

TAX ON EXCHANGES

Commissioner of Corporations
Smith's Suggestions.

WOULD REPORT TO PRESIDENT.

Cannot Determine How to Eliminate
Evil and Retain Good of the Future
Transactions.

Washington, Special.—A Federal tax on the transactions carried on by the exchanges of the country is regarded by Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations, as offering in some measure a "constitutional and available means of regulation" of these bodies. But in a report submitted to President Taft Friday, Mr. Smith acknowledged that he is somewhat at a loss to determine exactly how "to eliminate the evil and retain the good" of the future transactions of the exchanges.

Information requested by the President as to transactions on produce exchanges and as to certain future contracts in farm products led to Mr. Smith's report on the subject. Taking up the various classes of transactions in farm commodities, the commissioner holds that "spot" and "intended delivery" future transactions are proper; that "bucket shop" transactions are "unquestionably evil and indefensible," and that "hedging" transactions are necessary and proper, being really not speculation, but an "avoidance of speculation."

But as to speculation "where neither party intends to deliver or receive, but where the contract is made on a regular exchange, the rules of which make delivery and receipts obligatory, if demanded," Mr. Smith asserts that this class of future transactions "presents a difficult problem. Its existence probably involves the existence of the future exchanges themselves."

The trouble with exchange speculation, says Mr. Smith, is not with the theory but with the actual practice. The commissioner bases his comments in regard to speculation chiefly on recent investigation of the cotton exchanges. The theoretic benefits of exchange transactions, he says, are often nullified by improper conditions on the exchanges themselves and cites the New York cotton exchange, the basic defect of which he says is its so-called "fixed difference" system. The false quotations produced under this system, he says, frequently decrease prices of cotton received by the farmer.

ADMITS TRIPLE MURDER.

Negro Confesses That He Killed
Three White Women.

Savannah, Ga., Special.—By his own stolid confession Bingham Bryan, a negro, is the man who on December 9 killed three white women, Mrs. Eliza Gribble, aged 70; Mrs. Carrie Ohlander, her daughter, and Mrs. Maggie Hunter, in their home on Perry street, in the heart of Savannah.

The negro is a prisoner in Chatham county jail here, and has been in custody since he was arrested December 14 for a minor crime. The negro's story tallies to minutest details with appearances about the house of murder after the dead women were found. His story, simple but terrible, follows as he told it. He declares his motive in entering Mrs. Gribble's home was robbery only.

John D. Rockefeller Gives \$75,000.

New York, Special.—John D. Rockefeller has made a conditional gift of \$75,000 towards \$300,000 to the Salem College (for women) at Winston-Salem, N. C., and of \$25,000 towards \$100,000 to the Georgetown College, Georgetown, Ky.

To Investigate the Tariff.

Washington, Special.—An exhaustive study of the whole subject of the tariff is planned by President Taft. He has directed the Tariff Board that authorized the recent Tariff act to prepare for such an inquiry. In order to defray the expenses of the work the President will ask for an appropriation of \$75,000 from Congress.

Mrs. Brokaw Wins Suit.

New York, Special.—Mrs. Blair Brokaw has been granted a separation from her husband, W. Gould Brokaw, a miner, and was awarded alimony of \$15,000 a year. The decision was handed down by Justice Putnam. The separation was granted upon the ground of desertion.

Halley's Comet Visible April 1st.

Chicago, Special.—Halley's comet probably will begin to be visible to the naked eye about April 1, and will cross the face of the sun at 6 p. m., May 18, says Prof. Edwin B. Frost, director of Yerkes Observatory.

Champ Clark Boom.

Washington, D. C., Special.—Representative Champ Clark, minority leader of the House, has been informed that the first "Champ Clark for President Club" has been organized in Enid, Oklahoma. An official notification to that effect has just reached him. Telegrams from Tulsa, Oklahoma, have been received by the minority leader, nominating him for Speaker of the next Congress and then for President.

GOEBEL HONORED.

Marble and Bronze Monument Unveiled Over His Grave.

Frankfort, Ky., Special.—The unveiling of a marble and bronze monument above his grave in the State cemetery here Thursday was the feature of the observance of the tenth anniversary of the death of William Goebel, the central figure in one of the more exciting chapters in the latter days of Kentucky's history.

