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## Taxation by the Federal Government

by Joe Escobar - Thursday, April 18, 2013, 11:04 PM

This forum thread is for Taxation by the Federal Government posts and replies.

After studying the required materials, address the individual questions in SEPARATE posts.

To make your POSTS, click the reply link in this, MY post.

To reply to another student's post, be sure to click the reply link within in THEIR post.

### IMPORTANT - SUBJECT LINES

Since there are multiple questions, BE SURE to use an informative subject line for your post. Don't simply leave it RE: Taxation by the Federal Government

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## Tax within reason!!

by Agina Hale - Sunday, April 21, 2013, 11:15 PM

I support Calvin Coolidge's view on taxation. I believe that the more programs the government gets involved in, the more complicated we end up and under it's thumb. Not to mention that we become dependant on programs, and once they are gone, it's hard to get back to normal. An example of this would be farmers who were getting high rates on their crops so they could accumulate food for the war effort. The increased production from tractors and combines flooding the market and causing a downturn, which is a horrible plight. I can say I feel for the farmers more so than most, but agree that those subsidies will benefit the exporters more than farmers. " No plan will be of any permanent value to him which does not leave him standing on his own foundation....These expedients would lead logically to telling the farmer by law what and how much he should plant and where he should plant it, and what and how much he should sell and where he

should sell it.”-State of the Union 1927 Inflation would be the immediate product of these subsidies.

After reading more on this subject, I really do believe that Coolidge had a head for business. He seemed to really understand how the economy works. The hardest part of running a small government is where and when to say no to when doling out money for programs. In a perfect world, every possible social program and cause could be covered. A lot of our debts is the use of military might. That’s an issue that dates all the way back, and there isn’t a likely end in sight. It seems that we have a bad habit of asking our government to buy our jobs, or help us out of a tough spot. The downfall seems to be that we in turn end up borrowing from other countries.

I read an article on ABC news about the temporary social security tax cut expiring this year, which is why the employed are paying more in taxes. In turn, this is causing a slow kick off in the retail economy. They cited higher gas rates as another factor in the spending. All in all, people aren’t spending as much right now. This of course causes the retail stores to lower hours, and it all circles around.

According to a more Coolidge minded view, tax cuts benefit the economy. In 1924 he wanted the majority of the tax cuts to come from governmental spending. Frankly, it’s a tight walk. As he dealt with the Great Mississippi flood in 1927 that caused an estimated damage of 1.4billion, and he resisted assistance citing it’s the states responsibilities. After a lot of pressure he sent 180 million. (Congress acted and set up \$500mill and responsibility the army corp in the future). I believe that he thought this set up a president, a crutch, a dependence. He believed that helping one area while harming another wasn’t fair. Which was his sentiment with McNary-Haugen act. It’s a tough decision, but I have to agree. The bigger the budget, the harder it is to control.

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**taxation**  

by Dylan Millsaps - Monday, April 22, 2013, 9:19 PM

I agree with Coolidge’s view on taxation because I feel when the government becomes involved the process becomes muddled. Also I feel when people do not have to work for something they will take it for granted. I feel Coolidge was a great business man and really knew what he was talking about when talking about the economy. As a small government it is hard when to choose to start government programs because you don’t want the population to become too dependent but you also don’t want citizens to suffer.

The charts showed me that although our income tax makes up a majority of the taxation it does not comprise of it all. It also shows the increase of non-income taxation that has occurred since 1980. I think that is reflection on the growing debt.

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### Tax

by Victor Reyes - Tuesday, April 23, 2013, 8:12 AM

Overall I do agree with Coolidge's position on taxation he wanted to give less money to the government and take less money from the people so they can provide for themselves he sought to make the lives of the citizens better.

I read an article on the New York Times states are forcing online retailers to collect sales taxes the bill is known as the Market Fairness Act. Under the bill, online retailers would collect an estimated \$22 billion to \$24 billion that now goes uncollected.

