

TAX N. Y. CORPORATIONS AS THEY DO IN JERSEY, 5% ON GROSS EARNINGS

How the Public Utilities Corporations Could Be Made to Carry a Fairer Share of the Tax Budget—Could Be Effected by Amending the Franchise Tax Law.

The theory advanced by The Evening World that in justice to overtaxed real estate in this city, corporations, especially those dealing in public utilities, should be taxed on their gross earnings, has been called revolutionary and confiscatory. Well, right across the North River in the State of New Jersey, which has never been accused of being unduly rude to corporations of any sort, there is levied and collected every year a tax of 5 per cent. on the gross earnings of street railway corporations, and this taxation system is satisfactory to the corporations and the people alike.

The Evening World presents in this article some startling figures showing how the New Jersey law taxing gross earnings would affect public utilities corporations in this city. The Jersey system, which apportions all street railway special franchise taxes to the communities in which they arise in proportion to the length of line in such communities, as compared with the whole length of line, would be particularly beneficial to New York City because most of the public utility corporations of this community operate entirely within the city limits.

Owing to the fact that special franchise taxes are evaded, compromised, juggled and subjected to strange forms of bookkeeping jiu jitsu, it is impossible to figure with any degree of accuracy what addition the application of the New Jersey law would yield to the city treasury. The amount would run away up into the millions and the most cheerful prospect about the matter is this—the city would get the money.

The New Jersey law imposing a tax on the gross receipts of street railway companies was passed in 1906 and the taxation rate for that year was 3 1/2 per cent. The rate was increased 1/4 of 1 per cent. each year until 1910, when it reached 5 per cent., the maximum provided by the law. As in the case with the New York Special Franchise Tax Law the assessment upon the property subject

a street, highway, lane or public place. The 5 per cent. franchise tax is levied upon such proportion of the gross receipts as the length of the line in any taxation district bears to the length of the whole line.

In New York the State collects a franchise tax of one per cent. on the gross earnings of corporations, and a tax on dividends exceeding specified figures. There is a difference between a franchise tax and a special franchise tax. The franchise tax is a payment for a license to do business, issued by the State, said license carrying all the protective power of the State. A special franchise tax is founded on the same principle as a tax on real estate improvements. A special franchise tax in this State is theoretically a tax upon the improvements placed by public utilities corporations in public streets and public places.

Through the interpretation placed on the special franchise tax law by eminent counsel employed by corporations and less eminent counsel and statesmen employed by the city and the State, the City of New York is cheated out of millions of dollars of taxes every year. The application of the simple, direct and all embracing New Jersey law taxing the gross receipts of public utilities corporations would do away with this cheating.

HOW MILLIONS IN FRANCHISE TAXES ARE DODGED.

Now to the consideration of a few concrete instances of what would happen to public utilities corporations and to taxpayers generally in this city if New York should adopt the New Jersey law taxing such corporations 5 per cent. on their gross receipts. These examples were picked at random.

The Third Avenue Road was assessed for special franchise purposes at \$4,651,000 in 1914—the reports for that year being the latest available. The tax rate in Manhattan in 1914 was .0178. Had the Third Avenue Road paid full taxes on its assessed valuation for special franchise purposes it would have turned over to the receiver of taxes \$114,786. But it actually paid into the city treasury for special franchise taxes for 1914 only \$29,848.

Under the New Jersey law the Third Avenue line would have been taxed 5 per cent. on its gross receipts, which amounted to \$4,042,548. The return to the city would have been \$202,127, or \$172,784 in excess of what was actually received, and \$84,879 in excess of what the city would have received under the New York law if the full tax had been paid.

A JOKE IN NEW YORK; A PUBLIC BENEFIT IN JERSEY.

As The Evening World has shown, the Special Franchise Tax Law applied to the public utilities corporations of this city as a joke. Instead of carrying out its original purpose of reaching corporations which could not be reached otherwise it has been so twisted that it protects corporations which might be reached otherwise. The principle of taxation of public utilities corporations in New York and New Jersey is the same, but the application is different.

In New Jersey street railway corporations are required to file before the first Tuesday in May of each year a statement signed and sworn to by the President or another executive officer setting forth the gross receipts of each corporation for the preceding year, together with the total mileage of each line. The statement also sets forth the length of line in each community in the State in which the corporation operates

Freakish Costumes at Burlesque Fashion Show To Be Given by Society Buds for New York Poor



Miss MARGUERITE de BUYS as "FOLIES de JEUNESSE" and Miss GENE PALMER as "TEMPEST"

like what it would get under a law taxing gross receipts.

Whenever the subject of taxing the gross earnings of public utilities companies of this city is brought up loud cries arise from the corporations themselves and from sources ostensibly far from corporation influence, but strangely in harmony with corporation arguments in times of corporation attempts to dodge a just share of taxation. The burden of the cries is that the public utilities corporations of this city—especially the street railway lines—are so burdened with debt that they are already unjustly oppressed by taxation.

KEEPING CORPORATIONS IN FINANCIAL STRAITS.

