

**HOW EXCESSIVE TAXES
BLIGHT A NATION'S LIFE.**

The blighting effects of excessive taxation, leading to a nation's economic destruction, are described in the current issue of the American Bankers Association Journal by Garrard B. Winston, Under-secretary of the Treasury. Citing possible effects on the Ford Motor Car Company, he declares that "the value is so large and its ownership so centered it is conceivable that collection of inheritance taxes may check, if not destroy, that unit of policy which has created and expanded that industry and thus prevent its future prosperity. Of what avail, then, is it to any government if it collects one hundred million dollars once in estate taxes and destroys a source of income upon which it can rely for revenue year after year?"

"Success of the Ford Company does not mean simply that Mr. Ford and his son have grown wealthy. It means employment of tens of thousands of men and women; that mines, forests, railroads and vessels are brought into use; that the public has received an efficient and inexpensive means of transportation; that the farm is in touch with the city, and the worker with his office." Mr. Winston says in part:

Wealth Flees Oppression
"Upon first impression it might appear that a nation could take all of the earnings of its citizens or all of their property. The Soviet government proposed to appropriate all instrumentalities of trade and commerce. Yet, when the state reached out to grasp this wealth, it disappeared and left nothing but a few tangible objects, such as gold and jewels, which were easily transported to other countries. Wealth in Russia ceased to exist.

"If income tax rates are placed so high that capital in productive business no longer gives a net return commensurate with the risk, capital will go out of productive business, lie idle, go abroad, go into tax-exempt securities, or find other ways of avoiding the tax. If income tax rates are so excessive that a man of ability finds he must work more than three days a week for the government, he will become discouraged and decide that the result is not worth the effort. Less income will be produced and less will be realized from the tax.

"Recently a letter came to the Treasury from a small farmer. He owned a few acres which in 1913 were assessed at \$900 and on which a tax of \$13 was levied. In 1924 the assessed value increased to \$3,200 and the tax to \$123, but the farm failed to produce any more. Taxes exceeded the rental value of the land and more than the net earnings of the property were taken by the state. The farm was abandoned and now produces no tax.

"Often there come to notice cases where a particular improvement is not made, or a particular business is not started, because after deducting taxes the risk exceeds the value of the expected return. Men have dropped business, spent their winters in Florida and their summers abroad, because what they are permitted to retain under present tax rates is not worth the labor they must give to acquire it. They prefer golf to the further development of the country.

Unscientific Taxes Destroy a Nation.
"Unscientific methods of taxation may actually destroy the very earnings or property which it should be the principal interest of a government to foster. When it reaches the limits of what is known as its taxable capacity, a nation has begun to die. If taxes are raised too high, a country will slowly but surely destroy itself. It will use for daily consumption the seed corn on which its future life depends, and the spirit of initiative and adventure in its people will finally disappear. One or more of three things happen: The quantity of consumption is cut down, which means a lowering of the standard of living; or capital accumulations for extensions, improvements and new undertakings must diminish, resulting in a slowing up of progress and lessening eventually of taxable revenue; or, thirdly, a slackening of effort on the part of the citizen will take place when too large a part of his earnings are taken in taxes.

"The effort in taxation should be to find the tax which will continue to raise money over a period of years. Invariably, with an excessive tax, its yield has fallen off year by year, while each rate reduction is reflected in an increase of taxable income. If the Treasury is to be assured a continuance of revenue, our citizens must prosper. If they are to prosper, the appropriation by the state of their earnings and property must be based upon economically sound principles."

Wives Welcome Polygamy

The first wife usually is the head wife in the African jungle and her rule is unquestioned except on those rare occasions when a man actually feels some glimmer of affection for one of his wives, and promotes her to head of the harem.

Polygamy not only is accepted by the women, it is favored by them. For one thing, each new wife proportionately reduces the burden of the others. Doctor Fowler attended a palaver at which an only wife, through her brother, petitioned the chief to compel her husband to take on more. "She said the job was too much for one woman."

