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FOREIGN STOCK IS EXEMPT FROM TAX

Action of Senate Takes from Tax Books More Than Eighteen Million

RALEIGH, Feb. 28.—By a vote of 25 to 23 the senate at 5:15 p. m., rejected the Varner amendment to the revenue bill, and thereby left in the bill the amendment adopted by the house to exempt stocks in foreign corporation from taxes in the counties, cities and towns of the State. The adoption of this fiscal policy on the part of the state means that more than \$18,000,000 in taxable values are removed from the books, and that the state invites people to come in to this state and make this their legal residence.

Following is the wording of the section as it now stands in the revenue act:

"Nor shall any individual stockholder of any foreign corporation be required to list or pay taxes on any share of its capital stock in this state, and the status of such shares of stock in foreign corporations, owned by residents of this state, for the purpose of this act is hereby declared to be at the place where such corporation undertakes and carries on its principal business."

The vote came after one of the greatest oratorical exhibits which has graced the present session and there were dramatic moments during the casting of the vote. Dr. Hodges, of Avery county, Republican member of the senate, was counted upon by both sides, and as the roll was called one heard him vote "aye." There was a hush over the hall, and when the vote was cast up, it officially got out that it was a tie. Everyone was anxiously watching Lieutenant Governor Cooper to see if he would break the tie. Then to the relief of the senators, Dr. Hodges requested that he be recorded as voting against the Varner amendment. And so the tension ended and the senate decided to adjourn until 8 p. m. to take up further amendments. While it was known that the vote would be close, no one anticipated that it would be quite so close, but each side was claiming a majority. Lieut. Governor Cooper stated afterwards that he would have followed the lead of the New Hanover senator, Mr. Bellamy, and have voted against the amendment.

The fight was brilliantly led by Varner, a law partner of A. W. McLean, of Lumberton, and a man who is expected to be in the next governor's race. He was equally brilliantly opposed by Senator W. L. Long, of Halifax, a recognized power in the senate.

One of the most effective speeches made in favor of exemption was that of Bellamy, of Wilmington, who told of certain citizens having to leave Wilmington after inheriting part of the Flagler estate because of the taxes in this state.—Greensboro News.

SHRINE CEREMONIAL AT WASHINGTON, N. C.

WASHINGTON, N. C., Feb. 28.—Preparations for the big Shrine Ceremonial of Sudan Temple to be held here on May 17th next, are going ahead with the greatest amount of enthusiasm among the committees in charge of the work of entertaining the visitors. In addition to the Ceremonial to be staged in the afternoon, water events including a special boat trip for the visiting ladies, will be one of the attractions. The committee will serve luncheons to the ladies during the trip and a splendid orchestra will provide music which will help to make this feature of the day's entertainment a pleasant event for the fair sex. Other boat trips are being arranged for the Shriners who desire to see the beautiful Pamlico River. In the evening a grand spectacular display of fireworks will be put on from large floats anchored in mid-stream. We are told that this latter event will be the best of its kind ever attempted in North Carolina.

Junior Epworth League

The Junior Epworth League will hold the monthly business meeting Saturday night 7 p. m. Every member is urged to come.

A Seattle milkman was arrested for not putting enough milk in the water before delivering it.

NEGRO DEATH RATE IS 18.4 PER THOUSAND

Fifty Per Cent Higher Than White; Economic Loss and Social Peril.

The Federal census of 1920 reports that the Negro death rate is 18.4 per thousand, as against 12.8 for the whites—just 50 per cent higher. Infant mortality averages twice as high among Negroes as among whites, and the death rate from tuberculosis and typhoid about three times as high. The life expectancy of Negroes is reported as 40 years, against 54 years for whites, says R. B. Eleazer, educational director of Commission of Internal Cooperation.

The economic loss involved in these conditions is immense. It is estimated that in the South more than 200,000 Negroes are seriously ill all the time from preventable causes—neglect, ignorance, unsanitary conditions. The direct financial loss entailed runs probably to a hundred million dollars a year. Of the 225,000 Negro deaths in the South each year, it is estimated that 100,000 might be prevented—another clear loss of at least \$100,000,000.

But these conditions entail not only a vast economic waste; they constitute also a grave social peril. Disease recognizes no segregated area. It respects no distinctions to wealth or class. America has found it necessary to quarantine against Asiatic rats, lest they infect us with bubonic plague. Much more is an unsanitary disease center in any community a focus of infection that menaces every part of it.

Add to all this the humanitarian obligation which demands that we do everything in our power to ameliorate suffering and save life, and we have an appeal which imperatively demands remedial action.

It is such considerations as these that have for some years brought together annually the social and welfare agencies of both races in the observance of Negro Health Week, the purpose of which is to carry the message of hygiene to every colored home and to enlist every community in a thorough-going campaign of sanitation. The date set this year is the week of April 1-7.

