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NO. 51

NEW TAX BILL IS SUMMARIZED

Features Are Emphasized By State League.

PROPERTIES ARE CLASSIFIED

And the Rates Are Named On the Different Classes Of Property.

A PERMANENT COMMISSION

The State Tax League of Kentucky has summarized the proposed new tax laws as follows:

Constitutional Amendment—The new law is in conformity with the Amendment to Section 171 of the Constitution authorizing the General Assembly to—

Classify property for taxation. Fix the rate of taxation on each class.

Designate which class shall be subject to local taxation.

Permanent State Tax Commission

The new law provides for a permanent State Tax Commission to carry into effect the provisions and exercise supervision over the entire question of State taxation. To devote its entire time to the question and assume the duties of the various boards and commissions now having authority to assess and tax property for State purposes at Frankfort.

Rate of Taxation—The new law fixes the rate of taxation on all taxable property for State purposes at 40 cents on each \$100 of assessed value, instead of 55 cents, as at present, on all classes of property excepting deposits in bank, which are to be taxed at 10 cents on each \$100 for the purpose of encouraging thrift and savings and the circulation of money now sequestered because of excessive taxation. In other respects taxation for State purposes will be absolutely uniform on all classes of property, whether owned by the residents of towns or the country.

Apportionment of Revenue—The apportionment for each item of expense remains undisturbed, and the General Expense Fund, the School Fund, the Sinking Fund, the Kentucky University and Road Tax will receive the same exact proportion of the revenue as heretofore.

Real Estate—Real estate will be taxed as at present and according to its locality in the country or towns and cities for State purposes at the uniform 40-cent rate, and for county, town or taxing districts at the local authorities. The value of real estate depends on its location and surroundings improvements and should naturally contribute toward the maintenance of such improvements.

Personal Property—Personal property is segregated into classes and each class will be taxed uniformly, whether owned by the resident of a town or the country for the purposes for which it is taxed.

Money and Credits—Money in hand, notes, bonds, accounts and shares of stock in foreign corporations having less than 25 per cent of their taxable property in Kentucky will be taxed for State purposes only, at the uniform 40-cent rate in lieu of all other taxation. Shares of stock in Kentucky corporations and foreign corporations having more than 25 per cent of their taxable property in Kentucky are exempt from taxation, as the taxes are paid by the corporations.

Machinery—Farm implements and machinery, the machinery of manufacturing establishments, including raw material and product in course of manufacture, will be taxed for State purposes only at the uniform rate of 40 cents in lieu of all other taxation.

Mortgages—Mortgages will be taxed for State purposes only at the uniform rate of 40 cents, and if for a period exceeding three years a registration fee of 25 cents on each \$100 will be required in order to receive from foreign money on long-time loans, as this is the only Kentucky tax they would have to pay.

Bank and Trust Companies—Banks and trust companies will be subject to the same taxation as at present, but the State tax will be only 40 cents instead of 55, as at

present, and the assessment will be made by the permanent Tax Commission instead of the State Board of Control. Banks have heretofore been assessed on a different basis of valuation from other property, and it is not proposed to disturb this arrangement.

Bank Deposits—Bank deposits are placed in a separate class and depositors will be taxed at the rate of 10 cents on each \$100 on money on deposit September 1, which tax may, however, be paid by the banks for their depositors or by the depositors themselves, and this nominal tax is calculated to largely increase the deposits in banks, as money not so deposited will be subject to the State tax rate of 40 cents.

Railroads and Public Service Corporations—Railroads and public service corporations will be assessed by the permanent Tax Commission and the taxes on the various classes of property they may own will be the same as for individuals—40 cents for State purposes only and such local taxes as the local authorities fix on property subject to same. The value of franchises will also be fixed by the State Tax Commission and the new law dispenses with all other State Taxing Boards and taxing privileges of other commissions at Frankfort.

Merchants—Merchants will be assessed on the basis of their net taxable personality as heretofore, but at the lower State tax rate of 40 cents, and such local rates as may be fixed by the local authorities. Notes, accounts and cash in hand will be taxed for State purposes only at the uniform 40-cent rate in lieu of other taxes and bank deposits at 10 cents on each \$100.

