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STATE BUDGET SYSTEM VOTED

Gray Measure is Ordered Enrolled for Ratification—Senator Connor Introduces Education Bill—Governor and the Legislature Finance Committees' Chairmen to Direct State's Budgeting.

Raleigh, Feb. 8.—The House passed without a dissenting vote the Gray bill, from the Senate, for applying the budget system to the finances of the State through the newly-created budget commission to consist of the Governor and the chairmen of the finance and appropriation committees of the Senate and House.

The bill was explained by Representative Grier at the request of Minority Leader Williams, of Cabarrus, as being most necessary, since no other business could be run as that of the State has without becoming bankrupt and only unlimited taxing power saved the State. He said no State that has tried the budget system had abandoned it, and that North Carolina was very much behind in not having adopted it earlier. Williams approved the bill, and it went through its readings without a dissenting vote and was ordered enrolled for ratification.

A bill was passed to regulate the sale of marl and lime in North Carolina.

A bill, agreed upon by the legislative committee of the State Association of Building and Loan Associations and the State Insurance Commissioner, to amend the law as to supervision and regulation of building and loan associations, was introduced in the Senate today by Senator Thompson. It fixes a \$25 annual license fee in lieu of all other license fees now paid, which would be used by the insurance commissioner to defray the expense of supervision. The measure prohibits the paying off of any series of stock until fully matured. It is specified that dividends on paid-up guaranteed stock shall be less than the association is earning, and it may have the right to share in the dividends between the guaranteed and the earned percentum and empower the commissioner to permit special investments when he

Senator Connor introduced a new Statewide educational bill, emanating from Supt. C. L. Coon, of the Wilson schools and certain other city superintendents opposed to the regular department bills for six months' schools, the budget system and minimum salary of teachers. This new bill would require any county receiving State aid to levy a special 30-cent tax and equalize its tax values in relation to valuation in other standard counties, before any State aid for six months' schools would be available.—W. J. Martin, Charlotte Observer.

Pay of Judges.

The Roanoke-Chowan Times is a trifle weary of the bimodal demand from Superior Court judges for an increase in salary. It is a fact that the salary is not sufficient to commend the services of first-grade men if they consider the position from the standpoint of salary; and the first-grade men who do go on the Superior Court bench in this State take the job for the honor or because they prefer the work rather than the pay, for they could make much more practicing law.

But the Landmark is in sympathy with the statement of the Times that the present salary of these judges, compared with the work done—time actually put in the public service—is at the rate of about \$25,000 a year for full service. That statement may be a little strong, but the Landmark believes it to be a fact, which it would undertake to prove if authorized to send for persons and papers, that the average Superior Court judge doesn't work over 50 per cent of his time; so that the judges are really getting double the present list price on a full time basis, as they collect full time pay for half time work. In other words, if the judges had to punch the time clock and were docked for time lost, some of them wouldn't begin to earn the pay they are getting now; and if they put in full time and were given double the present salary, the number of judges could be reduced about half and the work done at the same cost.—Statesville Landmark.

Fine Hogs in Bentonsville.

Mr. S. M. Cole, of Bentonsville township, was in town Friday and reported that his neighbor, Mr. M. C. Barfield, killed a fine hog on Thursday that weighed 740 pounds. This pig was a Duroc Jersey aged 26 months and one week. Mr. Barfield is a successful hog raiser, having already killed about 4,000 pounds of pork this season.

Mr. Norman Langston, another Bentonsville farmer, killed a pig last week which weighed 560 pounds.

House Votes to Abolish Central Prison at Raleigh.

(Tom Bost in Raleigh Times.) North Carolina's Central Prison building, the million and a half dollar white elephant, was unanimously abolished as a penal institution Friday morning by the House and the prisoners in this city sent to the Caledonia Farm in Halifax.

The House passed the McCain bill substitute with delay longer than the few minutes of eloquent speaking necessitated. Bryant, of Durham, made the most effective speech of the session, though he was addressing a jury with mind entirely made up. He did not seem to think so; he expected opposition. But when he called upon his own party to understand that the people back home would hold the majority to strict accounting, Republicans and Democrats applauded him and he saw for the first time that the House was predisposed to his appeal.

