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ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY.

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NUMBER 48.

THE WAR TAX BILL.

How America Will Have to Pay the Fiddler.

POWDER BURNING VERY EXPENSIVE.

All Kinds of Luxuries Catch It Heavy—Almost Every Business or Profession Comes In For a Direct or Indirect Share of the Burden.

The following are the principal provisions of the war tax bill as agreed to by the conference committee and which within the next 10 days will become law:

The tax on beer is increased from \$1 per barrel, the present rate, to \$2 per barrel. But a rebate of 15 cents is allowed for leakage, so that the increase is really only 85 cents per barrel.

The present tax of 6 cents a pound on tobacco is doubled. The provision taxing at the same rate the stock on hand, for which the house stood out, was compromised so that tobacco manufactured and stamped subsequent to April 15 shall pay a tax of 3 cents per pound, with a proviso excepting the stocks which do not exceed 1,000 pounds in the aggregate.

Cigars pay a tax of \$3.60 per thousand, an increase of 60 cents over present rates, and cigarettes, \$1.50, an increase of 50 cents. Stocks on hand in excess of 20,000, manufactured or imported and stamped after April 15, pay a tax of 30 cents per thousand on cigars and 25 cents on cigarettes. Smoking tobacco may be put up in one ounce packages and manufactured tobacco in packages containing 1, 2, 3, 2 1/2, and 3 1/3 ounces in lieu of 2, 3, and 4 ounces as at present.

Tobacco dealers and manufacturers pay yearly taxes of from \$6 to \$24 according to the amounts of their sales for the preceding year.

Beginning July 1, bankers pay a special tax of \$50 per year on a capital of \$25,000 or less, and \$2 for each additional \$1,000 of capital. Stock brokers pay \$5; pawnbrokers, \$20; commercial and ship brokers, \$20; custom house brokers, \$10; theatres, museums and concert halls in cities of more than 25,000 population pay \$100; circus proprietors \$100; bowling alleys and billiard rooms, \$5 for each alley or table.

After July 1, Stamp Taxes—Bonds, certificates of indebtedness and certificates of stock, 5 cents on each \$100 of original issue, and on sales, agreements to sell, memoranda of sales or deliveries or transfers or for memorandum for future delivery, 2 cents for each \$100 face value; where the transfer is by certificate the stamp is to be placed on the transfer certificate. A penalty of \$500 to \$1,000 fine and six months' imprisonment is provided for violations.

Transactions on board of trade, produce and other exchanges, for present or future delivery, on every \$100 or fractional part, 1 cent; bank checks, 2 cents; bills of exchange, domestic, and domestic money orders, for each \$100 or fractional part, 2 cents; bills of exchange, foreign, for each \$100 or fraction, 10 cents.

Bills of lading, express or freight, 1 cent. A provision makes but one bill of lading necessary on bundles or packages of newspapers when inclosed in one general bundle at the time of shipment. Failure to furnish a bill of lading, duly stamped, subjects the railroad, steamboat or express company to a fine of \$50 for each offence.

Telephone messages, 1 cent for those for which a charge of 15 cents or more is made.

Bonds of indemnity, 50 cents. Contracts for real estate, merchandise, stocks, etc., 10 cents; deeds, transfers of real estate, etc., for each \$100 in value, 50 cents.

Telegrams, 1 cent. The companies incur a penalty of \$50 for failure to affix a stamp on each telegraph message transmitted, excepting only official dispatches of telegraph or railroad companies sent over their own wires, and official business of the government.

Life insurance policies, 8 cents for \$100 of insurance, to be paid at the inception of the policy. Fraternal, beneficiary, society, and other co-operative associations are exempted. Fire and marine insurance, upon the amount of premium charge, one-half of 1 per cent, on each dollar or fraction. Co-operative and mutual companies, fire insurance companies not for profit, are exempted.

Lease for land or tenement for one year or less, 25 cents; exceeding three years, \$1.

Mortgage, exceeding \$1,000, 25 cents; exceeding \$1,500, 25 cents for each \$500.

Proxies, 10 cents; power of attorney, 25 cents; protest, 25 cents.

Medicinal proprietary articles and perfumery, cosmetics and other smaller articles, one-eighth of 1 cent for each 5 cents in retail price. Articles in the hands of dealers on July 1 may be stamped when sold. Drawback is allowed on articles exported. Proprietary articles have the privilege of furnishing their own designs for stamps.