Surely it is not the fault of the millions of citizens of this compact, populous and generous community that the street railway companies are in financial straits. But for the stock jobbing manipulations of the financial powers behind the public utilities corporations every street railway line in the city should be rolling in wealth. The Third Avenue Railway is a case in point.

This road, when it went into a receivership and was taken in hand by F. W. Whitridge, was a total wreck. Reports are current in the financial district that under intelligent management the line is rapidly approaching a dividend-paying basis.

The ordinary citizen naturally would suppose that the prospect of the Third Avenue Railroad reaching dividends would be hailed with joy by the financiers whose interests are closely allied with street railway properties in the City of New York.

Quite the contrary is the case, according to the reports current among bankers and brokers. The prospect is viewed with alarm.

For some strange reason the roadway has been allowed to deteriorate in certain sections. Repair and reconstruction work ordered by the Public Service Commission has been delayed by the company until an appalling amount of it is stacked up, brokers and traders familiar with the

TRIANGLE FIRE GIRL LEAPS FROM A ROOF

ill and Dependent Because She Could Not Find Work, She Attempts Suicide.

Lena Schickler of No. 358 Stanton Street has a chance for her life in Gouverneur Hospital, after her attempt to die last night by jumping from the roof of her home.

She is a survivor of the Triangle Waist Company fire in 1911, where 145 persons were burned to death. At that time she slid down an elevator cable five stories to safety.

For four years Lena has sought work as an operator, but has been unable to keep a job long. Her experience at the Triangle fire had unnerved her and she was ill and dependent.

Two weeks ago Lena was seized with a heavy cold, which rapidly developed into pneumonia, and for the last ten days a nurse has been constantly at her bedside. Last night the attendant was aided by the patient's brother, Abraham.

Both left the room a few minutes after 5 o'clock and returned to find Lena gone from her bed. The brother pursued the weak, twenty-year-old girl and caught her just after she had climbed through the scuttle. She pushed him aside and made the leap.

TOKIO 'CHANGE CLOSED; TRANSACTIONS CANCELED

Fictitious Prices, Due to War Prosperity, Cause Governors to Take Unprecedented Action.

TOKIO, Nov. 30.—Trustees of the Stock Exchange took unprecedented action to-day when they suspended operations and canceled transactions owing to an exceedingly strong but fictitious upward movement on wide fluctuations. Tempestuous scenes greeted announcement of the trustees' decision.

War purchases by the allies have caused a wave of prosperity all over the country which has been reflected in the market and standard stocks have leaped upward.

At to-day's opening there was a hysterical advance over yesterday's close.

HAWAII HEARS GERMANY.

Wireless Operator at Honolulu Picks Up Message for Tuckerton.

HONOLULU, Nov. 30.—What is said to be a record in radio transmission was established yesterday when an operator for the Federal Wireless Telegraph Company picked up messages being transmitted from Nauyas, Prussia, to Tuckerton, N. J., approximately 9,000 miles away.

The German operator was sending war despatches, and the dots and dashes registered so clearly in the radio station here that the savedropper had no difficulty in copying the report.

GIRL POISONED BY IODINE.

Martha Fricke, ten years old, a schoolgirl of No. 189 Myrtle Avenue, West New Brighton, was removed to St. Vincent's Hospital, at Livingston, early this morning suffering from iodine poisoning.

The girl was suffering from a toothache last night and put the iodine into her tooth. She swallowed some of the poison and later was found in convulsions. It is said she will recover.

WILL GIVE BURLESQUE OF FASHION SHOW IN AID OF NEW YORK POOR

Young Society Folk to Be Seen in Weird Costumes at "Fete de Vanite."

Following the dazzling fashion fetes that have been held for the benefit of war funds in the city recently, Mrs. Charles Dana Gibson has organized a burlesque fashion show, to be known as the "Fete de Vanite," which will open at the Ritz-Carlton Dec. 1 and will be for the benefit of the city's own destitute.

Costumes such as never before have been seen on land or sea will be worn by some of New York's prettiest society buds with here and there young men to help out the tableaux.

Miss Marguerite de Buys will flash forward as "Folies de Jeunesse." Talk about a color riot! Her skirt is yellow, her bodice is green, her boots the same and her cap and stockings the yellowest orange silk that could be found.

Miss Gene Palmer will appear as "Tempest" with a saucy sailor hat and a blowing skirt to carry the suggestion.

Miss Mieda Quackenbush will appear as "Dosa-a-Dos," Miss Gertrude Lathrop and Somers Vercland as "Columbine and Pagniacel," Miss Marion Fuestman and E. Bigelow as "Love and the May Pole," Miss Helen Booth as "Bella Donna," and Miss M. W. Howard as "Divorce Evidence."

Mrs. Gibson will be assisted by Miss Charlotte Werner.

HENRY MOSLER, ARTIST, IS HOME, NEARLY WELL

Received Fractured Skull in Street Accident and His Recovery Was Doubtful.