**Work on Odd Railroad
Cured His Dyspepsia**

Sylvester Marsh, son of a New Hampshire farmer, was made the butt of many gibes when he proposed the idea of building a railroad to the summit of Mount Washington, but he accomplished the project and it has been called the most astonishing engineering feat that marked the early days of the Boston & Maine system.

The inventor was called "Crazy Marsh," and his proposed feat was designated "a railroad to the moon," a writer in the Boston Post recalls. But despite the public ridicule and opposition he built the first railway of its kind in the world. The formal opening of the road to a point known as "Jacob's Ladder" took place August 14, 1858, and on July 3, 1869, the road was completed to the summit, with trains running.

Marsh once testified before a senate committee that he built the road to cure a case of dyspepsia. He had retired, and after a few years of idleness dyspepsia forced him to do something to save his health. He got the unique railroad idea and worked 't out. It cured his illness.

**Old Tower Once Home
of Distinguished Men**

At Islington is the Canonbury tower. It has the double attraction of a great age and of association of famous and well-loved people. Francis Bacon lived here for nine years in the early part of the Seventeenth century, when it was called "Canonbury house." One of the upper rooms has his name and a Latin inscription over the doors. Charles Lamb, who lived near by at 64 Duncan terrace, and Washington Irving, before he went for his three years' visit to Spain, rambled over the old tower.

The most interesting thing about this old tower is that Oliver Goldsmith wrote "The Vicar of Wakefield" here when he had taken refuge from his creditors in the lodgings of his friend, Newberry, the bookseller, but any small boy who inspects the tower will decide in favor of the Compton room, where he will ignore the lovely paneling to inspect the very bullet, embedded in the wall, that was aimed at Sir Walter Raleigh.

All Food to Ostrich

A zoo ostrich nearly lost its life in an effort to swallow five yards of stout rope. When the keeper made the discovery more than half the rope, which had been inadvertently left in the cage by a painter, had disappeared down the bird's throat. The keeper, seeing that the bird was in difficulties, decided to relieve it of its five-yard meal. Owing, however, to the efforts of the ostrich to kick him away, the task was difficult. By long and steady pulling, however, the keeper eventually recovered the rope. Ostriches are not at all particular what they devour. One at the zoo recently swallowed a boy scout's hat without any ill effects.—London Tit-Bits.

Keys to Ancient Cities

When the mayor of a city today presents a "key to the city" to a distinguished visitor, it means nothing more than an expression of good will, but there was a time when it meant actual access to a city. That was in the days when European cities were surrounded by walls. When such a city was surrendered the keys of the gates were turned over to the conquerors. Gates usually were closed at nightfall and if a distinguished visitor wanted to go and come as he pleased he was entrusted with the key. It is upon this ancient custom that the modern ceremony is based.—Pathfinder Magazine.

Famous Eastern City

Hippus was one of the cities of the Decapolis in Palestine, its precise location being uncertain. In the Talmud it occurs under the name of Susita, and the Greek name Hippus is probably simply a translation. It was the rival of Tiberias, and the two towns stood opposite each other on the sea of Galilee.

Hippus is spoken of as an example of a heathen city in the midst of the land of Israel, but it seems to have been an important place, for the whole region around it was called after it, Hippene.

Cashmere Shawls Best

The most beautiful of the Indian or cashmere shawls come from the looms and handicraft of Cashmere (Kashmir), a little country of Asia situated just north of the Punjab, among the Himalaya mountains. Among the heights of this range are found the sheep and goats which produce the fine wool used in the manufacture of these shawls. Shawl manufacturing is the most important industry of the Punjab, and the best shawls are made at Unvitzur, but none can compare with those of Cashmere.

Perhaps He Was

Dora was interviewing the man of aer heart in the privacy of the drawing room.

On the previous evening her fiancé had asked permission to marry her. The father agreed immediately, but his wife was not so cordial and did not approve.

"I'm afraid mother is going to be a bit awkward, Dick, dear," began Dora. "She thinks that because you are an actor you're effeminate."
"Well," he confessed, "compared with her, I suppose I am."

