

4 June 1978
72 Hall

The other day, I read in the newspaper that every each newly born child of our dear country is heir to fifteen thousand dollars of debt - his or her share, as a new citizen of the United States of America, of the government's obligations. Staggering? Yes, but is this the only debt? I aver that it is not. There are more important debts. Death and taxes: nothing is more ^{are sure} sure than these we have often heard and the new child will in due time submit to both. There is no choice.

But the other more important debts, what are they? what of them. For these debts we have a choice. We can pay them or we can choose not to pay. Whenever freedom of choice is available in a matter, we can be ^{as} certain as death and taxes that that matter is important! ~~It is near that time of a~~ year few days ago it was memorial day or the day that we sometimes call decoration day. Ida-Rose and I, ~~as~~ ^{as} has become our custom, decorated the graves of ^{our} parents, progenitors and loved ones other relatives from here to Ogden and reflected on these other debts: years of loving ^{unselfish sacrifice} care, and provender [?] from ^{good} parents in a gospel oriented home. Can we measure this debt? Not ~~is~~ quantitatively in all its aspects. It surely has a monetary aspect which ~~certainly~~ must exceed the dollar value of ^{one persons share of the} the national debt. ~~Must~~ ^{Should} we repay it? not by civil law. But every son and daughter of The Father and Mother of Heaven would pale at St Peter's Gate if this obligation were not paid retired. You and I know that this debt can not be paid directly to our parents.

They wouldn't accept it even if it they could. It must be paid by the same selfless service and attention to our own children ~~or other people~~ and to others.