

What is Luxury? Salt and Sunlight Taxed. The Great Extravagance is the Cheap Thing.

By ARTHUR BRISBANE. (Copyright 1919.)

What is a luxury? You will know after today. Now begins the luxury tax. Somewhere in the news columns you have read the modern American idea of luxury.

These luxury laws are interesting, as you trace them through history. They represent sometimes the idea as to what is really luxury; other times, the king's plan for finding how much the traffic will bear in the way of taxation.

All Englishmen that can afford it have men servants, butlers, footmen, etc. To make the man look more like a piece of furniture, they whiten his hair, washing it with a sort of white paste such as Americans use on their tennis shoes.

Here you can powder your footman's head free. In England it is a luxury and you must pay a tax. Also in England if you have a coat of arms you must pay a tax.

Here, you may pay somebody two dollars to say that you descend in a direct line from William the Conqueror, and you can make up a coat of arms with as many bars, quarters and other kind as you choose and pay no tax.

In France and in Italy you see houses with one or two real windows, and a half a dozen windows painted on the outside to look like windows, but without any opening at all.

That was invented to make senators and others pay for fresh air—and assume that the kings might have more money. And it usually continued in France after they got rid of kings.

Who can say how much the need of consumption was helped by that one tax?

Mothers, fathers, and children slept in rooms never visited by the sunlight, in order to save the tax on a window. An ingenious idea of "luxury" to put a tax of sunlight and air. It recalls the German philosopher saying that God was forgiven for depriving children of bread; He will not deprive you for depriving them of the sunshine and air that are free.

The tax on salt in European countries, called La Gabelle in France, was another scheme for getting money. The ocean was full of salt water. The peasant found guilty of letting it evaporate to collect the salt, without paying the tax to the king, was hanged to a tree that others might see him and take warning.

And a France every human being over eight years of age was compelled to buy a certain amount of salt, to wonder the revolution came.

Intense suffering is caused by because of salt. The ancient ascetics depriving themselves of life's luxuries and even necessities for the benefit of their souls tried in vain to give up salt. They could live up meat, sugar, but NOT SALT.

The small black children in the interior of Africa, far from a salt supply, used to be Stanley, the explorer, for a little lump of salt, is our children beg for candy.

There is this difference between our modern luxury tax and the ancient laws against luxury. We are simply trying to identify the prosperous people, who can afford to spend money, and the tax put on them, on the theory that they can stand it.

Government, however, overlooks one fact. THE EXPENSIVE ARTICLE IS NOT A LUXURY BY ANY MEANS. A luxury is wasteful and a cheap thing is often the most wasteful.

The man who spends a good deal often spends less for shoes in a year than the man who, because he is poor, buys the cheapest kind of shoes. Real stuff is expensive, imitation stuff is cheap. Imitation cheap stuff is the LUXURY, for no man can afford that which is really good often encourages the good manufacturer, the good producer.

However, these are days of taxation, days of liberal spending by those in authority, and the people in some years to come will have opportunity to become used to heavy taxes, including luxury tax, income taxes, and other taxes.

WEATHER: Rain this afternoon and tonight. Warmer tonight. Tomorrow partly cloudy. Temperature at 8 a. m., 50 degrees. Normal temperature for May 1 for last 30 years, 50 degrees.

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The Washington Times

FINAL EDITION

INTERCEPT BOMB TO SENATOR OVERMAN

CHINA MAKES PROTEST AT LAND RIGHTS GIVEN JAPAN

LONDON, May 1.—A news agency dispatch from Rome today quoted the Epoca as declaring that Premier Orlando and Foreign Minister Sonnino "will remain there until the allies are officially disposed to confer with Italy on a new basis."

By JOHN EDWIN NEVIN. PARIS, May 1.—"The agreement to recognize Japan's claim in the Shantung peninsula is unsatisfactory to China," it was declared today by Dr. Wellington Koo, Chinese ambassador to the United States and leader of the Chinese delegation to the Peace Conference.

"I do not believe that President Wilson understands the real situation," continues the Chinese diplomat. "The Chinese are most unhappy over the outcome."

Regardless of the declaration by Dr. Koo, President Wilson is understood to have secured important concessions in the Sino-Japanese matter.

Japan Gets Foo Rights. The agreement results in the concession of all German rights at Kiaochow from Germany to Japan. The terms include territorial sovereignty and other rights. The Japanese promised President Wilson that this sovereignty will eventually be returned to China, while Japan retains only certain economic rights.

Details of Japan's moral victory in the controversy over her territorial claims in China will be inserted in the peace treaty, according to information obtainable from Japanese sources today.

The agreement reached between the Japanese delegates and the "big three" yesterday afternoon was outlined as follows: Japan will surrender the Shantung peninsula, including the port of Kiaochow, to China. She will, however, retain rich economic rights on the island.

