the burning bush is said to have occurred.

A great many people who grow the plant are quite unaware of its strange habits. As a matter of fact, the dictamnus secretes a fragrant essential oil in great abundance, which, botanists say, is produced in especially large quantities by the flower stems. In warm weather volatilizing so that the air surrounding the plant is impregnated. Further, this vapor is highly inflammable, and if a naked flame is brought near to the plant the fumes at once take fire with a most singular result. The whole plant is surrounded with crackling, shooting flames reddish in color and leaving a highly aromatic odor behind them. The burning bush does not seem to be injured in any way by the fire, for the flames do not actually come into contact with the plant itself.

Several conditions are useful if the experiment with the burning bush is to be a success. Thus it is essential that the air should be very dry and warm; also that there should be practically no wind. The best effects are secured only just after the opening of the flowers. It will be realized that these conditions cannot always be relied upon. A plan has recently been devised by means of which the inflammable nature of the vapors given out by the dictamnus may be shown with startling effect.

A strong plant of the burning bush is raised in a pot. At the time when the flowers are just reaching perfection the plant is placed in a glass jar or a case. This is closely covered for some hours before the time of the experiment. On removing the cover a light is held over the plant, when there is at once a tremendous outburst of flame. So great may be the rush of fire that the experimenter is cautioned to keep his face away from the top of the jar, as a serious burn is not by any means out of the question. After an interval of an hour or so with the jar or case closed up the experiment may be repeated with similar results.—Denver News.

The Versatile Manchurian Farmer.

In the early fall in Manchuria the natives undergo a sort of magic change from farmer to bandit. It seems something of a psychological somersault—the day a plodding farmer, the next a highwayman. After the tall kaoling, or giant millet, is cut, and escape is not so easy over the bare plains, another clap of the hands, and, lo, a peaceful farmer once more! It is not only the farmer who plays this exciting game; many another staid member of the community has his little fling. Some even combine their roles, differentiating according to the seasons. With the oriental's disregard for conditions, a man is often a bandit, merchant and magistrate all at once.—Alice Tisdale in Atlantic.

Macaulay's Torrent of Talk.

"Macaulay improves! Macaulay improves!" Sydney Smith remarked one day. "I have observed in him of late flashes of—silence." The "sonorous vivacity" of this enormous talker nettled Smith, who found it impossible often to voice his own wit and wisdom. "I wish I could write poetry like you," he complained to a friend. "I would write an 'Inferno,' and I would put Macaulay among a number of dispirited and gag him!"

Another contemporary described Macaulay as "slopping all over on every subject and standing in the slops."

Wanted to Patent a Circus.

P. T. Barnum once came to the office to know if he could patent the three ring circus. In technical parlance his three ring circus was an aggregation and not a combination to produce a new result. Therefore it was not patentable, which information highly incensed the showman. "It will be adopted by every circus just as soon as I make it known," he declared. And it was.—Scientific American.

Radium Minerals.

Minerals that carry radium are fairly easy to determine. One of them, pitchblende, as generally found, is a black mineral about as heavy as ordinary iron, but much softer. The principal radium mineral, curite, has a bright canary yellow color and is generally powdery.—Indianapolis News.

Also Colored.

"Yes, I was fined \$50 for putting coloring matter in artificial butter."  
"Well, didn't you deserve it?"  
"Perhaps. But what made me mad was that the magistrate who imposed the fine had dyed whiskers."—London Opinion.

Wrong Time.

"So she refused you?"  
"Yes, but it was my own fault," said the young stockbroker. "I proposed on a declining market."—Louisville Courier Journal.

Unnecessary.

"Did you ever try the hot water treatment in the morning?"  
"Don't have to. My wife keeps me in it all the time."—Baltimore American.

The best thing for any one to say who has nothing to say is to say nothing and stick to it.

# AN OLD TIME FARM

And the Methods That Were in Use in the Year 1840.

## DAYS OF THE SIMPLE LIFE.

(When All Kinds of Clothing Were Made at Home, When Eggs Sold For a Shilling a Dozen and the High Cost of Living Was Not a Big Problem.)

In view of the modern day high cost of living and of the many wonderful advances made in the last century—the railroad, telegraph, the ocean cable, the telephone, the automobile, and farm and labor saving machinery of all kinds and the amazing changes these inventions have necessarily wrought in all directions in almost every walk of life—it may be of interest to recall living conditions on a farm in the year 1840.

The farm I have in mind consisted of 200 acres. The stock was fifteen cows, a yoke of oxen, twenty sheep, an old white horse, a dozen pigs, fifty hens, ten geese, a few ducks and a flock of turkeys.

The farm produced practically every thing the family consumed, both clothing and food. The sheep furnished the wool, which was carded at a "fulling" mill and made into rolls for spinning. At home it was spun into yarn and woven on a hand loom. For beds it was left white; for clothing it was dyed any color desired. A competent housewife could make dyos of logwood, indigo or cochineal. The white and black wool were mixed to produce a gray like the Confederate uniform.

There were no ready made clothes; all clothes were made in the home. There was no woven underwear. Stockings were knitted at home as well as mittens and tippets. Caps with ear flaps were of rabbit skin. There were no shoes. In the winter boots came up to the knees.

