

# EARLY ACTION ON TAX CUT IS PLAN

WOULD RELIEVE INCOMES OF \$12,000 BY LOWER SUR-TAX.

Plymouth, Vt.—Enactment of a tax reduction bill before March 15, when first payments of the new year are due, was promised to President Coolidge by administration financial leaders.

Substantial reductions in the income tax rates, both surtax and normal, as well as elimination of many of the miscellaneous taxes, were declared possible after a conference here between the executive, Secretary Mellon, Senator Smoot, Utah, chairman of the finance committee, and Representative Tilson, Connecticut, who will be the republican floor leader next session.

Estimates of the treasury were presented by Secretary Mellon, and the tax program began to assume definite shape. Mr. Mellon made no definite recommendations, but Chairman Smoot and Mr. Tilson later declared for a cut in the surtax rate, applying on incomes of \$12,000 and over, from the maximum of 40 per cent to 20 or 15 per cent. They also proposed a reduction of the normal rates from 2 to 1 per cent on incomes of \$4,000 and under, from 4 to 3 per cent on incomes between \$4,000 and \$8,000, and from 6 to 5 per cent on incomes over that amount.

Early action on the tax reduction bill, which will be the major domestic issue before the next Congress, is predicated on the plan of Chairman Green, of the house ways and means committee, to call that committee together in October for consideration of the measure. President Coolidge will leave to this committee and treasury experts most of the work of drafting exact terms of tax legislation.

If the committee has prepared its bill by the opening of Congress in December, Representative Tilson said he would give it the right of way on the house calendar, believing it can be sent to the senate by the first of the year. This would leave two months for action by the senate and for ironing out of differences between that body and the house.

**Business Finer Than Last Year.**  
Washington.—Further early reports on business conditions to the department of commerce indicate substantial increases over July, 1924, in most lines, including production of pig iron and steel ingots, unfilled steel orders, production of zinc, value and area of building contracts awarded, deliveries of tin, receipts of wool at Boston, loadings of freight cars and sales of leading ten-cent chain stores. Grindings of corn for glucose and starch manufacture were less than a year ago.

Compared with July, 1925, increases occurred in zinc production, tin deliveries, receipts of wool at Boston and in awards of concrete paving contracts and of building contracts, measured in area. Declines occurred from June in the production of pig iron and steel ingots, unfilled steel orders, the value of building awards, grindings of corn, loadings of freight cars and sales of ten-cent chains.

French business interests are becoming less hesitant, and some signs of renewed confidence in the stability of affairs are now being manifested. Among the leading causes of this trend are the favorable balance shown by the budget, and the moderate success of the gold loan. A complete return to optimism is, however, retarded by the further rise in note circulation and the still unsettled status of the French foreign debt. Production in the heavy industries continues at a high level, but purchases are still restricted to immediate needs.

**Forge New Superpower Link.**  
Harrisonburg, Va.—A new link in the proposed superpower chain of the southern Appalachians was forged when four independent companies of the Shenandoah valley merged to form the new Shenandoah River Power company.

The merger is said to involve more than a million dollars. The properties will be operated by Ives and Davidson, New York. The majority of the stockholders of the four old companies have transferred their holdings to the new corporation.

The merged companies were: Waynes Cave Light and Power company, the Valley Light and Power company of Woodstock; F. A. Shank company, Timberville and T. A. Andrick company, New Market.

These plants supply virtually all the light and power to small communities in northern Augusta, Rockingham and Shenandoah counties.

**New Court Ruling in Whiskey Cases.**  
New York.—Federal agents must procure evidence of actual sale of liquor before they obtain search warrants against private dwellings, under a ruling of Federal Judge Atwell, of Dallas, Texas, presiding temporarily in the local court.

Judge Atwell revoked a search warrant under which the home of Daniel Massello, in the Bronx, was raided. Prohibition Agent Koehler, who procured the warrant, said he saw barrels of liquor loaded from the premises on trucks.

# MOTHER AND SON ARE FOUND DEAD

Camden, N. J.—With skulls crushed, the bodies of Mrs. Catherine Audia and her three-year-old son, John, were found partially buried under a pile of coal in the cellar of their home here.