The act carries no appropriation, but it will take several hundred thousand dollars to put the great brick building in shape. The only conditions to the change of prison places is that the criminal insane now confined in the Raleigh institution shall be sent to another hospital of similar character. From 1,000 to 1,200 of the insane may be cared for in this building and substantially all the immediate needs met.

Governors Bickett, Craig and Kitchin have recommended removal of the prisoners held here to the farms in Halifax and Northampton, or such other localities as State prisoners are worked. Two years ago the Legislature was ready to make the change, but the bill carried an appropriation. The money is now in hand for the construction required and with the exception of the electric apparatus there is very little building necessary at the farm. It is quite impossible to abolish the chair and to restore the great public institution, hanging in the county capital, but some way will be found for continuation of legalized barbarism.

The Marshalship Bill Defeated.

The defeat of the prohibition marshalship bill on its second reading in the House is a result which liberal opinion should heartily approve. We know of nothing better calculated to make the prohibition law odious than to single it out for exceptional treatment. Once the State should adopt the policy of special prohibition constabulary the prohibition law is thereby constituted a thing apart from the body of the criminal law, with the result that the spirit of faction is kept alive, the prohibition officers are forced to extremes, and that very fact has a strong tendency to array conservative opinion in opposition to the law. Men begin by opposing the radical methods of the special officers and wind up by condoning violations of the law.

The best way to secure the enforcement of the prohibition law is by fostering and strengthening the spirit of law enforcement generally. The policy should be to assimilate liquor selling to other crime both in its essence and its prosecution. If the laws against homicide and larceny and pistol-toting are well enforced, there need be no fear for the enforcement of the prohibition law.

On the other hand, if the community is set by the ears through separate, extreme measures with reference to a particular class of offenses, all crime is likely to profit by the resulting confusion.—Carter's Weekly.

Monarchism Not Ended.

Not all the kings of the earth are to go. Albert of Belgium is already venerated as the great national hero. His people worship him almost as they worship their God.

Victor Emmanuel of Italy, has fought with his people, suffered with his people and wept with his people. He is secure in their hearts.

George of Great Britain has shown himself a patriot and an Englishman, and his crown is secure.

The Queen of Holland, the kings of Denmark, Norway and Sweden seem untouched by the anti-monarchical upheaval.

Alfonso of Spain, appears as secure on his tippy throne as he ever was. The Mikado is still the Son of Heaven, though shining in decreased brilliancy.

But all these rulers are either the true servants of their people or they are fast learning the lesson that in order to retain a crown in these days one must be a democrat. Imperialism is at an end, but the institution of kingship will probably continue for a while wherever there are monarchs who have the love and respect of citizen peoples.—Detroit Free Press.

Billy Sunday has an appointment to speak in Greensboro next Monday night.

EMPLOYING MORE LABOR IN THE SOUTH

Slight Shortages Still Reported in Carolinas and Tennessee, but Supply is Growing Larger.

Washington, Feb. 8.—The South still stands first in the employment of labor. There has been a slowing down in the South but there is still demand for labor. By March the demand will increase. A report on conditions by the department of labor today said "slight shortages are still reported in North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee." Norfolk, Va., reports a shortage of about 1,500. Baltimore, which last week reported a shortage of 2,600 now reports a shortage of 700. Four weeks ago Baltimore reported a shortage of 48,000. Louisville, Ky., reports a shortage of 500, with the supply of labor approximately equaling the demand throughout the State. In Florida there is a shortage in agricultural workers, lumbermen and negro laborers for the lumber camps. There is a surplus of carpenters throughout the State amounting to about 1,000 men. The shipyards in Florida have all the labor which they need. Georgia reports a slight shortage of common labor and heavier shortages in farm labor. The State also reports that there are many unskilled men who are seeking general office, clerical or salesman work.

In Delaware there is a slight surplus of common labor. The situation in the District of Columbia is satisfactory with a scarcity of unskilled labor, and some indication of a surplus of clerical workers.—H. E. V. Bryant in Charlotte Observer.

CERTAIN EX-CZAR IS ALIVE.

Dowager Empress Clings to Belief in Son's Safety.

Paris, Feb. 3.—Dowager Empress Marie Feodorovna of Russia has clung so firmly to her belief that her sons, the former Russian Emperor and Grand Duke Michael, are not dead that many of her friends have been won over to that view and rumors in the European press concerning Nicholas Romanoff's alleged whereabouts are attracting much attention.

