

Washington Letter.

BY TAVENNER.

(Special Correspondent of This News paper.)

Washington, April 30.—A deficit of four million dollars for the first twenty-six days of April!

A deficit of more than nineteen million dollars so far this fiscal year!

A deficit of \$190,067,887.86 since June 30, 1907!

These are features of Taft "cut-to-the-quick" economy, about which so much is heard everywhere save in Washington.

Here are more illustrations of a republican "business" administration:

Marble baths for senators!
Autos to carry them 100 rods between their offices and the Capitol!

Touring cars for the President, Vice-President and "Uncle Joe."

White House receptions which "rival the glory of Napoleon's court," at one of which, according to the Washington Post, "a dazzling ravine of gold blazed before the vision."

Another group of "cut-to-the-quick" economies includes:

More than \$2,500 for appoinaris waf for the senators.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars to keep the senators in vaseline, castor oil, bromo quinine, hair tonic, costly perfumes, glycerine, bergamot, nail brushes, clothes brushes, traveling expenses in attending funerals, etc., etc.

Then we come to this item which stands by itself:

The addition in the last eight years of 96,225 federal officeholders to the payrolls of the republic, at an increase of expense to the people of more than seventy million dollars. This item helps to explain why it is costing the Taft administration more than twice as much to run the government than it did Cleveland.

How does this riotous extravagance effect the treasury? These figures tell us:

Since June 30, 1907, the total balance in the general fund has dropped from \$272,061,445.47 to \$82,003,557.51. With an average daily deficit eating its way into this remaining eighty-two million dollars, but a short time can elapse before the government will have to sell more bonds to secure more money to meet more extravagances. Outstanding bond issues are national debts.

How does all this concern the average citizen? This is how.

The per capita appropriation by Congress jumped from \$6 in 1890 to \$12.40 in 1909. Since the government raises the bulk of its revenue at the custom houses and internal revenue offices, you, Mr. Reader, are paying for Republican extravagances in increased prices.

On April 25, 1910, Vice-President Sherman made a speech at St. Louis in which he intimated that the new tariff law was bringing in so much

money that it might possibly be necessary to revise the Payne-Aldrich tariff law upward. On that day, according to the report of the United States treasurer, the expenses of the government exceeded the receipts from all sources by \$1,274,553.23!

Give Them a Place to Play

The bulletin for April of the Nebraska Mutual Life Insurance Co. contained a poem written by Dennis A. McCarthy under the above caption. The question of providing suitable public play grounds for children in the larger cities is one of great importance and we are pleased to note that it has been receiving more attention in recent years than formerly. In cities of the size of Alliance there is not the pressing need of public play grounds that there is in the larger cities, but still we think that some provision of this kind could be made under supervision of a proper official to great advantage and for the benefit of the rising generation.

The following is the poem referred to:

Plenty of room for dives and dens
(Glitter and glare and sin),
Plenty of room for prison pens
(Gather the criminals in!)
But never a place for the lads to race—
No; never a place to play!

Plenty of room for shops and stores
(Mammon must have the best.)
Plenty of room for the running sores
That rot in the city's breast,
Plenty of room for the lures that lead
The hearts of our young astray,
But never a cent on a playground spent—
No; never a place to play!

Plenty of room for schools and halls,
Plenty of room for art,
Plenty of room for teas and balls,
Platform, stage and mart;
Proud is the city—she finds a place
For many a lad today—
But she's more than blind if she fails to
find
A place for the boys to play!

Give them a chance for innocent sport
Give them a chance for fun—
Better a playground plot than a court
And jail when the harm is done!
Give them a chance. If you stint them
now
Tomorrow you'll have to pay
A larger bill for a darker ill.
So give them a place to play!

—Dennis A. McCarthy.

