

U. S. SURPLUS FOR YEAR MAKES RECORD

IS LARGEST IN HISTORY

Over Six Hundred Millions of Dollars at End of Fiscal Year, According to Figures Given Out

The United States piled up a record breaking surplus for all time of \$635,809,291 in the fiscal year closing June 30, and reduced the public debt by \$1,131,309,383, an amount only surpassed in 1920, according to an announcement recently by Ogden L. Mills, acting secretary of the treasury, according to the Christian Science Monitor.

Total ordinary receipts amounted to \$4,129,304,441, and expenditures chargeable against such receipts were \$3,493,594,519. An increase of \$102,000,000 in the forecasted receipts and a decrease of \$150,000,000 in expenditures over and under the treasury estimates in the autumn, resulted in the treasury's advance estimate of the surplus being surpassed by \$252,000,000.

Explains Discrepancy
Mr. Mills' statement is largely devoted to explaining the discrepancy between the advance treasury estimate and the overwhelming actual figures, and in showing that the items that made the great surplus are largely of a special or non-recurring character, which make it unwise to use them as a basis for consideration of tax reduction.

The increase in rates over the estimate is attributed largely to two items, which accounted for \$102,000,000 of the increase, namely, back taxes, and funds collected from railroads on money loaned during federal operation.

"It is significant that both these items fall in the class of resources that cannot be considered of a permanent character," Mr. Miller says. **Expenditures Postponed**
The difference of the actual expenditure under the estimate is accounted for in part by \$20,000,000 of expenditures postponed because of the failure of the second deficiency appropriation bill, a \$35,000,000 decrease in tax refunds due to a change in the revenue law, revision of accounts due to non-ratification of the French debt settlement, and the remainder to cuts in governmental costs.

Of these, Mr. Mills says, the first two items "do not represent actual savings but merely postponements," while the revised estimate on the foreign debt settlement is, he says, "of a bookkeeping character and does not actually affect the resources of the government available for debt retirement."

Mr. Mills says in part: "More than one-half of the surplus of \$635,000,000 is due to receipts on account of disposal of capital assets, back tax collections in excess of tax refunds and other items of a fast disappearing or non-recurring character. From latest figures now available, back tax collections will exceed \$300,000,000."

"It will be apparent, therefore, that without these special and non-recurring items which aggregate \$370,000,000, the surplus would have been about \$265,000,000, of which a considerable part is to be attributed to decrease in expenditures, and some of which represents a postponement rather than actual saving."

The annual interest rate on the nation's interest-bearing debt at the close of the fiscal year was 3.96 per cent, compared with 4.09 per cent last year, "the first fiscal year since the war in which the rate has gone below 4 per cent."

This will mean an estimated saving in interest next year of \$67,000,000 over the interest payment of \$787,000,000 made in the past year.

Now that flying across the Atlantic has become an established fact the next thing you know somebody will actually be squaring a circle or perfecting a perpetual motion machine.

COST OF GOVERNMENT INCREASED; REASON

Ever Increasing Services Performed Is Cause, According to Solon

The ever-increasing services performed by the federal government are in a large measure responsible for the high cost of government, says Representative Henry W. Temple, of Pennsylvania, in Nation's Business Magazine.

Most of the two hundred and twenty bureaus, departments and divisions of the executive branch of the government, he says, are agencies established in response to demands for services not governmental in their nature but which the people believe can better be performed by the government than by private agencies.

Representative Temple traces the growth of these service agencies from the time of the first President. In Washington's first cabinet there were only three members. Jefferson was Secretary of State, Hamilton was Secretary of the Treasury, and General Henry Knox was Secretary of War. Later Randolph was added as Attorney-General.

Mr. Temple divides the ten departments of the government into two groups,—one known as the service group and the other as essential to government. The service group includes agriculture, commerce, labor, interior and post office, while the other group is made up of state, war, navy, justice and treasury.

He points out that while appropriations for the service departments have increased in the last few years, the expenses of operating the departments in the other group have decreased. In 1922 the federal government spent \$992,656,861.97 for service activities, while in 1927 it spent \$1,169,444,596, an increase of more than \$67,000,000. In the same period appropriations for the second group decreased from \$981,896,370.66 to \$841,602,724.

"And the end is not yet," says Mr. Temple, "for Congress, every session is confronted with demands that government launch forth into even wider service activities. If this thing goes on it must defeat federal tax reduction which can only result from economy in federal expenditures."

DAVENPORT NOTED FOR ART GALLERY

Claimed to Be Only Municipally Controlled Institution of Kind in U. S.

Roland J. McKinney, director of the Davenport, Iowa, Municipal Art gallery, which position he has filled since graduating from the school of the Art Institute, passed through Chicago last week on his way to Europe, where he will spend some months in a study of the museum in England, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and Switzerland.

Mr. McKinney states that Davenport is the first purely municipal art gallery in the United States. It is supported wholly by the city of Davenport, a town of some 60,000 population. No members help swell its receipts. An old Armory building was remodelled, a fine example of turning from the business of war to the arts of peace.

That it is growing and that it already is occupying an important place in the lives of its citizens is evidenced by the fact that over one thousand persons per month attend its classes in art appreciation; that 185 children attend sketch classes, where they are given lessons in drawing, painting and in clay modeling; that 68,000 visitors have entered its doors since it was founded two years ago. Next year it is planned to fit up a large gallery with a stage, and give musicals and lectures throughout the season.

