

THE EVENING-FARMER

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New York Office, 250 Broadway, (St. Paul Building) G. A. MERRILL, Representative.



TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 1909.

THE THREE PROPOSED TAXES.

There are at present three methods of increasing the State's revenue before the General Assembly, and the majority of the legislators seem to have exhausted their interest in their production of the inheritance tax, a corporate excess tax, and the new source of revenue under consideration. The proposed State tax is unpopular to the small towns, although it would bear less severely upon them than upon the large cities, as assessments in the former are mostly at half or two-thirds value, while in the cities, with the exception of Hartford, full value is the general rule. Of course, it would be within the power of the State to equalize the valuation to raise the unequal assessments, but that they would be increased to full value is a somewhat problematical question. The proposed increase in the inheritance tax would probably meet the General Assembly's approval, but the incorporation of such a tax in the State bill pending at Washington. It is admitted that the levying of two taxes on inheritances would be unwise. The strength of the inheritance tax proposition, in Congress particularly, is found in the expectation that it would bear heavily upon the estates of deceased multi-millionaires. In our opinion, it would be as difficult to apply such a tax as it was to identify the tax with its owners during life. It is probable that the Senate will see a probability that the Senate will see the inheritance tax out of the tariff bill, in which event the Connecticut tax will be probably increased. The corporate excess tax has many advocates, which fact is due to its abstract justice. There is, however, a question of expediency which may excite a decided influence. Unquestionably, this tax would operate as a deterrent upon industrial enterprise. This fact is a formidable obstacle in the way of the proposed tax.

The West, it is said, opposed to the imposition of a tax upon either tea or coffee, and favors, instead, an increase of the tax on beer. This position is an evident outcome of the increasing growth of Prohibition sentiment in that section.

There is a growing impression that so soon as Ex-President Roosevelt is ready out of the way and on route for Africa for a year's stay, the liberal tariff against Messrs. Fultzter and Smith will be quietly dropped, and another of the Roosevelt policies thus abandoned.

Mr. Carnegie's favorite for the Republican Presidential nomination is Senator Root. He doubtless believes that the renomination of President Taft will not be possible, after four years of reaction from the Roosevelt policies, and that some such candidate as Root will be needed to prevent the reappearance of Roosevelt in the field.

Gov. Weeks professes certain knowledge that Gov. Lilley will not be a candidate for a second term. This announcement tends toward confirmation of the prediction that Mr. Lilley will be a candidate for the Bulkeley succession. It also stops the scheme to effect his withdrawal from the Senatorial contest by dangling a second-term bait before him.

Each beneficiary of tariff duties, even those who no longer need protection, are able to compete in foreign markets, is antagonizing any reduction whatever of his protection. It is the privilege of adding the amount of his tariff duty to the price of his goods that he contends, even though his profit is large enough without such addition thereto.

"Assault of plutocrats," is Mr. Bryan's characterization of Speaker Cannon, and he criticizes the 23 Democratic arguments for having aided the Republican regulars against the Democratic object of rule revision. With Ex-President Roosevelt beyond reach in the wilds of Africa, Mr. Bryan will have a clear field in warring upon the plutocrats and their Congressional agents, for nothing of that kind can be expected from the present reactionary Administration.

President Taft will, it is said, advocate the imposition of an income tax. His regular message to Congress in December next, having reached the conclusion that a measure can be so constructed as to meet the objections of the Supreme court to a previous bill. There cannot be a doubt that the income tax, equitably applied and collected, is the fairest of all taxes, for it reaches all in degree to their real ability, bearing most heavily upon those best able to pay, and least or not at all upon small incomes.

The maximum and minimum provision in the pending tariff bill is awakening both apprehensions and hopes. Except perhaps its authors, no one seems to understand its probable effects. That it will increase the duties on imports from several South American republics, appears to be a certainty, which is a misfortune, for their exports are mostly raw materials, among them hides, coffee, etc. Such increases would operate to lessen our trade with those countries, to say nothing of increased cost to home consumers.

The jurors in the Cooper murder trial in Tennessee reported at first an inability to agree upon a verdict and were sent back to their room to deliberate further, the presiding judge being credited with an assertion that the jurors would be held until they should reach an agreement. This procedure is called "forcing a verdict" and is, in our judgment, radically improper. Why should a juror who conscientiously believes a prisoner guilty or not guilty, be compelled by judicial threat of loss of business through absence, interruption of domestic relations, prolonged confinement, etc., to abandon his honest conviction—that is, to violate the juror's oath? In this Cooper case, one juror voted on the first ballot for acquittal, and five for first degree murder; these six were compelled, in order to reach an agreement, to abandon their presumably honest convictions. The "forcing of verdicts" is right neither in principle nor effect.

Who is who in Bridgeport?

STRATFORD A Legal Boom—Two Drunks and One Assault—A Speaker on Temperance—Doings of Town's People—The Scale Problem.