If there were any evidences of partisan strife connected with the "Goebel troubles" present during the ceremonies, which was attended by the Legislature in a body, they went unobserved. A large gathering filled the space around the monument. Former Governor J. C. W. Beckham, who as lieutenant governor, succeeded to the executive chair at William Goebel's death, acted as master of ceremonies.

ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM.

Approval is Given the Program as Arranged by the Leaders.

Washington, Special.—The administration program, as revised by leaders of the Senate and House and given the stamp of White House approval comprises the following legislation.

Statehood for Arizona and New Mexico in the form of the Senate bill, which provides for ratification by Congress of the constitutions of the new States after the approval by the President.

Postal savings banks, with safeguards against funds being transferred from sections where originally deposited to the money centers.

Giving to the President authority to withdraw from entry public lands desired for conservation purposes or for classification, the withdrawals to remain in force until revoked by him by acts of Congress.

Federal incorporation open to the voluntary application of concerns engaged in interstate business and willing to subscribe to Federal regulation.

Creating a court of commerce and amending the interstate commerce act as provided by the Townsend-Elkins bill.

Creating a legislative council for Alaska, the members to be appointed by the President.

All of the measures designated are to be enacted into law if the influence of President Taft and Congress leaders, who are in charge of the machinery of the Senate and House is powerful enough to carry the program through.

JURY INVESTIGATES.

Cause of Mine Disaster in Colorado Unknown.

Primero, Col., Special.—"Cause unknown" was the verdict reached last Thursday by the coroner's jury that investigated the explosion in the mine of the Colorado Fuel Iron Company Monday afternoon that caused the death of at least seventy-three men.

Mine Explosion in Mexico.

Laredo, Tex., Special.—Word reached this city from Las Esperanzas, Mexico, Thursday, that 75 persons lost their lives in a mine explosion there. All reported dead were Japanese miners. The explosion was caused by the ignition of gas by a spark from a miner's cigarette.

Peary Wants to Find South Pole.

Washington, Special.—Commander Robert E. Peary, discoverer of the north pole, has made a proposition to the national geographic society which if accepted, will mean that an American expedition will be on its way to discover the unconquered south pole next fall.

Paris Relief Fund.

Paris, By Cable.—Up to Friday the relief fund from foreign countries had totalled \$700,000, and the report was that the river Seine was still falling.

Want Money For Cotton.

Washington, Special.—Senator Overman introduced a bill Friday providing for the refunding of \$42,532 for cotton burned at the close of the civil war.

Dickinson Succeeds DeArmond.

Clinton, Mo., Special.—C. C. Dickinson, (Dem.) has been elected to succeed Rep. DeArmond from the sixth Missouri district.

Representative Levering Dead.

Washington, D. C., Special.—Representative William C. Levering of Massachusetts died at his home in this city Friday, aged 75. He had been engaged in cotton manufacturing nearly all of his life, and was a member of the House committee on manufactures.

To Test Bread Price Limit.

Louisville, Ky., Special.—The National Association of Master Bakers will carry to the Supreme Court a case to test all city ordinances and statutes limiting the price of a loaf of bread.

Tariff War is Averted.

Washington, Special.—Concessions by both the United States and Germany have averted a threatened tariff war. Negotiations have been concluded between the two countries, which settle the question of minimum and maximum rates with the exception of the cattle and dressed meat issue which was eliminated from the present negotiations and which will be pursued hereafter in separate diplomatic representation.

SYMPATHY FOR STRICKEN FRANCE.



—Cartoon by W. A. Rogers, in the New York Herald.

WHITE HOUSE "ISOLATION" A BORE; "NOBODY DROPS IN."

"Shr'-ing Hands and Talking to People is Not Work." Says the President—Reveals Human Side in Talk to Newspaper Correspondents.

Washington, D. C.—President Taft stood before 150 newspaper correspondents at the Press Club by appointment and told of his experiences.

The President appeared incognito in often worn trousers and waistcoat; over the waistcoat a sweater (opened that he might put his hand in his pocket), and a sack coat over all; no top coat. He had started out for an automobile ride.