Both mother and child had been murdered with a bloodstained mallet which lay near the bodies. The mother was dead when the bodies were discovered, but the child, while unconscious, was still breathing. The boy died shortly afterward, however.

# BEER FLOOD FLOWS IN EAST

READ PRE-WAR "HOPS" DISPLACING WHISKEY, SAYS DIRECTOR.

Washington.—A rising tide of real pre-war beer is flowing through the east, challenging every effort of the prohibition department to check its circulation and is rapidly displacing hard liquors as the major commodity of syndicate bootleggers, according to Prohibition Director Merrick.

Three carloads of beer seized by prohibition agents from Mr. Merrick's office, bringing the total seizures during the past 30 days to 6,000 barrels, valued at \$100,000.

The increase in beer traffic is traceable to the manufacture of real beer by supposedly defunct breweries, located in the main in New Jersey and Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, the director said. A competitive famine of hard liquors due to the disposal of the rum fleets was declared to be another factor giving impetus to its popularity.

"Investigation by agents has disclosed that the greater part of the beer flowing into eastern cities is coming from breweries located in and about Scranton, Pa.," Mr. Merrick said, "but we have seized considerable beer consigned by freight from New Jersey and Massachusetts."

To combat the new situation, special investigators have been assigned to "mop up" offending districts in the middle Atlantic states, Mr. Merrick said. Special attention will be directed toward the security of freight cars, by means of which most of the beverage is shipped.

Little beer is trickling over the border from Canada, the director said. Investigation of seizures, however, have shown the location of the beer manufacturing centers are not confined to the east, he said, much of the illicit beverage filtering into the east from Chicago. The flow is in both directions.

**Threatened Mellon.**  
Kansas City, Mo.—Will K. Reele, insurance man and for years a crusader for prohibition, was arrested here and admitted authorship of an anonymous letter threatening the life of Secretary Andrew W. Mellon of the treasury. The letter charged Mr. Mellon with treason in connection with the enforcement of prohibition and was mailed July 31.

**Another Auto Murder.**  
Manhattan, Kans.—Fears that William Sangwin, of Herrington, Kans., had met a fate similar to that of A. R. Clawson, motorist, who was killed by a pedestrian he befriended, were expressed here as police began an investigation of Sangwin's disappearance. His touring car was found abandoned here Saturday night without a license.

**Take Suspected Runner.**  
Miami, Fla.—J. H. Horne was placed under \$2,000 bond and A. T. Horne lies in a Fort Lauderdale hospital following the capture of the men on board a fast motor boat alleged to have been a rum runner. The capture was effected at New River inlet, near Fort Lauderdale, by members of the coast guard patrol working out of Miami.

**Board Asks For Big Sum.**  
Washington.—The shipping board asked for \$22,500,000 for the coming fiscal year and was told by the budget bureau it need not expect more than \$15,300,000.

For the present year the appropriation is \$24,000,000, and last year it was \$30,900,000.

Of the total requested \$22,000,000 would go to the fleet corporation and \$540,000 to the board itself. President Palmer had asked for only \$18,000,000 for the corporation, but not a member of the board supported his estimate. Commissioner Lissner was the only one of the six members present who refused to vote for \$22,000,000 and he favored \$20,000,000.

# SNAPS PICTURES OF RIFLE BALLS

NEW ELECTRIC APPARATUS TAKES SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS.

Washington.—By working out electrically timed photographic apparatus the bureau of standards has been enabled to take a new series of photographs of rifle bullets, and time the release of gas and sound waves from the weapons used.

The first result of the operations, described by Philip P. Quayle, has been to throw new light on the theory of ballistics, or which military experts have worked in developing weapons.

Mr. Quayle gets his photographs by the light of an electric spark which has roughly a duration of a millionth of a second. With new and speedier types of plates it is thus possible to get a number of entirely separate pictures of each bullet, though the projection is, speeding at the rate of 2,700 feet per second. The sound wave, the disturbances in the air from the bullet's passage, and the gas blast behind the bullet, are recorded on the plate.

One of the ordnance theories to fall before the evidence of the photographs is that the speed of a bullet from an army rifle increases for some distance after it emerges from the muzzle. The blast of the explosive gases in its rear was supposed to accomplish this acceleration, but Mr. Quayle's photographs show the projectile drawing swiftly away from the gas within a few inches from the muzzle.

