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BALANCED BUDGETS

While merchants from all parts of the state plan to meet in Indianapolis this week to protest against the sales tax locally, Senator Borah strikes at the same method to balance the national budget by declaring that the time has come to balance the budget of the taxpayer.

His declaration that the total amount needed for taxes and interest on debts amounts to approximately the national income should be the signal for serious thinking.

No ordinary palliative will remedy such a situation and no step should be taken which will aggravate an almost intolerable situation.

While the merchants are making the protest against the sales tax, the consumer is the one who will really be hit by any new impost on the things he is compelled to buy.

On the other hand, officials who are faced by the task of finding funds for governmental expenses have the right to ask those who protest exactly what other course is to be pursued.

Will the public stand for a reduction of services now furnished by the government and if so, what services must be discarded?

Will the schools be closed in order to save money? Or will cities prefer to dispense with firemen and policemen and the garbage collector?

Governor McNutt has hit at one expense when he declared that there will be no more building by the state until there is more money in sight. It may be necessary to declare for the same policy on roads and divert auto and gasoline taxes to the general fund.

The present protest is more than a revolt against a form of taxation. It may mean that the people are unable to pay it all.

MILK FOR CHILDREN

No one can afford to refrain from participating in the musical festival planned by the Federation of Civic Clubs in March for the purpose of raising funds for milk in the public schools.

The announcement reveals the fact that there are 8,000 children attending the schools who are in need of milk.

Physicians state that milk in the first years of child life is most necessary and that society pays a terrible toll if it fails to provide its future citizens with this food.

That the number of children now served is 4,000 and that there is double that number whose parents are unable to provide this necessity is an alarming condition.

No other public question is more important. In fact, so vital a matter is too big to be left to the chance of charity. Those children should not wait until March and music for their milk.

JUST FLYING HIS KITE?

Much has been put in print about Technocracy by the newspapers, the magazines and by certain of the associates of Mr. Howard Scott. But little has been written by Mr. Scott himself. It has, in fact, been stated that only 1,400 actually authentic words have been transcribed.

Reading those words as recorded by the high priest of Technocracy, himself, personally, we are reminded of the George Ade fable of the "Preacher Who Flew His Kite." As the fable goes, "A certain preacher became wise to the fact that he was not making a hit with his congregation. He had been trying to expound in a clear and straightforward manner, omitting foreign quotations, putting the stubby old English words ahead of the Latin, and rather flying low along the intellectual plane to the aggregation that chipped in to pay his salary."

"But the pew holders were not tickled. They could understand everything he said and they began to think he was common."

"So he studied the situation and decided that if he wanted to win them and make everybody believe he was a nobby and boss minister, he would have to hand out a little gift. He fixed it up good and plenty."

"On the following Sunday morning he got up in the lookout, sized up his flock with a dreamy eye, and said: 'We can not more adequately voice the poetry and mysticism of our text than in these familiar lines of the great Icelandic poet, Ikon Novrojk:'"

"To hold is not to have—
Under the seared firmament,
Where chaos sweeps, and vast futurity
Sneers at these puny aspirations—
There is the full reprisal."

"When the preacher concluded with this extract, he paused and looked downward, breathing heavily through his nose."

"A stout woman in the front row put on her eyeglasses and leaned forward so as not to miss anything. A venerable harness dealer over at the right nodded his head solemnly. He seemed to recognize the quotation."

"The preacher wiped his brow and said he had no doubt that every one within the sound of his voice remembered what Quorolius had said, following the same line of thought. It was Quorolius who disputed the contention of the great Persian theologian Ramtozak that the soul in its reaching out after the unknowable was guided by the spiritual Genesis of motive rather than by mere impulse of mentality."

"The parishioners bit their lower lips and hungered for more first-class language."

"The preacher quoted copiously from the great poet Amebius. He recited eighteen lines of Greek and then said: 'How true this is!' And not a parishioner batted an eye."

"It was Amebius whose immortal lines he recited in order to prove the extreme error of the position assumed in the controversy by the famous Italian, Polenta."

The fable concludes:
"Did they give him the joyous palm that day!
The venerable harness dealer said he wished to endorse the able and scholarly criticism of Polenta. The stout lady could not control her feelings when she told him how much the sermon had helped her."

