

Morning Star

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SUNDAY, JULY 10, 1921

A Truce in Ireland

As one observer expresses it, General Smuts was sent to Ireland to widen the door which was opened by Lloyd George's appeal and the King's speech in Belfast.

The truce which has been declared and the approaching conference between Lloyd George and De Valera do not necessarily presage a settlement, but they are certainly requisite initial steps.

The choice of Jan Christian Smuts for the delicate duties of intermediary was peculiarly fortunate. General Smuts learned some years ago, at a time when the problem of Ireland was causing him little, if any, concern, that the Irish question is not unanswerable.

The prospects of peace are reasonably bright, and history will probably show that General Smuts has done more than any other man to advance negotiations to the present stage.

Taxation

Elsewhere on this page The Star is publishing a series of questions and answers on the subject of taxation. No subject, we believe, is more worthy of popular study at this time.

Commenting upon the desire of Governor Hardwick to have the Georgia Welfare Board abolished, the Charlotte Observer says Governor Morrison has appointed a welfare chief for North Carolina.

On the Square

An incident is related which ought to carry a salutary lesson to those who believe that the world is on its way to the place where the whang-doodle mourneth and that the present state of affairs is one in which the only question is as to how many hindmosters the devil will catch.

The prize-fight "extras" of a certain New York paper were carried to the usual distributing point. The young man whose business it is to sell to the newsboys found himself overwhelmed. He could not hand out papers and take in pennies rapidly enough to meet the demand.

Some of these little street merchants were new customers at this stand, unknown by face or name to the young man in charge. Many of them might have retained the full amount of their sales returns without detection.

The popular impression is that the average "newsie" of the great metropolis is a rather tricky youngster, with perhaps more concern for turning questionable deals than for keeping his credit good. We could hardly call it amazing if this were the case.

We are proud of them and indebted to them for a reminder of the truth that character is not wanting in the generation to whom the near future belongs.

An Opportunity

We believe every thoughtful citizen, whether business man or not, will heartily endorse the reasons upon which Mr. Z. W. Whitehead bases his advocacy of Trade Week.

In his communication to The Star, published in yesterday's issue, Mr. Whitehead proceeded upon the conception of Eastern Carolina as a homogeneous community, whose members are bound together by many ancient ties and whose natural, logical center or hub is the city of Wilmington.

"Our destinies are bound up in the same future," says Mr. Whitehead, addressing his remarks to the people of Eastern Carolina.

This is true to an extent perhaps not fully appreciated. And it is Wilmington's privilege, we believe, to take the lead in effecting a closer alliance between the various units of this large community.

The good that may come of Trade Week and similar festivals is not to be calculated. It is not to be measured, in any case, in dollars and cents or in new accounts.

The report that conditions in the Tampico region are becoming more favorable is gratifying, but the subsiding of violence does not mean the solution of the problem that is presented there. The Mexican Secretary of the Interior has declared his intention to unmask the American oil operators.

SHORT SKIRTS INTRIGUE JAPS: The styles of the modern American girls do not inspire deep thought in the minds of the ten members of the Japanese house of representatives who are visiting Philadelphia.

The State Health Department has warned of an increase in the number of typhoid cases. The showing this summer is distinctly unfavorable as compared with last year.

CONTEMPORARY VIEWS

A RISING TIDE

New York Tribune James O. Craig, president of the Business Men's Clearing House of Chicago, remarked the other day that "women stenographers at \$35 and \$40 a week are replacing former high-priced executives."

In politics women are more practical and seemingly less sentimental and partisan than men. In many communities they are already upsetting old ways and are producing extremely interesting results.

Our sociologists and political economists and other students may have to revise their predictions that equal suffrage would merely double the vote. There is a new psychology at work.

INNOVATIONS IN OLE LUNNON: The British government proposes to grant members of parliament free railway transportation, and to relieve their salaries of the burden of income tax.

WORKING CHILDREN TERM MONTHS: Anybody concerned with the problem of rural schools in the United States may thank the day when the secretary of the national child labor committee, for point out that voluntary absenteeism on the part of the children is almost as much of a factor in their inefficiency as the lack of thoroughly trained teachers.

HONORING A SCHOOL TEACHER: There, are, it is true, all sorts and ways of "honoring" people. Different countries and different districts in the same country have different methods.

BATTERED SPEAKING TRUMPET: A battered brass speaking trumpet, taken from the hand of Capt. J. Mayhew Wainwright as he lay dead on the deck of his ship, the U. S. gunboat, January 1, 1862, has just been presented to Assistant Secretary Wainwright of the war department, descendant and namesake of the gallant officer.

THRIVE ON MATERNAL NURSING: Breast fed babies have a better chance for life than artificially-fed babies. This fact is brought out in a brief monograph entitled, "Breast Feeding," which has just been issued by the department of labor through the children's bureau.

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A Tax Catechism

Q. What is a tax?

A. A tax is the tribute which government lays on the citizen for protection in the enjoyment of the rights of life and property.