Chewing gum, for each dollar or fraction of retail value 4 cents.

Sparkling or other wines bottled for sale, for each pint, 1 cent; more than one pint, 2 cents.

An excise tax of one-quarter of one per cent, is levied on the gross receipts (where in excess of \$250,000 per year)

of persons, firms or corporations refining oil or sugar, or owning or controlling an oil pipe line.

A stamp tax of 1 cent is levied on each ticket for a seat in a palace or parlor car or berth in a sleeping car after July 1, the stamp to be affixed and paid for by the company issuing it.

Graded taxes are imposed on legacies and distributive shares of personal property.

The senate accepts the certificate of indebtedness and loan provisions of the house, with a reduction of the amount of bonds authorized to \$400,000,000. The provision that no bonds shall be issued until at least \$50,000,000 of indebtedness certificates are outstanding has been eliminated. The sections now read:

"Sec. 32. That the secretary of the treasury is authorized to borrow from time to time, at a rate of interest not exceeding 3 per centum per annum, such sum or sums as in his judgment may be necessary to meet public expenditures, and to issue therefor certificates of indebtedness in such form as he may prescribe, and in denominations of \$50 or some multiple of that sum, and each certificate so issued shall be payable, with the interest accrued thereon, at such time, not exceeding one year from the date of its issue, as the secretary of the treasury may prescribe, provided that the amount of such certificates outstanding shall at no time exceed \$100,000,000.

"Sec. 33. That the secretary of the treasury is hereby authorized to borrow, on the credit of the United States, from time to time, as the proceeds may be required to defray expenditures authorized on account of the existing war (such proceeds when received to be used only for the purpose of meeting such war expenditures,) the sum of \$400,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary, and to prepare and issue therefor coupon or registered bonds of the United States in such form as he may prescribe, and in denominations of \$20 or some multiple of that sum, redeemable in coin at the pleasure of the United States after 10 years from the date of their issue, and payable 20 years from such date, and bearing interest payable quarterly in coin at the rate of 3 per centum per annum, and the bonds herein authorized shall be exempt from all taxes or duties of the United States, as well as from taxation in any form by or under state, municipal or local authority; provided that the bonds authorized by this section shall be first offered at par as a popular loan, under such regulations, prescribed by the secretary or the treasury, as will give opportunity to the citizens of the United States to participate in the subscriptions to such a loan, and in allotting said bonds the several subscriptions of individuals shall be first accepted, and the subscriptions for the lowest amounts shall be first allotted, provided, further, that any portion of any issue of said bonds not subscribed for as above provided may be disposed of by the secretary of the treasury at not less than par under such regulations as he may prescribe, but no commissions shall be allowed or paid thereon, and a sum not exceeding one-tenth of 1 per centum of the amount of the bonds and certificates herein authorized is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated to pay the expense of preparing, advertising, and issuing the same."

The senate recedes from its coinage of the silver seigniorage amendment, and a substitute is agreed to simply authorizing and directing the coinage of not less than 1,500,000 silver dollars per month from the silver bullion held in the treasury; such silver dollars to be applied as provided by the act of July 14, 1890. The section now reads as follows:

"Sec. 34. That the secretary of the treasury is hereby authorized and directed to coin into standard silver dollars, as rapidly as the public interests may require, to an amount however, of not less than \$1,500,000 in each month, all of the silver bullion in the treasury purchased in accordance with the provisions of the act approved July 14, 1890, entitled 'An act directing the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of treasury notes thereon, and for other purposes,' and said dollars, when so coined, shall be used and applied in the same manner and for the purpose named in said act."

A tax of four cents a barrel is levied on "mixed flour," and a tax of \$12 a year on manufacturers thereof. Packages containing the article are to be stamped. "Mixed Flour" in plain black letters at least two inches in length, together with the ingredients and the name of the maker. This section is modelled after the Oleomargarine act.

An important duty at 10 cents per pound is imposed on tea, to take effect at once.

One of the ways in which Spain has been looting the Philippines has been by levying a poll tax even on women at a maximum sometimes as high as \$25. Imagine every woman in the United States required to pay \$25 a year, and if unable to pay it perhaps sold into what was virtually slavery, and you have a striking illustration of the condition of the natives of the Philippines.

Hereafter the lofty buildings of Chicago will be limited to nine stories, and not more than 130 feet in height.

SAMPSON'S STORY.

Admiral Makes an Official Report of the Merrimac Affair.