Manufacturers—Manufacturers will be subject to the payment of State taxes only on their machinery and raw material and product in course of manufacture, notes, accounts, cash in hand and other intangible personality at the rate of 40 cents, and bank deposits at 10 cents on each \$100. Their real estate will be subject to State and local taxes as at present.

Farmers—Farmers will be subjected to the present taxation on their land and improvements, but the tax rate for State purposes will be 40 cents instead of 55. Agricultural implements and machinery will be taxed for State purposes only at the uniform 40-cent rate. Crops grown within the year are exempt from all taxation. Bank deposits will be taxed at 10 cents on the \$100, and this tax may be paid by banks. Cash on hand, notes and accounts, taxable bonds and stocks will be taxed for State purposes only at the uniform 40-cent rate.

Livestock—Livestock will be taxed as at present, but the State tax rate will be 40 cents instead of 55 cents.

Household and Office Furniture—Household effects, including pictures, musical instruments and jewelry, will be taxed as at present, but the State tax rate will be 40 cents instead of 55 cents, and there will be the present exemption of \$250 for heads of families.

THIRTY CENTS A DAY PROVIDES FOOD FOR EACH

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 15.—The daily ration for soldiers in the border service cost 30 cents a man for December, an increase of more than 5 cents over the figure of a year ago. Officers in the quartermaster branch say the increase is due to the higher cost of beans, flour, sugar, lard, butter, vegetables and fruits. Because of increased prices of leather and cloth for shoes and uniforms it also costs the Government more to clothe the soldiers.

Approximately 150,000 pounds of turkey that will be needed for the Christmas dinner of the soldiers will cost the Government 35 cents a pound, or 1 cent more than the price paid for their Thanksgiving turkey.

BILL TO CLOSE MAILS TO LIQUOR ADVERTISEMENTS

Washington, Dec. 15.—Legislative measures aimed at the destruction of the liquor traffic continue to accumulate in Congress, both Houses being deluged with petitions urging the adoption of national prohibition and the passage of other anti-liquor measures.

The house postoffice committee opened the door to another phase of the problem today when a bill designed to close the mails to liquor advertisements was favorably reported.

British Military Experts Say German Move Caused By Fear

London, Dec. 16 (3:45 p. m.).—"Despite its blatant and arrogant tone, Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg's peace speech offers us much encouragement when considered from a military standpoint," said Gen. Frederick D. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the British War Office, on discussing today with the Associated Press the military significance of the German Chancellor's peace offering. Gen. Maurice continued: "Of course, until we receive definite terms, it will be impossible for us to discuss the German peace terms. The military reasons which led to their utterance certainly are not discouraging to us.

"The Germans know we are capable of a greater offensive than we launched last summer on the Somme and they do not like the prospect. We are increasing our forces and our munitions and are improving our positions.

"Lately, independently, but from similar data we and the French have computed the German losses on the Somme and have arrived at exactly the same results, which may be expressed as follows:

"The total German loss in men was more than 700,000, which included 95,000 prisoners. In material we took 155 heavy guns, 180 field pieces and 1,483 machine guns.

"It must be remembered that our prisoners were first-line fighting men from the front trenches, while the recent captures made by the Central Powers consisted in large part of the army service medical corps and other practically non-combatant positions of the army, which necessarily were picked up in operations like those in Rumania.

"Germany knows we are prepared to initiate a greater offensive at any place on the western front than on the Somme. When I talked to you last I said Germany had made no important captures of men in Rumania, but just at that moment she was making a large scoop of prisoners from the second Rumanian army. However, it is doubtful if the Germans will get a satisfactory Christmas dinner from the capture of food supplies in Rumania. Not being in Field Marshal von Hindenburg's confidence, I cannot tell how far he will carry his offensive, but he can undoubtedly go farther."

REINCARNATION OF BULL MOOSE

Progressives Who Kept Faith Pull Themselves Together—Convention in St. Louis.

New York, Dec. 15.—"Reincarnation" of the Progressive party with a "new sense of party independence" based upon "the new liberal spirit," was agreed upon at a conference of prominent Progressives from several States held here today.

Funds were subscribed to open a national Progressive headquarters in this city until the national convention meets in St. Louis. Permission for "those leading Progressives who have made party mistakes" to re-enter the party were discussed, but no action was taken.

Assurances also were given to those who seemed to fear that the "reactionary group of Progressives" might gain control of the St. Louis convention, that only those known to be "loyal and true Progressives" who had refused to go over to the Republicans or Democrats, would have a voice in organizing the new party.