It looked in the local court room yesterday as if the prosperity boom, so long predicted, had struck the town. The room was filled with people who had been hauled up before the judge, and the witnesses who were to testify against the evildoers. The first case is a petty larceny, in which a man is charged with stealing a watch and a pair of shoes from a woman's trunk. The second case is a charge of assault and battery, in which a man is charged with striking a woman on the head with a brick. The third case is a charge of public intoxication, in which a man is charged with being drunk in public. The fourth case is a charge of disorderly conduct, in which a man is charged with being noisy and disruptive in a public place. The fifth case is a charge of larceny, in which a man is charged with stealing a coat from a store. The sixth case is a charge of assault and battery, in which a man is charged with striking a woman on the face with a fist. The seventh case is a charge of public intoxication, in which a man is charged with being drunk in public. The eighth case is a charge of disorderly conduct, in which a man is charged with being noisy and disruptive in a public place. The ninth case is a charge of larceny, in which a man is charged with stealing a hat from a store. The tenth case is a charge of assault and battery, in which a man is charged with striking a woman on the arm with a hand. The eleventh case is a charge of public intoxication, in which a man is charged with being drunk in public. The twelfth case is a charge of disorderly conduct, in which a man is charged with being noisy and disruptive in a public place. The thirteenth case is a charge of larceny, in which a man is charged with stealing a bag from a store. The fourteenth case is a charge of assault and battery, in which a man is charged with striking a woman on the shoulder with a hand. The fifteenth case is a charge of public intoxication, in which a man is charged with being drunk in public. The sixteenth case is a charge of disorderly conduct, in which a man is charged with being noisy and disruptive in a public place. The seventeenth case is a charge of larceny, in which a man is charged with stealing a pair of shoes from a store. The eighteenth case is a charge of assault and battery, in which a man is charged with striking a woman on the back with a hand. The nineteenth case is a charge of public intoxication, in which a man is charged with being drunk in public. The twentieth case is a charge of disorderly conduct, in which a man is charged with being noisy and disruptive in a public place.

The next case was that of Mr. Bishop of Hollister Heights against John Stahl of the same village. The indictment charged an assault and battery. It was admitted by Mr. Stahl that he did commit the assault, and that he did not have a sufficient excuse for it. He was fined \$10 and costs, and sentenced to the workhouse for 10 days.

Mr. Peter Berry has returned to town from a six weeks visit to New York. The selectmen have recently been at work improving the road bed of Elliott street. Next Sunday, Rev. J. M. Deyo will occupy Rev. Mr. Woodruff's pulpit at Black Rock. Chief Seegal, of the Fire Department, who has been confined to his house for some weeks is improving fast and hopes soon to be able to be out.

The Foresters held a large meeting last Sunday afternoon. The delegation which went from this town to attend the hearing in reference to the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company consisted of Messrs. J. M. Deyo, Town Clerk, William C. Bradley, Frank Saum, William Gould, George Smith, the assistant postmaster and John Smith. The following have been added to the sick list: Miss Marjorie Northrop and Mrs. Edward Van Holtz. Miss Nellie Conners is home from a visit to New York. Mrs. F. E. Lane has been visiting in New Canaan.

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POINTS OF INTEREST. E. H. Dillon & Co., 1105 Main street, millinery opening Wednesday and Thursday. It will give you a visit this grand exhibition. The Farmers' Supply & Roofing Co., 256 Middle Street call attention in their advertisement, today to seeds for the flower bed and lawn and garden. This firm make a specialty of goods in this line, and carry a large variety of the most reliable seeds and fertilizers on the market.

M. Lustig Millinery Show Days. Show days at Lustig's for the display of all that's beautiful in millinery will be today, tomorrow and Thursday. The public is invited to inspect a stock which for style, quality and range of selection stands peerless. Dennis Display Dates. The exhibition days of spring millinery at A. T. Dennis & Co., 1155 Main street, are today, tomorrow and Thursday. The ladies are cordially invited to inspect a showing that represents the most fashionable millinery creations of the season. No other has been spared in the attempt to provide Bridgeporters with the truly artistic in spring millinery.

Millinery Display Days. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week are Exhibition days for the new spring hat styles at The Gosselin, Gorman Co., opposite Howland's. Every woman contemplating the purchase of an Easter hat should certainly inspect our broad and complete showing of the smart, becoming styles in Spring millinery. A comprehensive showing of the newest spring styles in suits and costumes—we invite early attention to our assortment of the newest fashions. The season's materials are shown in the different styles. Color combinations are shown in stripes and checks to every woman's fancy. Our selection of tailored suits for the approaching season are being greatly admired on every hand. Observe the window displays of the suits and costumes. Gosselin Gorman Co., opposite Howland's.

Final Wind-Up Sale at Davis and Savard's. Every man with a streak of economy in his make up will surely take advantage of the real money saving chances as this dependable store—their Final Wind-Up Sale offers a number of opportunities for saving largely, and the best of all—safely. Spring covert overcoats, that formerly bore the \$15 and \$18 price tags are now marked for quick clearance at \$10. Suits of medium weight in worsteds, Scotch goods, and the always wanted blues and blacks. These garments are \$15 and \$18 quality in every way—\$10 is the price now. Spring hats, spring suits, spring furnishings and more, but by no means least—Spring Regals in quarter sizes for men and women—a fit for every foot. Davis and Savard, Main street, corner of Fairfield avenue.

