

# BANK TAX LAW MAY REMAIN

### That's the Prospect in the Senate at Present

### IS REPORTED FAVORABLY

Idea of Final Adjournment of the Legislature Is Fast Being Lost in Belief That an After-holiday Session Will Be Required.

The Senate bill which proposed to cut down the tax on savings deposits in national banks and trust companies and national banks from 7-10 of one per cent. to 1/2 of one per cent. is not likely to pass, although it has been reported favorably by the committee on banks. The bill came up yesterday, and when the committee was questioned by Senator Gorston the fact was developed that although the decrease in the tax would cut down the revenue to the state, the banks expected to raise their interest rate to four per cent. and thus attract enough more deposits to more than make up the decrease. As a matter of fact, if there were no increase in deposits the change proposed by the bill would mean a loss to the state of over \$155,000 annually, to offset which would require several millions more in deposits. In 1910, when the law limiting the amount that could be deposited in a savings bank exempt from taxation was amended so that \$2,000 that was in any or every bank in the state was exempt, it was thought that it would so largely increase deposits that the state would be a large gainer. The change brought the state in about \$15,000, and this fact is considered to have some bearing on what would happen if this Senate bill should become law.

The idea of a final adjournment before Christmas seems to have been pretty much given up. The progress this week in disposing of business has been slow, and when the House yesterday spent over two hours discussing a measure to allow towns to vote to have the road commissioners appointed by the selectmen, it about put an end to any lingering idea that anyone might have had of getting through before the holidays. With only 13 more working days left, it seems an impossibility, even if eight sessions were resorted to for with the amount of committee work remaining this would not help matters any.

The bill to change the three town of Essex county from Guildhall to Brightown is pretty sure to be reported adversely by the committee on town lines. At the hearing held on the bill, only three of the thirteen towns in the county favored the change, and the committee is not disposed to recommend any change unless it is satisfied that a majority of the people of the county demand it. There seems to be little doubt but that there are better facilities for holding court at Island Pond than at Guildhall, and the trouble comes from the inaccessibility of Island Pond to the ten towns that oppose the change. Then, too, there is a feeling in the rest of the county that there is too much of a preponderance of Grand Trunk interests in Island Pond to make it a healthy place in which to hold the court in which so much railroad litigation is tried.

A neat dodge was tried in the House yesterday, when the bill granting the right to the Champlain Realty company to run logs in the Ottaquechee river, came up with an adverse report. An amendment was at once proposed, which strikes out all after the enacting clause in the bill and substitutes practically what was struck out, but in a little different language. This comes pretty near violating one of the House rules and will probably not serve to save the bill. If this bill is killed, the company will not probably make an attempt to push another bill granting it similar rights on the Mad river.

The Senate and House committees on railroads will be taken to Brattleboro next Tuesday, to look over the situation there with reference to the charter asked for by the Boston & Maine road to build from Brattleboro to South Vernon. The Central Vermont road will provide a special train, which will leave Montpelier about 8 o'clock, returning the same day.

## HOUSE—WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

H. 536, relating to the election or appointment of town road commissioners. Mr. Marsh of Sheldon proposed an amendment, which was adopted, which provides that the selectmen shall organize five days after town meeting. Another amendment proposed by Mr. Ladd of Essex was adopted, one proposed by Mr. Mason of Pawlet was rejected, as was an amendment proposed by Mr. Ives of Mt. Holly. The bill as amended was passed, 129 to 74.

## Passed in Concurrence.

S. 17, to provide for indexing probate records.  
S. 53, to incorporate the City Trust Co. of Burlington.  
S. 56, relating to publication known as the Vermont court procedure.  
S. 98, relating to the duties of the supervisors of the insane.

## Passed in Concurrence with Proposal of Amendment.

S. 84, relating to hearings before superior judge.

## Killed.

H. 136, relating to pollution of waters of New Haven river.  
H. 154, relating to sale of intoxicating liquor.  
H. 387, relating to hunting with rifles.  
H. 417, relating to legal holidays.