Several cows were killed each year. There was a tannery near by, where the skins were tanned. A shoemaker made our boots. They were usually too small and gave much trouble and pain.

The flax cut and laid down until the flax loosened from the woody part, was put through a heckle worked by hand and then spun and woven. This strong linen cloth was used for summer clothing, towels, etc. The seed was saved to make flaxseed tea (a medicine) or poultice for bruises.

For food we had everything needed—fresh meat, potatoes, beets, cabbages, parsnips, pumpkins for pies, apples, which lasted from fall to spring; cider, which gave us vinegar or produced a cider champagne.

Half a dozen pigs killed in the fall gave us plenty of ham and bacon, lard, sausages and salt pork. The hams and bacon were hung up in the smokehouse, a small building with no opening except the door. A small fire produced more smoke than heat, but gave the hams and bacon a very delicious flavor.

There were plenty of chickens for roasting and potpies and eggs, turkeys for Thanksgiving and Christmas, occasionally a roast goose with apple sauce. From the cows' milk we made both butter and cheese. What butter and cheese the family did not consume was sold in a nearby village. Butter usually brought 12½ cents a pound. Cheese was also made at home, as there were neither creameries nor cheese factories. Cheese was sold at 5 to 6 cents a pound. All eggs not used went to the village store and brought 10 cents to 12 cents a dozen.

Every farmer made his own soap. It was called soft soap. It was soft, but very strong, and took the dirt off your hands and face very thoroughly and some skin also unless you were careful in your ablutions.

Little was heard of the world at large. Twenty miles from the railroad the great four horse stagecoach came every day, bringing the mails. There were few newspapers or magazines. The telegraph was unknown. The Atlantic cable did not succeed until 1866. There were only twenty-three miles of railroad in 1839.

All the wonderful agencies which have added to the power of man in the last century will not be lost, but will be added to constantly. The many problems of the modern day high cost of living can only be solved by time and the efforts of our greatest minds.—Warner Miller in New York Times.

"May Oats Longs Fill Up Shorts"

sounds like a message in cipher code direct from the front lines, but it is only the heading of a grain report in the morning paper.



# FAREWELL RECEPTION TO DOCTOR PRINZING.

A farewell reception was given by Masons and their families in Masonic hall Monday night for Dr. Jacob Prinzing, on the eve of his departure to take up his military duties at Camp Lewis. The hall was decorated with flags, bunting and flowers, and a large number of friends attended to wish the doctor luck. Dr. R. O. Payne presided, and a program of music and talks was given. Mrs. H. L. Peterson, James G. Smith and the Alkali quartet sang. Mrs. Weese and Miss Biggs played a duet, and W. W. Wood gave a patriotic address. Geo. K. Aiken expressed the good will of the lodge folk in presenting a pen and pencil to the guest of honor, who responded feelingly. Refreshments were served at the close of the evening.—Ontario Democrat

Men of draft age must "work or fight" except for the actor. If he chooses, he can play.

# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Weston F. Shields, Pastor.  
Next Sunday, June 9th, will be Children's Day in the Presbyterian church. The exercises will begin at 11 A. M. The children never fail to attract a large attendance to their doing. Special music and recitations by the little folks will be the special features of the service. A short address by the pastor, and the placing of names on the Cradle Roll will also be part of the service. All are cordially invited. Remember the hour 11 A. M.

Preaching at Harney at 2:30 P. M. A large attendance is desired.

In the evening the Presbyterian Church will unite with the Baptists in their evangelistic meetings.

Prayer meetings on Thursdays at 7:30 P. M.

# NAZARENE CHURCH

Rev. Lyman Brough, Pastor.

A cordial invitation is extended to you to attend our services. The hours of the service on the Sabbath are as follows:

Preaching at 11 A. M.

Sabbath School at 10 A. M.

Young Peoples' meeting at 6:45 P. M.

Song service at 7:30 P. M.

Preaching at 8:00 P. M.

Prayer meeting Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

# HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

(Catholic)

Cor Miller and C. Sta.

Sunday High Mass at 10:30 o'clock

Week days Mass at 7 o'clock.

Instructions for children Saturdays at 9 A. M.

Rev. Father Francis, O. F. M.  
Rector

# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY

Services at 11:00 o'clock. Subject of Lesson-Sermon next Sunday: "Adam and Fallen Man."

The Testimonial Meeting, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

The reading room in the church Edifice, is open on Tuesday and Friday from 2 to 4 P. M.

Sunday School meets on Sunday at 10 o'clock.

Pupils may be admitted to its classes up to the age of 20 years.

The public is cordially invited to the Church Services and to the Reading Room.

# Dangers of Constipation

Neglected constipation may cause Piles, ulceration of the bowels, appendicitis, nervous prostration, paralysis. Don't delay treatment. Best remedy is Foley Cathartic Tablets. Do their work surely, easily, gently, without injury to stomach or intestinal lining. Contain no habit-forming drugs. Fine for fat folks.—Sold by Reed Bros.

# Bad Kidneys Laid Him Up.

A slight kidney impairment may lead to dropsy or Bright's disease. Don't neglect it. Frank Miller, Bingham, Utah, writes: "I was troubled with my kidneys so bad I could not work. Tried many kinds of medicine which did me no good. Then I tried Foley Kidney Pills; now feeling as good as I ever did before."—Sold by Reed Bros.

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