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MISTAKING OUR AILMENT

None of us likes to pay taxes. And when the figures begin to climb, all of us begin to object. A few days ago we talked with a good citizen who was figuring on the way to raise the sinking fund for the new school bonds without raising the tax rate. He said that taxes were getting to be enormously high, and he seemed afraid that the people would not be able to pay.

But when we make objection to the tax rate levied by the governmental agencies we fail to take account of the enormous taxes we are paying in other ways. For instance, we have in Abbeville about five thousand and people. Of these, one thousand are heads of families; perhaps there are twelve hundred boys and men together between the ages of 18 and 70. It is fair to assume that at least five hundred of these smoke either cigars, cigarettes or pipes. Whatever they smoke, the average cost to each is not less than twenty-five cents per day. That means that these men are expending for the pleasure of smoking the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars per day, or three thousand, seven hundred and fifty dollars per month, or forty-five thousand dollars per year—an amount larger than the entire expenditure for public schools in the city of Abbeville last year, and larger than the amount of school taxes to be collected in this school district next year, even if we pay five thousand dollars towards retiring the new bonds to be issued.

We notice that there are about thirteen hundred automobiles in the county. These automobiles, we imagine, cost on an average about seven hundred dollars each. That means nearly a million dollars, an amount greatly in excess of the aggregate value of all the school buildings and school property in the county, we imagine.

It takes to operate a car and to keep it in repair a great deal of money. A set of tires for the average sized car will cost one hundred and fifty dollars, but if we put the average cost at one hundred dollars, and allow only the sum of one hundred dollars for purchasing gasoline and making repairs on each car for the year, we have an average expenditure for the operation and up-keep of the thirteen hundred cars in this county a little more than a quarter of a million dollars each year, an amount twice as large, we think, as the entire expenditures for public schools in the county.

There are in the school district in which this city is located at least three hundred automobiles. Most people around the larger places, or at least a good percentage of them, buy the larger automobiles. They are owned almost exclusively for pleasure too. These cars cost the owners an average price of one thousand dollars, we should judge. That is three hundred thousand dollars invested in automobiles in this school district, much more than the cost of all our school buildings and equipment.

People in places like Abbeville use their automobiles a great deal more than do the people in the rural sections. Speaking from experience, we are of the opinion that the average cost of operating a car in Abbeville, including repairs, gas, oil and replacements (and not including depreciation) is about five hundred dollars. That means an expenditure in this school district for operating automobiles of about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars annually about five times we believe the amount we are annually expending

on our public schools. If we calculate that the average life of an automobile is five years, and that, therefore, each of these cars loses in value each year two hundred dollars, we shall add sixty thousand dollars more to the annual expenditure for this kind of pleasure.

Yes, when we come to pay taxes it does look like we are paying a great deal, but the future welfare of this country depends on the amount of these taxes, and especially on the amount we levy for schools; civilization itself depends on this. As long as we spend such large amounts for other things which are not necessary, and until these schools cost us more than our annual chewing gum bill, or as much as the salt which goes into the bread which we eat daily, let us be fair with ourselves and acknowledge that it is not the amount of taxes, but the expenditures we are making for things that are unnecessary in life and which after all are selfish expenditures, which make up our burdens.

DEATH OF T. G. PERRIN

Thomas Grant Perrin, aged 60, died Saturday morning, July 16th, at the Abbeville County Memorial Hospital, after a long illness.

Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon at 6 o'clock at the Methodist Church, of which the deceased was for a long time a member, conducted by his pastor, Rev. Mr. Peele. After the services his body was laid to rest in Long Cane cemetery.

The following acted as pallbearers J. C. Thomson, Frank C. Dupre, Dr. J. R. Nickles, W. E. Johnson, M. T. Coleman, and C. A. Milford. The City officials were honorary pallbearers. The members of the Masonic fraternity in Abbeville, of which Mr. Perrin was long a faithful member, also attended the funeral in a body.

