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EXTRAVAGANCE.

It was "Extravagance" by the American Government that won the war over Germany. If this Government had delayed preparations in order that each item of expenditure might have been passed on in regular peace-time routine, Germany would have gone through Paris, would have been in occupancy of London and threatening America from that base. War and extravagance go hand in hand, otherwise the war could not be successfully fought, especially under the emergency that faced the Allies when American aid was called for. And out of war extravagance grows increased taxation for the people. War is a costly occupation and the people must pay the bill or come under the heel of the oppressor. It was worth all the extravagance established for the United States to have won the undisputed distinction of having participated in the defeat of Germany. The thousands of lives of American soldiers saved by that very extravagance, alone justified its indulgence by a Government that had no time to hesitate. It is natural that following the war, the Government should find itself faced with an enormously increased expense which must be paid by the people. Nevertheless, it seems a little bit demagogic for politicians to try to take advantage of a situation for which war, the government and the people are alike responsible, as Senator Bailey apparently did when he endeavored to make this extravagance a political issue. He wants to pledge the Democratic party to a policy of "economy" and to be wiped out or the war debt, as if all Congress had to do would be the passing of a set of resolutions, something after the character of the resolution Mr. Borah would pass and call peace declared. How would Senator Bailey, or any other Democratic statesman—any Republican statesman, for that matter reduce expenses of the Government unless he could first bring about a complete overhauling of the machinery of the Government? And how could that machinery be overhauled in manner that would reduce taxation so as to take care of the obligations establishing for the Government, and at the same time bring about a reduction of taxes? The people may be prepared to face one fact. Taxes may be lowered some day through processes of readjustment, but they are never again to be quite so low as they were before the war.

The Houston Post makes the point that it is history in all countries that war "invariably increases expenses for a Government," and that these expenses "never return to the pre-war level." That paper submits that the "expenses of the Federal Government just before the Civil War totaled \$60,000,000 a year. The lowest annual expenditures of any year afterward totaled \$236,000,000, more than three times the pre-war normal." President Cleveland's first administration found the Government spending \$260,000,000, and an "economy" Congress reduced expenditures to \$247,500,000, just as Mr. Bailey might plan for the present or next Congress to do. In that case, whoever is President will be forced to do just what President Cleveland was forced to do—make up the deficit by signing the rescue appropriation bills. The cutting down of expenses by congressional enactment does not pay the bills. It may give a political party momentarily apparent chance to point to its rec-

Profiteering Brings its Penalty

Bitter as must be the grief felt by everybody who reads about the terrible pecuniary losses about to be suffered by the men who are the present possessors of intoxicants in enormous quantities, sympathy for them does have one slight mitigation in the minds of at least a few people. For those few remember, and at least as many more will do so when the fact is recalled, that in the weeks just before prohibition went into effect the men who now make their whimpering appeals for pity put exorbitant prices on their liquid wares.

Every one of them, after the manner of the most ruthless of profiteers, exploited to the uttermost the thirst of drinking folk and the vague but compulsive apprehension of the much more numerous people who still cling to the delusion that health and even life may depend some day on having a few bottles of wine, brandy or whiskey "in the house for use in case of sickness." The American Medical Association long since made formal official announcement, after consulting doctors all over the country, that alcohol serves no purpose in medicine that other safe substances do not serve better, but the laity doesn't know that, and a few of the older doctors—doctors of the kind that all over Europe went to their graves rejecting Harvey's discovery of the circulation of the blood—yet believe it. The result was that practically every body—many for their lives—laid in at least a small stock of liquor in preparation for statutory dryness.

And didn't the liquor dealers make every one of them shell out! Had those same dealers been decently considerate, content with less than the very highest price the panic-stricken public would pay, not a few of the millions of barrels now full, and in reality or pretense worthless, would have been emptied at a reasonable profit.

Whether people would today be better off with more whiskey in their closets is questionable, but there's no doubt at all that the liquor dealers could face the future with a composure they now lack.—New York Times.

ord in "economy" but in the end tee money to pay the Government's obligations is made up in some other way.

Democratic "extravagance" and economy will not constitute the next issue in politics. The people know the necessity for extravagance on war preparedness, and they know or think they know, that if the Republican party had been in power at the time it would have been forced to resort to the same measures of haste to which the Democratic Administration was driven—or we would have had to fight Germany on our own soil. With the readjustment of the Nation on a peace basis many opportunities for instituting economies will be developed, but as the country grows, so will its expenses grow. Changed conditions militate against any possibility of this country getting back to standards of the past, simply because those standards have been outlived. In discussions of extravagance and economies, politicians and people alike should be honest about it. The war is the present answer for existing high cost of living; a growing country is the reason why the expenses of the Nation will never get back to the old basis. By just so much increase in population

A Bureau That Pays.