The aged empress refused to leave Russia until she learns of the fate of her son. She continues to live simply at Yalta, Crimea, declining invitations to visit the King and Queen of Roumania and even her sister, Queen Mother Alexandra of Great Britain.

Lieut.-Col. J. W. Boyle, formerly of the Canadian militia, who was commissioned by King Ferdinand of Roumania to visit Yalta with a ship to induce the Dowager Empress to seek safety in Roumania, recently arrived in Paris and told the Associated Press that the Dowager Empress' declination was most affecting. In spite of the gratitude she felt for King Ferdinand's interest she said her duty to her family and to Russia prevented her leaving as she and her daughters had decided to remain until the fate of Nicholas and Michael was cleared up.

Lieutenant-Colonel Boyle says that a report of an investigation made by Czech officers on the murder of the former Emperor's family, which is the only reliable source of information, established that buttons and jewels belonging to the former Emperor's daughters were found in the ashes where the bodies of the entire Romanoff family were supposed to have been burned. This is not conclusive evidence in Lieutenant-Colonel Boyle's opinion.

POMONA NEWS.

Pomona basket ball team played Princeton Wednesday afternoon. The score was 15 to 11 in favor of Pomona. Also played Wilson's Mills at Pomona the score being 50 to 2 in favor of Pomona. The junior team played Smithfield Juniors at Pomona. Score 22 to 5 in favor of Pomona.

Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock Pomona will play Selma at their ground.

The basket ball team and faculty of Pomona school motored to Princeton Wednesday night for the "Hoover Wedding." REPORTER.

Greek Meets Greek.

"What's coming off out in front there?" asked the proprietor of the Tote Fair store in Tumlinville, Ark.

"A couple of fellers from Straddle Ridge swapped mules," replied the clerk, "and each is accusing the other of skinning him."

"Well, then, why don't they trade back?"

"I reckon they are both afraid of getting skinned again."—Kansas City Star.

MORE SOLDIERS COMING HOME

Homeward-Bound Forces Include 42d and 63d Coast Artillery Regiments to Reach Ports 15th and 18th.

Departure from France of more than 13,000 officers and enlisted men of the American expeditionary forces, including the 42d and 63d coast artillery regiments, was announced Saturday by the war department.

The troops are aboard the battleship Kansas and the transports Harrisburg, Louisville, Kronland, Polar Bear, Maiden, Pocahontas and Caserta. All are due to reach American ports between February 15 and 18.

The Pocahontas is due at New York February 18 with the 62d regiment, coast artillery complete; convalescent detachments Nos. 69 and 70; casual companies of western troops; one quartermaster casual company of Virginia men; the medical detachment, third battalion, detachment of battery E and the ordnance detachment of the 61st regiment coast artillery.

The Casera is scheduled at New York about February 18, with practically all of the 63d regiment, coast artillery and 65 casual officers.

THE MOMENTUM OF THRIFT.

Picture a powerful ship—as large as your imagination can conceive without stretching it out of proportion—a ship stalwart, massive, majestic. In your mind watch this ship from the days of first construction the laying of the keel, the lowering of the enormous beams and plates, the rattle of a thousand riveters, swarms of artists, artisans and mechanics climbing over it like bees over a giant honeycomb, until in your mind's eye you can see the great task completed; a flag bearing the word "Security" in golden letters floating at the bow and another emblazoned "Thrift" at the masthead.

You see this ship at the dock in a great harbor with a towering skyline as a background; a powerful creation of man built to withstand the shocks of all ages. The thundering bass of her whistle sends vibrations through you as the roaring of a volcano and as the huge hulk moves away, slowly, almost imperceptibly, you, as a small speck on its wide deck, feel it increasing in motion until it clears into deep water and forces ahead at top speed.

Top speed! Imagine the momentum! There are approximately 30,000,000 bondholders in the United States Government. For a large part they are investors who have not been accustomed to saving. The bonds they now hold have been acquired by steady, systematic, conscientious thrift. They have got the habit. They now have something they never had before. They have a stake. In time of sudden stress they have a tangible source of revenue. They have learned how to save and in saving have driven a rivet in that wonderful, massive ship which is now forging ahead at top speed.

Imagine the momentum of this habit of systematic saving!

