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WAR TAX TO STAY

BO SAYS DINGLEY OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE.

There is to be no tinkering with the tariff this session—Republican taxes will not be disturbed—War expenditures exceed revenues.

Washington, November 15.—The Washington Post will say today: "The war tax will not be abolished at the coming short session of congress and there will be no revision of the tariff whatever."

It bases this announcement on the positive statement made yesterday by Chairman Dingley of the ways and means committee, who in an interview said: "The government will need for some time all the revenue produced by the war taxes. During the month of October the war expenditures exceeded the war revenue by some \$10,000,000 in excess. This being the case there will continue in force unchanged, except perhaps a few minor administrative features, for at least a year longer."

"It is hardly necessary to add," continued Mr. Dingley, "that there will be no revision of the tariff, although I have seen some statements to the effect that such a revision is contemplated."

"The session is limited to three months, and that short period will be mainly occupied in passing the appropriation bills, enacting new laws for the regular army and in deciding upon the legislation necessary for the government of Hawaii. In addition to these important measures the usual number of routine matters will arise. From the present outlook the session will be well under way before the treaty of peace with Spain will be laid before the senate and the ratification of that document may not be accomplished long before the 4th of March arrives."

"Will that necessitate an extra session?"

"It is, of course, impossible," said Mr. Dingley, "to know what will arise between the 1st of December and the 4th of March next, but so far as the present outlook can form a basis for judgment, I should say that no extra session will be necessary or desirable, unless some new question should arise. In the first place, we shall not know until the treaty of peace has been ratified what new legislation we are to have and what legislation is necessary and even then we will be in no position to act intelligently."

Those Cuban Commissioners.

Havana, November 15.—General Calixto Garcia and his staff and other delegates from the so-called Cuban assembly will remain at the Mariano headquarters until Wednesday, when they will leave for Washington. The delegates expect a satisfactory outcome in their conference with the president of the United States.

The delegates at their session at Santa Cruz del Sur resolved to discharge all men who have been enlisted since August 13, the date of the cessation of hostilities, and to give an indefinite leave of absence to all officers and men desirous of being discharged from the Cuban army, provided they give their place of residence and sign a pledge to return to the ranks in case they are called upon to do so.

The assembly has adjourned until the return of its commission from Washington. The assembly has constituted Domingo Gomez Capote, president; Fernando Freyre and Hugo Roberts, vice presidents, and Manuel Maria Caronado and Porforio Valiente, secretaries.

Big Fire at Dawson City.

Skaguay, Alaska, November 7, via Victoria, B. C., November 15.—Returning Klondikers arriving here yesterday bring the news that the city of Dawson has been visited with a \$300,000 fire in which forty buildings were burned, including the new postoffice building and some of the best buildings in the city. The fire took place on the morning of October 16. It started in the Green Tree saloon, as the result of a row between two women of the town. The news of the conflagration was brought by several of the miners who arrived in this city.

There is no insurance at Dawson and the loss falls entirely upon the individuals. It is said there is not enough lumber and window glass in Dawson to rebuild the burned district and that the people are in distress and will have to live in tents for the rest of the winter.

LOUISIANA NEWS.

Interesting Briefs Gathered From Over the State.

At a meeting of the Orleans Parish Medical society, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, The state board of health of this state and the city board of health of this city, as a means of preventing a recurrence of yellow fever next year, have passed resolutions calling upon the inhabitants of this city to throw open their houses on cold days and expose to the air on such days all clothing, bedding and other things that are supposed to hold the infection of that disease; and

Whereas, The medical representative of the marine hospital service stationed in this city has indorsed the above resolution; be it

Resolved, That the members of the Orleans Parish Medical society indorse the said resolutions; be it further

Resolved, That the members of the Orleans Parish Medical society urge upon their patients and friends the necessity of complying with the said resolutions; be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be given the press for publication.

The applications of several Confederate veterans for pensions under act No. 125 of the legislature of 1898, disclose the fact that of the original company C of the Third Louisiana battalion five members survive, all of whom were so severely shot in the early battles in Virginia that they were retired on unlimited furloughs. Four of these old, scarred veterans met at Plaquemine. Their names are O. T. Dupuy, who lost his left leg and was shot through the right in the seven days' fight at Mechanicsville turnpike, on the Chickahominy; Fausiah Breaux, who was wounded in the head at the same time and lost a part of his skull; J. Aubry Dupuy, who was shot through both legs at the battle of Chancellorsville, Va., receiving wounds which crippled him for life; and Gustave Demoulet, who was shot through the elbow at the battle of Gettysburg, Pa. The other survivor is Mr. Fletcher P. Erwin of Musson, La., who left an arm on one of the battlefields of Virginia. Company C was composed of young men from bayou Grosse Tete, in this parish, under Captain William Patrick, and was the color company of the regiment.