"The only thing that worried the congregation was the fear that if it wished to retain such a whale it might have to boost his salary."

"In the meantime, the preacher waited for some one to come and ask about Polenta, Amebius, Ramtozak, Quorolius and the great Icelandic poet, Novrojk."

confess his ignorance."

"Technocracy makes one basic postulate: That the phenomena involved in the functional operation of a social mechanism are metrical. It defines science as 'the methodology of the determination of the most probable.'"

"Technocracy therefore assumes from its postulate that there already exist fundamental and arbitrary units which, in conjunction with derived units, can be extended to form a new and basic method for the quantitative analysis and determination of the next most probable state of any social mechanism."

"Technocracy further states that, as all organic and inorganic mechanisms involved in the operation of the social macrocosm are energy-consuming devices, therefore the basic metrical relationships are: The factor of energy conversion, or efficiency; and the rate of conversion of available energy of the mechanism as a functional whole in a given area per time unit."

It is strange that one should comment on the similarity between the technocrat and the preacher in the fable, or wonder whether Mr. Scott may not be laughing in his sleeve at the furor he has stirred?

HUNGER MAKES CRIMINALS

The lame duck congress has used up seven weeks of its short lease of life, and has but six weeks to go. Outside of routine matters, it has enacted only eleven laws, including a Philippine "independence" act that the Philippine legislature may reject.

This congress has worn the nation's patience by weeks of filibustering and idle speech making. It will earn the nation's anger and contempt if it adjourns without providing emergency relief for the 3,500,000 needy families and the 1,000,000 wandering youths now practically shelterless.

In spite of the obvious limits imposed by lame duckery, the present session could pass several measures for reconstruction. Among these are the Glass bill, the Wagner bill to liberalize the Reconstruction banking bill, the La Guardia-McKeown debtor relief Finance Corporation loans for a large building program, farm relief and adequate economy.

The minimum of congress' duty is to help allay the hunger and misery of desperate Americans. If any doubt remains that these people need their government's help, let members of congress read the testimony taken before the senate manufacturers committee in support of the Costigan-La Follette relief bill.

Or let them listen to the stories being told today in behalf of the Cutting bill to help states give shelter to wandering boys.

The testimony of two-score social workers on the need of family relief fills 500 pages with heart-breaking stories, authentic and unadorned, or undernourished babies, jobless workers, wholesale evictions in many cities, families packed in tiny rooms, men and women driven to suicide, boys and young men being made into criminals for lack of food and shelter.

The La Follette-Costigan bill would appropriate \$500,000,000 for federal aid of the states, a sum only about 2 per cent of that raised to fight the World war. The Cutting bill would grant the states \$15,000,000 for adequate care of itinerants, a sum that is about 1 per cent of what the Reconstruction Finance Corporation already has loaned for relief of banks, insurance companies and railroads.

"The fiber of the nation is being weakened steadily," Donald Richberg told the senate subcommittee. "Self-respect, courage and initiative are being destroyed in millions of homes by years of idleness, malnutrition and despair. We must check this national degradation at any cost."

An eminent cleric says if we were to treat the gangster with satire we might do away with him. The next time a gunman pokes a gun in your back and commands "Hands up!" mow him down with "Don't be silly!"

Gene Sarazen says a lot of golfers grip their clubs as if they were milking a cow. If this practice results in faulty drives and puts the cow in a bad light, reflect how Bessie would retaliate should Gene go a-milking with his interlocking grip.

Mexico complains it has been flooded with \$2,500,000 in spurious United States money, including bogus "silver" coins made from the lead of old batteries. Probably those "electric dollars" we've been hearing about.

It's no wonder Babe Ruth objects to a reduction of the \$75,000 salary he drew down last season. If he yields one penny, he'll be making less than the President of the United States!

Just Plain Sense

—BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

FROM a general and sweeping view, it looks as if women were standing hard times better than men.

And this is not strange. By nature we are far more resilient than they. And the exigencies of our situations have accustomed us to swift and sometimes evil change. Through centuries, women have had more downs than ups in the world.

In many periods, while men rode upon the crest of the wave, we still wallowed helplessly in the depths. 'Til fortune so often has walloped us that we have acquired the habit of smiling as we bob back again.