Think what it will mean to the nation in a few years. It will have a direct bearing on every activity. It will become ingrained as an American principle and it will acquire such headway that you will be unable to get into extravagant, wasteful habits even if you wanted to. The result will be a nation of savers, not only of money but of the things that mean money, and before long we will have erected a monument to thrift that Benjamin Franklin in his most optimistic dreams, never conceived.

In order to make war taught thrift and the practice of saving a permanent and cheerful habit in America, the government is promoting a campaign to encourage wise spending, intelligent saving and safe investment. The powerful force of the 30,000,000 bondholders of the country is behind this movement. The object of this movement is to encourage the public to continue to buy war savings stamps and Liberty Bonds to help the government meet its war expenses and at the same time encourage the establishment of a sound economic program of thrift among the people in order to make the most of the era of prosperity that will follow permanent peace. When thrift is popularized and becomes a happy, every-day national habit, we will have established a national family stability that will enable us to cope with emergencies or to take advantage of opportunity when it knocks at our door.

Visualize the momentum of this great thrift ship!

What can stop the economic power of a nation of savers 30,000,000 strong? If you are an investor in this great craft you have an interest in the greatest economic organization the world has ever known.—Selected.

Mysterious Disappearance of Jonas Reeves.

Mr. J. G. Turlington, of Benson, and three sons of Mr. Jonas Reeves, who disappeared from Wilson Tuesday a week ago when he came to Wilson in answer to a letter from a young lady regarding a matrimonial venture are here today endeavoring to secure information looking to his recovery. If you have seen anything of him or have heard anything of his whereabouts, please let his family know, for they are greatly distressed about him.

The last time heard from he was seen by one of the boys to get on a car with a party whom the young men did not know and stated that he was going in the country. That was on the Tuesday mentioned about 4:20 in the afternoon. The party was told to be certain to bring him back in time since they intended to take him back home on the train. He has not been seen and the party who took him to the country has not been located.

The family and friends of the old man who has grown children and is 64 years old were searching the registers of hotels and making a complete search of the city today in order to secure if possible some clue as to the whereabouts of the missing man.

The names of the young men are Messrs. W. P. Reeves, L. D. Reeves, and W. J. Reeves.—Wilson Times, Feb. 6.

Y. W. C. A. Campaign On.

The Blue Triangle investment campaign for one million dollars for the permanent, or peace time work of the Young Woman's Christian Association, was launched on February 6 and will continue through February 17. Encouraging reports are already beginning to come in to Miss Elizabeth Thompson, of Raleigh, State director. Having contributed so generously to war work funds, North Carolina cannot afford to do less for the permanent, constructive work of the days of peace. The State has not failed yet and Y. W. C. A. workers expect to see the small quota of \$14,751 over subscribed. From headquarters of the South Atlantic field in Richmond come reports of the good start made by the other States.

In reconstruction days after the Civil War, four hundred girls, it is said, were lost in the city of Washington and never heard from again. Today in this reconstruction period that is just dawning in America after the world war two Y. W. C. A. secretaries with an emergency fund of \$10,000 have already rushed to the aid of the girls in Washington who, with the end of war work are, many of them, being caught in the swirl of the unemployed. From North Carolina 537 girls have gone to Washington to engage in war work. Some of these girls are finding themselves at the end of their jobs or with salaries greatly reduced. It is the Young Woman's Christian Association which is stepping in to assist them in this critical time.

This is only one of the girl problems which is calling for the increased work of the Young Woman's Christian Association making necessary the Blue Triangle Investment Campaign for one million dollars from America.—News and Observer.

SOME OLD-TIME BIG CATTLE.

One English Ox Weighed 3,700 Pounds, Another 3,340 Pounds.

With all the modern improvement in breeds of live stock it may be doubted whether there is living today a steer or ox equal in size to some of the fat cattle of olden times.

In 1845 there was disposed of by raffle at Pratt's Old London Inn, in Taunton, England, a giant ox of the Devon breed, that stood 19 hands high and weighed 3,700 pounds. But this one was not in it with the Durham ox which earned a modest fortune for its owner, John Day, and brought the now famous shorthorn cattle into high repute a little more than a century ago. A writer in the Mark Lane Express described this extraordinary animal as having weighed, when two years old, 3,520 pounds, and when slaughtered at 8 years old, his carcass dressed 2,478 pounds, while his live weight at that time was stated to have been 4,340 pounds. He girthed 11 feet 1 inch just behind the shoulders. His owner exhibited him six years through England and Scotland, having a van for his conveyance about the country. It was in 1807 that Day's ox dislocated his hip and had to be killed.

