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TIME TO SPEAK OUT.

When a democrat, and a southern democrat at that, takes 40 minutes of the time of the lower house of congress as Congressman Humphreys did to call attention to the fact that President Wilson should break his silence and let it be known that he will not be a candidate for a third time, there can be little question but what he voices the sentiment of many more than himself, or many more than those who expressed approval of his sentiments on the floor of congress.

It has generally been accepted in view of the physical condition of the president, in view of the known opposition to a third term and the disapproval which has been manifested at the acts of the administration that there was no chance that he would seek another term. It cannot be believed that he is now making any plans or has any idea of attempting to carry the party banner in another campaign even in his determined fight for the treaty.

Yet the fact remains that he has not definitely stated that he would not be a candidate again. There have been statements to the effect that he had made up his mind not to be but there has been no definite announcement to that effect, and there is no question but what there should be some statement forthcoming.

Breaking precedents has been popular with President Wilson, so it is not to be supposed that he would hesitate at being a third term candidate just because others have, and for the same reason he may not consider it necessary to let it be known that he will not be a candidate for a third term just because McKinley and Roosevelt did when in office.

When, however, he has persistently appealed for support and received it from the democrats, some of whom have done what they did out of party allegiance, it is only just that the president should play fair with the party even without waiting for certain ones therein to demand it.

NAVAL APPROPRIATIONS. In spite of the fact that the aim has been toward the prevention of all future wars, it is made clear that we are not likely to notice this for some time in the appropriations that are made for military and naval purposes. We are expanding our army to several times what it was before the world war and we are not showing any inclination to let up in the construction of naval vessels, to say nothing of the increase that is being made in the naval forces.

In the naval bill, which has been approved by the lower house and is now in the hands of the senate committee, appropriations to the amount of \$25,000,000 are provided for. There is no provision for new construction, meaning vessels which had not previously been considered necessary, but we will have to wait until the building programme has been completed if a new era has not dawned.

Such outlays as are being made cannot be regarded as laying the foundation for future trouble or future wars. They are to be regarded only in the light of preparation against trouble similar to what we have been previously forced into and therefore one of the best means of insuring our safety. It is to be hoped that the time will come when such expenditures will not be made necessary but until it does there is no other course than to give due weight to self protection.

SOLDIERS' INSURANCE BUREAU. The country will welcome the announcement that is made by Director Chomeley-Jones of the bureau of war risk insurance that the insurance division of the bureau is virtually at the end of its period of congestion and consequent dissatisfaction and various delays, for there has been great dissatisfaction and deplorable delays in connection with the business of that division.

Whether the steps that have been taken to put this great national insurance company on a businesslike basis have been undertaken in time to arouse a sufficient interest among those who allowed the insurance to lapse, or whether the changes which have covered many months have convinced those who remained that they should not give up their insurance, remains to be seen.

unbusinesslike methods and the uncertainty, even if they had to pay a little more for their insurance somewhere else, but where they had more confidence, where payments would be acknowledged and where they would not be told months afterward that no payment had been made.

COAL PRICES.

Naturally the consumer is bound to be interested in the coming session of the operators and soft coal miners for the purpose of settling the wage increase, which bids fair to be in accord with the majority report of the coal commission. Equally true is he concerned in the negotiations now going on between the mine owners and hard coal miners where the latter are insisting that they should have 18 per cent more pay than those in the bituminous mines along with a number of other concessions.

The consumer is wondering where he is going to get off, and well he might for he fully recognizes the fact that there is no one standing up for him now as Fuel Administrator Garfield did when he insisted that the 14 per cent increase allowed the miners at the time of ending the strike should come out of the pockets of the operators.

With the ending of coal control by the government the first of April the situation changes again. Providing there is an agreement on the award of the coal commission, the consumer is anxious to know whether he is going to be made to bear the entire burden of that increase or whether it will be just the added increase that the coal commission has made that will be loaded onto him.

Finally, the consumer is the popular method that has been pursued. Dr. Garfield showed that it was an unjust method under the conditions that existed while he was in office. But Dr. Garfield isn't there to help the consumer today and the coal commission upon which the public has placed its faith has nothing to do with the fixing of prices. Its duty was to say what the miners should be paid, so that with coal control removed the outlook for the fellow who uses the coal and pays for it is not what might be considered exactly encouraging in the way of lowered living costs.

STOPPING WASTE.