And then our dress styles! How are we to estimate what these may have had to do with the shaping of feminine character? For if a new hat can have an uplifting effect upon the drooping spirits of a woman, consider if you please what a succession of new hats, each different in shape and decoration from the last, may have had upon our outlook on life and its vicissitudes.

FOR instance, no woman rises up this morning knowing for sure what kind of headgear she may be called upon to wear tomorrow. The gown which she contemplates this month with so much pride may in sixty short days be completely out of fashion.

Realizing that the mode she likes best probably will be discarded and forgotten next week, she has, after long years of such uncertainty, become inured to any and everything. Public opinion, therefore, reasonably may mean less to her than to her husband.

Linking it in her mind with the vagaries of fashion, she is aware that it probably will not last out the season. So, too, all economic fluctuations are weathered with the same assurance that they can not long endure.

Men, on the contrary, seem singularly unable to make these swift mental and physical readjustments. They hang on to their most worthless and worn-out fallacies exactly like they cling to a five-year-old hat.

Because it feels comfortable, they are convinced that no other ever will do. It is extremely difficult to get them to alter their opinions.

Can this be due perhaps to the fact that they have not changed the essential style of their dress for a hundred years?

What Kind of a Game Is This?



It Seems to Me by Heywood Broun

NEW names seem effective in the promotion of new words.

Technocracy, for instance is sweeping the country on account of a new label, in spite of the fact that most of the assertions which it makes are entirely familiar.

And so I think I'll try to start a movement of my own. It will be called "artisticracy" and inevitably must be in violent conflict with the theories of Mr. Scott.

If I understood the new messiahs, they believe that we can be saved only by handing over our lives and beings to the engineers. The Utopia which I have in mind not only would willing, but graceful, in its reception of the statistics of the technocrats. But we would like a different sort of leadership.

We have not enough of engineers great or otherwise. We want the world turned over to the artists as generalists, or is this still another subterfuge by which Fascism may be introduced under some other name. The artist ever has been a dictator, since he understands better than anybody else the variations in human personality.

After Whistle Blows

BUT he has been kept on the sidelines far too long. In every age the artist has been the critic and the counselor of the prevailing social system. Yet always he has been called in after the event.

His function has been to scourge the follies of his day as satirist or to bind up the wounds of a bleeding world in his role as a sort of sentimental Red Cross worker.

Even in the last ten minutes of play there has been no disposition to let him go on the field and actually take part in the play. And he has been held back because of the conception that he was visionary and impractical.

Now, of course, he immediately should accept the impeachment and after pleading guilty say, "So what?"

His best argument is that the

Questions and Answers

Q—Give the comparative figures for male and female suicides in the United States in 1928 and 1929?

A—In 1928, males 11,905, females 3,485; in 1929, males 12,305, and females 3,740.

Q—To what extent were the number of congressional districts in Mississippi changed by the 1930 apportionment?

A—From ten to nine, a loss of one.

Q—Did any President refuse to ride with his successor in the inaugural parade?

A—John Adams refused to ride with his successor, Thomas Jefferson.

Q—Does notice of patent applied for protect the manufacturer against infringement?

A—No, but it serves as a notice that damages may be collected when the patent is issued.

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEN

Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

THIS is the first of two articles by Dr. Fishben on defective speech.

A MAN who stuttered and stammered went once to a bird store to buy a parrot. In his typical stuttering speech he asked the bird fancier, "C-c-can h-h-he t-t-t-t-talk?"

The bird fancier replied, "If he couldn't talk better than you do, I'd wring his neck."

The anecdote, while cruel, represents well the general attitude toward a person with a defect of speech. Somehow it never is taken as seriously as it should be.

The National Society for the Study of Speech Disorders recently has classified seven different forms of speech disorder, with a view to indicating proper approach to correction.

The first, called dysarthria, includes defects that are due to troubles in the nervous system. Such people may express themselves fluently in writing and understand everything they hear or

world has been run by realists, and look what they have done to it. I'm not quite sure that I would argue that Edna St. Vincent Millay should upon the instant become the president of the Chase National Bank.

It might not be a bad idea, at that, and surely it would be less preposterous than life under the decisions of the little group of hard-boiled men who met after the great war to found a peace.