Mr. Perrin was unmarried. He was born in the State of Tennessee and spent several years of his life in the Western section of the country. But the greater part of it was spent in Abbeville, where he was engaged as salesman and later as Treasurer of the City Council. In all positions which he held, Mr. Perrin performed the obligations which came to him with fidelity and care, making friends with those with whom he had business dealings, and impressing himself on his fellows as a man of the strictest business integrity and of high character. As an official of the city, Mr. Perrin worked laboriously for the public welfare, his books always being kept up to date and being models of correct book-keeping. In his church, and other relations he was faithful and zealous. He gave offense to no man.

Mr. Perrin is survived by his nephews, Lewis Perrin, of the National Bank, and James Perrin, of Meridian, Miss. The latter came to Abbeville to attend the funeral services.

GREENVILLE BOYS ARE KILLED BY LIGHTNING

Greenville, July 17.—While seated with the family at the supper table for the evening meal last night, Thomas and David Odam, aged 10 and 8 years, respectively, sons of Mr. and Mrs. David Odam, of the upper section of the county, were instantly killed when a bolt of lightning struck the house. The family lives about eight miles above Greer in the Mount Lebanon section. None of the other members of the family were injured. The house had recently been equipped with an acetylene gas lighting system and it is said the electricity came down the fixtures and into the dining room. A double funeral for the two boys was held this afternoon and was attended by a large throng. The little boys had been inseparable companions throughout their life and the two bodies were buried in the same casket.

FRENCH PEOPLE PRAY END OF DROUGHT

Paris, July 16.—Cardinal Dubois, archbishop of Paris, today called upon the people to pray for rain because of the prolonged drought, which has caused much damage and suffering. The cardinal instructed the clergy to say special prayers for rain during masses for the next nine days.

JAPAN COMES ON FOR CONFERENCE

READY TO ENTER DISARMAMENT DISCUSSION BUT WITHHOLDS ASSENT AS TO FAR EASTERN QUESTIONS—FIRST HITCH IN SIGHT.

Washington, July 15.—Japan is ready to enter the disarmament conference but withholds assent to an unrestricted discussion of Far Eastern questions as a part of it.

The viewpoint of the American government in that a solution of the Far Eastern questions is a necessary accompaniment to any disarmament program.

Thus develops the first hitch—if a hitch it turns out to be—in President Harding's plan to remove the causes for heavy armaments and then reduce the armaments themselves.

American officials, however, are optimistic that a way will be found for a satisfactory conference to which Japan will be a party and for a program of armament reduction acceptable to all.

The Japanese reply to such a conference came to the State Department today through the American embassy at Tokio. Its text was not made public and department officials declined to reveal its content, except to say that it expressed approval of the disarmament discussion but did not agree to a consideration of the Pacific problems. During the day, however, it became known that the attitude of the Japanese government was known to the government's representative here.

This attitude is that the disarmament question is a vast one in itself and that if other questions are introduced into the field of discussion the conference may be so broadened as to endanger its success.

Japanese officials are said to feel this to be particularly true if the questions so introduced are to affect the delicate balance of diplomatic relations in the Orient. There is manifest in Tokio a belief that such a debate might open up a Pandora's box of troublesome diplomatic intricacies which would set for President Harding's task of readjustment even greater than that attempted by the peace conference of Versailles.

The alternative, in the belief of Japanese statesman, would be to agree beforehand on exactly what questions will form the subject matter of the discussion.

To this is opposed the opinion of American officials that if all the nations first agree to come into the conference whatever limitations appeared advisable could be fixed by general assent afterward.

Just what will be the next step of the President and his advisers did not appear tonight. China having accepted the invitation unconditionally during the day, however, all of the invited powers were on record as agreeing at least to discuss disarmament, and it was the apparent purpose of the State Department to regard the assembling of the meeting as assured, and to proceed in due course to issue notes of invitation in more formal character.

LOST BATTALION HERO GETS LAST HONORS

New York, July 16.—Full military honors marked the funeral today of Private John J. Monson, hero of the lost battalion, who died in Bellevue hospital after being taken ill while on leave of absence from his post in the regular army.

Monson died last Friday and it was three days before his body was identified. As soon as it became known that he was the man who, on September 28, 1918, carried the message that reunited the lost battalion in the Argonne, scores of civic organizations planned that fitting honors might be paid him at his funeral. Today a column five blocks long marched behind the caisson that carried the body to the Church of the Ascension, where a high requiem mass was said, and thence to Cypress Hills cemetery, where military services were held.