## Bills Introduced.

H. 560, from committee on municipal corporations, an act granting certain powers to the village of Hyde Park.  
H. 561, from committee on municipal corporations, to enable the Swanton Falls union school district to issue bonds for the purpose of building a new school-house. May bond for not to exceed \$40,000.  
H. 562, from the committee on state

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schools, providing for the location and establishment of a state normal school.

H. 563, from committee on grand list, to provide for correcting and legalizing invalid abstracts of individual lists, grand lists and quadrennial appraisals, and amending section 570 of the P. S.

H. 564, from the committee on grand list, an act to legalize the grand list and quadrennial appraisal of the town of Stamford for 1910.

H. 565, from the committee on agriculture, substitute for H. 293, an act in amendment of and in addition to No. 163 of acts of 1908, relating to the powers and duties of the cattle commissioner.

H. 566, from committee on agriculture, an act to establish a board of veterinary registration. Provides state board of three veterinarians, graduates and in active practice, governor to appoint for one, two and three years; members to receive \$3 and expenses.

## Bills Killed.

H. 298, enlarging the authority of the village of Norwich.

H. 325, providing for monthly auditing of expense accounts of employees of the public statutes, relating to additional polling places.

H. 442, relating to the election of town officers by ballot.

H. 449, relating to the payment of salaries of appointive state officers.

## Bills Signed.

Gov. Mead has signed the following House bills:

H. 174, an act to amend section 15 of No. 382, acts of 1906, as amended by No. 355 of acts of 1908, relating to the charter of Brandon Savings Bank and Trust company.

H. 261, an act to amend sections 5023, 5047, 5069 and 5088 of the public statutes, relating to militia.

H. 366, an act relating to the discharge of mortgages.

H. 78, an act to amend section 153 of the public statutes, relating to additional polling places.

H. 434, an act ceding to the United States exclusive jurisdiction of certain lands in this state.

H. 480, an act to pay the town of Chelsea the sum therein named.

H. 485, an act to pay certain town and village treasurers the sums therein named.

H. 435, an act to pay O. E. Williams the sum therein named.

H. 411, an act to pay certain claims for cattle killed and veterinary services.

H. 354, an act relating to the confinement of persons acquitted by reason of insanity.

H. 277, an act to change the name of Fair View Cemetery association to Medtowel Valley Cemetery association.

H. 458, an act to incorporate the New Haven West Cemetery association.

H. 321, an act to incorporate the Ascotbury Mountain association.

H. 287, an act to incorporate the Morristown and Middlesex Railroad company.

H. 80, an act to amend the charter of the Winooski and Burlington Horse Railroad company, now the Burlington Traction company.

H. 152, an act to amend section 5338 of the public statutes, relating to damage done by deer.

Joint resolution originating in the House, relating to the investigation of the rates of transportation of the Montpelier & Wells River Railroad company.

## SENATE—WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

On motion of Senator Powell, S. 53, relating to taxation of savings banks and trust companies, was made a special order for Thursday at 2:30. Senator Porter called up S. 1, relating to exemption from taxation, but it was again withdrawn.

## Killed.

S. 77, an act amending 3155 of the public statutes, relating to the custody of minors.

S. 78, an act to amend section 4088 of the public statutes, relating to chauffeurs' badges.

S. 36, an act providing for a pedestal for the Collamer statue.

## Like a Man.

"Well, old Jenkins certainly bore his misfortune like a man," said his friend. "Ah! Courageous, and all that sort of thing, what?" said the man, who did not know Jenkins. "Well, not so much that," said his friend. "As a matter of fact, he made rather a fuss about it. What I meant was that he blamed it all on his wife."—London Globe.