LONDON, May 1.—An unconfirmed report was received here today that Finnish and anti-Bolshevik Russian troops had occupied Petrograd. A Bolshevik fleet of gunboats has left Kotlas, on the Dvina river, to bombard the allied positions.

The war office considers, in anticipation of the cutting off of Hungary from Russia by the Rumanian advance, that Budapest will be occupied until the Hungarian situation is stabilized.

NEW YORK, May 1.—Carl Laemmle, picture producer of Universal City, has declared that "Universal scenario writers must taboo all situations depending for dramatic effect on the alcoholic atmosphere of the saloon in view of the impending dryness of the nation."

HELP WANTED—MALE PRESSER—Experienced machine winder. MACROSE CLEANERS & DYERS, 1413 14th St. N. W.

Mr. Macrose says: "I always use Times Want Ads for quick results. The above ad secured an experienced presser immediately." Phone The Times Your Ads, Main 5260

POLL SHOWS 64 SENATORS DOUBTFUL AS TO LEAGUE BROTHERS SAY

Only twelve Senators are listed as opposing ratification of the League of Nations covenant, in a poll taken by the League to Enforce Peace, and made public today.

Sixty-four Senators were listed by the league as for the covenant, while twenty were recorded as doubtful. At the same time opponents of the league announced the result of an unofficial poll that showed thirty-four Republicans as still in the fight against the league.

The prediction made by the League to Enforce Peace is based upon the attitudes of Senators as expressed in the newspaper interviews, letters to the league, and personal talks. Their poll is as follows:

- For the Covenant. Alabama—Bankhead and Underwood. Arizona—Ahurst and Smith. Arkansas—Robinson. California—Belmont. Colorado—Thomas. Connecticut—Brewster and Johnson. Florida—Fletcher and Trammell. Georgia—Smith and Harris. Illinois—Norris and Capper. Iowa—Cummins and Kenyon. Kansas—Curtis and Capper. Kentucky—Beckham and Stanley. Louisiana—Ransdell and Gay. Maine—Belmont. Michigan—Townsend. Minnesota—Wilson and Kellogg. Mississippi—Williams and Harrison. Missouri—Spencer. Montana—Wahler and Myers. Nebraska—Hitchcock and Norris. Nevada—Hittman and Henderson. New Hampshire—Knox. New Jersey—Edge. New York—McClure and O'Connell. North Carolina—Simmons and Overman. North Dakota—Groona and McCumber. Ohio—Norris and Capper. Oklahoma—Gore and Owen. Oregon—Chamberlain and McNary. Rhode Island—Gerry. South Carolina—Smith and Pollock. South Dakota—Brewster and Johnson. Tennessee—Shields and McKellar. Texas—Culbertson and Sheppard. Utah—Smoot and King. Virginia—Swanson and Martin. Washington—Jones and Knox. West Virginia—Sutherland and Eikins. Wyoming—Kendrick. Total—12.

Against the Covenant. Idaho—Borah. Illinois—Sherman. Indiana—New. Massachusetts—Lodge. Minnesota—Wahler. Missouri—Frelinghuysen. New Mexico—Fall. New York—Wadsworth. Pennsylvania—Jennett and Knox. Washington—Folmer. Total—12.

Doubtful. California—Johnson. Colorado—Phipp. Connecticut—Branedage and McLean. Delaware—Ball. Illinois—McCormick. Indiana—Watson. Maine—Fernald and Hale. Maryland—Fernald. Massachusetts—Walsh. Michigan—Newberry. Minnesota—Wahler. Ohio—Harding. Rhode Island—Celt. Vermont—Page and Dillingham. Wisconsin—Lanroot and La Follette. Wyoming—Warren. Total—20.

In analyzing the poll the league says: "There may be listed in the doubtful group those who are not doubtful at all. But also there are three listed as 'against' who may be said to be doubtful. Again, there are names in the 'for' column that may cause some doubt."

THOUSANDS SEE SKY SHOW. An aerial demonstration last night attracted thousands of men and women who came out to see "Washington by night." It was a unique spectacle.

16 SAILORS DROWN AS MARY TUG SINKS. Two officers and fourteen men of the navy tug Gypsum Queen were drowned when the tug struck a rock and sank off Arden Light, on the coast of France, April 28.

OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH POE. VERSAILLES, May 1.—Peace negotiations with Germany were officially opened here at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

At that hour Foreign Minister Brockdorff-Rantzau and Herr Landberg, German delegates, handed their credentials to Jules Gombou, Henry White, and Japanese Ambassador Matsui, representing the allies. The meeting lasted for five minutes.



CAPITAL LAGS FAR BEHIND IN DRIVE

Today, the halfway mark in the drive for the District's quota of \$20,307,000, finds Washington several million dollars behind in the Victory loan campaign.

At this rate, loan workers said today, Washington will remain far behind in the campaign unless the drive is speeded up considerably. In the neighborhood of \$13,000,000 must be raised between now and May 10, a week from next Saturday.