There was in that number one who had some fragmentary inspiration of the visionary. Woodrow Wilson, curiously enough, broke more trench lines than any general in the American army. He swept back resistance and dislodged gunners from concrete pillboxes by introducing a formula, by flashing before the world the dream of a new world.

It is palpable that he failed, and generally it is held that his defeat at Versailles was brought about by the fact that he was not sufficiently practical. The reverse is the case. Woodrow Wilson could not forget that he came up from Princeton to the Presidency.

Heady Wine of Success

HE fancied himself as one who could meet the political bosses of the world on their own ground and conquer them, even as he got the better of the Democratic machine in New Jersey.

He traded bits of his bright dream here and there for things which seemed at the moment practical. And whenever he bargained off some section of the rainbow, he was hornswoggled.

The children of darkness are shrewder in their own generation than the children of light. A

Every Day Religion

—BY DR. JOSEPH FORT NEWTON

FROM the top of the Empire State Building in New York one looks down upon a scene like nothing else upon the earth. A gigantic, bizarre, amazing picture is spread out below, a maze of criss-cross canyons in which elevated trains are like caterpillars gliding to and fro and human beings are like ants crawling along the streets.

A ceaseless roar ascends, muffled into a low hum at that great height.

How can any mind wrestle with the unimaginableness of a great city, and its crowded loneliness! Not even Blake could realize London and live; a glimpse charred his eyes.

Let any one try to see New York not in fragments, but entire, all its immensities swept together before the imagination, a shoreless ocean of humanity tossing up to the astonished skies its gray billions of steel and stone, and he will feel the chill of an impalpable despair.

What streams of people, eager, busy, hurried, harried, or happy, behind each face a romance or a tragedy; each life a blend of irony, agony, faith, fear and fleet-

ing gaily; all winning or failing, all serving or adding to the burden of the world—saints doing good, and lives sold to evil, mirth, misery and magnificence strange-

ly mingled—only God can see a great city and not be dismayed of heart.

EVER the plodding procession moves on, like the journeying generations of mankind marching from dust to dust. One knows none of them, yet one knows them all, for are not they our kith and kin, with hopes and fears and sorrows like our own?

Some faces win us, others repel us by what the yseem to tell us—faces that are like glimpses of a landscape in the mist, suggesting hidden vales and hills.

No wonder Jesus wept over a city touched to tears equally by its perversity and its pathos, knowing that its people are seeking that which is to be found in the world in no satisfying quantity or quality, if at all.

But His beloved disciple saw "the Holy City," radiant and redeemed of ugliness and evil—and by that vision he was delivered from despair.

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ended. In some cases the difficulty is due to failure to get a concentrated and constant stream of breath through the mouth.

Breathing exercises, such as the blowing of soap bubbles, gargling, and blowing of horns will aid this weakness of function.

Another form of speech disorder is called dyslogia, from the word logos, to speak. In this form there is difficulty in expressing ideas by speech, caused by some mental disturbance.

This may take the form of incoherent speech, absence of ideas, slow speech, a constant stream of words to which the term logorrhea is applied, irrelevant speech, and constant repetition of the same phrase.

Here, the difficulty being primarily mental, it is necessary to determine the nature of the mental disturbance and to fit the patients to some kind of task, play, or other endeavor for which they are suited.

Next: Other speech disorders.

M. E. Tracy Says:

WE ARE "WISE TO" FRANCE

REGARDING the debt controversy and particularly the American attitude toward it, as revealed by recent official and unofficial statements, the great French newspaper Le Temps has this to say:

"We are perfectly well aware that American diplomacy has sought to ruin what is called the common front of European debtors, but Washington has no right to ignore the efforts which the French government constantly has made to co-operate in perfect loyalty with the United States government."

That is a logical position for Le Temps to take, but the assertion on which it is based and the impression it seeks to create are open to argument.

After several years of naive trustfulness, Washington is at last waking up to the true nature of French efforts. It stands ready to agree that they have been constant and well directed. That they have aimed at co-operation "in perfect loyalty with the United States government," is not so clear.

Default Too Brazen to Overlook

THE duty of remembering things includes those that are disagreeable as well as those that are pleasant. Washington has done its best to ignore the former, but French statesmen has eliminated the possibility of pursuing such course any longer.