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### Taxation

by Minfeng Xu - Tuesday, April 23, 2013, 8:42 AM

Coolidge's opinion on taxation is that government should take less money from citizens in order to let them developed themselves better than provide heavy taxation policy to them. On the other hand, he also think that government doesn't allow their citizen to become more suffer for their life or provide a light taxation policy to make population easy, but government also wants their citizens to become independent.

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### Limited Taxation

by Jesse Nichols - Tuesday, April 23, 2013, 9:17 AM

Overall, I find myself agreeing with Calvin Coolidge's opinions on taxation by the federal government. In particular, I really like his idea of Limiting the spending by the government in order to limit the taxation on the people that way they can work and provide for themselves, thus making them more independent. The more programs our government participates in, the more complicated the situation gets, resulting in more dependence on the government and less control for the people, This is exactly what Coolidge intended to avoid. I believe he was a great business man with a brilliant political mind. Coolidge really understood the economy and that is one of the things that helped him to become such an influential leader of our Country.

I read an article called "Government is Good" that stated "The argument *for* taxes is

a very straightforward one: if government is on balance a very positive force in society, then taxes are good." After reading this article it is clear that the author is on the liberal end of the spectrum and that he supports governmental taxation. He makes his case for taxation by degrading conservative tax cut proposals and by giving examples of the good things taxes bring.

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### **Taxation and the people**

by Haley Shaw - Thursday, April 25, 2013, 3:13 PM

I agree with Coolidge view on taxation I do like the quote "Until we can reestablish a condition under which the earnings of the people can be kept by the people, we are bound to suffer a very severe and distinct curtailment of our liberty." I find this hard to understand at first so I looked up the meaning of "curtailment" and got this from Webster "to make less by or as if by cutting off or away some part" I then saw the quote in a new light by taxing we are insuring our liberties as Americans. Don't get me wrong I don't like paying taxes the more money that I work hard to make the more they take a way. In the context of just this quote though I see how people would view the change at the time but if they could see what the income tax does today they wouldn't look at it in such a harsh light. The change was for the better to give the people the help they need to live a happy, healthy and successful life. For me I saw this next quote as a way of easing the people to the idea of taxation. "This means that the farmer is doomed to provide a certain amount of money out of the sale of his produce, no matter how low the price, to pay his taxes. The manufacturer, the professional man, the clerk, must do the same from their income. The wage earner, often at a higher rate when compared to his earning, makes his contribution, perhaps not directly but indirectly, in the advanced cost of everything he buys." It says everyone not just one group is going to have a part in the system.

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### **Re: Taxation by the Federal Government**

by Agina Hale - Thursday, April 25, 2013, 7:23 PM

It sounds like a lot of people agree with Coolidge's taxation, but I'm kinda curious how far that goes? Dept of Defence 19%, (\$689bil) 22% Soc. Sec (\$773bill), Medicare(aid)/Children's healthcare 21% (\$732bill) Social Programs 12% (\$411bill)including: the refundable portions of the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit,unemployment, cash for families/elderly,food stamps, school lunches for the poor,low-income housing assistance, child care assistance, and assistance in meeting home energy bills,foster care and other programs for neglected and abused children.

I'm about ready to do foster care, and I know people that get up to \$4,500 a month for one kid with special need. That's where the hard decisions come in. This program

has received less and less funding over the years. This is one subject for me that really puts the issue right at my feet. I'm a strong proponent of lower taxes, but there are some things that I feel make the nation better. The problem is, we are all going to have a few causes to champion. Who decides and how? This also illustrates how hard it is to get rid of a "crutch" once it's already in place.

I'm not anti-military, in fact I have a lot of military in my immediate family, but when we went from an isolationist country to international, we really set up an almost perpetual motion. We put ourselves in so many places for our economic interest, or to promote democracy that we are stuck in those situations. We are plugging so many holes, that if we pull out, it could mean a disaster.

So besides a time machine, i'm not sure how to fix the problem.

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