# "BOMBS" IN TAFT MESSAGE

### Reference to Lumber May Cause Explosion

### HE HINTS THAT REMOVAL

of Duties Is Not Impossible—Sensation in Disagreement with Ballinger—It Might Easily Result in the Secretary's Resignation.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Bombs are hourly being plucked from President Taft's message, as that remarkable document is studied more at leisure. One that will explode loudest is the very clear threat of the president of the removal of the lumber duties. While the hearings of the ways and means committee were in progress and thereafter, a strenuous attempt was made to discover the existence of a so-called lumber trust, but it failed and the lumber men exultingly pointed out to Congress that no trust condition prevailed in the industry hence no removal or reduction of the duties would be warranted on that score.

President Taft, however, appears not to have been contented to leave the situation in this shape and in his message he showed that while no trust or combination in the manufacture of lumber exists, a direct investigation made by the commissioner of corporations of eighty per cent. of the privately owned timber demonstrates that one-half of the timber in this area is owned by two hundred individuals and corporations and fourteen per cent. is owned by three corporations. The commissioner discovered, also, a very extensive interownership of stock and other circumstances pointing to such friendly relations among the owners as might easily lead to a combination to hold up prices. The president regards these relations as circumstances "very detrimental to the public interest," and they would, he says, "create the necessity of removing all tariff obstacles to the free importation of lumber from other countries."

These significant lines have alarmed the lumber interests as represented in Congress and have correspondingly encouraged statements of one kind or another to bring some glory to the Republican party, by achieving a little tariff revision at this session. The lumber duties are comparatively simple and the administration, if it were willing to encourage any tariff action in the near future, might not feel under obligation to wait a special report of the tariff board before consenting to action. The president's words at least, are a hint to the lumber industry that if too high prices are found to prevail, without any break along the line, evidence enough has already been adduced from official sources to warrant a removal of the protection which the unbroken line of high prices itself would prove to be unnecessary.

An even more sensational paragraph in the message is that in which the president admits himself to be in sharp disagreement with Secretary Ballinger over the question of leasing public coal lands, a policy which the president approves and the secretary does not. The president advertises to the country deliberately that he has overruled the secretary on this very important point. This action at least invites a popular inference whether a cabinet officer so frankly discredited by his chief on a great question of public policy would care to continue a member of the administration. From the interior department also comes the interesting information, officially, of course, that Secretary Ballinger and Land Commissioner Dennett are not on good terms. One reason is said to be that the commissioner's support of the secretary during the recent investigation was rather more lukewarm than Mr. Ballinger liked. It has been announced as one of the purposes of the new Democratic administration to reopen the whole Ballinger-Pinchot question in case satisfactory action should not be taken in the course of the present session of Congress.

## GOTCH OUT OF WRESTLING.

World's Champion Has Retired from the Mat for Good.

Chicago, Dec. 8.—Frank Gotch, world's wrestling champion, who has defended his title successfully from the invasion of foreign grapplers since he wrestled the championship from Hackenschmidt in 1908 and who announced his retirement from the mat game when he threw Zbyzsko last winter, has arrived in Iowa to be a spectator at the Hackenschmidt-Westergard match at the Coliseum.

The first statement which Gotch made to friends, who were eager to find out if he would be willing to consider a match with Hackenschmidt, was to the effect that he is through with wrestling and that no inducement could bring him back onto the mat. "I am through with the mat game," Gotch said, in answer to a number of queries about his future plans. "I made this announcement last winter, and I am going to show the world that I was sincere in making the statement."

