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ILLINOIS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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#### THE PANACEA OF SPENDING

Some fallacies die hard, and among the toughest is the elief that increased governmental spending necessarily neans "increased purchasing power" in the country and therefore more "prosperity."

Experience, however, gives no reason for supposing that an unbalanced budget or a heavy government spending program is either a necessity or an advantage in bad times. In 1921 we not only balanced our budget but actually retired the huge sum of more than a billion dollars in debt, yet we had

the huge sum of more than a billion dollars in debt, yet we had a prompt and sharp recovery.

Yet the apostles of government spending view the question in a crudely mechanical way. They persist in believing that the money spent by government (at least that amount not offset by tax collections) must mean a net addition to the total ouset by tax collections must mean a net adultion to the total spending (purchasing power) in the nation. But they forget that private incomes are not spent automatically, that new enterprises are not started automatically, that men are not employed automatically. Before these things are done, men must have confidence; and if the federal budget should become more hopelessly out of balance than ever, the effect would probably be only to undermine confidence still further.

Government spending, instead of "bridging the gap," would in that case only widen the gap. Confidence can be rered only by reforming the tax laws and by other changes in legislation and in administration attitude as will indicate a genuinely sympathetic concern with the difficult problems of those upon whom the country must depend to employ labor and expand enterprise.

#### PROGRESS BEFORE PUNISHMENT

Speaking from the bench of his traffic court recently, a New York City magistrate read a formal statement: "We have reached," he said, "the peak of safety that can accomplished by the punishment of the motorist."

Specifically, his complaints were against certain inade cies and inefficiencies in the physical and technical system for controlling today's mammoth traffic volume—in the street system itself, in traffic signals, signs and other control devices, and the confusing lack of uniformity among such de-

The magistrate's remarks hit at a situation which is fundamental to the whole motor traffic problem: The failure to provide the motorist with streets and highways made as safe as possible, but at the same time demanding from him an opin-ion of caution in his driving. Too much emphasis has been placed on the carelessness of the driver and not enough on the ss which allows removable physical hazards to re-

main in the street and highway pattern.

Industry, the national conservation bureau reminds us, long ago learned this lesson. Efforts to dragoon the working into avoiding accidents, industrial management learned were futile until he was first provided with safe working conditions and equipment. Just trying couldn't safeguard a worker in a hazardous environment. That management rec-ognized and acted upon this principle is the fundamental rean why industrial accidents have been halved during the pas

If the driver is given facilities from which basic hazard has been removed to the greatest possible degree, and if his governed by intelligent traffic laws intelligently enforced e major responsibility for traffic accidents devolves upor him. Then we shall make real headway not only in bringing motor traffic under control but in greatly facilitating traffic

him. Then we shall make real headway not only in bringing motor traffic under control but in greatly facilitating traffic movement.

\*\*LABOR AND THE PUBLIC\*\*

There is real significance in the facts recently revealed by a careful, dispassionate poll of a representative cross-section of Americans on the question of unrestrained activities of labor agitators and the unions they rule so dictatorially.

The poll, conducted by Fortune magazine, showed a 3-to-1 majority recommending legislation to curb union rule of American workers and their employers.

To qualify the poll, it may be pointed out that it was conducted by the same investigators and in the same manner as the poll which two years ago was only 1 per cent in error in forecasting the plurality of Mr. Roosevelt in the presidential election.

Rivery state in the union, every race, religion, and "economic class"; every classification of profession and labor and every political affiliation was included in the poll on this question of current importance.

It is not difficult to understand the sentiment expressed by those canvassed in the poll when one looks carefully at the record of labor unions in the last few years.

America is not designed to progress by such harsh methods. In fact, progress is reversed when violence is allowed to dictate our rights. That is why Americans overwhelmingly want it stopped.

WHY NOT SAVE THAT MUCH?

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The senate finance committee in its deliberations on any was a seriously modify the committee moved to repeal the tax or seriously modify it. But in rushed the treasury with the cry that to do this town the pollution of the propersion was the undictated our rights. That is why Americans overwhelmingly w

## This WEEK in WASHINGTON

RALPH E. CHURCH

Washington, D. C., May 7—Far more important than the additional revenue which would be obtained by the removal of intergovernmental tax exemptions the obtainmental tax exemptions the costs of government in a read democracy. All owe allegismes to and receive services from federal, state and local governments. The costs should be distributed fairly and equitably. And, of greater significance than the actual taxes to be paid by the destruction of the great reservoir of tax exempt securities and tax exempt income is the contribution which would thereby be made in simplifying our fixed problems and the actual tax is the contribution of the great produced the contribution of the great problems and the contribution of the great produced the contribution of the great produced the country of the amount of eremine accurately the amount of eremine accurately the amount of eremine accurate estimate is not available, the experts have more or less uniformly stated that the additional revenue obtainable is not as great into account. Many are held by institutions and individuals who would not have to pay any tax even though the interest on government bonds were included in taxible income. For instance, many bonds are held by ducational and chirdless including dividuals whose income. including Washington, D. C., May 7—Far ore important than the addition-

charitable institutions not subject to tax; and many are held by in-dividuals whose income, including the bond interest, does not bring them within the lowest income tax