The navy department, on last Saturday, gave out Rear Admiral Sampson's official report of the Merrimac affair. The report is in the shape of letter to Secretary Long and is as follows:

United States Flagship New York, off Santiago, June 3, 1898.—Permit me to call your special attention to Assistant Naval Constructor Hobson. As stated in a special telegram, before coming here, I decided to make the harbor entrance secure against the possibility of egress by Spanish ships by obstructing the narrow part of the entrance by sinking a collier at the point. Upon calling upon Mr. Hobson for his professional opinion as to a sure method of sinking the ship he manifested the most lively interest in the problem. After several days' con-

sideration he presented a solution which he considered would insure the immediate sinking of the ship when she reached the desired point in the channel. This plan we prepared for execution when we reached Santiago. The plan contemplated a crew of only seven men and Mr. Hobson, who begged that it might be entrusted to him. The anchor chains were arranged on deck for both the anchors, forward and aft, the plan including the anchoring of the ship almost automatically.

As soon as I reached Santiago and I had the collier to work upon, the details were completed and diligently prosecuted, hoping to complete them in one day, as the moon and tide served best the first night after our arrival. Notwithstanding every effort the hour of 4 o'clock in the morning arrived and the preparation was scarcely completed. After a careful inspection of the final preparations I was forced to relinquish the plan for that morning, as dawn was breaking. Mr. Hobson begged to try it at all hazards.

This morning proved more propitious as a prompt start could be made. Nothing could have been more gallantly executed. We waited impatiently after the firing by the Spaniards had ceased. When they did not reappear from the harbor at 6 o'clock I feared that they had all perished. A steam launch which had been sent in charge of Naval Cadet Powell to rescue the men appeared at this time, coming out under a persistent fire of the batteries, but brought none of the crew. A careful inspection of the harbor from this ship showed that the vessel Merrimac had been sunk in the channel.

This afternoon the chief of staff of Admiral Cervera came out under a flag of truce with a letter from the admiral extolling the bravery of the crew in an unusual manner.

I cannot myself too earnestly express my appreciation of the conduct of Mr. Hobson and his gallant crew. I venture to say that a more brave and daring thing has not been done since Cushing blew up the Albatross. Referring to the inspiring letter which you addressed to the officers at the beginning of the war, I am sure you will offer a suitable professional reward to Mr. Hobson and his companions.

I must add that Commander J. M. Miller relinquished his command at the very greatest reluctance, believing he should retain his command under all circumstances. He was, however, finally convinced that the attempt of another person to carry out the multitude of details which had been in preparation by Mr. Hobson might endanger its proper execution. I, therefore, took the liberty to relieve him for this reason only. There were hundreds of volunteers who were anxious to participate; there were 150 from the Iowa, nearly as many from this ship and

large numbers from all the other ships, officers and men alike.

(Signed) W. T. SAMPSON.

The inspiring letter referred to was written some weeks ago, but was not made public until last Saturday, except to the officers and men in the navy. It reads as follows:

"Each man engaged in the work of the inshore squadron should have in him the stuff out of which to make a possible Cushing; and if the man wins, the recognition given him shall be as great as that given to Cushing, so far as the department can bring this about.

(Signed) "JOHN LONG, Secretary."

Hobson has won, and if he escapes from his present thralldom the navy department will redeem its promise. A consultation of the records of the navy department shows that the recognition accorded Cushing was his advancement one full grade; that is from the rank of lieutenant, which he

held when he took his little boat up to the Albatross, to the rank of lieutenant commander. In addition he was given a vote of thanks by congress. If Hobson is awarded in the same measure he will, if kept in his corps, be raised to the rank of lieutenant commander at least, and made a full constructor instead of the assistant constructor which he now is.

the colonies. It was not the secretary, but a priest, who said, "Peace be with you, my son." The cleric locked the door, and dropping his cloak, said: "Do you know me?" Don Basilio did know him. It was Aguineldo, also a 20-inch bolo, a native knife, sharp as a razor, carried by every Malay in time of stress. They can lop off an arm with one blow, as though it was a carrot.

"I have brought the head of Aguineldo," the chief said, touching the edge of his jewel-bitted bolo to ascertain its condition, "and I claim the reward! Hasten, else I shall have to expedite the matter myself."

