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## NEW ASSESSOR IN EACH CO.

### HOUSE BILL TO RAISE REVENUE AND ARRANGE TAXATION

### WILL THE BILL EQUALIZE?

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 26.—The Revenue Act as it passed the House contained few changes from the old law and few new subjects of taxation were included.

The important thing about raising revenue is the Machinery Act, which Chairman Doughton, for the Finance Committee, has reported. It has been ordered printed and was today placed on the desk of the members. Chairman Doughton and the committee believe they have framed a machinery act that will put proper valuations on the property and raise the proper revenue.

The act makes a radical departure in the method of assessing property. Heretofore the system has called for three assessors in each township without the proper direction and aid. Under the new act very large powers are given to the Tax Commission. They are required to visit all the counties in the State and to give full instructions, to hear and investigate complaints, to constitute a State Board of Equalization "to equalize the valuations of real property among the several counties in the State" in the manner prescribed by the act, and name county assessors. The most important and best feature is embraced in the following section:

"Section 15. The State Tax Commissioners shall, on or before the first day of April, one thousand nine hundred and eleven, appoint one discreet freeholder of each county in the State, who shall be an experienced and practical business man, to be known as county assessor. Such county assessor shall hold his office for two years, and may devote his whole time to the duties of the office for not exceeding three months in each year, from the first day of May to the thirty-first day of July, and shall receive such compensation as the board of county commissioners shall deem just, not exceeding the sum of four dollars per day for such time as he may actually and necessarily be engaged in performing the duties of the office. In the event that the office becomes vacant during the term, the State Tax Commissioners shall, as soon as possible, appoint another person to act as and perform the duties of county assessor for the balance of that term."

The date of assessing property is changed from June first to May first. Section 16 provides that the county commissioners shall name "one discreet freeholder in each township" who shall be known as assistant assessor who shall list and assess the property in that township for taxation. He shall be employed as much time as may be necessary for two months—May and June. The county assessor shall meet with the township assessors and the county assessor shall visit every township at least one day during the assessing period and confer with and instruct them. When the assistant assessors shall complete their work "the county and assistant assessors shall revise such list" and "make such changes as may be agreed upon as to the values of the property listed and assessed by the said assistant assessors. In case of a disagreement, the matter shall be referred to and decided by the county board of equalization." Here is the way the township assessors must perform their duties:

"Section 20. The assistant assessor shall visit each taxpayer to his township between the first and the thirty-first day of May and shall obtain from such taxpayer a full, complete, and

detailed statement of each and every piece and kind of property, real, personal, and mixed with each taxpayer shall own on the first day of May, together with as near as possible the true value in money owned by him or them or, which may be under his or their control as agent, guardian, administrator, or otherwise, and which shall be the duty of said assistant assessor to ascertain and place the actual cash value in money opposite each piece or class of property listed for taxation. He is hereby authorized and empowered to administer oaths in all cases necessary to obtain full and correct information concerning any taxable real and personal property in his township. In the event that the assistant assessor has failed to obtain such a statement from any taxpayers before the first day of June, because the assistant assessor has been unable to visit all taxpayers within the township, or in case the assistant assessor could not find such taxpayers, or for any other reason, it shall be the duty of such taxpayers to make a return of such statement of property at the home or office of the assistant assessor on or before the fifteenth day of June. And thereafter the assistant assessor, upon notice posted in five public places in his township or given in a newspaper published in his county, ten days before the time named, may require all persons, delinquent in the matter of listing their property or who have failed to list their property for any cause, to appear at the place and times stated in such notice, and list their property. Such notice shall be posted or published on or before the tenth day of June."

The township or ward assessor must discover property not listed and assess it. The Board of County Commissioners and the county assessor shall constitute a Board of Equalization for the county and shall meet on the second Monday in July. They have large power to raise or reduce assessments as may be shown to be necessary to have all property listed at its true value in money.