Hale At Helm. The conference, which was called by Matthew Hale, of Boston, national vice chairman of the Progressive party, lasted three hours. Mr. Hale was authorized to select a committee to plan for the national convention some time around Washington's birthday. Its members will be announced later.

A resolution reaffirming the Progressive platform of August, 1912, was adopted. Amendments expressing "the desire of the Progressives to co-operate with the liberal elements of every party and to disregard any party affiliations since that time, even the choice of the Progressive element in the recent election," were attached to the resolution.

The people who believe matches are made in heaven forget that some of them are tipped with sulphur.

Negotiations Are Under Way To Settle Railroad Strike

Evansville, Ind., Dec. 15.—W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, publicly declared here today before the Central States conference on rail and water transportation, that negotiations are under way between the brotherhoods and railroads, looking to settlement of their entire controversy, out of court, before January 1, when the Adamson law becomes effective.

"I know I am not betraying confidence," he said, "when I say some of the best brains in the high chambers of the operating departments of the railroads favor something satisfactory to both sides and that they have discussed it with us. I left them only Wednesday in New

KENTUCKIANS IN THE BORDER SHIFT

Third Regiment to Patrol Front—Most Serious Duty Yet, Conditions Considered.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 16.—Early this morning the Second and Third Regiments of Kentucky's Infantry will leave their comfortable camp on the mesa north of Fort Bliss and begin a fifteen-day tour of border patrol duty, the most serious work they have as yet been called upon to perform, as very unsettled conditions exist just across the border and large bodies of armed Mexicans are frequently seen by the American patrols.

The two regiments will be carried to their new camps in the big army motor trucks, which have a capacity of thirty men each. They will relieve the South Carolina regiment and the First Kentucky, which will return to their regular camps in the trucks which take out the Second and Third Kentucky. The First Kentucky has been patrolling the border for a distance of fifty miles below the city, a country which abounds in small game, and the soldiers have been feasting for the past fifteen days on wild ducks, quail and rabbits. So well did the men of the First like the patrol work that many of them expressed a desire to remain at it for another fifteen-day period.

Territory Assigned. The Second will occupy the stations vacated by the First, which extend from El Paso south to Fort Hancock, a distance of fifty miles. The Third Kentucky will relieve the South Carolina regiment, which has been scattered from the city to Las Cruces, N. M., a distance of fifty miles.

Owing to an outbreak of measles and mumps among the companies of the South Carolina regiment, stationed at Las Cruces, C and M. Companies, of the Third Kentucky, will be held here until the quarantine on the South Carolinians is raised.

In the border patrol work the reg-

iments are broken up into companies and located at intervals along the border. Frequently the companies also are broken up and smaller stations established in order to give protection to every point. Cavalry stations are also established and patrols along the border made nightly.

VILLA SAYS SCOTT AND HE COULD END TROUBLE

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 16.—If a conference could be arranged between Francisco Villa and Gen. Hugh L. Scott, of the United States army, an agreement could be reached which would settle all differences between the United States and Mexico, according to a statement made to the military authorities here today by a Mexican who claimed to have direct authority from Villa to make such a proposal.

"Gen. Scott is a good man," Villa is quoted as telling his representative, "and we almost settled the Mexican question at one time."

The envoy said he had been authorized to make clear that Villa holds no enmity toward the people of the United States, but only toward those officials he believes accomplished the recognition of Carranza and permitted Carranza troops to pass through American territory to Agua Prieta, where Villa lost a decisive battle.

A DEAD FROM DRINKING

Joliet, Ill., Dec. 16.—Four prisoners in the Illinois State penitentiary here are dead, two others are expected to die and three others are ill as the result of drinking wood alcohol which they extracted from shellac in an effort to satisfy their cravings for liquor. The deaths occurred last night and early today, but the facts were not revealed until an inquest this afternoon.

The men were employed in the shoe shop, where shellac is used. They brought the alcohol to the surface by adding salt to the shellac. It is believed they consumed two quarts of the poison. All became ill soon afterward. One man when told that he was dying confessed what they had done.

HARVARD PSYCHOLOGIST DIES SUDDENLY

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 16th.—Hugo Munsterberg, distinguished psychologist and director of the psychological laboratory of Harvard University, died suddenly in a classroom at Radcliffe College today.