Don Basilio was trapped. He had to open his desk and take out the sum in Spanish gold. Aguineldo punctiliously wrote a receipt, coolly counted the money and walked backward toward the door. He suddenly opened it and dashed out, just ahead of a pistol bullet that cut his locks off the temples. Captain General Polavieja offered him and Alexandro a free pardon and \$200,000 each to quit the colony. They accepted it and got the money, only to learn that they were both to be assassinated the next night at a festa. The two men who had undertaken the job were found dead, stabbed to the heart, in their own beds. On the kriss handle was a bit of paper with a line saying "Beware of the Malay's vengeance."

Polavieja resigned and returned to Spain, being succeeded by General Augustin, formerly captain general of Barcelona. Aguineldo is about 38 years old. He and his comrade, Alexandro, hold the future of the Philippines almost in their hands.

TIT FOR TAT.

Aguineldo Threatens the Spanish Governor of the Philippines.

A Hong Kong special of June 11, to the New York Journal, said that the great final battle between the insurgent and Spanish forces at Manila was to be fought on that day.

It is about four days sail from Manila to Hong Kong, and if the statement is correct, definite advices are only about due.

The insurgent junta at Hong Kong is reported to be much distressed at the statements published in the United States to the effect that their forces are ruthlessly killing women and children as well as male combatants. These reports are as unjust as they are untrue.

A proclamation arranged between Aguineldo and Consul General Wildman, and subsequently given the force of law, the act bearing date of May 24, is claimed to have rigid enforcement. This proclamation declares that the lives of all non-combatants, even Spaniards, will be respected, and that any man in the insurgent forces disobeying this direction shall be punished by death.

The only threats made by the insurgents is against the Spanish combatants. It declares that unless the governor withdraws the order putting a price on the head of Aguineldo, the insurgents will give no quarter to the soldiers of Spain.

THE GROWING COTTON CROP.

Material Decrease in the Acreage Planted, Conditions, Etc.

The final reports of the agricultural department on cotton planting, issued on the 10th instant, make the area planted 22,460,334 acres, against 24,091,394 acres last year, a reduction of 1,631,060 acres, or 6.8 per cent. The decrease in the different states as compared with last year is as follows: Virginia, 6 per cent.; North Carolina, 7; South Carolina, 8; Georgia, 6; Florida, 11; Alabama, 4; Mississippi, 4; Louisiana, 7; Texas, 8; Arkansas, 7; Tennessee, 10; Missouri, 18; Oklahoma, 2; Indian Territory, 12.

The average condition on June 1 was 89, compared with 83.5 at the corresponding date last year, and with an average general condition of the last ten years of 87.1.

The condition by states is as follows: North Carolina, 86; South Carolina, 85; Georgia, 89; Florida, 76; Alabama, 89; Mississippi, 91; Louisiana, 89; Texas, 89; Arkansas, 96; Tennessee, 90; Missouri, 96; Oklahoma, 82; Indian Territory, 80.

The condition in Texas, Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee is three points above the ten year average; in Arkansas, 6 points; in North Carolina, 2 points, and in Louisiana, 1 point.

In Alabama the average is exactly the same as the average for the past ten years, and in South Carolina there is a decline of 1 point as compared with that for the ten years period.

There is no state from which the usual complaints of hail, insects, poor stands, etc., have not been received. The general condition is highly favorable.

HOARHOUND CANDY.—In one and a half pints of water boil two ounces of the dried hoarhound for half an hour. Then strain and add three pounds of brown sugar, and boil until it is sufficiently hard. Grease some tins lightly and pour in the candy; when slightly cool mark in squares or sticks with a knife.

A tombstone artist in Wheeling, W. Va., put up a monument in a cemetery there, and made a repeated demand for payment for the work. At last, thoroughly disgusted, he cut these words on the monument: "This ain't paid for."

McQUARY AT YOKAHOMA.

HERE IS A LETTER FROM THE YOUNG ARKANSAW GLOBE TROTTER.

STILL HAS SIX MONTHS TO FINISH.

Wrote from Cuba but Letter Was Evidently Lost—Got a Licking on the "Indrani"—Finally Got Next to the Sailors and They Made Him Up a Purse.

In THE ENQUIRER of the 28th of May was a letter from Mr. M. S. Glenn, of Mountain Grove, Mo., relative to the whereabouts of Mr. T. Allen McQuary, the young man who passed through this county in December on his way around the world. It was explained that an account of the failure of THE ENQUIRER to receive a letter from young McQuary as per his promise, inquiry was made of his friend, Mr. Glenn, and Mr. Glenn's reply was published in lieu of the letter that was expected from McQuary.