Favorite, the sire of this bovine wonder, was made famous by the prodigious size and remarkable fine form of the steer. When Charles Colling, of Darlington, who is regarded as the shorthorn breed, sold all his cattle at auction, 1810, Comet a 6-year-old bull by Favorite, brought \$5,000, and six cows by him, some of them 11 years old, made an average of \$720, which was unheard of in those days and for many years afterward.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

CONFEREES SUBMIT WAR REVENUE BILL

Long Delayed Measure Carrying Six Billion Dollars for Year 1919—Principal Features of Important Measure—Feeling of Assurance in Congressional Circles That It Will Be Passed.

Washington, Feb. 6.—With the submission to Congress today of the conferees' agreement on the long-delayed war revenue bill, the American people were presented with their prospective federal tax budget for 1919, and ensuing years—something over \$6,000,000,000 this year and \$4,000,000,000 thereafter, the subject to the revision of future rates expected to be undertaken by the next Congress.

The conference report, presented to the House by Majority Leader Kitchin, is regarded as assured of adoption by both House and Senate and of approval by the President. It thus promises the future American tax levy which now is about \$4,370,000,000. Besides this year's tax levy of about \$6,000,000,000 further treasury needs, to be raised by bonds and other means, are estimated by the treasury at about \$12,000,000,000.

The completed measure will not be sent to France unless the President's departure for home is delayed well beyond the late now set for his sailing. The President is expected to sign the bill soon after his arrival here.

Except for slightly increased war excess profits rates for 1919 and corporate income tax rates for 1920, virtually all the rates as revised in the bill passed by the Senate are approved by the conferees and remain in the final conference draft. Like the original House bill and the Senate's revision, the bulk of the taxes are levied upon war excess profits of corporations and on incomes, individual and corporate. Rates of the Senate are a transportation, beverages, cigars and tobacco, amusement admissions, club dues, luxuries and semi-luxuries, stamp and special taxes, all substantially were adopted by the conferees, while the House rates on estates and insurance were reinstated.

Corporation Increase Tax Raised. The principal rate increases agreed to in conference were to raise the corporation income rate for 1920 from 8 per cent, as proposed by the Senate, to 10 per cent, and an increase from 60 to 65 per cent in the second "bracket" of sliding rate or corporations' excess profits for this year. The 80 per cent war profits tax for this year was adopted, and, upon insistence by Conferees, extended to 1920, but made applicable next year only upon such profits from government war contracts. The excess profits "bracket" rates of 20 to 40 per cent for 1920 also were approved.

The 12 per cent normal rates on individual incomes earned last year and the eight per cent payable in 1920, are retained with individual exceptions of \$1,000 for single and \$2,000 for married persons and additional exemption of \$200 for each dependent minor. Also adopted are provisions that individuals shall pay only six per cent this year and four per cent thereafter on the first \$4,000 subject to tax above exemptions. The Senate individual surtaxes, ranging from one per cent on incomes between \$5,000 and \$6,000 to 65 per cent on more than \$1,000,000 also were approved.

Restoration of pre-war postage rates were approved.

Automobile Ran Into Truck.

At the street crossing near the Myatt House last Saturday a man on his way to Sanford drove a Chevrolet car against Mr. W. S. Ragsdale's large lumber truck. The automobile sustained considerable damage to its front fenders and to the hood and to the radiator.

What to Read.

What should one read in order to get the most out of his reading? This discriminating advice was given by expert some years ago: For cleverness, read Macaulay. For logic, read Burke and Bacon. For action, read Homer and Scott. For conciseness, read Bacon and Pope. For sublimity of conception, read Milton. For vivacity, read Stevenson and Kipling. For imagination, read Shakespeare and Job. For common sense, read Benjamin Franklin. For elegance, read Virgil, Milton and Arnold. For simplicity, read Burns, Whittier and Bunyan. For smoothness, read Addison and Hawthorne. For interest in things real, read Jane Austen. For lofty, ennobling sentiment, for sympathy, candor and honesty, for comfort and consolation in affliction and for the promise of the life that now is and of the life which is to come, read the Bible.—Kind Words.