Likewise, another of his photographs "demonstrates the futility of attempting to silence a revolver by attaching various contraptions to the muzzle." A sound wave on firing was found to be propagating itself merrily from the junction of the revolver cylinder and the barrel, well back of the muzzle.

**Glorious Fourth Sent 111 to Grave.**  
New York.—The results of a survey of casualties of this year's Fourth of July celebration by the American Museum of safety and the National Committee for the Prevention of Blindness, given out shows that 111 were killed and 1,030 injured. The analysis is made of reports from 500 cities in 36 states.

A majority of the victims were children. Approximately 800 of the casualties occurred July 4, while more than 200 were recorded before and after independence day, some as early as June 24 and others as late as July 23. Only 30 of the casualties occurred in connection with public celebrations.

Of the 111 deaths, 3 of the victims, mostly children, lost their lives as a result of their clothing being ignited by so-called harmless sparklers. Six very young children are reported to have died of poisoning from eating firecrackers.

**Optimism Rules in Trade.**  
New York.—Further indications of recent improvement in business came to light last week, with no adverse factors developing to chill the cheerful sentiment prevailing in most lines of trade.

Commodity prices were somewhat mixed. Despite record-breaking gasoline consumption there was a further easing of gasoline prices, particularly along the Atlantic seaboard, in reflection of the apparent desire of refiners to reduce surplus stocks. Further reductions are expected by the trade next week unless there should be a marked falling off in crude production.

Steel centers report expanding mill operations, with producers apparently more interested in maintaining present prices than raising them. The decrease of about 170,000 tons in the July unfilled tonnage statement of the United States Steel corporations, which was made public early in the week, was slightly larger than had been expected, and brought orders on hand to the lowest level of the year.

**Mexico's Trade Growing.**  
Washington.—The more than \$15,000,000 increase in American exports to Mexico in 1924 over 1923 represented heavier purchase of a variety of goods, including fuel and lubricating oil, distillate, gasoline, automobiles and tires, the Mexican embassy pointed out in a trade analysis made public. Mexican imports from this country this year totaled \$135,674,703 American money.

The embassy's analysis declared the expanded buying due to increased industrial activity, larger use of automobiles, heavier exports of certain products, and improved purchasing power of the population because of stable conditions.

# FIRE IN HOTEL COSTS THREE LIVES.

Long Branch, N. J.—Two firemen and a 16-year-old girl were burned to death, two other firemen and two women were injured, and 600 guests were routed from their rooms, when fire destroyed the dining room and servants' quarters of the New Atlantic hotel in Ocean avenue. The damage was estimated at between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

A ship some distance at sea sent in the alarm after observers aboard had seen the smoke. Leona Allen, of New York, a waitress, was suffocated when she returned to her room to get her clothing and money.

The two firemen, Wilbur Lloyd and Raymond Dinan, were killed when the roof of the dining-room fell as they were fighting the flames from above. Two waitresses were injured before they could escape from their rooms.

# GERMANY ASKS FOR PROPERTY REQUESTS UNITED STATES TO SURRENDER WAR-TIME SEIZURES.

Washington.—A formal communication pressing for the return of German property seized by the United States during the war has been presented to Secretary Kellogg by the German ambassador.

No comment was available at the state department beyond admission that the communication was being considered. The memorandum is understood to point out that, in view of the status of the operations of the Dawes reparations plan and the benefit to be derived from those payments by the United States, the time appears appropriate to take up for settlement the question of German properties still held by the Washington government.

In the absence of the text of the German communication or any statement as to the present attitude of the Washington government, it is not possible to say what change in the situation as to disposal of German property is forecast by the reopening of diplomatic correspondence on the question.

The policy of the United States at the time the peace treaty with Germany was put through clearly was stated so far as the sequestered property was concerned. A joint resolution adopted by Congress and made part of the treaty declared this property should be retained by the Washington government until all private claims of American citizens against Germany arising out of the war had been settled satisfactorily.