Q. How are taxes laid?

A. Taxes are laid on real and personal property and on incomes and occupations.

Q. Are taxes laid uniformly?

A. The theory of taxation is that rates must be laid uniformly on property, persons and occupations.

Q. As a matter of fact, do taxes bear equally upon all citizens?

A. A property tax bears equally just in proportion as real estate assessments are equitable and personal property returns honest; taxes on occupations are uniform in reference to respective classes, while income tax varies upward in rate as income increases.

Q. Has the taxing system always existed?

A. Taxes of some sort are coeval with civilization. There can be no conception of a tax from organized society, for tax is the price which society imposes upon its members for the support of government and the protection of itself.

Q. What is the principal of the limit of taxation?

A. A just government seeks to lay the greatest possible burden of taxation on an economical and efficient administration require. No levy of tax for profit would be either moral or legal, for government is the agent of all the people.

Q. Since taxes are derived principally from tangible property, by what means is such property insured from exhausting itself in meeting tax demands?

A. The property tax is, indeed, the principal source of local government income, and while the tax is laid on property, in reality payment is made from the profits of business.

Q. If the property tax is paid from the profits of business, how can such tax be paid without impairing the capital value of property when business is depressed and operations are at a loss?

A. Under conditions of depressed business, when profits are greatly reduced or entirely extinguished, taxes are paid only out of the surplus of business previously created, and to meet tax demands under such a condition the taxpayer must either borrow on his credit or sell property.

Q. Is there any honest way by which taxes may be evaded?

A. Yes, there is at least one honest way to avoid the payment of taxes. Both the state and federal governments issue tax-free bonds, which sell for more than bonds subject to tax.

Q. Does not investment in these tax-free bonds in both legally and morally defensible, because both governments authorize and invite the purchase of these tax-free securities?

A. When business conditions are good and taxes low, capital realizes greater returns from business enterprises than from investment in tax-free bonds, which class of securities under conditions of business prosperity is largely held by insurance companies, trust companies and persons seeking fixed investments. In such a case the property tax is not adversely affected, but when business conditions are bad and taxes high, the withdrawal of capital for investment in tax-free securities undoubtedly has the effect of increasing taxes generally.

Q. In times of business depression, when agriculture is in a state of acute distress, industries operating on half time, labor out of employment, and business generally forced to practice rigid economies, is not government morally bound to reduce expenses in every possible way, even to the extent of eliminating unnecessary offices, increasing the duties of officials and employees and reducing salaries?

A. Government is at all times obligated to operate at the lowest cost consistent with efficiency. Government employees are entitled to fair compensation for services rendered, but in time of acute and prolonged business depression there is an added obligation of government to eliminate every unnecessary expense, to promote greater efficiency, and to postpone temporarily all expansion of old or inauguration of new projects.

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Learn to Toodle Correctly. The Toodle, today's most fascinating dance, can be learned quickly and at small cost from America's foremost authority on Social dancing.

MORTGAGE SALE: By virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain mortgage duly executed by Harrison Solomon to Samuel Blossom and registered on the records of New Hanover County in Book 85, page 383, default having been made in the payment of the debt thereby secured, the undersigned will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, at the Court House door in the City of Wilmington, N. C., on Saturday, the 16th day of July, 1921, at twelve o'clock M., the following described land:

First Tract: Situate in Cape Fear Township, County of New Hanover and State of North Carolina, BEGINNING at a stake, Solomon's corner in the edge of Solomon's branch, and running thence S. 51-2 deg. W. 14 poles to a stake; thence South 15 degrees E. 116 poles to a cypress on the run of Island Creek; thence down said creek to the mouth of Solomon's branch, thence up said branch to the Beginning, containing 50 acres more or less.

Second Tract: Adjoining the above and BEGINNING at a cypress on the run of Island Creek; and running thence S. 51-2 degrees W. 100 poles to a stake in the edge of Solomon's Branch; thence down the various courses of said branch to the run of Island Creek; thence down the run of said creek to the Beginning, containing 50 acres, more or less.

This 16th day of June, 1921. SAMUEL BLOSSOM, Mortgagee.

By John D. Bellamy & Sons, Attorneys. 1-a-w-4-w-6-19,26,33,10

Wiley's Silhouette Candy advertisement with decorative border and text: Love's Confidences, Whether whispered amid the piney mountain breezes or to the tune of singing waves—are conveyed most convincingly when accompanied by a gift of WILEY'S DELICIOUS CANDY.

SANUX advertisement: Did You Ever Try the Wonderful Hospital Home Treatment SANUX FOR INDIGESTION AND STOMACH TROUBLES? Sold by Elvington's Drug Store.

Read Star Classified Ads

G. Dannenbaum advertisement: Sleeveless Dresses THE RAGE OF THE SEASON. Great Price Reductions in Sport Wear. Washable Silk and Satin Skirts. Sport Dresses. Tuxedo Sweaters. 20 MARKET STREET-WHOLESALE & RETAIL.