### Tax On Banks.

In the section on bank taxation the same provisions apply as now except as is added in the black letters in this new paragraph:

"Insolvent debts due said institution may be deducted from the items of undivided profits or surplus, if items of undivided profits or surplus, if itemized and sworn to, and forwarded to the corporation by the cashier of such institution, also, accrued and unearned interest, unpaid taxes, an amount not exceeding five (5) per cent of the bills receivable of said institution to cover any other bad or insolvent debts, and also an amount equal to the true value of any shares stock owned in North Carolina corporations upon which the tax is paid by the corporation issuing same."

### Reports From Corporations.

There is no change in this except after allowing the corporation to deduct "therefrom the assessed value of all real and personal estate upon which the corporation pays tax" this additional exemption is granted:

"And the value of the shares of stock legally held by such corporation in other corporations incorporated in this State and paying taxes on its capital stock in this State."

Spartanburg, S. C., Feb. 27.—While alone at her home on Union street Saturday afternoon, a well-known and prominent white woman was the victim of an attempted criminal assault by Gary Gist, a negro 22 years of age. When the 3-year-old child of the victim cried out, the negro brutally choked him and with his finger nails cut severe gashes in the baby's throat and also hurt a three-months-old infant.

## THE WEATHER

Fair and Colder.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 27.—For North Carolina: Fair and colder tonight and Tuesday, with moderate northwesterly winds.

## WADE WILLIAMS CAUGHT

### ANOTHER MEMBER OF WEST GANG CAPTURED IN HOUSE HERE TODAY

### ONLY ONE MORE LEFT

With information that Wade Williams alias George Brown, was in Wilson and at the home of Addie Williams, a colored woman who resides on Smith street and in a house owned by Rev. O. L. W. Smith, colored, Sheriff Sharpe, Deputies Howard Rowe and W. P. Lester and Police Officer Warren, together with a detachment from the Wilson Light Infantry, all repaired to the house said to contain the negro wanted.

The military consisted of Sergeants Wooten and Dunn and Private John Blount under command of Lieutenant W. G. Barnes. These surrounded the house while the officers entered and found Williams seated on the side of the bed. He was promptly put under arrest and brought to the Court House, where in the grand jury room he was taken and questioned by Attorneys F. D. Swindell and O. P. Dickerson, Mr. Swindell representing the State and gathering evidence for Solicitor Allsbrook while Mr. Dickerson represents Chief of Police Glover, and as such is also assisting the State.

Williams stated that he came to Wilson from Norfolk yesterday. Admitted he was in Wilson on the day of the shooting when the house was surrounded and Officer Mumford was killed and Chief Glover was wounded. He denied, however, being in the house, but tells the same tale as some of the others, namely, that he was in Jim Horne's pool room at the time of the shooting, which occurred about three o'clock in the afternoon.

Asked to give an account of his movements that day he stated that he worked for Goodie Holden, a colored man of this city until 11:30 a. m., and then went to Goodie's house and staid there until dinner, when he went to the pool room and was there when he heard of the shooting.

There remains only one member of the gang at large, Matthew Mebane, and the officers are hot on his trail.

It will be remembered that West in his confession stated Wade Williams, Jimbo Taylor, Brodie Mebane and two others were in the house when the shooting occurred.

From the confession of all the parties so far captured it is evident that they have all been together since the shooting and concocted a story to tell at the trial, so their statements would not be at variance.

It is thought Wade Williams came to Wilson through curiosity to find out how things were going and intended to leave Wilson today. The celerity with which the capture was effected shows the authorities are right on the track of the notorious West gang that made headquarters in Fayetteville and were preparing to transfer their base of operations to Wilson when they were stopped by their discovery and the tragic events surrounding it.

## COTTON MARKET

New York, Feb. 27.—January opened 13.75; March, 13.85; May, 14.12; July, 14.09; October, 12.70; December, 12.62, and at noon was: March, 13.94; May, 14.15; July, 14.13; August, 14.81; October, 12.68.

The market closed much higher: March, 14.05; May, 14.30; July, 14.28; August, 13.93; October, 12.74; December, 12.61.

Spots, Wilson market, 14c.

Mr. H. Dalrymple left this afternoon for Goldsboro.

## THE WAKE PRIMARY BILL

### WILL PROBABLY GIVE WAY TO THE HOBGOOD BILL FOR THE EN- TIRE STATE

### A WARM DISCUSSION

(News and Observer.)