Two weeks ago entering the Kitchener Hospital with a fractured skull, and expected to die, Henry Mosler, an artist, seventy-four years old, today defied every expectation of modern surgery by returning to his home, No. 48 West Eighty-ninth Street, almost entirely recovered.

"When I saw my father after his accident I gave up hope," said Dr. F. H. Mosler. "He was unconscious. There was no pulse. We thought it a matter of a few hours until his death. But after a week's coma he regained consciousness and has improved daily."

Mr. Mosler was the first American to sell a painting to France. His "Prodigal," sold in 1879, is in the Luxembourg Museum. He also painted the picture of Andrew H. Greene in the City Hall and the "Wedding Feast" in the Metropolitan Museum.

REFUGEES MUST PAY UP.

U. S. Collector Wants \$200,000 Borrowed by Americans Abroad.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30.—American residents in Europe at the outbreak of the war who borrowed money from the Government to get home, and who have failed to repay it, are either "going to make good" or have a lot of trouble dodging the collector.

William P. Malburn, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, armed with a list of such delinquents, went to New York to-day to place the names in the hands of a collection agency, with instructions to use every effort to get back the money.

Since the publication of the first list of names of delinquents only thirty persons have made good their indebtedness. The records of the Treasury office show that about 5,000 notes, representing more than \$200,000, still are outstanding.

TOXIC INFECTION

of the system, caused by the retention of waste products in the body. These common complaints will arise—Constipation, headaches, biliousness, dyspepsia, nausea and liver and bowel complaints. To free yourself from these troubles use

R&G PILLS

GET A BOX TO-NIGHT. 10c., 25c. THE BOX



One Smashing Blow

Some folks go on for years wondering why they have headaches, nervousness, heart flutter, biliousness and various other ailments. But they never suspect a most common cause—coffee drinking.

Coffee contains caffeine, a powerful habit-forming drug. The little doses repeated daily irritate the nerves, unsteady the heart, hinder digestion and work havoc generally with many coffee users.

The simple, easy way to smash coffee troubles at one blow is to quit the coffee and use

POSTUM

—the pure food-drink.

There's "nothing missed" with the change; and thousands have found it means a big step toward health and comfort.

Postum is made of wheat and a bit of wholesome molasses—has a rich flavor, much like mild Java coffee, yet contains no drug or other harmful element.

Postum comes in two forms: The original Postum Cereal requires boiling; Instant Postum is soluble—a level teaspoonful in a cup of boiling water makes a delicious drink—instantly. Both kinds are equally delicious, and the cost per cup is about the same.

Ten days off coffee and on Postum will show

"There's a Reason"

—sold by Grocers everywhere.

Send 2c stamp for 5-cup sample.

Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., Battle Creek, Mich.

Fortify the Children Against the Rigors of Winter With Plenty of GOOD, SAFE MILK

NATURE went the limit in producing Milk. It is the one food product that nature offers that is in itself a complete, balanced food. It provides the elements needed to induce normal growth in a more easily assimilated form than any other food we know.



PASTEURIZED is the best milk value you can buy. CALL ANY BORDEN WAGON.

125th Street West **KOCH & CO.** INC. 125th Street West

Special Reductions in Women's & Misses' Tailored Suits

MANY FUR TRIMMED

Heretofore Sold at \$24.00 to \$30.00. Special **\$18.50**

An actual comparison shows that they are exactly the same suits that specialty and other large stores are selling at \$27 to \$35. They come from the same manufacturers who supply these stores, were all made after the same models, contain the same material and trimmings, and the same standards of workmanship.

In Broadcloth; Gabardine, Whipcord. Trimmed with opossum. Sizes 16 to 42 bust.

In Imported Corduroy—flare skating models, only in sizes suitable for misses and small women.

Third Floor

BAD BREATH

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets Get at the Cause and Remove It.

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets, the substitute for calomel, act gently on the bowels and positively do the work.

People afflicted with bad breath find quick relief through Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets. The pleasant, sugar-coated tablets are taken for bad breath by all who know them.

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets act gently but firmly on the bowels and liver, stimulating them to natural action, clearing the blood and gently purifying the entire system.

They do that which dangerous calomel does without any of the bad after effects. All the benefits of nasty, sickening, griping cathartics are derived from Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets without griping, pain or disagreeable effects of any kind.

Dr. F. M. Edwards discovered the formula after seventeen years of practice among patients afflicted with bowel and liver complaint with the attendant bad breath.

Dr. Edwards' Olive Tablets are purely vegetable compound mixed with olive oil. You will know them by their olive color.

Take one or two every night for a week and note the effect. 10c and 25c per box. All druggists.

The Olive Tablet Company, Columbus, O.—Adv.

IF YOUR WAIST MEASURE WAS 39!

A WOMAN WEIGHING 210-TESTING MISS FURLONG'S EXERCISES TO REGAIN HER FIGURE SEE START OF THE SERIES IN THE EVENING WORLD MONDAY NEXT

SUNDAY WORLD "WANTS" WORK MONDAY WONDERS