Since the ratification of the treaty, the administration consistently has held that, in adopting the resolution, Congress took out of the hands of the executive branch of the government authority to deal with disposition of the property. Congress, it has been contended, must declare its will as to what shall be done with sequestered German property before action can be taken.

**48 Arrested in Buffalo Raids.**  
Buffalo, N. Y.—Forty-nine persons, including one woman, were arrested in a series of raids on 28 downtown and East Side saloons, hotels and clubs. The raids were conducted by prohibition agents detailed here to make a secret investigation from headquarters in New York City. Much liquor was seized. The defendants were arraigned on charges of possessing and selling liquor, and maintaining public nuisances.

**India Places Ban on U. S. Cotton.**  
London.—Because shipments of American cotton may be harboring boll weevil stowaways, the government of British India has issued a ban on cotton importations from the United States, to take effect October first.

Bombay is to be the only Indian port where American cotton can enter the country and arrangements will be made there to have all such shipments fumigated on special barges at the expense of the importers.

**Two Guards and One Prisoner Killed.**  
Salem, Ore.—In a riot at the Oregon state prison, James M. Holman and J. Sweeney, two guards, were shot to death, and "Oregon" Bert Jones, notorious prison breaker and highway man, was killed. Three other men are known to have gained their liberty in a dash over the walls in a hall of bullets from the rifles of guards. The three who escaped are Tom Murray, Elsworth Kelly and A. S. Willows. Pre-arranged plans were carried into effect at 5:55 o'clock when a break was made for the prison arsenal and guns were secured.

# COTTON SUPPLY- BEING REDUCED

EXPORTS DURING THE YEAR REACHES NEARLY EIGHT MILLION BALES.

Washington.—The total supply of cotton for the cotton year 1924-1925, ending July 31, was announced by the census bureau to have been 15,635,674 bales and the distribution was 15,824,304 bales, which is 138,630 bales more than the supply due principally to the inclusion in all distribution items of the "city crop" which consists of re-baled samples and picking from cotton damaged by fire and weather.

The supply was made up as follows: On hand August 1, 1924, total 1,555,514 bales, of which 721,589 bales were in consuming establishments, 673,925 bales in public storage and at compresses, and 160,000 bales located elsewhere, including cotton for export on shipboard but not cleared, cotton being transported coastwise, cotton in transit to ports, interior towns and mills, cotton on farms, etc. Net imports totaled 303,183 bales, and gin-tings for the 12 months were 13,776,977.

The distribution was as follows: Net exports, 7,886,500 bales; consumed, 6,191,349 bales; burned, 26,000 bales; on hand July 31, 1925, 1,610,456 bales of which 866,259 were in consuming establishments; 514,196 in public storage and at compresses, and 230,000 bales located elsewhere.

**Eleven Killed, 169 Badly Injured.**  
Mines, France.—Eleven persons were killed and 169 injured in railway disaster when a crowded Paris-Calais express of twenty coaches of merry-makers bound for the seashore piled up and burst into flames just as it swept into the Amiens station.

The train is said to have been going at 60 miles an hour instead of having slowed up outside the station as the rules require. The passengers were mostly in third-class sections and so far as is known, no Americans were among the dead or injured.

Nine bodies, five of them women, have been found, some of them badly burned. It is feared others are still in the wreckage.

Two of the injured men died shortly after they were removed to a hospital and five others are in a critical condition.

The engineer escaped unhurt and his mental condition is being examined.

**Mrs. J. P. Morgan Dead.**  
Glenn Cove, N. Y.—Mrs. J. P. Morgan, wife of the international banker, died in her Long Island home from a "cardiac collapse" after being ill of sleeping sickness for two months.

No relatives were at the bedside. Mr. Morgan, informed at his Wall Street office that his wife was very ill, left before noon by train for Glen Cove. He was met at the station and rushed by automobile to the Morgan country home at Matinecock Point, on East Island, which lies a short distance off the mainland of Long Island. He reached his home three hours after his wife's death.

Guards were at once stationed at the causeway connecting east island to Long Island and none but relatives and close friends of the family were allowed to approach the home. A doctor and two attendants were at the bedside when Mrs. Morgan suffered the cardiac collapse.

Mrs. Morgan was stricken, with sleeping sickness July 14 while attending church services. Several days later it was announced she had passed the crisis and was steadily improving but she never entirely emerged from a state of coma.