Every member of the three Louisiana volunteer batteries is now a private citizen again, the batteries having been mustered out of the service of the United States and returned to their homes. The officers and members of battery C, of Donaldsonville, nearly all left for home, and batteries A and B came up to the corner of Rampart and Canal streets, and from there marched to their armories, where they were given their discharge by the commanding officers, and that was all, except that there were, of course, a few words of commendation and good will from officers, for there has always been the best of feeling between men and officers, and the behavior of all merited the commendation that has been received from time to time from various government officers. There has never been a better example of the fact that good citizens make good soldiers than in the case of the Louisiana artillery, and if they had been called into active service and met the enemy nobody doubts that they would have won as much fame as any organization that ever fought the battles of the country. Paymaster Clifford Arriek and his clerk, Mr. Clapp, were on hand early, and by 11:30 all of the men and officers had been paid. They were first lined up for muster for pay, and as each man's name was called he stepped four paces to the front, and after the roll had been completed they marched to the office in one of the barracks, where the pay tables were located, and as the names were called each man walked in and received his pay in cash, as the government always pays in cash. The men have been credited with rations and clothing money during their furlough, since September 2, and most of them drew over \$80, and non-commissioned officers more than \$90, in some cases. The officers received quite large sums. The amount of money paid to the three batteries must have been near \$300,000.

Governor Foster came down to the city from Baton Rouge last evening and took quarters at the St. Charles hotel. It is the first time since August in a special sense the history of the great capital of the coal and iron in-

THANKSGIVING DAY



FIRST THANKSGIVING.

WHEN in the year of grace 1630, sturdy Gov. John Winthrop and Puritan colonists of Massachusetts proclaimed and duly observed a public thanksgiving, they probably had little idea of the importance which the festival was destined to obtain in the history of America.

The first Thanksgiving differed very materially from its successors in that it was proclaimed as a fast and not as a feast. Supplies had run short, the ships expected from England were delayed, and extinction threatened the "governor and company of Massachusetts bay in New England." Winthrop and his council decided to hold a day of prayer and abstinence, "so that ye Lord be propitiated and looke upon his servants with favor, in that they have humbled themselves before Him." Accordingly a crier was sent about the primitive settlement of Charlestown, and the colonists were each and all invited to take part in the fast. Their sacrifice met with speedy reward.

Scarcely had the noon hour of the allotted day arrived when the long hoped-for ship made its welcome appearance in Massachusetts bay, the cargo was landed, and the fast was succeeded by a banquet of a sort which must have seemed sumptuous indeed to the exiles so recently plunged in hunger and hardship. On the threshold of dreaded winter Winthrop and his followers found what had been a prospect of fear and peril changed into one of happiness and hope. Such was America's first Thanksgiving, as celebrated 260 years ago. Thereafter each succeeding November was marked in the annals of the colony by a similar festival of gratitude.

But Thanksgiving in the early days of our history was not confined to the New England pioneers alone. Just fifteen years after Winthrop's proclamation, i. e., in 1645, Gov. Kieft of the Dutch colony, then known as Nieuw Amsterdam, but now as New York, ordered the observance of a day of rejoicing and thanks, "for the rest and peace which God had been pleased to bestow upon his servants." Thus we see that the feast of Thanksgiving is not as generally supposed, a peculiarly Puritan institution, but is equally derived from the stalwart burghers of Manhattan island.

The next notable Thanksgiving day in history fell in 1758. On that date the British and colonial army, numbering 80,000 men, and commanded by Gen. Forbes, attacked and captured



IN THE PAST.
from the French, after a fierce struggle, Fort Duquesne, at the junction of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers. The name of the place was changed to Fort Pitt, and was the nucleus of the city of Pittsburg. Thus in a special sense the history of the great capital of the coal and iron in-

dustries is connected with the celebration of Thanksgiving day.

But meanwhile, in New England, what had been begun as an occasional day of pious rejoicing had assumed the proportions of a fixed national holiday. In Massachusetts and New Hampshire it was especially popular. There was at first great latitude in regard to the day selected for the feast. Governors proclaimed the chosen date arbitrarily, and no effort was made to keep the anniversary of Winthrop's proclamation. Sometimes Thanksgiving occurred in July, sometimes in midwinter. At length, through the efforts of the president and professors of Harvard college, it was practically fixed upon the last Thursday in November.