"I have to apologize for appearing before you in a garb that I have found convenient to wear when walking through the streets of Washington. There are, I suppose, some limitations upon Presidential pedestrianism, but I have not found them as yet, except in tired muscles. It is a very great pleasure to me to walk along the street, look into the windows and pass by a great many people who don't know who I am, and at times to meet a fellow who looks once at me and then passes on without any further curiosity, and another fellow who looks twice, nudges his friend and then, with that degree of reverence that we all feel for high officials, says, 'Hello! Taft!'"

"But there is in the White House a sense of isolation due to the fact that, generally, nobody drops in. Everybody comes by engagement, and you don't have that pleasant surprise that comes from having neighbors look in on you at odd times and with a feeling that they have a right to come. I don't know that that feature of the White House life can be changed. Perhaps it ought not to be. Perhaps if we changed the system

we would long to return to the system of engagements—for the engagements are many, time passes rapidly and business is active.

"People say to me, 'You must be tired—you are working very hard.' I suppose what they say is true and is founded on fact. But my education on the bench has made me feel that there was no real work which was not sustained intellectual work—in writing out opinions; and, viewed from that standpoint, I have not had any work in the White House, except occasionally when I have dictated messages. Shaking hands and talking with people has seemed to me to be always a preliminary until I could get to work, and I suppose I shall never settle down to a philosophical consideration of what is labor in the White House until I realize that three or four hours is taken up each morning in discussing—not the qualifications of collectors and district attorneys and other appointees, but the claims of those who recommend that such gentlemen be appointed.

"The truth is that Executive work is work not because of sustained mental effort, but it is work that arises from the consumption of nervous energy and vitality in the rubbing up against one's fellow-man. That is work you don't have on the bench, and it is a little difficult for one who has had so long an experience as I have had to realize that it is work, and who does not feel it until he gets to bed or until he finds himself in some way or other exhausted, without any sufficient excuse for the exhaustion."

NO WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC, GOVERNMENT AGENTS FIND

Innocent Women Not Enticed Here From Abroad, They Say—Those Already Vicious Sought—Immigration Authorities Report Indifference of Other Countries to Treaty Protecting Alien Girls.

Washington, D. C.—That the treaty ratified on March 1, 1905, for the repression of the "traffic in white women" is practically worthless to this Government in preventing the migration of alien procurers and prostitutes, is the conclusion of Commissioner-General Keefe, of the Bureau of Immigration, in a report transmitted to the Senate by President Taft.

Mr. Keefe not only takes the position that the treaty is worthless, but he adds "that practically no co-operation at present can be expected of the signatory Powers as regards the enforcement of the immigration laws with which some of the Powers are found to be out of sympathy."

The bureau made an effort to ascertain the degree of co-operation to be expected of the signatories. The following Powers were communicated with: England, Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Spain, Russia, Portugal, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Canada, Bermuda and Brazil. Replies were received from the majority of those countries. The replies disclosed that no steps could be expected to prevent the free passage from their country to this side of the professional prostitute or procurer who constitute the bulk of white slave traffic in this country.

"The procuring of innocent women and girls for purposes of debauchery," he said, "has seldom if ever come to the attention of the bureau, and as it is the purpose of the treaty to prevent such procurement the treaty's usefulness ends there."

"The present immigration law is not extensive and drastic enough in terms to effectually prevent further additions to the already large numbers of alien prostitutes and procurers in this country, and does not provide adequate means to rid the country at large of those aliens who are here unlawfully, and in particular does not reach what is the very root of the evil, the free passage to and fro of those engaged in it."

Bill Proposed to Prevent Gambling at Racetracks in Maryland.

Baltimore, Md.—Racetrack men are alarmed over an announcement that a bill will be introduced in the Legislature prohibiting racetrack betting.

The measure will be modeled along the lines of the law put through by Governor Hughes, of New York.

Since the New York tracks have been handicapped by the new law the Pimlico course has regained its former prominence and the last two months recalled old Pimlico days.

firm the conclusions reached in this country that there is no such thing as an international organization having for its object the exploitation of women in various countries by means of the practice of prostitution. The report says:

"Innocent women and girls are rarely imported into this country for purposes of prostitution, the great bulk of such women coming in as mistresses of various individuals and subsequently adopting or being forced into a life of shame, and the procurers selecting their innocent victims in this country."