A British statesman suggests that an election be held among the Hungarians in Europe under American control. Well the marines could get away with it if anybody could.

That New Jersey earthquake was just about as severe as a lot of family jars. It broke quite a number of dishes.—Boston Transcript.

TELLS OF AIR FLIGHT MADE 175 YEARS AGO

Church Militant of Boston in Story of Inscription on Ancient Edifice

A unique bit of history connected with Christ church, the Old North of Boston, of particular interest in connection with the successful flight of Captain Lindbergh, was related by the rector, Rev. Ernest J. Dennen, the other day. The flight of Paul Revere was started by lantern from the steeple of this church, and much other Revolutionary history is connected with it, but it is not generally known that in 1757 a successful air flight was also made from its steeple, says the Church Militant.

"Unfortunately," Mr. Dennen says, "not much is known about this early attempt at flying, except that which is inscribed on a tablet now set into the brick wall surrounding Christ church." The inscription says: "Here on September 13, 1757, John Childs, who had given public notice of his intention of flying from the steeple of Dr. Cuther's church (Christ church) performed it to the satisfaction of a great number of spectators. In 1923, the year of the first continuous flight across the continent, this table had been placed here by the Massachusetts Society of Colonial Dames, in commemoration of these two events."

It is generally assumed that John Childs used a glider in this flight experimental flight, and at the time there was abundant space about the Old North church for such a flight, for it stood on the edge of the town overlooking the harbor. If such a flight were tried today, it would soon come to disaster, for the church is surrounded closely on every side by narrow streets congested with high brick tenement buildings.

AGE OF INVENTION

The next fifty years will probably be a great epoch of inventions, greater than the past 50 years because of the number of trained men and laboratories which can experiment on specific problems.—American Magazine.

MENTAL MOUSTACHE-CUP

"What most men need," says the author of "The Philosophy of Things," a recent book, "is a mental strainer to keep out second-rate thoughts." This should hearten the man with "a mind like a sieve."—Farm and Fireside.

NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that bids will be received by the Council of the City of Highland Park for One Motor Grader of approximately the following General Specifications:
Size of Blade—10 ft. long, 14 inches high.
Total Weight—5 tons.
Front Scarifier of approximately 1000 lbs. weight.
Rubber Tires, all round.
Leaning front wheels.
Capable of speed of 8 miles per hour in high speed.
Extra Snow Blade.
Capable of one-man operation.
Said bids will be received by the Council, at the City Hall, Highland Park, Illinois until 5:30 o'clock, p. m., on the 31st day of August, 1927, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read.
The Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids if they deem it best for the public good.
V. C. MUSSER, City Clerk
By Order of the Council of the City of Highland Park. 21-22

Slip Covers, New Tops, Curtains
Bevel Plate or Celluloid
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NOTICE OF LETTING CONTRACT
ASSESSMENT NO. 329
BOARD OF LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received for the construction of a connected system of water mains in Highland Avenue, Castlewood Road, Hillcrest Avenue, Briergate Drive, Westgate Terrace and Ridge Road, all in the City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Illinois, as a whole in accordance with the ordinance therefor.
Said bids will be received by the Board of Local Improvements at its office in the City Hall, Highland Park, Illinois, until 5:15 o'clock, p. m., on the 31st day of August, 1927, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read.
The specifications and blank proposals will be furnished at the office of the Board of Local Improvements in the City Hall of said City.
The contractor will be paid in bonds, which bonds will draw interest at the rate of six (6) per cent per annum.
The successful bidder for the construction of said improvement will be required to enter into bond in a sum equal to one-third of the amount of his or their bid with sureties to be approved by the President of the Board of Local Improvements when entering into the contract for the construction of said improvement.
All proposals or bids must be accompanied by a certified check payable to the President of the Board of Local Improvements of the City of Highland Park for the sum of not less than ten (10) per cent of the aggregate of the proposal.
Said proposal must be delivered to the President of the Board of Local Improvements in person or by mail at the time and place fixed herein for the opening of the same.
No proposal or bid will be considered unless accompanied by check herein provided.
The Board of Local Improvements reserves the right to reject any or all bids if they deem it best for the public good.
BENJAMIN F. LEWIS
W. J. BROWN
LYLE GOURLEY
W. M. REAY
Board of Local Improvements, City of Highland Park. 21-22

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE NO. 321
Notice is hereby given to all persons interested that the City Council of the City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Illinois having ordered the construction of a reinforced concrete pavement improvement in WEST GATE TERRACE, HILLCREST AVENUE, CASTLEWOOD ROAD, and BRIERGATE DRIVE, City of Highland Park, County of Lake and State of Illinois, the ordinance for the same being on file in the office of the City Clerk of said city and having applied to the County Court of Lake County for an assessment of the costs of said improvement according to benefits, and an assessment thereof having been made and returned to said court, the final hearing thereon will be had on the 6th day of August, A. D. 1927, or as soon thereafter as the business of the court will permit.
Said assessment is payable in ten (10) installments, with interest at the rate of six (6) per centum per annum on all installments from and after date of issue of first voucher. All persons desiring may file objections to the hearing and make their defense.
G. L. VETTER
Officer appointed to make said Assessment Dated at Highland Park, Ill., July 21st, A. D. 1927. 21-22

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