The college faculty were moved to interest themselves in the question by the fact that the uncertainty regarding the date caused considerable disorder among their pupils. Boys from different states celebrated on different days, many of them returning home to eat their Thanksgiving meal under the row roof-trees. This very undesirable state of affairs could only be put a stop to, said the grave Harvard dons, by the formal establishment of a uniform date for the feast. The last Thursday of the eleventh month suited the collegers, and influence being brought to bear upon the colonial gov-



THE PRESENT.

ernors of New England, proclamations were issued making that day the regular Thanksgiving.

In the south Thanksgiving, as an annual festival, remained practically unknown until, in 1855, the curious Virginia controversy on the subject was precipitated. This controversy, which is not generally known, deserves a brief notice. The governor of Virginia at the time was one John A. Hunter, a patriotic and broad-minded gentleman, who had always entertained a reverence for the Puritan anniversary which was by no means common below Mason and Dixon's line. Gov. Johns, in a letter to the state legislature, urgently recommended the recognition of Thanksgiving in Virginia, and offered, in case his recommendation proved satisfactory, to at once issue a proclamation.

But the legislature of Washington's state did not look upon the New England holiday with favor. Gov. Johns was advised not to make the Thanksgiving proclamation; and, as he did not do so, the matter was allowed temporarily to drop. But public interest had been awakened, and before long a fierce debate was raging in Virginia between the opponents and supporters of the proposed southern Thanksgiving. At last, in 1857, Gov. Wise—John's successor—took the metaphorical bull by the horns, and issued a proclamation setting apart a day for the feast. His action caused much angry criticism, and several southern newspapers declared that "Thanksgiving was simply a relic of Puritan bigotry." In spite of this, the innovation was warmly welcomed. The hospitable southerners greeted gladly another holiday, and the northern feast

soon ranked among them as second in importance only to the "glorious Fourth" itself. In 1858—the year after Wise's proclamation—no less than eight governors of southern states proclaimed Thanksgiving in their sections. The war, however, coming shortly afterward, practically extinguished the popularity of the holiday in Dixie.

But it has become a loved institution in the middle, western and north-western states. Exiled Americans, too, cling to its celebration, and every November sees Thanksgiving dinners in London, Paris, Berlin, Rome—or wherever some of the scattered children of Uncle Sam may chance to sojourn. Indeed, Mr. William Astor Chanler, the well-known explorer, tells of a Thanksgiving dinner which he enjoyed in the very heart of darkest Africa.

An extensive and highly interesting volume might be compiled on the subject of Thanksgivings and the events which have signalized them. For instance, on Thanksgiving day, 1783, the British army evacuated New York, while Washington and Clinton marched into the city at the head of the continental army and took formal possession in the name of the young republic. Festivities and a grand display of fireworks closed that memorable day. Thanksgiving had fallen that year on December 25, and the combination of evacuation day and that festival were long jointly honored in New York.

The Thanksgiving day of 1816 is memorable as the occasion upon which an American theater was first illuminated with gas. This event happened in Philadelphia. The experiment was a complete success, and the manager of the affair was Dr. Kugler. During the war, of the battles and skirmishes fought on Thanksgiving, the most notable was that of Lookout mountain (1862).

A few odd and distinctive methods of celebrating the great holiday still survive in different parts of the United States, although the tendency is toward a uniform manner of rejoicing. In sections of Connecticut, for example, the "Thanksgiving barrel burning" is a time-honored institution. For a month before the day Connecticut boys diligently collect and store in a place of security all the barrels, old or new, which they can find. All barrels are regarded as the property of whomever can carry them away. On Thanksgiving night the barrels are piled in a huge heap and ignited. Boys and girls then dance around the bonfire until the very last barrel has gone up in smoke.

Better Than Gold.

It was midnight of Thanksgiving Eve, and the 88-cent clock in the kitchen of Banker Smith's mansion struck eleven times, tried hard to strike once more for luck, but got its cogs twisted and had to let the matter go at that. At this hour only the snoring of the hired girl broke the stillness, but two minutes later the kitchen window was softly raised and two men vaulted lightly into the room.

They were "Black Bill" and the "Coon Kid," two colored burglars, and it was a dollar to a bad apple that they were not there to tune the piano. Both men carried dark lanterns and heavy clubs, and as Bill drew a revolver from his pocket and laid it on the kitchen table he whispered:

"Kid, if we didn't make a mistake in de house, dis'll be de biggest robbery dat ever happened."

"She will fo' sush, Bill," replied the other, as he looked about him and listened intently. "Golly, but won't it 'rouse de police an' detectives! Now, who's gwine to do de search act?"