When Secretary Alexander of the department of commerce calls attention to the fact that the coming of spring means the season of the year when people are in the habit of throwing away much material that could otherwise be used and urges that the possibility of reclamation be given careful attention, it cannot fail to be realized that he makes an appeal that should be given the most attention throughout the country.

Much time has been spent in urging this very point. It is another appeal to check the great amount of waste which goes on every year, an effort to make the people realize the chance that prevails to reduce the living expenses in this very way.

It can be fully appreciated that the amount thus saved in each household to be applied toward the offsetting of living costs is not likely to be large but when it is realized that there is reclaimable material thrown away each year in this country to the value of about \$500,000,000, it must certainly be appreciated that the small amount of effort required to dispose of it is worth expending in order to get the benefit.

EDITORIAL NOTES. Connecticut is a small state but it shows up big in the income tax payments.

Will Georges Carpentier get more attention as a pugilist or as a Hun chaser?

As long as D'Annunzio continues to make threats the Fiume question is still alive.

THE MAN WHO TALKS

Many years ago in a far distant city, a woman rich, well-fed and comfortable, sat on a street corner. She said: "Ain't this a beauty day?" The day in question was simply foggy. The first one in that series for several weeks. Her question shows the trend of a certain type of mind; first, so easily thrown into the dumps with every unpleasant change in the weather. It is too hot or too cold, too wet or too dry, too calm or too windy to suit their convenience. Secondly, they fail to realize what the fog does in furnishing the atmosphere with moisture and sustain vegetable life. The only real drawback to a dense fog is, that, for the time being, it limits the area of our vision. For a few hours, at the most, for a few days, we can't look off as far as usual. One of our great natural impulses is to see things. When things are not so clear, we stop to consider that it is as much of a blessing not to see some things, as it is to see others. We are alive and we are able to do some things, as to know others, Sunshine has its place in our lives, so has the fog. In the experience of ancient Israel, the pillar of cloud by day was as protective as the pillar of fire by night.

A certain man reputed for great wisdom, living in the olden time, once said, "Go to the sugarcane." This was for the purpose of setting first aid in activity. Most people probably would rather go to the robin for any kind of instruction than to the ant, for we welcome the coming of the robin more than we do the ant. The things we love are better teachers than those we detest. The robin that sang the other morning in my back yard told me a story that I was only too greedy to learn. It was the song of winter vanishing and spring approaching. While one may be able to trace the robin's message back to his source of information, yet we may rest assured that the little creature speaks with scientific accuracy. He somehow gets the real facts better than the learned weather man at Washington. He does not depend on the forecast of weather in New York when he comes to his winter home in the south. His coming north is fixed by law as immutable as the vernal equinox. Who told the robin that he should sing sugarcane—in faith, and thank!

At a convention held in this city a dozen years ago or more, one speaker had a very instructive address on "Leaners and Pushers." It dealt with some very common facts in a very uncommon way. He pointed out very clearly that almost every enterprising man has those that push it, and others that paralyze it. The "leaner" is the dead weight, the one who never initiates; he will take any advice, never persuade him not to do it. He is the fellow who enjoys the life of the enterprise which the other fellow furnishes. He is the fellow who grows at the food the producer puts into his hands "without money and without price." Such is the person who will never take any office, never serve on a committee, never volunteer to help a benevolent cause; never does any work save that which is necessary to keep body and soul together, and that only when he can get away with it. As by evolution the tadpole becomes the frog, so the "leaner" becomes the "knocker." To him his church, his order, his guild, his country, his "benefits in the state." His greatest delight is in rapping his city. You see him leaning against a lamppost saying to the passerby, "This is the most corrupt town on earth."

After months of filibuster in the senate would it not be appropriate to call the document under cross examination. The League of Procrastinators? No other deliberative assembly in the world has generated so many new maladies. The League of the reserved reservationists, the irresolute, and the irresolute. Not only do they keep us from doing our duty, but they spread but expert international doctors tell us that more are likely to follow unless the senators are willing to take a well-known specific called "rationalization." To make "rationalization" a warning voice comes from the "white house" with the regularity of a fog horn saying "beware of rocks." It is a "little" thing, but it is a "big" thing. Meanwhile disorder reigns, Europe is bewildered, the Turks still murder, and Armenians are still slain. "Oh, Lord, how long?"