In this laudable effort the colored people should have the hearty cooperation of every public minded citizen, and especially that of all religious and civic groups. It is suggested that every one who is interested communicate with some representative Negro leader in the community and volunteer whatever help he can render.—News and Observer.

HOUSE WOULD RELIEVE WATTS OF HIS BONDED OBLIGATION

The House of Representatives yesterday morning voted that by special legislative dispensation, A. D. Watts, recent Commissioner of Revenue, who resigned in disgrace several weeks ago, was relieved of an obligation of \$5,800 to the State growing out of the failure of the Commercial National Bank in Wilmington, which the then commissioner was using as one of the State depositories.

According to the explanation made by Representative E. W. Pharr, of Mecklenburg, Mr. Watts had on deposit \$5,800 of the State's funds which he had not turned over to the State Treasurer at the time the bank collapsed, and that immediately upon the failure of the bank he put up his own check to secure the State against loss. The bill proposed that the check be returned to him, and that the State collect from the receivers of the bank.

Motion to place the bill on its immediate passage precipitated a quarter of an hour's laudation of the former commissioner's business ability and of his personal integrity, with Representatives Bowie, Burgwyn and Bennett saying that although they made no apology for his private morality, his public acts were always above suspicion. The bill was described as an act of justice to relieve him and his bondsmen when he had acted in good faith.—News and Observer.

Presbyterian Church.

There will be services both morning and night at the Presbyterian church. The subjects are as follows: 11 a. m. "And He said...but God said." 7:30 p. m. "Peter's Denial." Sunday School at 10 a. m.

CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT PISGAH

Begins March 5 and Continues Two Weeks; Good Speakers on Program

The Baptist denomination through the Board of Missions is conducting a campaign to coordinate the work in the Association, State and Southern Baptist Convention. An effort is being made to promote the efficiency of all the churches and especially the county churches. In accord with this plan, a two weeks' conference has been scheduled for the Johnston Association which will be held with the church at Pisgah, just four miles from this city, beginning March 5th. The first weeks' conference will close on the eighth and the dates for the second week will be March 12-15.

This conference, which is designed for preachers and laymen, has been carefully planned, some of the best speakers of the denomination being on the program. Among those who will participate in the program are A. C. Hamby, superintendent of Enrollment and Conservation, County Church Department, Dr. Zeno Wall, pastor of First Baptist church in Goldsboro, C. W. Blanchard, of Kinston, Prof. J. H. Highsmith of Wake Forest College and Dr. Chas. E. Maddy, corresponding secretary State Baptist Convention, Mrs. Clarence Johnson, State Superintendent of Public Welfare and Dr. W. S. Rankin.

Rev. R. L. Gay will be preacher host, and everybody will receive a warm welcome.

Below is the program for next week:

- Monday, March 5th.
7:30 p. m.—Sermon or Address by Dr. Zeno Wall.
9:30 a. m.—Devotional.
10:00 a. m.—"A Study of Surveys: Why? How?"—A. C. Hamby.
1:30 p. m.—"Making Disciples—Public and Private Methods."—Dr. Zeno Wall.
3:00 p. m.—"Teaching Them to Do All Things." Training for Service.—A. C. Hamby.
7:30 p. m.—"The Situation in China: The Progress and Prospects of Our Missionary Work."—Rev. D. W. Herring.

Wednesday, March 7th

- 9:30 a. m.—Devotional.
10:00 a. m.—"The Every-Member Canvass for Finances."—C. W. Blanchard.
1:30 p. m.—"The Relation Between the Pastors and Churches at Home and the Foreign Missionary."—Rev. D. W. Herring.
3:00 p. m.—"Corrective, Constructive, and Punitive Discipline."—C. W. Blanchard.
7:30 p. m.—"Aims of the Executive Committee for the Johnston Association."—A. O. Moore, Chairman.

Thursday, March 8th.

- 9:30 a. m.—Devotional.
10:00 a. m.—"Advertising: Stationery, Posters, Signs, Beautifying Grounds, Shelters for Horses and Cars. Protection in Getting In and Out."—A. C. Hamby.
11:00 a. m.—Assigning Work for All of the Members All of the Time; Can You Do It?
1:30 p. m.—"The Use of Envelopes. One or Two Treasurers. Monthly Reports of Treasurers. Paying Out the Money."—C. W. Blanchard.
3:00 p. m.—"Worship in the Home. Requiring the Children to Attend Preaching Services of the Church."—A. C. Hamby.
7:30 p. m.—Address—Prof. J. H. Highsmith.

HARDING'S COURT PLAN GOES OVER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Postponement of action until the next session of Congress upon President Harding's request for authority to enter the international court set up by the League of Nations was virtually decided on today by the Senate foreign relations committee.