"I reckon yo' better do dat, Kid, 'kase yo' lighter on yo' feet. I'll watch down yere while yo' sneak 'round, an' don't forgit what we come fo'."

The smaller man disappeared up the back stairs on his tip toes. He was gone about five minutes and then returned with a disappointed look on his face, and said, as he emptied a hatful of diamonds and gold on the table: "Couldn't find any trace o' what we come fo', Bill. Jess dese things was all I could pick up."

"Den why didn't yo' leave 'em alone?" gruffly replied the other burglar. "Dose trinkets am no good when dar's somethin' better in de house. Try de cellar. It might jess be possible it's hid down dar."

Once more the "Kid" left the room and quietly stole away, but as he returned this time his face was wreathed in smiles and he held up a long package for the other to view while he challenged:

"Ize got it, Bill—Ize got it!"

"Golly, so yo' hab! Now let's git right out with it afore we're cotched, an' don't yo' make de least noise!"

And leaving the heaps of sparkling diamonds and the heaps of glittering gold untouched on the kitchen table, the two colored burglars vanished the way they had come, taking with them—a fifteen-pound turkey.

The Old Darky.

He always prays Thanksgiving eve 'twill be both dark and murky. For then he'll have no cause to grieve. He couldn't get no turkey.

BAD TRAIN WRECK.

PASSENGER TRAIN DASHES INTO A MOVING FREIGHT TRAIN.

Twelve Persons Were Killed Outright—Both Engines Destroyed and a Baggage Car Driven Almost Through the Second Class Coach.

Trenton, Ont., November 16.—A Grand Trunk express train bound for Toronto crashed into a moving freight train near Murray Hill crossing, two miles west of here, at 2:30 o'clock yesterday, and four cars were mashed almost to splinters. So far as known, twelve persons were killed and a dozen or more seriously injured.

A misplaced switch was the cause of the accident, the westbound train taking the wrong track, on which was the eastbound freight. The train consisted of express, mail and baggage cars, a second-class car, one first-class coach and two Pullman sleepers. The second-class car was next to the baggage car and ahead of the first-class coach and sleepers. It was pretty well filled with people, there being twenty or more passengers in it and hardly any of them escaped without injury.

Both engines were totally destroyed and the freight engine was thrown completely over the passenger engine into the ditch beyond. The engineer and fireman of the freight engine, Thomas Ivens and Alexander Toppin, both of Toronto, jumped and escaped with slight injuries. W. H. Brady, engineer, of Belleville and John J. McDonald, fireman, of Belleville, who were in charge of the passenger engine, were killed.

The greatest destruction was wrought in the second-class car. The baggage car was driven into and almost completely through it, the passengers being crushed and mangled underneath the timbers of the car. The mail car was forced right on top of the baggage car and the express car was partially wrecked. The first-class car was uninjured, as was also the two sleepers, although the passengers were awakened by the shock. The work of pulling out the dead and injured was commenced immediately, but it was late yesterday morning before all the bodies were gotten out. Some of them were so horribly mangled that recognition was almost impossible. The injured were taken to the hospital at Belleville.

Spain Will Not Surrender.

Paris, November 16.—The Spaniards declare that their refusal to sign a treaty based on any Philippine terms thus far suggested by the United States is irrevocable. They say they do not and can not view the taking of the Philippines islands as anything else than a wanton ravishment of their possessions, unless it is accompanied by a financial consideration of appreciable size. Therefore the turn of events in the peace conference depends upon the purpose or the willingness of the American commissioners to extend their financial terms.

Spanish sovereignty in the Philippines is not clung to by the Spaniards chiefly as a means to obtain financial relief if possible. It is purely a matter of money now, if the amount be large enough to absolve the Spanish government from possible charges by their creditors that their collateral has been given away.

Persons near to Spain's heaviest creditors believe that should the Americans assume the Philippine debt or pay Spain its face amount in cash the Spaniards would sign. That is the view in the quarters where it now prevails, because the time has been required by the Spaniards to become convinced that the American commissioners do little if any diplomatic jockeying and that their final attitude may be found identical with their first.

Arrested for White Capping.

Farmersville, Texas, November 16.—On last Thursday night several parties went to J. M. Bowden's house, about three miles from town, where he had employed several negroes picking cotton, and informed him and the negroes that they must leave the country, and being assured they would not, the whitecappers fired several shots at Mr. Bowden. He at once put Constable C. N. Wardlow and City Marshal R. Van Brown in possession of the news, and with diligent search several parties have been arrested.

The Second Ohio regiment has left Camp Poland for its new camp, Macon, Ga.