Former officials of Wake county Saturday before the Senate Committee on Election Laws vehemently opposed the bill of Senator Sikes for a primary election law for Wake county. Speaking against it were former Solicitor Arimstead Jones, former State Senator William B. Jones, former Representative John W. Hinsdale, Jr., and former Representative Percy J. Olive. Speaking for the bill were Senator E. W. Sikes, Representative E. R. Pace and Mr. J. W. Bailey.

The opposition expressed itself to various features and sections of the bill which they criticized. The advocates of the bill met each objection offered by saying that they would amend the bill so as to meet these objections and offered to go into conference on these objectionable features and eliminate them. There was no response to these overtures, stated to be so as to reach a harmonious agreement.

Finally after much argument against the bill by the opposition, and explanation by its friends that its basis purpose was to have primaries on one day and to shout out Republicans from the Democratic primaries an offer was made to the opposition to substitute for it, for passage for Wake county, the bill for State-wide primaries introduced by Senator Hobgood, of Guilford, not yet passed for the State. The opposition refused to accept it as a Wake county bill and only for Wake county when passed by the State. The advocates of the Sikes bill, on the other hand, agree that they would be willing to accept the Hobgood bill for Wake, though they preferred the Sikes bill, which they had agreed to amend to meet all objections. At one time it was believed that the opposition had agreed to this, but any agreement was immediately disclaimed.

The committee, after having heard lengthy argument, adjourned to meet on Monday to take a vote on the bill for a Wake primary law. In the hearing Mr. J. W. Bailey said that it was a fact that would be conceded by former Senator W. B. Jones that Republicans had voted in Wake county Democratic primaries, that this was common knowledge and Mr. Jones said that he knew this to be so. He said that Republicans had voted 800 to 1,000 in the county precincts and Mr. Bailey said they had also voted in the city precincts. Mr. Walter Clark, Jr., made the charge that he had evidence to show that there had been repeating.

### Believe in Cotton Picker.

(News and Observer.)

"It picked the cotton all right." That was the testimony of those who had the good fortune yesterday to see the cotton picker, invented by Goodwin and Harding at work. A field of cotton unpicked at Mr. S. C. Hobby's farm had been kept for an experiment of the machine. Mr. Harding took several gentlemen out to the Hobby farm, where Mr. Goodwin had the invention at work actually picking cotton and conveying it to a storage receptacle. The simplicity of this machine, coupled with the fact that it actually will pick cotton rapidly and much cleaner than it can be picked by the old method, warrants the belief that it will prove to be a commercial success.

A simple mechanical picker, operated by a small flexible shaft at the end of a tube, into which it draws

the staple of the cotton and by a twisting motion strips it from the surrounding boll and trash, releasing it at an opening into a flexible tube conveyor, through which it is drawn by a small revolving fan, and discharged into the storage receptacle provided to receive it, is about all the description there is to give, and the only limit to its capacity is the rapidity with which the picker can be passed from boll to boll by the operator. The power was supplied by a very small gasoline engine, and the whole apparatus occupied a space about two by three feet in the back end of a light one-horse wagon. It does absolutely no harm to the growing stalks.

A small machine of this kind will operate four pickers, taking both sides of two rows through the field. One estimate made on the field as to efficiency of the machine in regular service was 11,000 pounds per day per picker, against 150 to 200 pounds per day the old way, and another was a cost of 20 cents per 100 pounds picked against 50 cents per 100 pounds the old way.

At any rate it certainly does the picking and storing act to perfection.

Among those who witnessed the demonstration were Hon. William A. Graham, Commissioner of Agriculture; Col. Charles E. Johnson, Messrs. Alf. A. Thompson, Garland Jones, C. B. Barbee, Millard Mial, Josephus Daniels, W. A. Simpkins and Fabius Whitaker, of Raleigh; J. O. McArthur, of Rowland; J. M. Mitchell, of Goldsboro, and N. D. Tomlin, of Statesville, the latter three being a committee from the Agricultural Committee of the Legislature, invited out by Major Graham at a meeting of the Board, after his return from the demonstration.