It was reiterated at the White House today that President Harding will not call a special session of the Senate to consider the proposal of American participation in the court.

SCHOOL CHILDREN FIND GOLD COINS

More Than \$2000 in Fruit Jar Buried in Streets of Sanford, N. C.

SANFORD, Feb. 28.—Those excavators over in Egypt who recently discovered the tomb and treasures of old King Tut-ankh-amen have absolutely nothing on a bunch of Sanford youngsters, who, while on their way home to get dinner Tuesday noon, discovered by the side of the street near the heart of the city a fruit jar packed full of pure gold, the coin of the realm, variously estimated at from \$1,800 to \$2,200.

Thus Sanford, without knowing it, has been enjoying for some time the distinction of being the only city perhaps this side the New Jerusalem that had a street literally "paved with gold," at least partially so.

In the treasurer jar, whose top had been broken off by heavy traffic or by the street scraper, contained coins of all denominations, one dollar pieces, two and a half, five, ten and twenty dollar pieces. For a time, as long as they lasted, gold coins were as free as the pebbles on the street, and a dozen or more children are enriched by the precious discovery.

It was the keen eye of little Margaret Crowder, the 12 year old daughter of R. W. Crowder, telegraph operator for the Seaboard here, that first spied some thing of an unusual appearance in the gutter along side Hickory street, just a few feet off Chatham street, which is one of the main thoroughfares passing through the city. Upon investigation, Margaret found it was gold coins. It was too good to be true. She had heard about chasing the rainbow and finding at the end of it a pot of gold. She had heard fabulous stories about people finding precious treasures hid in the field, under huge rocks, under heartstones, etc., but right here on the street, in the heart of a populous city, she is the discoverer of a jar of gold that would have made the eyes of old Croesus green with envy. In her ecstasy she did just what any other unsophisticated girl would have done. She grabbed both hands full of the precious treasure and ran home with it to make known her good fortune, leaving the rest to anybody who might appropriate it. A dozen or more of her school mates who were with her, were on the job instantly. Some of them, however, not realizing the value of what they had found, freely shared it with each other and with any casual passerby. It is said one little fellow gave a twenty dollar gold piece to one of his companions, not thinking it was anything but a big penny.

Two traveling men happened to be passing by in a car, and noting the excitement of the children stopped and began to investigate further. From the accounts they had gotten, glass had been found mixed up with the gold pieces. They reasoned that the bottom of that jar must be somewhere around there. About four or five inches from where the loose coins and the pieces of glass had been found they found the lower part of the fruit jar, which had in it, it is alleged \$1,800, which the two strangers divided among themselves and passed on. It is not definitely known how much the children got. All the partakers of the good fortune have become a bit shy, fearing they may lose their treasures. But it is reasonably certain that there was in the neighborhood of \$2,000 of the yellow coin in the jar.

Until about a year ago when a new street was opened up connecting it with Hickory avenue, the spot where the jar was found was underneath a wagon shelter owned by W. T. Buchanan. The shelter had to give way to progress and a street is there now. The terrific down-pour of rain Monday night washed away a great deal of the soil on the side of the street, thereby revealing the hidden treasure.

Whether this jar contained the hard earned savings of a life time of some poor miser, or whether it was the ill-gotten loot of some thief, perhaps no one will ever know. Several theories have been advanced, but none of them can be substantiated. Several years ago an old negro woman, Aunt Phronie Walker, ran a colored boarding house and bar near this place. It might have

FAYETTEVILLE FIVE OPENS CHAMPIONSHIP HERE TONIGHT

Smithfield Girls Will Meet Fayetteville Quint in First Game of Series; Prospects Good.

Tonight at eight o'clock the girls' basketball championship series of Eastern North Carolina will begin here when the local bunch of ball tossers line up against the Fayetteville quint at the Banner Warehouse. Little if any is known of the comparative standing of the two teams but if the Fayetteville bunch can measure up to the standards of former girls teams from the Cape Fear metropolis the game will be a hard-fought battle from the start.

The record of the Smithfield girls so far is clear except for the one dark blot of the Raleigh game, the only defeat of the season, and that by only two field goals. Starting the season with a smashing victory of 43-5 over the Kinston girls the teams has followed up by handing the Goldsboro quintet two reverses the first 28-10 and the second 23-18. The Smithfield scoring machine has amassed 115 points while the total score for opponents is 63.

The local five has been coached by Misses Newell and Wilson and will most probably be a serious contender for honors in its section. The state is divided into three divisions—Western, Central and Eastern, with Smithfield in the last. Should Smithfield win over Fayetteville it will play the winner of the Wilson-Kinston game.

