

TAX RECOMMENDATIONS.

Corporation Commission Will Suggest Radical Changes in Raising Revenues.

Chairman Franklin McNeill, of the Corporation and State Tax Commission, announces the following as recommendations the Commission will make to the General Assembly:

That personal property exemption be increased from \$25 to \$200; that poll tax for State and County purposes do not exceed \$2, and that none be levied for municipal purposes; that State and county tax rate do not exceed 662-3 cents on \$100 valuation and municipal tax rate be so limited that the State, County and municipal combined will not exceed \$1 on every \$100 property valuation.

That no ad valorem tax be levied for State and pension purposes and in lieu thereof there be a tax on incomes, franchises, inheritances and some licenses; for example on the liquor traffic; that taxes for school funds and for county and municipal purposes be derived from a general property tax; that the tax now levied on trades, professions, business licenses be divided between counties and municipalities.—Raleigh dispatch.

Think He's Wealthy.

An insane colored man, who imagines himself worth millions as the result of speculation in cross-ties, and who became highly indignant because he was refused credit for large bills of goods by Front street merchants,

day afternoon until arrested and locked up at the police station. He is a tenant on Governor Russell's plantation across the river and came over to the city with the intention of making a large purchase of nearly everything for sale by Wilmington merchants. At a wholesale hardware store he bought a big bill of cutlery and tools which he said were for use in an extensive cross-tie business in which he was engaged. At a jewelry store he gave an order for seven gold watches, and left the store to get a blank check which he said he would fill out and make payment therefor. He next visited a livery stable and was inclined to make trouble because the dealer would not sell him 800 head of mules to be used in his mythical cross-tie logging camp. He returned to the hardware store and was demanding the goods he later had packed up for him, when the police took charge of him.—Wilmington dispatch.

Wife's Spirit Reveals Gold.

Mr. R. M. Hartsell, of the lower part of the county, was in our office last week, and showed us a nugget of gold weighing ten pennyweights. The finding of such a nugget is no cause for remark in our county, since so many large ones have been found here, but the manner of finding it is very unusual. Mr. Hartsell says that his wife, who has been dead 87 years, came to him in his dream, and told where he could find a nugget of gold, saying also that there were large quantities of the valuable metal near the same place. The spot indicated was about a mile from the house. The next morning bright and early Mr. Hartsell went to the place, and found the nugget in the identical spot mentioned to him in the dream. He also found evidence that there is other gold there. Mr. Hartsell is a reputable citizen, and his dream and its consequences are remarkable, to say the least.—Concord Times.

IN A CRITICAL CONDITION.

Ex-Speaker Reed has a Very Serious Attack of Kidney Disease.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The condition of ex-Speaker Reed is regarded by his physicians as most critical, that is a change for better or worse may come at any time now. Not appendicitis, but kidney complaint has shown itself. This is probably more dangerous than appendicitis.

Mr. Reed passed a fairly comfortable night and was resting easy this morning. Mr. Reed does not realize the seriousness of his condition, and is much opposed to remaining in bed, believing that he is well able to be up and about.

[Mr. Reed died at 12:10 a. m. Sunday, at the Arlington Hotel.]

Lady Curzon's Elephant.

Lady Curzon, too, has one distinction that is unique. She is the possessor of more elephants than any other Anglo-Saxon or European in the world, for more than one of her dusky admirers has sent her Ladyship an elephant, sometimes two. One of these is an immense creature with the kind of wonderful sagacity about which we all read in school readers in the days of your youth. Its unwieldy form with Lady Curzon in a white and gold howdah on its back, is often to be seen in the native bazaars, and when the beast sees anything for which it has a fancy that article is promptly handed up to its mistress. One day last year he made her a very queer present, nothing less

The Case of Rathbone.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Major Estes C. Rathbone, who was director of posts in Cuba during the period of American occupation, is in Washington for the purpose of obtaining a congressional investigation. He was tried, convicted and sentenced in connection with the Cuban postal frauds but was released under President Palma's amnesty proclamation. He continues to stoutly assert his innocence, but has no redress other than investigation of the matter by congress. Senator Hanna, who is Mr. Rathbone's sponsor, is interested in his case, and it is understood will press a resolution in the senate asking for an investigation.

Cold in the Capitol.

Washington, Dec. 4.—It was cold at the Capitol today. The coal burners are practically empty. In the Senate wing the supply is so small that almost any day there may be no heat. Sergeant-at-Arms Ramsdell had a conference with President Baer and other operators and was promised a plentiful supply, but it has not arrived and it cannot be found anywhere between Washington and the mines.

Gordwood is being used in the House furnaces, the small supply of coal being employed to run the electric lighting plant. Congress may yet have to sit in overcoats, mufflers and earmuffs.

Subscribe for the Truth-Index \$1

POINTS ABOUT MINING.