### Prominent North Carolinians To Speak In Atlanta.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 26.—J. Elwood Cox, President of the Commercial National Bank of High Point, will speak for the State of North Carolina before the Southern Commercial Congress in Atlanta March 8th, 9th and 10th. Mr. Cox was appointed a member of the State committee for this occasion by Governor Kitchin. He has had honorable connection with business affairs in North Carolina since 1883. His speech before the Southern Commercial Congress will be to the topic "The Solid South of Business." Equally distinguished men from each of the other Southern States will speak to the same topic, thus bringing together the latest authoritative word regarding the business status of each State in the South. Each of these speeches will later be used for national distribution.

Mr. Cox was born in Northampton county. He received his education in Guilford College, the Business College of Baltimore and at Earlham, and the Friends College of Indiana. He taught for a short time and in 1883 he associated himself with Capt. W. H. Snow at High Point in the manufacture of spokes, handles, shuttle blocks and bobbin heads. Some years ago Mr. Cox sold out his spoke and handle business, and has confined his factory to bobbin heads and shuttle blocks. Although he has laid the basis of his large fortune in this business, Mr. Cox has been interested financially in many of the successful enterprises of his native city and State. He is a director in the Greensboro Loan & Trust Company, director in the Virginia Trust Company of Richmond, director in the First National Bank of Thomasville, the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company and is trustee of the Guilford College endowment fund, the latter position carrying with it much responsibility.

In 1891 Mr. Cox with Dr. W. G. Bradshaw, organized the Commercial National Bank, now the largest bank in the county. At the beginning the capital stock of the bank was only \$50,000, but it has continually grown in strength and usefulness. Mr. Cox has been president of the bank since it was chartered and has been ably assisted by Dr. W. G. Bradshaw, either as cashier or vice-president. He is

## FRENCH GOV. AGAIN SHAKY

### THE LACK OF CONFIDENCE MAKES PREMIER BRIAND SICK

### THE COUNTRY ALARMED

Paris, Feb. 27.—Premier Briand and the members of his cabinet resigned today. They reached this decision Saturday afternoon at a conference in the Premier's office when the political situation was thoroughly canvassed from beginning to end. The bare majority of sixteen, which the government received Saturday in a vote of confidence in the Chamber of Deputies, following the Premier's arraignment by the radical socialists, Louis Malvy and Paul Meunier, was a sore blow to the Premier and his associates, who had been sustained many times in previous crises by much larger votes. In the end, M. Briand declared that he was "sick of it all."

The only reason for waiting until today to present their resignations to the President is that the ministers wish to show their respect for the memory of their late colleague, General Brun, whose funeral took place this morning.

There is much uncertainty as to what will happen, whether President Fallaers, after taking counsel with the leaders of the Parliamentary group will ask Mr. Briand to stay in power or whom he will invite to form a new ministry.

The decision of the ministry to withdraw has caused an enormous political sensation. The conservative newspapers are sounding a note of alarm. They declare that the forces of extreme radicalism are triumphing over sane and progressive reform, regarding the clerical issue, which was raised Saturday, as a mere pretext to attain Briand's downfall. They point out that it is ridiculous to accuse the man who constructed the separation law of clericalism, and now that the Church and State are completely divorced M. Briand has been merely following out a general program of "appeasement."

The vote in the Chamber of Deputies therefore is interpreted as the result of an intrigue among Briand's adversaries in his own party, who have been plotting his overthrow since the great crisis in the railway strike and blocking the Premier's program of arbitration in labor disputes in connection with public service corporation.

Physically and mentally, by several years of uninterrupted labors in official life, M. Briand is sincerely anxious to retire.

But beyond the matter of his personal inclination there is the unquestioned weakening of the Premier's power and of confidence in his ministry.

The socialists, who have never forgiven the Premier for modifying the extreme socialist views which he championed when he first gained public life, attacking him persistently. Recently Briand was assailed jointly by the clericals and socialists. Last night he was charged with clericalism. The discussion arose through interpretations blaming the government for not having applied the laws against religious bodies with proper severity.

president of the Globe-Home Furniture Company and owns stock in other factories.

He is a man of great public spirit, and his acquaintance extends widely outside of his native State, having among his customers and friends foreign houses.