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Our Lincoln Letter

Lincoln, Nebr., May 3.—(Special Correspondence.)—Extra session talk has been revived by a letter sent out by W. J. Bryan urging that an extra session be called for the purpose of enacting an initiative and referendum law. To be more exact, Mr. Bryan urges that an extra session be called for the purpose of submitting a constitutional amendment providing for the initiative and referendum, the same to be voted on at the coming general election. Mr. Bryan has written to each democratic member of the legislature asking for a definite reply as to the member's position on the question. At the same time he has asked the Direct Legislation League to sound the republican members of the legislature. An initiative and referendum measure was before the last legislature, but failed to pass for the reason that many members who are in favor of the bill refused to vote for it or any other law until the platform pledges were enacted into law. The platform contained no declaration on the initiative and referendum. Taking this position the Bank Guaranty bill was supported, because it was a party pledge, by democrats who were personally opposed to it.

Rumors of candidates for state and congressional offices are growing more and more numerous, now that the sun is shining on both sides of the fence. It may be interesting to know the names of men mentioned for the various offices:

For governor the democratic candidates are Shallenberger and Dahiman, and the republican candidates are Aldrich and Fries.

For Secretary of state the avowed candidates are Pool, democrat, and Wait, republican. Both of them have filed.

For railroad commissioner the republican candidates who have filed are Clark of Douglas and Ewel of Hall. For the democrats, Brooks of Gage and Hayden of Lincoln have filed, and Tremore Cone of Saunders has been mentioned.

For treasurer George of Custer, republican, and Sturdevant, democrat, of Furnas have filed.

For Senator, Whedon of Lancaster and Burkett of Lancaster, both republicans, have filed. Gilbert M. Hitchcock has announced his candidacy as a democrat, but he has not yet filed. W. B. Price of Lancaster is also a democratic candidate.

Congressman, First District, George E. Tobey, Lincoln, republican; William Hayward, Nebraska City, republican; John A. Maguire, Lincoln, democrat.

Congressman, Second District—S. Arion Lewis, Omaha, (filed) democrat; C. O. Lobeck, Omaha, (filed) democrat; T. W. Blackburn, Omaha, republican.

Congressman, Third District—

James P. Latta, Tekamah, democrat; Lawson G. Brain, Albion, republican; Congressman, Fourth District—C. H. Sloan, Geneva, (filed), republican; S. L. Mains, Crete, democrat; W. L. Stark, Aurora, democrat.

Congressman, Fifth District—Roderick D. Sutherland Nelson democrat; George W. Norris, McCook, (uncertain) republican.

Congressman, Sixth District—J. R. Dean, Broken Bow, (filed), democrat; W. J. Taylor, Merna, (filed), democrat; Grant L. Shumway, Scottsbluff, (filed) democrat; Frank E. Beaman, Kearney, (filed) republican; Moses P. Kinkaid, O'Neill, republican; Robert G. Ross, Lexington, (filed), People's Independent.

It is believed in well informed circles that Congressman Norris will finally decide not to enter the senatorial race, but will be content to stand for reelection from the Fifth District this trip, and then wait until time for electing a successor to Brown. The Burkett machine, which is wonderfully well oiled and has the services of some expert machinists, all of whom are on the government payroll has been exceedingly frightened by the Morris senatorial boom.

What's the Use?

What's the use of running when there's time enough to walk?
It is hurry that brings silver to your hair.

What's the use of sighing when there's time for cheerful talk?
It is worry that brings on the lines of care.

What's the use of weeping over milk that has been spilled?
Other cows are feeding in the pasture lot.

What's the use of groaning when the world with joy is filled?
You are better off with many things forgot.

What's the use of grumbling as you tote your heavy load?
Loud complaining never made a burden light.

What's the use of growling at the roughness of the road?
It brings on no better rest when cometh night.

What's the use of mourning o'er mistakes of other days?
Time so spent is but another big mistake.

What's the use of shutting out life's beauties from your gaze?
Look, and get the joy of flowers in your wake.

What's the use of striving for the things not worth your while?
Sodom's apples turn to ashes on your lips.

What's the use of frowning when you have a chance to smile?
Joy is always within reach of finger-tips.

What's the use bewailing that you have no chance to shine?
There are duties lying 'round on ev'ry hand.
And the man who does his duty near approaches the divine.
In good time the world will see—and understand.—Will M. Maupin.

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