The warmer days that have come at last are now causing the buds on some plants to burst. The green forms are persistent. Little spots of green are often seen in the cracks of rocks, the crotches of trees, and other places. It is almost impossible to grow. Give the least chance and it pushes its way up the pole to express itself in new bud life. We can take this lesson into the whole range of our lives. Give the muscles the activity they are yearning for and the athlete is easily made. The persistence of the brain to function is amazing. During one's waking hours it is impossible to stop thinking. Where there is the least opportunity for self-expression whether through the pores of the plant, or the muscles of the body, or the soul of man, life greedily seizes that opportunity. What might we not reasonably expect if only a larger liberty was given to this tendency.

One also notices that the seed that bud does not sacrifice previous life. It does not dislodge an occupant; it merely takes possession of the tenement the old occupant has left. It simply swells the old bud. It does not take its cue from Jehu who "dispossessed the Jebusites before he moved in. It is the Jebusites who have dispossessed themselves. They are still "sermons in running brooks."

Viewed from the standpoint of economic feeding is the most important and serious question of civilization. Strange as it may seem in this age in which we have such a wide range of food, and facilities for its distribution are well nigh perfect, probably more people are hungry today than at any time within the memory of man. Have we not demanded too much on these things, the result of which has created the habit of living from hand to mouth? If cut off from contact with the larger places today, the country town will suffer within a week, while years ago it could be isolated for a month without annoyance, because there large stocks of provisions were laid in for the long winter season. Wouldn't it be well to bring back that old custom of independence and foresight? For this purpose it might be well to take Solomon's advice: "Vitality connected with the food problem is the feeding habit. It was a very shrewd observation—whatever made it—(It is more graves are dug in America with knives and forks, than with any other implements." Whatever may be true of India and China where famines are periodic, it is doubtless true that here in the United States more people die annually from overeating than undereating. To eat beyond bodily requirements—more than bodily organs can easily assimilate—brings on the disease world of imparts all the way from mild indigestion to Bright's disease and the pleoplexy. The doctors rave against it, but we answer with a shrug and richer food. It wouldn't be popular for any writer to attempt to estimate how large a proportion of our

WHEN WILL TAXES COME DOWN

When will our tax laws be revised? This question is being asked on every hand as tax returns are being filed, and is of importance to every American who contributes directly or indirectly to the government's revenues, writes D. C. Roper, commissioner of Internal Revenue in The Independent.

Doubt as to what is to be the result of congress is not going to take up seriously the revision of the laws, it is in the interest of the government as well as the business world that it should be revised and promptly so.

There has been for many months past a great clamor for tax revision. It seems to me that definite head should be given it, both by the executive and the legislative branches of the government. Both should endeavor to eliminate the complications of the present law, to avoid confusion and to rectify the shackling of business and to work out a permanent and simplified system of taxation. And to this end every taxpayer should become a student of higher tax laws, and practice of taxation and should strive to assist those whose duty it is to frame and administer the laws with suggestions growing out of his own experience and observation.

Revision of the tax laws does not necessarily involve a reduction in the amount of revenue to be secured by the government from taxation. It might involve lowering some and increasing other tax rates, better, to adjust our system to post war conditions. When then can all taxes be brought down? Before that question can be answered we must consider and give serious thought to the very fundamental importance. It is of importance that we answer them quickly to be rid of the uncertainty I have spoken of. We must have yet the information necessary to answer them with wisdom.

Practically every European government is at present considering the imposition of higher tax laws. Only the United States among the belligerents has been able to lower its war tax rates. This year's revenues from taxation and the sale of surplus war property will be about \$10,000,000,000. It is estimated to meet current governmental expenditures. Everyone agrees, I take it, that we should never reduce the recurrence of war, but the confidence of the people that it will have this effect. If we ratify without destroying this constitution, it seems to me there will be no reason why we should not reduce taxation for this generation and permit the generation to follow to contribute something for the benefits we shall have handed down to them.

On the other hand, the war we have fought turns out to have gained us nothing but a temporary respite from armed conflict and aggression, and the burden we have placed on our country? The wise thing to do, and the just thing to do, if the league of nations is not brought into being, will be to increase taxes and pay off the war debt as quickly as possible, in order that future generations may be left free to prepare for the wars they will have to fight.

Must we reduce taxes to reduce prices? It is important in this connection to remember that the government can somewhat better its financial position by the practice of economy. But the cost of government in the world cannot be materially reduced by the practice of economy for the government is as much affected by the high cost of living as the average citizen. It is important in this connection to remember that the government can somewhat better its financial position by the practice of economy.