## KNIGHT GETS FEE OF \$95,000.

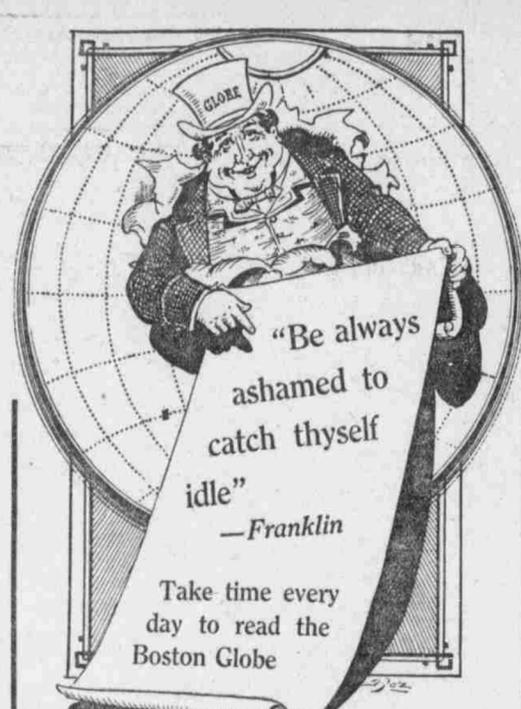
Allowed by Judge for Settlement of the Yerkes Estate.

Chicago, Dec. 8.—Judge Charles S. Cutting in the probate court yesterday allowed Attorney Clarence A. Knight \$95,000 attorney's fee for his services as counsel for the estate of the late Charles T. Yerkes and for Louis Oswald, its executor. He had asked \$250,000.

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SATURDAY, Dec. 10—"Colonies and the Constitution," by Joseph W. Bailey.

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## LIBERALS STILL AHEAD

But Unionists Made Some Gains

NET GAIN OF 4 YESTERDAY

In Four Days' Voting, Liberals Have Elected 134 Members and Unionists 170—Waldorf Astor Is Returned.

London, Dec. 8.—The standing of the parties at the close of yesterday's polling was: Government coalition, Liberals 123, Irish nationalists 38, laborites 23, total 184.

Opposition, unionists 170. The unionists secured six gains in yesterday's pollings and suffered a loss of only two seats. They thus return to the position held previous to Tuesday's voting. The unionist total gains for the four days are eighteen, the liberal gains, eleven and labor four. The O'Brienites (nationalists) hold five seats.

The most notable unionist victory was in Cardiff, which has gone unionist only once in a quarter of a century. This victory was largely due to the personal popularity of Lord Crichton-Stuart, who overcame a liberal majority of 1,853, winning by 299, and the withdrawal from politics of the old member D. A. Thomas, who was replaced in the liberal interest by Sir C. Hyde.

There was an even greater surprise, however, in the capture of Plymouth by Waldorf Astor and A. Shirley Bent, John Burns' old opponent in Batavia, who took Sir M. Durand's place as the running mate of the young Anglo-American. They proved a good team and the work that Mr. Astor has done in the constituency was shown in his success in replacing C. E. Mallett, financial secretary of the war office, who is the first minister to be defeated. In addition, young Astor headed the poll.

The government gets some comfort from London, all the districts of which are now polled. Yesterday the liberals won Stopey, which was unionist in the last election, and labor gained Bow and Bromley.

Speaking at Wrexham last evening Mr. Balfour practically admitted defeat and implored the government, if it did not like tariff reform, to reconsider the whole situation before the next colonial conference, and suggest some other method of meeting the impending danger, which was dependent upon the position of the government and its obligation to "toe the line."

## His Heirlooms.

"An heirloom," explained the farmer's wife to her 13-year-old boy, "is something that has been handed down from father to son, and in some instances is greatly prized."  
"I'd prize these heirlooms I'm wearing," remarked the youngster, "a good deal more if they wasn't so long in the legs."—Everybody's.



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Dartmouth from their football schedules, relations with Brown might then be resumed. Robert Keeler, a well-known Dartmouth football man, said yesterday:

"It is our desire to beat Harvard and Princeton and anything outside of that we don't want. If we play Brown before playing Princeton and Harvard, we shall weaken our chances of victory over those teams and if we play Brown after meeting Princeton and Harvard, we should not be in condition to play our best game."

A number of athletic leaders who were questioned on the matter, thought that any Brown overtures looking to a resumption of athletic contests would be rejected.

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