A Coal Miner Gives Some Interesting Facts About His Occupation.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 4.—Andrew Matty, a miner employed by Cox Bros., was a witness before the strike commission this morning. He said it took about 15 years to become a practical miner and become thoroughly acquainted with all the departments of the work. He told of the difficulties in securing cars and said he had frequently been in mines all day and only received one car. He said he received anywhere from twenty to twenty-two dollars a week in wages.

Some did not get ten dollars in two weeks he said. The rules of the company compelled the miners to remain in the mines even to five o'clock, and if they left their work were suspended for two days or more. He rarely saw a mine inspector. Counsel Darrow said he would show that the company boss was always accompanied by an inspector and that the miner would not dare tell of the conditions under which he labored.

Author of "Ben Hur" Very Ill.

Gen. Lew Wallace, former diplomat and the author of "Ben Hur," is seriously ill at his home in this city. His prostration came so quickly and insidiously that his family and friends were quite unprepared for the sudden and alarming announcement of the attendant physicians that the life of the distinguished Indian was hanging in the balance, and that

General Wallace was in his customary health a few days ago. Always of robust constitution, he has never been in the habit of taking extraordinary precautions for his health, and his extreme age 75 years has never deterred him from indulging himself in open air exercise that much younger men than he cannot take without risk.

A few days ago the aged author went for a hunting trip on the Kankakee river. The hunt was successful enough, but the day after his return General Wallace complained of severe neuralgia, soon afterwards he was taken with a cold and a fever, which upon medical examination turned out to have involved the lungs.—Crawfordsville, Ind., dispatch.

The Prince to Come Over.

Berlin, December 8.—In the event of Ambassador Von Helleben's retirement from the post at Washington, which is considered possible within the year, Emperor William's choice for his successor is Prince Henry XV, of Prussia. The prince has just returned from the United States, where he attended the opening of the New York chamber of commerce and is keen for the Washington appointment when the vacancy occurs. His desire was conveyed to the emperor who approved it.

Fight Will Be Bitter.

Those who will persist in closing their ears against the continual recommendation of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, will have a long and bitter fight with their troubles, if not ended earlier by fatal termination. Read what T. R. Beall of Beall, Mass., has to say: "Last fall my wife had every symptom of consumption. She took Dr. King's New Discovery after everything else had failed. Improvement came at once and four bottles entirely cured her." Guaranteed by all druggists. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

MINISTER BUCK DIES.

Representative of United States in Japan Stricken With Apoplexy.

Yokohama, Dec. 4.—United States Minister Buck died this morning while at the imperial duck shoot. The cause of his death is supposed to have been apoplexy. Another report says Mr. Buck's death was due to heart failure. The hunt occurred in the suburbs of Tokio.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The Japanese Minister called at the state department in haste to communicate to Secretary Hay a cable message he had received from the minister for foreign affairs at Tokio dated today, stating that while Mr. Buck was on a hunting trip this morning he was taken suddenly ill and expired.

Minister Buck's tenure covered a critical and important chapter of Japanese history. The state department will take the necessary steps to see that Mr. Buck's remains are brought to this country for interment, if his family so desire. Huntington Wilson secretary of legation, will be designated as charge d'affaires.

Red River Rising.

New Orleans, Dec. 5.—The flood in Red river, due to the heavy rains in Arkansas and Texas, is the highest since 1863 and is likely to grow worse for a week. The river has risen over the levee at Gold Point, twelve miles above Shreveport, stopping all traffic on the Texarkana branch of the Texas and Pacific railroad, the

negroes lived, the houses are flooded and the negroes have been compelled to leave their homes. The river is still rising with the indications that the crest of the rise will be four feet higher early next week. The only actual damage so far, however, has been to unprotected property in the valley above Shreveport. The weather bureau has advised farmers to remove their cattle to the high lands.

Young Girl Saved Train.

Clarksburg, W. Va., Dec. 4.—Miss Minnie Martin, who lives on the Short Line Railroad between here and New Martinsville, discovered a log on the track some days ago, ran back and flagged an approaching passenger train in time to prevent a wreck.

She went to the postoffice today and was given a letter from the Baltimore and Ohio Company, inclosing a check for \$50 in recognition of her bravery and presence of mind. She is only sixteen years of age and is very proud of her act.

Barrett to Succeed Buck.

Washington, Dec. 5.—While the President has not taken up for consideration the question of filling the vacancy caused by the decease of Minister Buck, it is almost certain from what was said at the cabinet meeting this morning, that John Barrett, of Oregon, former minister to Siam, will be appointed to the Japanese mission.

If you feel ill and need a pill Why not purchase the best? DeWitt's Early Risers Are little surprisers, Take one—they do the rest.

W. H. Howell, Houston, Tex., writes—I have used Little Early Risers in my family for constipation, sick headache, etc. To their use I am indebted for the health of my family.—Jas. Plummer.

TO STOP CHILD INSURANCE.

A Number of Suspicious Deaths may Lead the Authorities to Act.