The recent default was too brazen and too unnecessary for further suppression of certain irritating memories. France has gold to loan, but none with which to pay us. That is consistent with her policy since the war.

Morally, American taxpayers have borne the expense of her African campaigns, her Near-Eastern campaigns, and her development of buffer states in central Europe.

The show began with the preposterous claims which France lodged against the United States in connection with the A. E. F. and which were made the subject of such endless haggling that the commission appointed to adjust them threw up its hands in despair, agreed to a lump sum settlement, and turned over to France an amount of war material and railroad equipment that netted her millions of dollars.

When France asked for help this country came to her rescue without stint or reservation, mortgaging its future to provide the necessary credit and drafting its boys to feed cannon on the western front.

Plots Too Numerous to Ignore

WHEN peace was restored, we waited patiently for France to rehabilitate herself, not getting and not demanding even so much as the payment of interest on what she owed for several years.

When Premier Laval was in Washington pleading for further debt revision, French bankers undertook to raid our gold reserve, but still we made no complaint, though we were not fools enough to regard it as a coincidence.

We have seen what French financiers did to the British pound, though their country would be in ruins today but for British help.

We have seen France persist in the pre-war military spirit. We have seen her continue a policy of territorial expansion and friendly alliances.

We have seen her use the League of Nations to serve her own ends. We have seen her try to develop a united Europe for the single purpose of crushing the United States.

We no longer are ignoring French efforts.

SCIENCE

Mars Comes Closer

—BY DAVID DIETZ

THE proposal to set up a battery of electric searchlights on the Jungfrau in Switzerland to signal to the supposed inhabitants of Mars has been revived by a group of enthusiasts in Great Britain.

Interest in Mars is heightened by the fact that the planet now is making one of its periodic close approaches to the earth.

If you watch the eastern sky, you will see both Mars and Jupiter come up over the horizon about 9 p. m. By midnight, they will be high in the sky.

Mars, which comes over the horizon first, is a little higher in the sky than Jupiter. Both are easily identified since they are the brightest starlike objects in the eastern sky.

Mars, brighter than a first magnitude star, has its characteristic ruddy color. Jupiter, about five times brighter than Mars, shines with a clear white light.

If you watch Mars each evening during the next six weeks, you will note that it is growing brighter and brighter.

That is because the planet is approaching closer and closer to the earth. During the month of February, Mars will swing 10,000,000 miles closer to the earth.

On March 1, Mars will attain its greatest brilliancy for the present year, for it then will be at its closest to the earth.

On March 2, the earth and Mars, to use the scientific term, will be "in opposition."

The Distance Varies

BOTH the earth and Mars, of course, revolve about the sun. Mars is the planet just beyond the earth. From the sun to the earth is approximately 93,000,000 miles. From the sun to Mars is approximately 141,000,000 miles.

These are average distances. Because of irregularities in the orbits of the planets, both may be either closer to the sun or farther from it than the average distances.

Now a moment's thought will show that the distance between the earth and Mars can vary within very great limits. It is greatest when Mars is on one side of the sun and the earth on the other, so that a straight line connecting the two planets passes through the sun.

The distance between the two planets then is the sum of their respective distances from the sun. The sun is then between the two planets is the least when they are both on the same side of the sun, so that a line from Mars to the earth, when prolonged, reaches the sun.

When this situation occurs, the two planets are said to be in opposition.

Now the distance between the two planets is not always the same opposition. It depends entirely on where the planets are in their orbits when opposition takes place. The orbits, it will be remembered, are not circles, but ellipses.

At a very favorable opposition, the distance between the two planets is about 35,000,000 miles. At the present opposition, the distance will be about 63,000,000 miles.

Time to Signal

NOT only is Mars a more beautiful sight as it approaches opposition, but it is a more satisfactory object for scientific study.

Therefore, astronomers will be training their telescopes upon the ruddy planet during February and March.

The layman might think that March would be an excellent time to try to signal to the supposed inhabitants of Mars. But such is not the case. Remember that at opposition, the earth is between Mars and the sun. Therefore, we see Mars in our night sky.

But the Martians, supposing for the moment that there really are

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