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REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATION

Congressman Louis W. Fairfield of Indiana is opposed to any further increase in the membership of the House of representatives. His answer to the charge that present representation is inadequate is that members not only represent their districts but the whole country. With further restrictions of their districts they might tend to become more provincial in their thoughts and the welfare of the nation as a whole would suffer.

EVERYBODY GLAD BUT THE PROFITEER

The announcement from Senator Harding expressing his preference for a simple but stately inaugural ceremony involving no extra expense has received the hearty approval of practically everybody except those who expected to profiteer during the period when Washington would be crowded with inauguration visitors. It is reported that some of the hotels had put their inauguration rates up to $250 per room and people owning buildings along Pennsylvania avenue were planning to reap a small fortune from leasing space at windows to watch the parade. Cutting of the elaborate ceremonies will save the government not only the cost of preparing grandstands and reviewing stands, but the cost of transporting and caring for soldiers of the infantry, light artillery and cavalry, members of the marine corps and sailors in the navy. During the Taft inauguration the weather was extremely severe notwithstanding which thousands of soldiers endured the suffering of exposure and many of them were made seriously ill thereby. At the Wilson inaugural some of the military and other organizations stood in line for many hours before the parade began, suffering for want of food and drink and enduring the hardship of what seemed interminable delay. All this will be avoided as a result of Senator Harding's request that an elaborate inauguration ceremony be dispensed with.

CUT TO THE QUICK

We hear so much about retrenchment in state expenditures without impairing efficiency, consolidation of various commissions, etc., but none of the powers that be have ever mentioned cutting down or doing away with their insane program of highway building, the very thing that is causing the heaviest expenditures, without any promise of anything like an adequate return, but on the contrary will be the cause of heavy upkeep expense annually.

Where are the taxes to come from? These are now too high and the most optimistic cannot possibly claim that there is a further increase in valuations of land and livestock. Quite the contrary is true and there is no possibility of retaining the high valuations now in vogue. To do so would amount to artificial valuation, resulting in practical confiscation.

But, say these theorists, we can find other sources of taxation. They can. They might put a tax on sunshine and pure air in southern Nevada, which might yield quite a sum.

Others of these self-styled progressives advocate a special tax on mines. Sure, hand it to the mines, all they have to do is shovel the money out of the stopes and drifts. It is all gain, that is, in the minds of these dreamers. As a matter of cold fact, about the only industry in the whole country that was hurt and hurt badly, was the precious metal mining industry, so now hand them another crack and see if there will be any mines to tax when they get through with their program and try to put their wild theories into practice.

It is suggested to impose an income and consumption tax, as well as a gasoline tax, to reach those who cannot now be reached.

Has it ever occurred to these bright minds that any income or consumption tax that might be imposed would come out of the pockets of those who can least afford it? The man with a family, working for his day's pay, would be the one to bear that burden, for the old adage still holds good: "The consumer pays the freight," and that is one indisputable axiom that cannot be controverted.

Certainly it would be a nice thing to have an army of tax gatherers. They might add to the prosperity of the state, but now in the name of common sense, would a wage-earner possibly favor such a program? For one will be the only to pay the freight after all is said and done.

No, it will take more than a mere whim, it hurts, and there will be plenty to be the only revenue going on for years under existing conditions.

Rather give those who must raise the wherewithal, those who are all year natural and specially some through White Pine, Esmeralda and New counties, a road that will keep in good repair, a road that will help keep the highway crowd from pulling it to ruin.

Again we say, "Stop, look and listen and look sense."

DEMOCRATIC HINDSIGHT

Take Statesmanship was coming years and prepares for them. Republicans have been warning the country of the disastrous effects of continuation of the Democratic administration with its free trade policies, and the voters should have known the Democrats out in 1920 but for the false and deceptive slogan, "He kept us out of war." The Democrats would not win the fight. They went and went into the campaign of 1920 with a free trade platform in their platform. The Republicans, with manufacturers of time wholesomely renewed their belief in protection of industries of the protective tariff. The country knew it and overwhelmingly Republican. But the election came too late to save the farmers from the evils of large importations of foreign grain, wool, silk, vegetable oils, etc.

Now comes the Democratic tariff commission with what is practically an admission of its own incompetency. In a special report of agricultural staples issued on January 6, 1921, the commission says:

"The recent rapid growth in the receipts of foreign foodstuffs has attracted widespread comment, and has been the cause of tariff agitation by farmers and allied interests. The subject has been injected into the current political situation, and this report is therefore timely."

"Timely" indeed!

"Timely" it may be from the standpoint of history, but scarcely from the standpoint of statesmanship. If the tariff commission were to serve any really useful purpose, its members should have foreseen the "rapid growth of receipts of foodstuffs" and should have warned the farmers of the country and the legislators and the Democratic president what to expect. A warning of that kind, coming from a commission of his own appointment, might possibly, though not probably, have induced the president to alter his attitude toward a protective tariff and to indicate his willingness to sign a protective measure if enacted.

The Democratic tariff commission is a marvelous agency for telling the farmers how they were ruined after the destruction is over, but it seemed to be without vision or voice when there was need for warning in advance.

Absinthe, while most used in France, is made principally in Switzerland.

COUNTY BILLS ALLOWED

List of county claims for the month of December, 1920:

A. Carlisle & Co. of Nevada	[illegible]
A. Carlisle & Co. of Nevada	184.25
A. Carlisle & Co. of Nevada	30.56
Addison, E. H.	150.00
Addison, E. H.	15.00
Alexander, J.	75.00
Alexander Supply Co.	27.00
Anderson, Mary	100.00
Anderson, Mrs. A. H.	65.00
Atkinson, H. H.	100.00
Atkinson, H. H.	30.00
Barrier, Georgia	7.50
Barrier, John	32.25
Barrier, John	15.22
Barrier, John	61.25
Bateman, Mrs. H. M.	150.00
Bateman, Mrs. H. M.	15.00
Beatty, W. J.	7.75
Borrenson, Mrs. Esther	40.00
Buck, C. F.	2.51
Brubaker, J. H.	15.00
Burrell, L. S.	10.00
Cahill, Thomas N.	50.00
Carter, Irene	7.50
Cline	20.00
Cumberland, A. Inland	16.95
Clarke, Frank	5.00
Collins, Michael	42.50
Cole, James	20.00
Cole, Mary	20.00
Crate, Dr. G. H.	250.00
Crawford, William	15.00
Crissy, Dr. T. J.	50.00
Crissy, Anna	100.00
Crissy, Anna	15.00
Clarke, Jessie N.	7.50
Cavers, Irene N.	7.50
Cavers, Joseph N.	7.50
Dancy, Farrell	15.00
Dorsey, Mrs. A.	15.00
Dorsey, Mrs. M.	15.00
Dunn, Mrs. A.	15.00
Dunn, W. H.	15.00
Farrell, Charles W.	15.00
Farrell, Charles W.	15.00
Fay, W. H.	15.00
Fay, W. A.	15.00
Fay, W. A.	15.00
Ferguson, J. J.	15.00
Ferguson, J. J.	15.00
Ferguson, J. J