Not every government bureau is operated at a financial loss, strange as that may seem. The United States Mint is one of those which returns a balance on the right side of the ledger, according to the report of Director Raymond T. Baker. The minting operations of the government in the last fiscal year showed a profit of \$8,369,971. Half the amount was made through the manufacture of nickel and bronze coins. Another source of profit to the mint is the production of coins for other countries. During the fiscal year coins were made for Peru, Argentina, Nicaragua, Siam and the Philippines.

It is a matter of satisfaction to find that some of this government's operations are conducted at a profit and upon a business basis. In the past year the country has witnessed an extraordinary demand for small coins, and for some months the presses of the mint were engaged night and day in the production of pennies. A total of 466,859,600 pennies were minted in the year, requiring 3,200,000 pounds of metal. Another big operation of the bureau of the mint was the melting of 191,000,000 silver dollars into bullion, of which 200,000,000 fine ounces were sold to Great Britain for the account of the government of India. It is a proper source of pride to Director Baker that this operation was concluded and the silver transported across the country without the loss of a dollar. It is a good record of efficient administration.—Washington Post.

In Memory of W. E. Dugger.

I have been watching every paper patiently for a sketch of Bro. W. E. Dugger's death by some member of Willowdale church, but so far have failed, and will write a few words to his memory.

Brother Dugger was born Feb. 4, 1856, and died May 15, 1919. He was married to Miss Nannie Wilkerson in Sept. 1870, to which union was born five children, four of whom are still living.

Brother Dugger was a faithful member of Willowdale church and was ever ready and willing to do all in his power to make it a success. He was a man of great ability and foresight, and was one of the best mechanics in the county, being called from here to many towns to do finishing work. Brother Dugger is greatly missed at home and elsewhere. I knew him from my childhood, and to know him was to love him. I never knew him to step aside in anything that was wrong. We, as a church, miss him; as our church and our Sunday school have lost their most active member. We mourn for him, but not as those who have no hope, for we believe that Brother Dugger is at rest. The talk of the last year of his life was about the church and Sunday school work. I could say many more good things about Brother Dugger, but his life will remain a success in the minds of the people. May God bless the bereaved ones.

E. H.

as the census of the present year will show the population in excess of the population over 1910, will the chances against getting back to the revenue basis of 10 years ago be established. Neither a Republican nor a Democrat congress could bring back lower taxes, nor can the people be played for fools.—Charlotte Observer.

Roads Back to Owners, March 1.

The railroads and express companies will revert to private ownership March 1, says President Wilson, in his message which follows.

"Whereas, in the exercise of authority committed to me by law I have heretofore, through the secretary of war, taken possession of, and have through the director general of railroads exercised control over certain railroads, systems of transportation and property appurtenant thereto or connected therewith, including systems of coastwise and inland transportation, engaged in general transportation and owned or controlled by said railroads or systems of corporations, including also terminals, terminal companies and terminal association, sleeping and parlor cars, private cars and private car lines, elevators, warehouses, telephone lines, and all other equipment and appurtenances commonly used upon or operated as a part of such railroads and systems of transportation; and

"Whereas, I now deem it needful and desirable that all railroads, systems of transportation and property now under such Federal control be relinquished therefrom, now, therefore, under authority of section 14 of the Federal control act approved March 21, 1918, and of all other powers and provisions of law thereto me enabling, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, do hereby relinquish from Federal control, effective the first day of March, 1920, at 12:01 o'clock a. m. all railroads, systems of transportation and property, of whatever kind taken or held under such Federal control and not heretofore relinquished, and restore the same to the possession and control of their respective owners.

"Walker D. Hines, director general of railroads of his successor in office, is hereby authorized and directed, through such agent and agencies as he may determine, in any manner not inconsistent with the provisions of said act of March 21, 1918, to adjust, settle and close all matters, including the making of agreements for compensation, and all questions and disputes of whatsoever nature arising out of or incident to Federal control, until otherwise provided by proclamation of the President or by act of Congress, and generally to do and perform as fully in all respects as the President is authorized to do, all and singular the acts and things necessary or proper in order to carry into effect this proclamation and the relinquishment of said railroads, systems of transportation and property.

"For the purpose of accounting and all other purposes, this proclamation should become effective on the first day of March, 1920, at 12:01 a. m."

Cures Asthma With Shirt Buttons.

The following readable story, sent out from Wilson, may or may not be true:

"A bank cashier of this city a few days ago, came to the conclusion that he had a severe attack of asthma and stopping at a drug store purchased one dozen aspirin tablets.

"The box that contained the medicine struck the fancy of one of his daughters as being the very thing to pack a Christmas present in and the cashier's wife took the tablets from the box and placed them in a pin tray and put the tray in a bureau drawer, and

Cow Ate Dynamite; Congress Pays Bill.

The cow that burned up Chicago, the cow that jumped over the moon, the cow that raised the fattest calf, and the cow that died on the tune—they will have to recognize an addition to their celebrated quartet.