Technically, Monson was absent without leave at the time of his death, but military officials declared the charge was dropped when it was learned that he was ill in a hospital at the time he was supposed to return to duty.

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SETTLEMENT MADE OF BRITISH CLAIM

UNITED STATES PAYS ENGLAND THIRTY-TWO MILLION DOLLARS DESPITE DEBT OF FOUR BILLION DUE THIS NATION.

Washington, July 16.—Despite Great Britain's debt of \$4,500,000,000 to this country payment of \$32,688,352 has been made by the government to the British ministry of shipping in settlement of a claim against the War Department, Treasury officials said today. The payment was made, officials added, pursuant to an opinion by Attorney General Daugherty.

The British claim was for transportation services arising out of the war with Germany, and the payment it was explained, constitutes a final settlement between the War Department and the British ministry of shipping of all claims of either party against the other for transportation services.

Secretary Mellon asked Mr Daugherty for a ruling as to whether the act of March 3, 1875, which requires the secretary to withhold payment of any judgment against the United States where the claimant is indebted to this country in any manner, applied to such a claim.

Mr. Daugherty held the act did not apply as it was not the practice of sovereign nations to prosecute their claims against one another in the courts and obtain judgment but adjust such matters through diplomatic channels.

"If it should be construed to apply to a case such as is now presented," the attorney general said, then whenever a claim is allowed by the United States in favor of a foreign nation it will be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury in making payment to withhold the amount of any claim which the United States may have against such nation. As is well known, this government exercises a broad discretion in determining what claims it will present against other nations and the operations of the statute in such matters would seriously interfere with the government in the conduct of its foreign relations."

The British transportation claims it was explained, was for what was regarded during the war as current expenses would be paid one another without waiting the settlement of international debts.

In connection with the claim, Mr. Mellon also inquired whether \$12,275,711 should be withheld, pending adjustment of a claim of the shipping board against the ministry of shipping for shipments of oil. The Attorney General suggested that such a step might be suggested to Great Britain through the usual diplomatic channels but the Treasury decided officials said, that the shipping board's bill was yet to be adjusted finally, and that the British transportation claim therefore should be paid in full.

LIQUOR MADE HIM LIBERAL

Louisville, Ky., July 16.—Promiscuous distribution of genuine \$5, \$10 and \$20 in bills was stopped yesterday by a patrolman and as a result Fred Kuhn was lodged in jail. He had just drawn \$50 from a bank and only \$270 remains. He gave the rest away.

Kuhn was release on bond. He was charged with drunkenness.

LIGHTNING LEFT PHOTO OF TREE ON HIS BACK

Eastman, Ga., July 16.—Struck by a bolt of lightning yesterday afternoon, Travis, young son of J. J. Grimsley, lives and is carrying on his back a photograph of a cedar tree.

The boy was sitting on the front porch of his home when a flash shattered a cedar tree a few feet from the house. The current passed through the boy's body, rendering the youth unconscious. He recovered in a few minutes and members of the family found a photographic plate of a tree on his back.

Jakie Burch, 15, son of C. C. Burch, was also struck by lightning. A round hole was burned in his cap. He was unconscious for only a few minutes.

The throne left by the ex-kaiser is said to be worth more than \$100,000.

CALHOUN FALLS NEWS

Calhoun Falls and vicinity looks somewhat refreshed since the recent rains.

The Baptist Sunday School has just closed a Red and Blue new member contest. Mrs. T. V. Farrow was captain of the Reds and Mr. J. B. Hall of the Blues. After two months of work and pleasant competition the Blue side won the larger number of scholars, and on Wednesday evening the victorious Blues were entertained at an ice cream supper by the Reds and although they were defeated in number, they were spirited enough to give their opponents the most delightful ice cream and cake they have partaken lately. The quality and quantity were 100 per cent and notwithstanding the approaching storm at the appointed hour, everybody was there and had a delightful time.