HOW TO SOLVE A CROSSWORD PUZZLE
When the correct letters are placed in the white spaces this puzzle will speak words both vertically and horizontally. The first letter in each word is indicated by a number, which refers to the definitions listed below the puzzle. Thus "No. 1 under the column headed 'horizontal'" defines a word which will fill the white spaces up to the first black square to the right, and a number under "vertical" defines a word which will fill the white squares to the next black one below. No letters go in the black spaces. All words used are dictionary words, except proper names. Abbreviations, slang, initials, technical terms and obsolete forms are indicated in the definitions.

CROSS-WORD PUZZLE No. 1.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		10				11		
12	13		14		15			16
17		18		19				20
21			22		23			24
	25			26		27	28	
		29					30	
31	32			33		34		35
36				37	38		39	40
41				42			43	44
45			46					48
			49			50		51
52						53		

- (©, 1926, Western Newspaper Union.)
- Horizontal.**
- 1—Inherent
 - 6—To wait for
 - 10—Native metals
 - 11—Frozen beverages
 - 12—That thing
 - 14—To inclose in a protective covering
 - 16—Land measure
 - 17—Large tub
 - 19—End pieces
 - 20—Past time
 - 21—God of love
 - 23—Prefix meaning "before"
 - 24—To make beer
 - 25—Hackneyed
 - 27—Subers
 - 29—Prefix meaning three
 - 30—Part of "to be"
 - 31—Most real
 - 34—To throw off
 - 36—Belonging to her
 - 37—To make a mistake
 - 39—To halt
 - 41—One (Scot.)
 - 42—Wields
 - 44—Man's title
 - 45—Negative
 - 46—King's home
 - 49—Sailors
 - 52—Fastime
- Vertical.**
- 1—Ingenuous
 - 2—Preposition
 - 3—Anger
 - 4—An opening
 - 5—To get away
 - 8—High cards
 - 7—To marry
 - 9—Like
 - 9—Huris
 - 11—Islands
 - 13—Sour
 - 15—Atmosphere
 - 16—Old
 - 18—To inflict pain intentionally
 - 20—Stops
 - 22—Fathers
 - 24—Drills
 - 26—It is (contraction)
 - 28—Droll person
 - 31—Expresses appreciation
 - 32—Nevada city
 - 33—Relates
 - 34—Builds
 - 38—Long, narrow inlet
 - 40—Tine of a fork
 - 42—To take leave
 - 43—A bench
 - 46—Equal
 - 49—Preposition
 - 35—To labor
 - 51—Behold!
- The solution will appear in next issue.

**THE SKUNK TO CLEAR
BRAZIL OF SNAKES.**

The skunk is that little white and black creature so well known in America that no description seems necessary. While many think of this cunning little animal in terms of fur coat, thief, of smell, a few see him as a great benefactor, not only as a ravenous eater of destructive mice and insects, but of the dreaded rattlesnake.

It is frequently asked how it happens that rattlesnakes multiply no more rapidly and what are their natural enemies. The skunk is the answer. Science knows no other animal immune from rattlesnake poison. Hence, anyone who dreads snakes should hesitate to kill a skunk. As skunks should not be killed for fur, and only rarely for their raids upon hen nests and tiny chicks, the only objection left would be the odor emitted when molested. This may be avoided by not disturbing the skunk while it slowly waddles through field and orchard searching for food.

Brazil has a pest of poisonous snakes. There the snake is a national problem. Each year more than twenty thousand persons are bitten and five thousand die annually of snake bites. While a serum has been discovered to save the people bitten, Brazil has no animal which preys upon the snakes multiplying rapidly in the cultivated areas where man has overturned the balance of nature. No doubt in the jungles there are snake-eating animals, but they do not follow into the cleared regions where the poisonous snakes go to feed upon mice and other creatures upon which snakes thrive. Thus it happens that in Brazil snakes menace the land most desired by man.

The Brazilian scientists have turned to America for relief. They have chosen that little smell maker, the skunk, to help them rid their country of their dangerous snakes and to keep down the creatures upon which the snakes thrive.