Workers said today, however, that the drive was steadily gaining and that the window should find the way well up in front.

The committee today requested all Washington banks to remain open until 6 o'clock every remaining day of the campaign, to accommodate the thousands of men and women who can not attend to the business of purchasing bonds during the regular business hours.

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THEIR LAWYER

(Copyright 1919: By John T. McQuinn.)

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



QUEEN OF FOXTROT TO MARRY AGAIN



MRS. IRENE CASTLE, who, report says, will marry Capt. Robert E. Tremem, of Ithaca, N. Y., Saturday, in the "Little Church Around the Corner" in New York city.

IRENE CASTLE TO REWED SATURDAY. ITHACA, N. Y., May 1.—Mrs. Irene Castle, widow of Vernon Castle, who met his death in an aeroplane, will be married on Saturday to Capt. Robert E. Tremem, of Ithaca, N. Y., Saturday, in the "Little Church Around the Corner" in New York city.

BRITISH SEA FLYERS MAY START TODAY. ST. JOHNS, Newfoundland, May 1.—Weather conditions had so improved early this afternoon that both the Martinsyde and Sopwith aviators were scheduled to leave today, attempting a start of the trans-Atlantic flight today.

SOLDIERS AND REDS FIGHT IN CLEVELAND. CLEVELAND, May 1.—Street fighting among soldiers, radical May Day demonstrators, and police broke out here this afternoon.

THREE MORE BOMBS NOW IN MAILED DEPARTMENT STORE CLERK REVEALS. NEW YORK, May 1.—Three more packages containing infernal machines and addressed to prominent persons in the United States are in the mail and on their way to their destinations today.

REPORT ANTI-REDS TAKE PETROGRAD. LONDON, May 1.—An unconfirmed report was received here today that Finnish and anti-Bolshevik Russian troops had occupied Petrograd.

MOVIE PRODUCER BANS ALCOHOLIC ATMOSPHERE. NEW YORK, May 1.—Carl Laemmle, picture producer of Universal City, has declared that "Universal scenario writers must taboo all situations depending for dramatic effect on the alcoholic atmosphere of the saloon in view of the impending dryness of the nation."

GUARD CAPITOL AND SUPREME COURT FROM BOMBS

Great precautions are being observed about the Supreme Court, the Capitol, and the Senate and House Office Buildings because of the sending of bombs to prominent public men.

Officials of the Supreme Court are on guard and have advised the members of the court to be watchful.

The Senate and House postoffices are keeping a careful eye out for strange packages. The Capitol police and deputies of the offices of the Senate and House sergeants-at-arms have been directed to be unusually vigilant.

Congress will meet in a short time, and while it is believed the present criminal effort will soon exhaust itself unusual care will be taken in guarding the Capitol and the chambers of the House and Senate.

TWENTY-THIRD DEATH PARCEL IS FOUND BY POSTMASTER

The list of those marked by the Reds for death in their May day bomb demonstration grew today.

Senator Overman, chairman of the committee, which investigated Bolshevik propaganda in this country, today was added to the "marked list" of the terrorists.

Appearance of a bomb in the mail at Salisbury, N. C., addressed to Overman, was reported by the local postmaster. It was the twenty-third bomb so far accounted for.

Other bombs still may be in the mails, en route to other marked men, but Postoffice officials hope their general warning to all parts of the distribution system, will prevent their delivery.

Might Have Arrived at Wedding. Had the Overman bomb made faster time from New York it might have been delivered yesterday before the general bomb plot was sent to local postal officials and while the double wedding of the Senator's daughters was in progress.

This is the first bomb stopped in transit by postoffice officials since discovery of sixteen in the New York postoffice yesterday.

The bomb intended for Senator Overman was described by the Salisbury postmaster as the same kind as all the others reported on his back.

Details of the finding of the package brought to light the fact that it arrived last night but was not discovered until the carriers were about to begin their early morning rounds. The clerks were discussing the wholesale shipment of bombs when some of them suggested that maybe Senator Overman had received one. Search was made and the package discovered.

Three more bombs now in mailed department store clerk reveals. NEW YORK, May 1.—Three more packages containing infernal machines and addressed to prominent persons in the United States are in the mail and on their way to their destinations today.

JOBS FOR 4,000 MORE HERE SOON

The joint reclassification committee of the Senate and House, which has been gathering figures on the number of Government clerks and employees in the District of Columbia, has been advised that about 4,000 new clerks will be added to the total the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1.

These new employees will be put on the rolls by the Census Bureau, to help take the next census.

This means there is not going to be much, if any, reduction of the clerical force in Washington for many months to come. While there will continue to be reductions in some directions, these will be equalized by additions in others.

Still Finding Additions. The joint reclassification committee continues to find additions to the clerical force. It has already listed several thousand more than when it gave out the first data showing about 101,000. Secretary Keating said today the commission would doubtless

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