Mrs. J. F. Gibert entertained the School Improvement Club at her home Friday afternoon from 5 until 7 o'clock. The threatening clouds kept several of the ladies from getting there but for those who were present it was a pleasant occasion. The attendance being too small to transact any business the time was spent in pleasant conversation. Mrs. Gibert served delicious cream and cake.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Nunnally are the happy parents of a new son, who arrived Saturday, July 16.

Mrs. B. H. Tucker and children, of Whitney, S. C., are spending this month with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Birch.

Miss Georgia Byrd, of Lawrenceville, Ga., is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. J. Blake.

Mrs. J. C. Solomon and daughter, Miss Margaret will leave this week for Asheville, to spend a week or ten days.

Miss Jim Solomon has gone to Alabama to visit her sister, Mrs. Grice.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sherard spent Sunday with relatives in Lebanon.

Miss Katherine Cox is home from Florida to spend her vacation.

Dr. J. C. Solomon entertained his Board of Deacons at a watermelon slicing Saturday afternoon. Delightful music was furnished by Misses Laurene and Martha Cook and judging from the peals of laughter that resounded from Dr. Solomon's side piazza, the Deacons had a glorious time.

Sunday was Dr. Solomon's regular appointment in the Baptist church here and both morning and evening services were largely attended. The topic of his discourse each service was "Now." The results of doing things "now" both with Christ and the sinner were most effectively described by Dr. Solomon and both sermons on the subject were most impressive.

Mr. Clotfelter filled his regular appointment in the Presbyterian pulpit. Mr. Clotfelter has been in this work for a number of years and is always appreciated by those who hear him.

FORD WOULD BUY MUSCLE SHOALS PLANT

Washington, July 16.—Secretary of War Weeks today ordered thorough study of Henry Ford's offer to buy the Muscle Shoals nitrate project and power site.

Until Mr. Weeks gets complete results of the study he will make no recommendation to congress, and it is not probable either house will act before Mr. Weeks is heard from. At present officials are undecided about Mr. Ford's offer. They say they would like to get rid of the Muscle Shoals project without absolutely scrapping the expensive plant. Neither do they want to spend more money to complete it. It is possible that Mr. Ford may be asked to revise his offer.

WISCONSIN STUDENTS DRINK MUCH LIQUOR

Madison, Wis., July 16.—Representatives of thirty University of Wisconsin fraternities were called before Judge A. C. Hoppmann in superior court here late yesterday and advised that unless carousing among students was stopped guilty parties would be vigorously prosecuted.

The conference came after citizens of the university section had complained that there was a wave of drunkenness among the students.

BOE JONES COMES JULY TWENTY-SECOND

Noted Evangelist Making Tour of State In Interest of Sunday Schools

The Rev. Bob Jones, president of the Interdenominational Evangelistic Association of America, considered one of the foremost evangelists of the country, will be in Abbeville Friday night, July 22, where he will preach in the Baptist church. Mr. R. B. Cheatham is chairman of the arrangements committee.

The Rev. Mr. Jones is making a tour of the state in the interest of the campaign for evangelism of the South Carolina Sunday School Association. In January of this year he made a similar tour of the State and it is said that he reached more than 10,000 people. The evangelist is a man of unusual personal magnetism, and his messages in their inspirational power, never fail to enlist people for personal work in their Sunday School and community.

IN POLICE COURT

Charles Greene and Mary Greene, negroes, forfeited \$10 bonds this morning when they failed to appear at police court on a charge of being disorderly.

Ben Sorrel and Clifford Smith were fined \$2.50 when witnesses testified that they were disorderly at the theatre. They admitted that they had slipped in the opera house by the side door and did not expect to pay for a ticket.

Dupont Succeeds Wolcott

Dover, Dela.—General T. Coleman Dupont was appointed United States senator from Delaware by Governor Denney to succeed Josiah O. Wolcott who resigned.

J. L. PERRIN, JR.

Public Stenographer

Room 204

Municipal Building

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THE ECHO

"The Really Musical Spot in Abbeville."

Turnip Seed

Just received new crop Turnip Seed. Rutabaga, Seven-Top, Purple Top, Cow-Horn, White Egg, Yellow Aberdeen at

50c Pound.

The McMurray Drug Co.