For years Brazilian scientists experimented with various animals to find an enemy of the venomous snakes so abundant there. Two birds, the emu and the jaburu, eat snakes as does the wild pig. A pet skunk at a Brazilian snake farm pointed the way. It wandered about at will, frequently receiving snake bites, but whenever it was hungry, it simply picked out a choice rattler, bit off its head, and ate it. That caused the Brazilians to turn to the skunk for relief.

The knowledge of the use of the skunk should cause one to hesitate when this provoking little creature makes a raid on a hen nest or turns a pet dog into a temporary odoriferous abomination. The offending skunk may have been hunting for a fat rattlesnake in the hen roost, or clearing the mice out of the garden when it was molested by that favorite dog.

Use of Vacuum Cleaner Soothes Army Mule and Gives Him Better Coat.

The army mule is having his innings. Information from the War Department is to the effect that mules and horses in the stables of various army depots throughout the United States are now being cleaned by vacuum cleaners instead of currycombs, says the Pennsylvania Public

Solution to Last Week's Puzzle.

S	A	T	U	R	A	T	E	D
P	O	L	O	O	V	E	R	
T	R	U	E	P	U	P	E	B
R	A	P	W	A	T	E	R	T
A	Y	B	A	T	S	O	T	T
N	L	A	S	H	T	E	A	M
S	E	A	L				B	E
C	D	E	N	T	W	E	L	T
E	M	S	E	E	R	E	S	O
N	O	W	W	A	F	E	R	S
D	O	O	R	R	A	P	C	A
N	O	O	N	M	A	U	N	T
D	E	S	C	E	N	D	E	D

Service Information Committee. The procedure is still called "experimental" but both soldiers and animals are said to be pleased with the invasion of modern house-cleaning methods, even though there is less "kick" in the process. The vacuum cleaner is said to be especially soothing to mules, a phase that makes it extremely popular with the soldiers.

The Slaughter of the Seals.

The killing of 60,000 seals, announced recently, led a correspondent of The Royal Gazette and Colonist Daily, of Hamilton, Bermuda, to call attention to a letter from Dr. Gordon Sables, of the Royal Navy. We deem it well worth reading.

"Take this one day's sealing as an example:—The ice was strewn thickly with baby seals, and not even a lamb itself is more lovely or innocent looking than one of these. Barring the wee black nose and the jet black tender loving eyes, there is hardly another feature distinguishable, so well has Nature wrapped them up against the cold. They never attempt to move off. . . . One blow from the sharp end of the club and the skinning takes place immediately. . . . Oftentimes the baby is only partially stunned, and when flayed may be seen to roll in agony on the snow.

"On this particular day I frequently saw the gunner trample on a baby seal to bring up the poor mother who heard its cry. She was then ruthlessly killed. Could anything be more brutal or less humane?"

Real Estate Transfers.

- Mary E. Loveland, et bar, to Russell D. Confer, tract in Milesburg; \$3,700.
- Mary M. Dunaway, et bar, to Joseph T. Law, tract in State College; \$1.
- Joseph T. Law to Mary M. Dunaway, et bar, tract in State College; \$1.
- Anne T. H. Henszey, et bar, to Delta Sigma Chi Fraternity, tract in State College; \$2,450.
- Harry C. Bailey, et ux, to Theodore D. Boal, tract in Harris Twp.; \$1.
- J. C. Karstetter, et ux, to Herbert S. Smull, tract in Miles Twp.; \$198.
- William R. Campbell to O. E. Miles, tract in Milesburg; \$450.

—When you are looking for all the news fit to read, take the Watchman. It has no comparison in news value.

Naming Your Executor

A man may be experienced and capable in conducting his own business, yet be without the qualifications necessary to the proper administration of an estate. Trust officers in a bank have this experience. In addition, they have the resources of their institution to safeguard the funds composing the estate.

There are many advantages in corporation management.

Let us represent you in this important matter—

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MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

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FINAL CLOSE OUT

TO START

Friday, June 3

STORE WILL BE CLOSED

ALL NEXT WEEK UNTIL

9:00 O'CLOCK OF THAT

DAY.

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