the within the lowest income tax bracket. With such factors taken into account, the amount of additional revenue which the federal government would obtain by the removal of bond exemptions would probably be around \$70 million annually. That is the estimate made by one of the experts in the treasury department, using the present income level in the United States as a basis. Compared with the total taxes paid the federal government and the amount of revenue derived from other individual sources, it is not a very large sum. It is

ed from other individual sources, it is not a very large sum. It is certainly much smaller in amount than popularly supposed. A careful examination of the question of reciprocal tax exemptions of government employes will likewise surprise one as to the relatively small amount of revenue

which would be obtained by the removal of these exemptions. The which would be obtained by the removal of these exemptions. The treasury department has estimated that there are about 2,500,000 state and local employes. But their average income is only \$1430, which is less than the \$2500 cemption allowed by the federal law to every married person in determining his taxable income. It is thus estimated by the experts of the treasury department that if all these employes were subject to federal income taxation less than \$15 million would be obtained.

But, as stated at the outset, much more important than revenue lost and obtainable in connection with these tax exemptions

is the justice in having an equal operation of our tax laws. Much more important is a simplification and unification of our taxing system. It is significant that on the and unification of our taxing sys-tem. It is significant that on the matter of government salary ex-exemptions alone no less than 300 published rulings and court deci-sions have been handed down. New cases are constantly arising. It is significant in that it indicates. in

system.

The president has asked congress to deal with this problem. As pointed out by the president in his message on this subject, these exemptions have actually given a greater advantage to some citizens over others. I think the great rens over others. I think the great majority of our people believe that this great reservoir of tax exemptions is unsound and unde-strable.

Where there seems to be a sub-stantial difference of opinion on

stantial difference of opinion on this subject is on the method of re-moving the exemptions. The pres-ident recommended the enactment of a "short and simple statute." But we are confronted with the fact that the interpovernmental exemptions have been created by constitutional limitations on the taxing power established by the supreme court. They were estab-lished on the principle that the federal government should not in-terfere with functions of the state governments and vice versa.

terfere with functions of the state governments and vice versa.

The question thus raised is this: Should we enact a statute removing the exemptions, which the supreme court may readily de-clare invalid, or should we obtain an amendment to the constitution?

## DO YOU KNOW ILLINOIS?

The secretary of state of Illinois is the state librarian ex-offeto, much information concerning your state. Any questions which are The state library and archives division under his jurisdiction contain of particular interest to readers and which are not covered in this series will be answered immediately. Address all communications: Edward J. Hughes, Secretary of State, Pablic Information Department, Capitol, Springfield, Illinois.

ois.
Q. Who is considered a citizen
of lilinois?

of lilinois?

A. Any citizen of the United States who has established residence in Illinois during the last year or who maintains a legal res-

seest, Capitol, Springfield, Illinois.

ers' Institute founded?

A. About. 1894. It was approach by the legislature Jane 24, 1895.
Q. To how many states does Itlinois supply coal?

A. To seven states. Illinois.
A. To seven states. Illinois.
Bobranks and Kanass.
Q. How many varieties of wild
dowers are there in Illinois?
A. The Illinois Natural History aurey has a list of over 50 wild
flowers that can be found in Illinois.

(With the building of what of the was the control of the control of the control of the lillinois recurs.)

A. Ho observed indications of and other minerals in the uper valley of the Illinois river.

Q. When did Father Hennepin amount to this continent

A. 1873.

What original observation did Hennepin make in the Illinois country?

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Q. When did Hennepin amount to the sall defendent to the sa did Hennepin make in the Illinois country?

A. He observed indications of coal and other minerals in the upper valley of the Illinois river.

Q. With the building of what fort was Hennepin associated?

A. Fort Crevecour, near present day Peoria.

A. He led an exploring party down the Illinois and up the Missistippi.

Q. Who accompanied Henne-

Q. What happened to Hennepin

ans.
Q. To where did the Sloux take

Q. How long did they remain captive?

captive?

A. About five and a half months.

Q. Where in Springfield is there
a notable collection of flags of Illinois regiments?

A. Memorial Hall in the Centennial building.

tennial building.
Q. How many regimental and independent battallon flags are there in Memorial, Hall?
A. 463.
Q. How many Mexican War flags are there?
Q. How many Civil War flags are there?
A. 346.
O. How many

are there?
A. 346.
Q. How many of the flags are room World War regiments?
A. Ninety-three.
Q. Howm any of the flags are from the Spanish-American War?
A. Twenty-one.
Q. Are all the flags in good consisting.

year or who maintains a legal readience in this state.

Q. Where was Father Louis
Hennepin born
A. Ath, in the interior province
A. Michael Accault and Anthony Augelie (also known as Picard
of Hainault, then a part of the d
Gay).

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## HOME EDUCATION

"The Child's First School Is the Family"-Froebel

Issued by National Kindergarten Assn. 8 W. 40th St. New York

"Buddy Learns to Share"

By EDITH BRANDIS

Buddy looked at Mother's bed blooming so gorgeously, then at his own, and began to wonder

his own, and began to wonder what was the matter.
When he told his mother, she took his hand and went with him. She called his attention to the dried flower on a petunia plant and showed him the little seed pod at its base. Buddy found several more. They took off the lids and shook the seeds upon a piece of paper.
Next they gathered all the dry blooms from the zinnia that was drying, and took them to pieces

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