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Friday, April 18, 1919.

**Unwise.**

Mr. Robert P. Green, writing in the New York "Herald" has this to say about Senator Davenport's proposition to even up the loss from excise revenue by taxing Church and charitable institution property now exempted from taxation (by the way we understand Senator Davenport who is a Baptist College professor whose tax contributions to support government are probably negligible):

"Press reports on the matter of the \$2,000,000 deficit the state is facing now that Senator Davenport and Assemblyman Judson, chairman of the tax committee of the legislature, have pondered over the subject and arrived at the astonishing conclusion that by taxing the various exempt properties devoted to religious and charitable purposes we can decrease taxation. How men capable of such thinking were put on a tax committee is like the grace of God—it passes understanding. Perhaps the amusement committee would be better.

Several years ago the bureau of municipal research, in Bulletin 375, showed just what was exempt in this city, apparently to urge the end of the exemption. It was \$375,000,000, the yearly tax on which was \$6,000,000 or so. This was, of course, a "present" by the State to the Church. Leonard Walstein, the commissioner of accounts, gave utterance to the same weighty thought two years ago.

Yet the exemption is the best bargain the city, i. e., taxpayers ever made. The one item of parochial schools alone, confessedly doing the work the city would have to do if they did not exist, shows the fact that, as the city was then paying \$50 a year for each pupil's schooling, it would have to add about \$7,000,000 a year for current school expenses to the already fearful cost; also it would be needful to provide many new buildings or buy the parochial schools. Thus one Church alone, grateful for the blessings of liberty and common sense in this country, met in its own peculiar way the entire cost of the tax exemption for all religious and charitable buildings, including the twenty-story Masonic Temple, exempted by a special act of legislature many years ago, so that its net rentals should support orphanages of Masons all over the state. What a bargain the exemption is for the state and city that enjoys it.

There is one danger about which it is well to speak out plainly. Those loose thinkers who would like to see a political union of England and the United States are as much traitors to the Stars and Stripes as Boy-Ed or Eugene Debs or any Russian Bolshevik.

**Albany**

While it is true that a situation of the ordinary, with a governor and fellow elective states officers and legislature of opposite political faith, nevertheless the public hoped for a better result of the session of 1919 than appears possible at this writing. Governor Alfred E. Smith is for the one of the best equipped men in public life. He knows the trials and tribulations that beset legislators. He knows the difficulties in the way of passing legislation acceptable to many communities of varying moods, minds and tastes. He is not unreasonable. He knew full well that on political questions he could not expect his opponents to forsake their beliefs and partisan principles. And he did not apply extraordinary pressure, such as in such a direction. But he recommend certain legislation of a public character on which the might be expected legislators would not divide on party lines. Regrettably, the Governor's opponents did not see fit to assume a broad attitude. On the contrary, they sought to turn the discussions along partisan lines with the result that several of their number, who are independent in makeup, rebelled and passed in the upper house of the legislature, several of these so-called humanitarian bills in crude form whereas these might have been perfected and put in shape to be of great public benefit.

As a consequence, the lower branch of the legislature, heavily in a majority of the Governor's political opponents, pulled back and declined to pass the legislation in any form. Net result: The public is deprived of legislation which it desired because of petty, personal, partisan spleen. Moreover, as has been the rule for the last few years, the legislators dawdled and fooled for the first 75 days of the session and then tried to drive 100 days work into 21 days. Legislation enacted under such circumstances cannot help but be crude and of little practical value. Legislative misfits inevitably spell public distrust of and contempt for legislative bodies and legislators and the pity of it all is that sincere and honest legislators are classed in the same category, in the public mind, with the incompetents and worse. The old caucus and convention plan may have had its faults but it never produced such a crop of legislative misfits as have been sent to Albany under the direct primary system.

**Holy Week**

This week marks the approaching end of the Lenten season. We have followed the Savior up to the last scenes of His stay upon earth. Now we approach with Him to the Garden of Gethsemane and, in spirit, we share His agony. We journey toward Calvary and we watch His sacred flesh nailed to the Cross. We watch with Mary as her Son struggles in death throes. We echo His cry: "It is finished." With the other faithful we wrap His body in the grave clothes and place Him in the tomb. We shall rejoice with the faithful when He is risen from the tomb. But it is with solemn hearts that we go through Holy Week. Catholics, who are Catholics, appreciate what Holy Week means and to us it is a period of solemnity in preparation for the joyous feast of Easter.

Sir Edward Carson never will equal Charles Stewart Parnell as an Irish statesman no matter how hard he self-advertises.

French infidel Free Masons should be ostracised by their American fraters if the latter respect us American Catholics to believe in their liberality and lack of bigotry.

**Fraternal**

Never in the history of fraternal organizations did yeoman service to aid the soldier boys at the front and they did equally as well in caring for the families at home of the best equipped men in the influenza epidemic they came bravely forward and helped the families of their deceased brothers. In special manner did the great Catholic fraternal orders respond to the call for humanity. The Knights of Columbus, before the war drive, raised funds, supplied chaplains before the Government made provision for our quota. Since the war ended, the K. of C. war secretaries have been at the hospitals brightening life for the wounded and disabled soldiers. They have opened employment offices to find positions for the discharged soldiers. Men are gregarious animals and when they are herded together in organizations that have an uplift motive are animated by a spirit of civic betterment and are inspired by a feeling of service to their fellow man they can be of great benefit not only to their members but to the community-at-large.