Prof. Munsterberg had begun a lecture on elementary psychology before sixty young women. He had talked for about a half hour when he stretched his hand toward the desk as though to steady himself. Before any one could reach him he had fallen and was unconscious when Dr. Harold E. Purtt, an instructor, sprang to his side. Death came in twenty minutes.

15,000 MEN DIE AS RESULT OF GAS EXPLOSION

Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 16.—Fifteen thousand workmen are idle here today as a result of a serious shortage of natural gas, which has forced almost every factory and mill in the Wheeling district dependent upon gas for fuel to close. The shortage is said to be due to the severe winter weather here.

Large glass factories at Bellair, O., Moundsville and Wheeling are operating only a few departments. Thus far there has been no shortage of gas to domestic consumers.

MOORE WOULD MAKE USE OF FORMER PRESIDENTS

Washington, Dec. 14.—Former Presidents Taft and Roosevelt, and all other future Presidents of the United States after their terms expire, would be given a seat in the House of Representatives without a vote at a salary of \$25,000 yearly by a bill introduced today by Representative Moore, of Pennsylvania. Candidacy for any public office would automatically bar such men from membership in the House.

HOT OIL IS HURLED OVER PASSENGER TRAIN

Iowa Falls, Ia., Dec. 16.—Three hundred gallons of hot oil were hurled over an Illinois Central passenger train here today when the locomotive of the train struck an oil tank wagon. The tank exploded. Joseph Taylor, driver of the wagon, was fatally burned and the crew of the locomotive slightly burned.

EIGHT-HOUR ACT REPEAL FOUGHT

Chastise Both Sides, if Necessary Says Adamson

MEASURE PASSED GOOD FAITH

Must Stand—Compromise Between Factions Will Be Highly Welcomed.

THIS MAY END COURT ACTION

Washington, Dec. 15.—Reports that railroad and brotherhood heads in peace conferences have planned to propose the repeal of the Adamson act and the substitution of a working agreement of their own making for it today aroused Representative Adamson, author of the law, to declare that Congress would "spank both sides to the controversy if necessary."

Mr. Adamson, who is the House representative of President Wilson in railway legislation matters, is willing to cooperate in any plan employees and employers may evolve for the interpretation of his law as applied to working conditions, but will vigorously oppose repeal of it, as he thinks will the majorities of both houses.

Will Not Repeal. "Congress will not agree to any repeal of the Adamson law," he said tonight. "The measure was passed in good faith and it is a constitutional enactment regulating hours of labor and not wages. Let the roads and their men settle their wage disputes.

"I hope that the negotiations between the railroads and their employees will result in an agreement which will not make further legislation necessary, but Congress will see that the public gets a fair deal. If it becomes necessary to spank both sides we'll spank them, though I hope that won't be necessary."

Representative Adamson looks upon the efforts of the railroad and brotherhood heads to get together optimistically, however. He says the result of the presidential election made the employers more eager for peace than they were last fall and that the growing belief that the President stands for a compulsory arbitration law has put the brotherhood leaders in a conciliatory frame of mind.

Neither labor nor employer leaders here have offered suggestions to how what phases of the railway situation the employers were taking up. Belief is current, however, in congressional circles that the foremost feature of the final agreement will be an interpretation of the Adamson law as satisfactory to both sides that the suit to test the act's constitutionality, now before the Supreme Court, may be withdrawn.

Repeal of the law, it is thought, hardly will be suggested. It is pointed out that many members of both houses, having defended the law on the stump last fall, would not be anxious to defend the repeal of it in the next campaign.

A plan for the investigation of threatened strikes also is expected to result from the deliberations. Labor is determined that no compulsory arbitration law shall go on the statute books, but, realizing that the President evidently is very serious in his determination to prevent strike crises without investigation, they will exert every effort to draft a compromise plan that will have his indorsement.

No Interference. The conferences are proceeding, all parties to them maintain, without the official promise of Administration leaders that action on the President's railway legislation program will be held up pending an agreement. Congressional leaders are watching them closely, however, and nothing will be done to interfere with their progress for the present.

Mr. Adamson will make an attempt in the House tomorrow to get unanimous consent for action on his resolutions designed to provide for a continuance of the life of the Newlands commission, investigating all phases of the transportation problem.

(Continued on 8th page.)