

## **The Taxpayers' Burden**

Congress Willing to Do Everything but Lift It.

By Henry Ware Allen / Wichita, Kansas, 14 January, 1933 (print date: 18 January, 1933)

To the Editor of The New York Times:

The muddled proceedings of Congress in futile attempts to enact measures for the recovery of business call to mind the safe observation of Herbert Spencer, as follows: "The great majority of mankind seem determined to exhaust every possible way of doing the wrong thing before they will consent to do the right thing." Rendered into more modern speech, this idea may be expressed: Our legislators are ready to do everything for the taxpayer excepting to get off his back.

One would suppose that the political farmers would be satisfied with having wasted \$500,000,000 of taxpayers' money in a vain attempt by the Farm Board to regulate the natural law of supply and demand, but these same political farmers evidently have the ability to demand further special favors from Congress by means of another special privilege which they call the domestic allotment plan. This is another clear case of robbing Peter to pay Paul, robbing nine-tenths of our population to get a special subsidy amounting to millions of dollars, to go to one-tenth of the population.

What is the party of Jefferson coming to? The proper solution, is, of course, to eliminate all special privileges to any bloc or class of voters, particularly beneficiaries of the protective tariff. International free trade is the first step in the right direction.