Let us hope that fraternities may ever be inspired by love of God, love of country, love of fellow men.

**In The Record**

Speaking in the House of Representatives in Washington, Congressman J. Hampden Moore, is reported in the "Congressional Record" as saying: (page 4395)

"I desire to quote some eloquent words delivered yesterday within the shadow of Independence Hall by a foremost American. He said:

"My friends, there is liberty in the air. The nations of the earth are clamoring for liberty. And why should not freedom-loving Ireland join in the general cry? Yes, Ireland wants freedom to breathe the air of heaven. She wants freedom to stretch her brawny and sinewy arms. She wants freedom to develop the riches of her soul. She wants freedom to carve out her own destiny. And we are here today to plead the cause of Ireland's sons and daughters, that they may stand erect, redeemed, regenerated and disenthralled on their own sacred soil."

"These words were uttered by his Eminence Cardinal Gibbons at one of the most remarkable conventions ever held in the city of Philadelphia. That convention adopted resolutions which the Cardinal himself presented. I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks by including those resolutions."

The resolutions and the declaration of principles of the Irish Race convention were then printed in the Congressional Record.

If the French government restrains its war upon the Catholic Church in France, then Catholics in America should rise up en masse and refuse to associate with Frenchmen or to buy French products or to fraternize with the French until the Government changes its tactics. Had it not been for Catholic Frenchmen and Catholic soldiers from all over the world the Hun would now be conqueror of all Europe.

Governor Al. Smith appears to be doing pretty well in the Executive Chamber and the Smiths appear to be liked in Albany.

If the French Government proposes to war upon the Catholic schools in Alsace and Lorraine then, indeed, the world war has been fought in vain and the Catholic sacrifices on both sides the Atlantic, might better never have been made.

**Changes in Telephone Rates for Rochester Central Office District**

**EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 1919**

On August 1, 1918 the Federal Government assumed control of the property and business of the Rochester Telephone Company and at that time directed the management to continue to operate the business under Government supervision. The act under which the business was taken provides that the corporation shall receive only just compensation for the use of its property.

All revenues now collected for telephone service belong to the U. S. Government. With the increased cost of operations, due in part to the war, the present rates in Rochester do not produce sufficient revenues to provide an appreciable return on the investment.

To meet the situation the Company submitted to the Operating Board of the U. S. Telegraph and Telephone Administration a revision of rates, which after careful consideration was approved by the Federal authorities.

The rate increases for the principal classes of service in Rochester Central Office District are as follows:

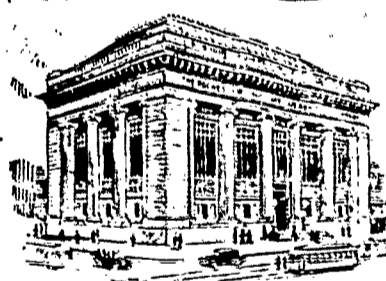
Class of Service	Increase Per Quarter
Single Line--Business--Flat Rate	\$8.00
Two-Party Line--Business--Flat Rate	3.50
Two-Party Line--Business--Message Rate	Introduced
Outside Zone--Four-Party--Business--Flat Rate	1.50
Private Branch Exchange Systems:	
Switchboard Monitor	4.50
One position, cord	9.00
Additional positions, each	6.00
Trunks, each	6.00
Trunks, additional	1.50
Generator Circuits	4.50
Single Line--Residence--Flat Rate	.75
Party Line--Residence--Not to exceed four (4) subscribers--Flat Rate	1.50
Outside Zone--Four-Party--Residence--Flat Rate	1.50
Rural--Multi-Party--Residence--Flat Rate	1.50

These Increases Take Effect May 1, 1919.

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Over-subscription of the Victory Liberty Loan will hasten the day. It will enable the government to meet its obligations. It will stimulate industry everywhere.

Do your share. You owe it to yourself and to others. This institution will gladly serve you.

It is well to call things by their right names. England is not Great Britain or the British Empire. Great Britain comprises England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Canada, Australia and India. And it is a matter of record that Scotch soldiers and Australian soldiers and Canadian soldiers and Welsh soldiers hate English soldiers fully as much as they all hate the Germans.

With a minimum federal income tax of 6 per cent and a state income tax of 2 per cent. either salaries and wages will have to go up or the citizen's purchasing power will be diminished appreciably. The latter alternative promotes unrest and discontent.

\$75.00 Seal Capes \$59.00.  
Beautiful, just what you want for Easter wear, other rich furs at bargains. Nussbaum, 29 North Clinton. -Adv.

Beautiful Waists and Petticoats  
On sale to-day, \$7.50 waists for \$4.98; \$10 waists, \$7.98; genuine Kayser silk Jersey petticoats, \$8.50. Nussbaum, 29 North Clinton. -Adv.

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