**Bandits Get \$20,000.**  
Dayton, Ohio.—A robber held up six employes of the North Dayton branch of the Dayton Savings and Trust company and escaped with approximately \$20,000. The holdup man apparently had been hiding in the basement of the building all night.

**Rockefeller Gets Money.**  
New York.—The state of the late William G. Rockefeller will be reimbursed by New York state to the extent of \$327,894 under an order issued by Surrogate O'Brien. The sum covers taxes paid in New York on property located in other states.

# TO MANUFACTURE CONVICT SUITS

PENITENTIARY TO SUPPLY UNIFORMS TO COUNTIES IN THE STATE.

Raleigh.—The manufacture of convict uniforms for the county prison camps will be undertaken by the state prison, which signed a contract with the Bessemer Sales Agency, of Charlotte, to supply it with uniforms to be sold to the counties.

The sales agency, which furnishes suits to most of the county camps, has been buying from the state manufacturers. Under the contract entered into, the state prison will put its 49 women inmates to the task of making the uniforms, the sales company to supply the material.

It was estimated that the average population of all the county camps in the state will run to 4,000 and each prisoner requires about five suits a year. The state prison has been making its own uniforms all along, but the arrangement with the Bessemer Sales Agency will call on it for a greatly enlarged output.

The contract was authorized by the prison board of directors. The directors, it was announced following the meeting, are still engaged in a survey of industries in search for a practical line of manufactures for the state prison. They are desirous of establishing a few industries if they can avoid lines of work that will be competitive with private industries in the state.

Unless some special work can be found, many prisoners will continue idle, and the prison will be unable to get on a self-supporting basis. Prior to the last legislature prisoners could be worked only on the state farms, in quarries and on the roads. There is authority now, however, to set up industrial works.

**Lose Millions by Bank Failures.**  
Losses through bankruptcy in the Eastern Federal Judicial District of North Carolina during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, were approximately four million dollars greater than the bankruptcy losses during the preceding fiscal year, according to the report on bankruptcy cases recently compiled for the past fiscal year in the office of the Clerk of the United States District Court here.

Total amount of liabilities involved in the 224 cases concluded during the past fiscal year were \$10,531,711. Creditors realized \$1,331,345, or about twelve and one-half cents on the dollar, leaving net losses of \$9,200,366. The referees' costs during the past fiscal year continued to be among the lowest in the entire nation, according to S. A. Ashe, Jr., deputy clerk. The costs were only \$126,473.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, 213 bankruptcy cases were concluded. Liabilities of failing concerns were \$6,747,039. Creditors realized \$729,489, or about eleven cents on the dollar.

**State Low in School Rank.**  
New Hanover county leads all rural school systems and Greensboro all city school systems in the State according to a statistical measure of school efficiency prepared by the State Department of Public Instruction. On the same basis, North Carolina ranks forty-second among the State school systems of the United States, it was stated.

The figures were compiled by W. H. Pittman, chief clerk of the State Department of Public Instruction, for publication in the August 15 issue of State School Facts, the official publication of the department. The complete figures will be given in the publication which appears Saturday.

On the basis of 100 per cent, the average for the school systems of the State is 56.0 while the average for the school systems of the twenty-four largest cities is \$3.6. The State average for rural school systems is 50.1 and for all city schools, \$1.1.

Famlico is second among the rural county systems while Durham is close behind Greensboro in the city systems. Surry and Cherokee rank lowest among the county systems while Henderson and Mooreville are lowest among the city systems. A feature of the ranking of the city systems is that Charlotte, the second largest city in the state, ranks fourth in the bottom among the systems of the 24 largest cities.

Wake county ranks thirty-fifth among the rural county systems of the State while Raleigh is sixth among the city school systems.

The measure of school efficiency is determined on the basis of ten academic and financial factors.