Now it develops that young McQuary is entitled to all the confidence that has been placed in him. Last Monday brought THE ENQUIRER a letter from him that was posted at Yokohama, Japan, May 20, and re-posted at San Francisco, June 7. The stamp is Japanese. On it are some characters in Japanese which, so far as THE ENQUIRER is concerned, are untranslatable; but in plain English, at the top, are the words "Japanese Empire," and at the bottom "ten sen."

On either side is the word "post." From the text of the letter, it appears that young McQuary wrote from Cuba. Why, of course, is not known; but this letter was never received. It seems, however, that Mr. McQuary has been having a rough time of it; but it is best to let him tell the story himself. Here is the letter:

YOKAHOMA, JAPAN, May 19, 1898.

Well here I am! Just arrived in Yokohama yesterday, after a water voyage of over 16,000 miles on board the English steamer "Indrani," under Captain Trotter, of London.

Since my letter to you from Cuba, I have undergone many hardships and difficulties. After arriving in Pensacola, Fla., off the S. S. Orange Blossom, I heard of the "Indrani" coming to Mobile for cotton for Japan. I at once made for her, arriving at Mobile two days before she dropped anchor. Many visitors went aboard to see her, she being the largest steamer that had ever been in that port.

Well, I began operations at once, visited the agents, captain and mates; but they being English, entertained a deep hatred towards Americans in general and refused me every way I approached them. I then made all inquiries as to other vessels going to Japan, but could find none, so I made up my mind to ride the ship or be foundering. So I visited her after night and got among the sailors and firemen, who offered to lend me a helping hand.

Consequently my baggage was smuggled aboard and arrangements made for me to meet them in New Orleans, where she was to get the remainder of her cargo. I was again two days ahead of the ship, and in time to enjoy the carnival. Having written you from Cuba, I would not write from New Orleans, for fear people would get the idea that I had not left the states; but intended to write from Gibraltar, Spain, Port Said, Egypt, etc.

On Saturday night, March 5th, 1898, I met two of the sailors at an appointed place and accompanied them along "key" up the gangway, passed the guard and into the forecastle, where a small hatch, or trap-door, was opened to let me down into the forepeak as a "stowaway." Imagine my feelings sitting among coils of rope, blocks and tackles, paint and oil cans, with only 10 cents of American money and an English shilling in my pocket, and thoroughly conscious of being some kind of punishment when I should come on deck. I was the only American aboard the ship except the messroom boy who signed on at Philadelphia.

However, among those rough and hardy sailors I had one friend—a Holland chap—who stayed with me through thick and thin. At meal-times he would divide his "wack" with me. Sunday morning we steamed down the river, but did not go out till Monday, having to wait till high tide to get over a sand bar. Tuesday morning came at last. One of the sailors went aft to the cabin and reported a "stowaway." I sat on a sea chest waiting for the result and sick from the motion of the ship, the sea being rough. Soon the sailor returned with an order for me to go before the captain. I arose and staggered along the deck, not yet having my sea legs on, and the minute my eyes met the captain's I knew the "devil was to pay."

I was seized from behind by the mates and bound. As soon as I was secure, the captain came forward and gave me a terrible licking with a cat-o-nine-tails, the marks of which I wore for two or three weeks.

I no doubt would have been thrown in jail at Gibraltar had not the captain's wife come aboard and interceded in my behalf. Little by little they gave me lighter work and allowed me more liberties. The chief engineer seemed to take a liking for me, and I was allowed to take my meals in the messroom.

When we arrived at Gibraltar, I had only money enough to post a letter home and one to the "Arkansas Girl." At Port Said, Egypt, I traded an old shirt to an Arab for two 5-cent stamps, and was again able to write. This is why I have not written to you or any of my friends heretofore.

While taking call at Lobnan, Borneo, the postmaster gave me \$2, and the sailors made me up \$15 more when I left the ship. So I am now able to let you know I am still on earth, and by God's continuing favor, will come on in time—having yet six months to finish.

I am now writing in the American Mission, where everything is homelike and comfortable. Japan is full of queer little people. I rode over the city this morning in a "Rickshaw," a little carriage pulled by a Japanese. They are the cleanest people I ever saw and full of hospitality. Quite a number of English and Americans are here, but unsocial.

With kind regards to you, THE ENQUIRER force, and all readers of your paper, I will close till I reach Frisco, or some American port. Respectfully,
T. ALLEN McQUARY.



OLD GLORY IN CUBA.