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very little of the responsibility can be laid to high taxes. It is true that many of our taxes tend in spite of everything to become consumption taxes, rather than taxes on assets, until they can be passed no farther. But taxes are only a drop in the bucket of present high prices.

The large tax levies of the period properly analyzed do credit will be given to the tax law for having impressed upon our people generally the necessity of keeping more accurate accounts. This will lead not only to more accurate records and hence to more honest accounting between taxpayers and government, but also to the reconstruction of business along more systematic and efficient lines. Persons will seek more accurate information regarding their business conditions and will be able more quickly to remedy defects and to conduct their business enterprises more successfully. It will be seen, therefore, that heavy taxation has not been without its benefits.

Gradually our manufacturers are getting over their uncertainty as to the cost of raw materials, and the uncertainty as to markets, and the uncertainty with regard to taxes remains. I think we could look forward with assurance to conditions permitting a reduction of the revenues to be secured from taxation if we had merely to consider raising enough money to meet governmental expenditures.

But there are other things to be considered—and most important among them is our war debt amounting to some \$10,000,000,000. A part of this debt will be paid from other sources, but the larger proportion can be cleared only by taxation. Shall it be cleared away by this generation, or shall we justly be passing it on to our children and their children's children to be paid off in easy installments? To answer this question we first must determine what we mean by just—that we get out of the war: Whether we shall pass on to generations to come benefits gained by our sacrifices in blood and give us the right to ask that they make up our sacrifices in money.

The war was fought "to end war." It was the inspiration of this holy cause that gave to us and our allies the victory. Will this victory be achieved as a result of this generation's suffering? It is not the league of nations in itself that will prevent the recurrence of war, but the confidence of the people that it will have this effect. If we ratify without destroying this constitution, it seems to me there will be no reason why we should not reduce taxation for this generation and permit the generation to follow to contribute something for the benefits we shall have handed down to them.

On the other hand, the war we have fought turns out to have gained us nothing but a temporary respite from armed conflict and aggression, and the burden we have placed on our country? The wise thing to do, and the just thing to do, if the league of nations is not brought into being, will be to increase taxes and pay off the war debt as quickly as possible, in order that future generations may be left free to prepare for the wars they will have to fight.

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meter to measure his walks, a plow that won a gold medal at a French exhibition, and a light two-wheeled vehicle for Virginia's heavy roads.

He knew not only Greek and Latin, but also French, Italian, Spanish and German. He wrote three books and compiled a Bible of his own, leaving out of the Scriptures everything except the precepts of divine love, mercy and goodness.

His correspondence would daunt a man with a staff of stenographers and typists today. Generally he had to work from sunrise until past noon, answering by hand the flood of letters that never ceased to flow in upon him.

In the finer arts, he was a musician, an architect and a landscape gardener, but also sprang his wrist in Paris so badly that he could not again play his favorite instrument, the violin. He could still sing well, and was forever humming tunes in his work hours, which was his only sport.

He not only designed his house and laid out the grounds of Monticello. He was also the architect of the University of Virginia, and twentieth century architects agree that he produced the most beautiful college group. Domestic sorrows had poverty form the shadows in the picture of his old age. Jefferson's wife and all but one of his five children were taken from him and after nearly forty years spent in the service of the public, at sixty-six he retired from the presidency.

Monday: James and Dolly Madison. Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Crossless Buns. Mr. Editor: It was with much appreciation that I read the article of "Hot Cross Buns." Well do I remember our pastor, some thirty years ago when I was a mere child, asking the boys to remove from their coats the cross of palm leaf they wore as they would any flower or button. They did not realize the significance of the cross any more than the drunkards who wore them on Palm Sunday as they reeled from one side of the street to the other. The cross is the sacred emblem of the salvation of humanity by the only perfect man, Jesus Christ—God being sinless died on the cross for our sins.

Let us enjoy buns any time without the cross on it, and not make light of what should be dearer to us than any other form because of what it cost Him Who died for us.

What's the Use of HOT CROSS BUNS Only One Friday in the Year? Good Friday was the occasion that first inspired us to make Hot Cross Buns— And such pride did we take in them that they developed into one of the most delicious of our "specialties"— With their fairy light, flaky "sweet dough," and sugar cross stamped on them in delicate icing.

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