**Notaries Public Commissioned.**  
The following notaries public have been commissioned by Governor McLean: S. V. Dawson, Greensboro; M. V. Blevins, Crumpler; Miss Pearl Bowman, Greenwood; Miss Ava Chapman, High Point; L. W. Cherry, Asheville; J. G. Cullton, Greensboro; J. Hal Glibbreath, Asheville; L. D. Hines, Watauga; Fred M. Scott, New Bern; Miss Mary Spencer, Carthage; J. T. Stover, Rutherford College; L. W. Summey, Rosman; Gray Wheeler, New Bern; C. O. P. Hughey, Raleigh.

State Had 299 Killings in 1924.  
North Carolina contributed more than its quota to the crime wave of the nation during the past year. 299 deaths being designated as homicides in returns made on death certificates filed with the State Board of Health for 1924. Chicago, with a record of more than a murder per day for the year, may have led the country, but this State ranks well up in the forefront.

Typhoid fever not so long ago was a large factor in the death rate of the State. It has been one of the causes of death against which both state and local health authorities have waged a major offensive. Now murder and automobile accidents each levies a greater annual toll of human life than does this once prevalent and dreaded disease.

The records show more than double the number of negro victims among the homicides as compared with the whites. The distribution is 94 white, 201 negro, and four Indian.

The homicides are divided into four classifications. Of the total, 235 were killed with firearms, 47 by knives or other piercing instruments, six were babies killed closely following birth, and 11 were killed by other means.

**Thousands Need Sanatorium Cure.**

"From 2,500 to 5,000 people could be benefited in North Carolina with proper institutional care for tuberculosis," declared Dr. G. M. Cooper, acting secretary of the State Board of Health, in commenting on the statement of Dr. P. P. McCain, superintendent of the State Sanatorium, that 36 patients now at the institution would have to be discharged in the near future because of insufficient buildings, beds and maintenance funds.

Dr. A. C. Bulla, Wake county health officer, declared that if any Wake county patients are discharged there is no place in the county to care for them.

With regard to the 48 prisoners for whom beds are reserved at the State Sanatorium, Dr. J. H. Norman, prison warden and physician, declared that it is against the law for the State's Prison to keep tubercular patients at the plant in Raleigh. Dr. Norman did not deny that there was room at the State's Prison for the patients but said the prison could not properly care for them and keep such prisoners separate from other prisoners. He added that the Legislature had authorized such prisoners to be turned over to Sanatorium because of the better facilities for treatment at the latter place.

**Tobacco Raisers Suffer Big Loss.**  
Drought during the month of July cost North Carolina tobacco farmers alone \$8,288,000, according to estimates of the damage done this one crop in the State contained in report made public by the joint crop reporting service of the United States and North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

Concerning general conditions in the State, the report says: "Dry weather has been a most discouraging factor to farmers in the Piedmont and Mountain counties during July. The Coastal districts have fared better, having had good rains ranging from rather dry in the southern to wet in the northern coastal counties. The best conditions in the State are to be found in the Central Coastal Plains, where few damaging factors have occurred this year. Dry weather hit the State just at the time when good rains would have been most helpful. Crops were beginning to mature, cultivation was the best in years, and stands, while irregular, were fair. The drought checked the growth of plants which are maturing before the fruit has reached full development."

**Part of Museum Opened.**  
Featuring the display of "the largest blockade still in captivity," a North Carolina product; mastodons' teeth, excavated in Jones county and other curios of Tar Heel interest, the first floor of the State museum, which has been closed since the spring of 1922, was reopened to the public Monday. Announcement to this effect was made by H. H. Brimley, State curator of the State department of agriculture, under the direction of which the museum operated.

Curator Brimley announced that the rest of the museum would be reopened in about four months.

The closing of the museum, which was visited by perhaps more sightseers in Raleigh than any other public place, was made necessary by the tearing down of the old agricultural building, on the site which a new building has been erected. The museum is housed in this modern fire proof structure.

The whiskey still on display had a capacity when in operation of 800 gallons. It is solid copper, with soldered joints and was captured in Northampton county by federal prohibition agents who presented it to the State.

**County Roads in Highway Maps.**  
Plans for the inclusion of well maintained county highways in the next issue of North Carolina road maps prepared by the State Highway Commission are being made by H. K. Witherpoon, assistant to the State Highway Commissioner, who has charge of the work.

Letters are being mailed to the chairmen of the road governing bodies of every county in the State asking the type and condition of the improved roads that are maintained by the counties.