The coroner's office and detective bureau are investigating the deaths of Laura, Anna and Josephine Williams, whose parents are now in prison, charged with murder. The trio were insured for \$425, only \$180 of which was collected, the company having stopped payment on the balance. Two other of the children, who also were very sick, have practically recovered under careful medical attendance.

The deaths of the children in three other families yesterday under suspicious circumstances led the coroner today to consult State Insurance Commissioner Durham relative to the abolition of baby insurance.—Philadelphia, Pa., dispatch.

A "Mental Anguish" Suit.

The peculiar misconception and misreading of a message sent from the telegraph office at Salisbury by an operator of the Western Union on the line between there and High Point some time ago, gave rise to a heartrending scene in High Point, and a suit for damages will grow out of it. Messrs. Wescott Roberson, of High Point, and J. A. Barringer, of Greensboro, have the case in hand, and announce that a suit will be brought against the Western Union, based on mental harassment growing out of negligence of the company. The amount of damages they will claim has not been given out. But the facts as the

On Nov. 20, Mr. Arthur Thompson, superintendent of a chair factory, was taken by his father-in-law, Mr. Lovelace, of High Point, to the sanatorium at Salisbury to have an operation performed for appendicitis. The next day, after a successful outcome and the patient was out of danger, Mr. Lovelace filed in the telegraph office at Salisbury, to his son at High Point, where Mrs. Thompson was with her mother, this message:—"Operation performed. Patient doing well. Return home tonight." The message delivered to Mr. Lovelace, Jr., and by him communicated to the family, read:—"Operation performed. Patient dying; will return home tonight." Upon receipt of this intelligence, Mrs. Thompson and her mother fainted, and the services of two physicians were necessary to quiet them. Mrs. Thompson was uncontrollable, however, until it was premised that she could go to Salisbury, on the next train, then nearly due.

Quite a procession accompanied her and mother to the train, both being beside themselves with grief and shock. Proceeding to Salisbury, Mrs. Thompson found her father comfortably asleep, as his train for High Point was not due, and her husband resting quietly at the sanatorium, all danger from the operation being over. Attorneys for the family say they have a clear case.

The lawyers for the Western Union on the other hand say, granting the facts to be true, as stated, there isn't any case, for it will be hard for the other side to make the company responsible to Mrs. Thompson, when it sent no message to her; the same as to her mother; that Lovelace, Jr., never got a message from Thompson, but his father, and that he was not in any legal sense supposed to be interested sufficient to be legally damaged; and that the simple communication of distressing and incorrect intelligence by second hand to his sister did not make the company liable.—Greensboro Record.

THE GOLD STANDARD.

Senator Lodge's Bill to Reform the Currency of the Philippines.

Senator Lodge has introduced a bill to establish the gold standard in the Philippine Islands and for the coinage of silver currency. The bill makes the gold dollar of the United States the standard monetary unit in the islands, authorizes the coinage of the silver peso and divisions, receivable at the rate of two pesos to the dollar, and for the issue of certificates of indebtedness redeemable in gold for the purpose of maintaining the parity between gold and silver coins.

The Mexican dollar, now the currency medium in the islands, until December 31, 1903, is to be receivable for public dues at a rate to be fixed from time to time by the Philippine government. The Philippine treasury is also empowered to receive deposits of silver bullion and issue certificates thereon, to be receivable for public dues.—Washington dispatch.

Shipwreck on N. C. Coast.

Beaufort, N. C., Dec. 5.—The gale last night was very severe here. Several small boats were wrecked and wharves were blown away. A small yacht on the way to Wilmington was a total wreck. The telephone line to Cape Lookout was blown down and nothing can be heard from there today. Several vessels were in the hook of the cape. The schooner Ida Lawrence lost her rudder Thursday. Her cargo is coal. The schooner Warren Adams is in

all right.

The bark Oliver Thurlow, which was stranded Sunday night, broke to pieces last night. The cook was killed by a falling mast and another man had his back broken. Five of the crew were rescued. Capt. Haynes of the Thurlow had his leg broken in three places below the knee. The captain set his own leg. He was brought here where he received medical attention and is now at the Russell House. The Thurlow was loaded with lumber at Charleston and was bound to New York. The ship broke while her gear was being set. The captain had advised her owners to tow her to her destination.—Special to Raleigh Post.

You Know What You Are Taking

When you take Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic because the formula is plainly printed on every bottle showing that it is simply Iron and Quinine in a tasteless form. No cure, No pay. 50c.

Restriction on Suicide News.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Representative Jenkins of Wisconsin today introduced by request, a bill prohibiting any newspaper from sending through the mails a paper containing a picture of a suicide or any details relating to the same beyond the mere statement of death, giving name, date and place.

By the terms of the measure a medical journal, in the interest of science may print further details. Violation of the provision is made a misdemeanor.

A Costly Mistake.

Blunders are sometimes very expensive. Occasionally life itself is the price of a mistake, but you'll never be wrong if you take Dr. King's New Life Pills for Dyspepsia, Dizziness, Headache, Liver or Bowel troubles. They are gentle yet thorough. 25c at all druggists.