NEW SOLICITOR-GENERAL. President Taft Appoints Lloyd W. Bowers a Chicago Lawyer. Washington, March 23.—The President late yesterday afternoon announced the appointment of Lloyd W. Bowers of Chicago as Solicitor-General of the United States. Mr. Bowers will succeed Henry M. Hoyt of Pennsylvania, a Yale classmate of the President, who recently resigned with the announced intention of resuming the practice of law in Philadelphia.

FAIRFIELD

Important School Board Meeting—Contract for Fire Escapes—School Teachers to Marry—A Polish Mission—Personal Mention.

At the Memorial Library yesterday the School Board of the town held a long, animated and important meeting. All the members of the board were present, including Mr. Moses E. Banks, president, Allen Beaman, secretary, and Messrs. John Hawkins, Dr. M. V. B. Dunham, William C. Kincaid and William O. Burr. Besides the regular routine business the most important subject before the board was that of providing fire escapes for certain school houses as provided for at the last town meeting. Plans and drawings had been prepared, and four different parties appeared to bid for the job. Two of these were from this town, one from Bridgeport and one from New Haven. Each of the gentlemen was heard and his offer discussed. Mr. Fitzgerald of Bridgeport was one of the competitors and the Yale State and Iron Company of New Haven was another. Finally the contract was made with the New Haven house, and it agreed to furnish the fire escapes as desired within the appropriation of \$700. The school buildings to be provided with escapes are the Sherman, the Stratfield, the Southport, the Washburn Hill and the Washington at Nichols Terrace. The stairs in these fire escapes are to be two feet long with a tread 9 inches wide, and the railing to be a railing on each side of the stairs.

Another important matter which engaged the attention of the board was the engaging of a new teacher to fill the vacancies which are likely to occur. It seems that Dean Cupid has been getting in his cheerful work and the school board is likely to be called upon to take the child, providing the town pays for his care, or until some means of formally adopting the youngster may be carried out. One lady offers to take the child and care for it until it is a dozen years old providing she be assured that at that time she may be allowed to formally adopt it as her own. The mother has laid herself open to a maximum punishment of \$500 fine or a long term of imprisonment or both, if convicted of willfully abandoning the child.

Darlin's Population, 3,726. According to the figures of a canvass of Darlin, just completed by the Connecticut Bible Society, the population of that town is 3,726, and the number of families is 767. It now seems probable that there will be a change of pastorate at the Bethel Methodist Episcopal church in the coming conference year. Rev. Lewis M. Lounsbury, the present pastor, has received a call to the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church in Albany, N. Y., and has accepted and will go undoubtedly there, providing the bishop grants the transfer from one conference to the other.

Easton's Tax Rate. The town of Easton has levied a tax of 15 mills.

NEW TOWN.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis K. Edwards, of Bridgeport, have been guests at the home of her father, Eli B. Beers. John Madigan is a victim of grippe, Arthur I. Platt, of Bridgeport, was in town Sunday. William Burns, of Passaic, N. J., has been the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Burns. Pedestrianism seems to be thefad among the young folks at present, and some of the older ones are fast becoming interested. The Junior club enjoyed a tramp to Brookfield Sunday afternoon and report fine roads all the way. Messrs. Gustave Carlson, Edward Pitzschler and Rodney Shepard walked to New Milford, the entire party returning on the evening train seemingly not fatigued by their trip. Mrs. George Stuart enjoyed a trip to Bridgeport Monday. Edward Lake has created the household goods of Mrs. Charles H. Northrop. They will be shipped to Mrs. Northrop's home in Brooklyn, N. Y. Mrs. J. A. Blackman is enjoying a visit with her daughter, Mrs. Clarence Naramore, Bridgeport. Mrs. Catherine E. Turney died Sunday evening at her home in Huntington at the age of 84 years. Funeral will be held Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock Rev. Alexander Steele will officiate. Misses Margaret and Josephine Keane have enjoyed a few days visit in Bridgeport.

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Fairfield County News.

Accused of Scattering Poison. Carl Miller of Springdale, was arrested Friday on a complaint that he scattered poisoned meat on the highways with intent to poison certain dogs and cats.

An Abandoned Child. Town Agent Palmer of Shelton, has secured an answer from the grandfather of the abandoned baby boy who was left by his mother with Mrs. M. F. Graffan of Shelton, and this answer shows that the story told by the grandfather is true. The grandfather is the turnkey of the Charlestown jail and admits knowing of his son's wedding and the existence of the child. He however, states that he knows nothing about his son's present business and declines to take and care for the child. A number have offered to take the child, providing the town pays for his care, or until some means of formally adopting the youngster may be carried out. One lady offers to take the child and care for it until it is a dozen years old providing she be assured that at that time she may be allowed to formally adopt it as her own. The mother has laid herself open to a maximum punishment of \$500 fine or a long term of imprisonment or both, if convicted of willfully abandoning the child.

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