She's the cow that ate up \$60 worth of government dynamite out in Willard, Washington, and made the wheels of Congress go around until her owner got \$60.

The house paused in its consideration of weightier subjects today long enough to pass the necessary bill. Contributory negligence on the part government road builders who left some sticks of dynamite where bossy could eat them, was the verdict.

Strangely enough, it didn't blow up the cow, it only poisoned her, but it nearly blew up the house of representatives.

The house evidently enjoyed its little excursion into the field of humor and switched from cows to false teeth.

It passed a bill to pay Michael McGarvey \$35 for a set he lost while working at the quartermaster's depot, Governor's Island, last July. The government compensation commission had refused his claim but the house was in a compassionate mood and thought otherwise.—Associated Press.

PALE CHILDREN NEED GUDE'S PEPTO-MANGAN

UNNATURAL FOR CHILDREN TO BE PALE AND THIN—PALENESS SIGN OF THIN WATERY BLOOD

PEPTO-MANGAN MAKES RED BLOOD.

PREPARED IN LIQUID AND TABLET FORM—BOTH POSSESS IDENTICAL MEDICINAL QUALITIES

It is necessary for boys and girls to laugh, romp, play, and enjoy themselves, for it is at that stage of life that the foundation is laid for future health.

Prompt attention should be given to the child who seldom laughs, whose physical condition prevents playing like the other children, whose appetite is poor, and who tires easily.

If the lassitude is due to poor blood, which is often the case, a simple, safe, and pleasant remedy is within easy reach. Gude's Pepto-Mangan is just the tonic for pale, thin children. Gude's Pepto-Mangan contains the very ingredients that increase and enrich the blood, enabling it to supply the entire body with the sorely needed vigor, strength and vitality that make happy, romping children.

For the convenience of the public Pepto-Mangan is prepared in tablet as well as liquid form. Both forms possess exactly the same medicinal properties.

When you ask the druggist for Pepto-Mangan, look for the name "Gude's" on the package. If it not there it is not Pepto-Mangan. (advertisement.)

warned him not to forget to take them just before retiring each night until they were all taken.

"For several nights in succession he forgot his dose until getting between sheets and, knowing about where his wife placed them, got up in the dark and gulped them down. The fourth morning his wife in plundering in the bureau drawer found that not a single tablet had been taken and asked: "Why, dear, haven't you taken the aspirin?" He replied: "I have taken the last one and never felt finer in my life." "Instead of the tray with tablets he had been swallowing white pearl shirt buttons from another pin tray, and says he feels 'all buttoned up.'"

Borrowing from Banks:

Lack of capital has much to do with holding back the country. Money is of more importance to the farmer than to the majority of other classes. With the merchant and with many other lines of business in which the proprietor or manager runs on or borrowed capital, the item of interest is amount of small importance, since they have several turnovers during the year. With the farmer the item of interest takes on a different aspect. The rate of interest he has to pay on the money he borrows is an extremely serious matter.

His business is so hazardous and so dependent on elements not under his control and his control and his rate of turnover so slow, that to him a loan is an investment of much import.

But it takes money to produce money. Especially is this true in the farming business. The farmer that can borrow money at a reasonable rate of interest and uses business ability in his investments is the one that moves forward.

The farmer's appearance and manner, initiative and self-reliance, industry character and personal history are a few of the things that are taken into consideration by the banker in making a loan. And the farmer that "looks good" to the banker is usually able to secure a loan, at a rate of interest that will enable him to make a neat profit on his investment. When the risk is greater, the rate of interest is increased to "suit the occasion."

I make it a practice to borrow money from the bank. I find it preferable to borrowing from private parties; also, it is to be preferred to time-prices" and the customary methods of asking your merchant to credit you. Borrowing from the bank is a business proposition. Asking credit elsewhere is a questionable practice.

I say that there is something wrong—something lacking in business ability—with the farmer who is unable to profit from a loan at a reasonable rate of interest. I find that it gives me a better business rating to transact business with my banker and to borrow sufficiently from him so that I can deal with other would-be creditors on a cash basis. Also, I know that it pays to borrow money if necessary to purchase purebred farm animals as well as the necessary equipment with which to make the business of farming a success.—F. B. L., in Progressive Farmer.

Notice of Executorship.

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of L. C. Earp, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate will present them on or before the 22nd day of December, 1920, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please come forward and make immediate settlement. This 22nd day of December, 1919.

L. H. HOLLER,
Executor of the estate of L. C. Earp, Deceased.

You can do some things next week, but some you cannot.

So don't wait, act now!
Insure your house before it burns.
Insure your health before you get sick.

Insure your life before you die for then it is everlastingly too late.

I sell the best policies at universal rates
GEO. F. BLAIR,
Blowing Rock, N. C.

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