The eastern conference in meeting Saturday, February 24, at Wilson high school was represented by fifteen high schools all of whom entered teams in the contest to decide the state championship of girls' basketball teams. Last year there were but eight teams representing this district, showing an increase of seven for this year. The series will begin Friday night, the schedule being as follows:

Warsaw at Wilmington; Lucama at Tarboro; Rich Square at Roanoke Rapids, March 2; New Bern and Washington in Vanceboro March 2 or 3; Belhaven at Elizabeth City March 2; Fayetteville at Smithfield March 2; and Wilson at Kinston March 2. Vanceboro will play the winner of the New Bern-Washington game during the middle of the following week.

The second round of the series will involve the winners of the first round and a third conference will be held to arrange for the final game which will ascertain the winner of this district.

PROMOTION CHEATED BY THE DEATH ANGEL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Promotion came too late today for Albert W. Pontius, of Minnesota, Consul-General at Mukden, China.

Dispatches from Peking yesterday announced the death of Mr. Pontius after a long illness, and the list of nominations sent to the senate today by President Harding contained his name for promotion from consul-general of class four to consul-general of class three.

Mr. Pontius had been in the consular service nearly 20 years and the promotion was to have been given in recognition of his efficient work and long service.

It is alleged that he had been that she deposited her savings in the jar and failed to reveal her secret to her relatives before her death, which occurred some fifteen years ago. Another theory is that Ben Gunter, who ran a livery stable near this spot for several years and who died suddenly some ten or twelve years ago, deposited his earnings in the jar rather than in a bank, and at the last he did not have an opportunity of revealing his secret. Still others think that the robbers who looted a Jonesboro bank several years ago may have hid their loot here in order not to be detected, and that they got away or died with their secret.

Only one thing about the matter is certain, and that is the jar was found with a big lot of precious gold in it, and that a lot of school children and two strangers were made supremely happy and miserable, miserable because they did not get more of it. The average citizen in Sanford, since the luck discovery, is walking with his head down and with an expectant and investigating turn of mind. A tobacco tag may prove to be a ten dollar gold piece.

SENATE MUST VOTE ON WORLD COURT

Senator Lodge Would Delay Action; Harding May Appeal to the Country

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—While the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations today laid the foundation for preventing action in the present Congress on President Harding's recommendation that the United States join the League of Nations Court of Justice, the whole subject to be aired in the Senate tomorrow afternoon. What is more important, the Senate will be obliged to vote on the question of taking up the President's proposal for consideration. This will afford a fair idea of how the Senate stands.

The occasion for the airing in the Senate will be a motion by Senator King of Utah, a Democrat, that his resolution of yesterday relating to the court of justice shall be taken up for consideration. This resolution provides for the Senate's sanction of the protocol establishing the world's court with reservations exactly similar to those suggested by Secretary Hughes in his letter accompanying President Harding's recommendation that the United States become a full fledged member of the court. One reservation expressly provides that the adherence of this Government shall not be taken to involve any legal relation to the League of Nations or the assumption by this Government of any obligation under the league covenant.

Senator King served notice today that he would move tomorrow that his resolution be taken up for consideration. As Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee Senator Lodge countered by moving that the resolution be referred to that committee. This will be in accordance with the decision of the committee today to defer action on the President's proposal until further information on the subject has been obtained. At the same time it seemingly places Mr. Lodge, the Republican floor leader, in the position of going contrary to the wishes of President Harding, who asked the Senate to give the sanction requested before Congress finally adjourns next Sunday.

The whole proceeding following the President's recommendation has produced a complex and interesting political situation which will be carried into public discussions this Summer. Democratic Senators are rather elated over the outlook. As they see it the Republican Senate has declined to follow the head of the Republican President, while most of the Democratic Senators are ready to stand by him in his effort to bring the United States into the association with the International Court of Justice set up by the League of Nations in the interest of preserving world peace.

As for the President, there is an expectation that he, too, will have something to say about Senate obstruction of his policies. Rumors are in circulation that he intends to tell the country how the Senate defeated his Ship Subsidy bill, not by the square defeat of an adverse vote but by taking advantage of the liberal Senate rules to prevent any vote at all.

The rumor does not stop there. It credits the President with the intention of making a campaign this Summer in behalf of his world court idea. While his plan for a visit to Alaska has not been drawn, it is known that he contemplates making the trip, which will necessitate a transcontinental tour. Some of his friends have been urging him to make it a fighting tour with his speeches devoted to telling what he has sought to accomplish and how his failures have been due to obstruction by certain Senators.—N. Y. Times.

THRILLING ESCAPE OF TRAINS PASSENGERS

ORANGE, Mass., Feb. 27.—Passengers on a Boston and Maine railroad train had a thrilling escape from serious injury today when two of the three coaches jumped the rails, plunged down a fifteen foot embankment and slid out on the thick ice of Miller's River. The ice supported the cars and the passengers scrambled to safety. Four of the train crew were slightly hurt. Spreading rails caused the accident, officials said.