Discussing conditions he found in Europe, the United States agent says the large cities "were found to be so infested with women of immoral tendencies, living in poverty and dire squalor, that they were only too eager to embrace the opportunity of living comfortably in an improper life in this country. Consequently, persons who desire to get fresh supplies of women for their resorts in the United States are not forced to seek innocent women, when with much less exertion, expense and danger numbers of women can be found ready to accept their terms."

"The dance, concert and music halls and the drinking places of the Continental cities were found to be fertile fields for the operations of the cadets, with their numerous groups of women not so openly immoral as to be under police control, but who make it a practice to add to their incomes by immorality."

"In many of these cities it was found that certain cafes and resorts are habitually frequented by persons seeking fresh supplies of women, not so much because such resorts are 'clearing houses,' but because women of the type desired are to be found and kindred spirits are always congregated there."

Lackawanna Railroad Has Lost Its Splendid Record.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—After being able to boast that for ten years no passenger had been killed on its tracks, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad lost the record when a youth, Edward Hill, of Gibson, Pa., stepped hurriedly from the local passenger train at New Milford and was struck and killed by a coal train. His mother and sister, preparing to alight after him, witnessed the accident and were overcome by the shock.

TAR HEEL NEWS NOTES.

IN MEMORY OF DANIEL BOONE.

Cabin to Be Dedicated With proper Ceremonies at "Devil's Den."

Extensive preparations have been made for the dedication of a cabin to the memory of Daniel Boone at what is known as Devil's Den, in Boone township, Davidson county, near Spencer. The cabin, which has been built with great care, will be formally dedicated on May 1, at which time a number of prominent speakers from various parts of North Carolina will be present. The location is at Boone's Cave, which is known far and wide as being at one time occupied by the noted Daniel Boone. It is well preserved to the present time, and is said to be well arranged with seven living rooms underground. A large number of visitors are expected for the occasion.

Food Chemists Report.

During the year 721 samples of food and beverages were examined, 154 or a little more than 21 per cent of which were found to be adulterated or misbranded. Eight violations of the law have been reported to solicitors for prosecution and others are being put in shape to be reported. In each case the defendant was convicted and fined. The adulterations of greatest importance were found in butter, ice cream, vinegar, syrup, molasses and flour. Butter contained fat other than milk fat; ice cream was made from gelatin, etc., and was below standard in milk fat; compound vinegar was sold for fruit vinegar; molasses and syrup contained too much water, and flour was bleached with chemicals that are deleterious to health.

New Railroads.

A corps of surveyors have arrived at Leaksville for the purpose of surveying the Leaksville & Western Railway from that town to Madison, following the banks of Dan river.

In May work will begin on a new railroad from North Wilkesboro to Butler, Tenn., a distance of 90 miles. Frank A. Linney, Ed Coffey and other men of means in Western North Carolina are behind the project and have expended already \$200,000 in securing rights-of-way, under the name of the Watauga Railroad Company. This link will pass through Lenoir and will connect the Southern railway with the coal fields of Tennessee and Virginia by the most direct route.

Big Land Deal.

At Asheville the greatest timber deal of the year in western North Carolina was consummated last week and announcement made when 15,000 acres of land on Porney's creek, in Swain county and extending from Clingman's dome on the North Carolina-Tennessee boundary line to the railroad tracks of the Murphy division, embracing a part of the 700,000 acres in the noted Whittier boundary, was sold by the Harris-Woodbury Lumber Company to the Norwood Lumber Company, a West Virginia corporation, for the sum of \$220,000.

Pleased With Their Trip.

The waterways committee which traveled through the eastern part of the State last week with Senator Simmons, Senator Piles and Clarke and Representatives Wanger and Stevens and Col. A. D. Watts stated that they had a pleasant trip and were favorably impressed with the State and the people they met.

New Officers Elected.

At Denham last week the city public school superintendents of this state held their annual session, and after discussing many subjects of interest, elected the following officers: Prof. Harry Howell of High Point, president; Prof. W. D. Carmichael of Durham, vice president and secretary C. W. Wilson was re-elected.

Site For Mason's Home.

Mooreville citizens have given 11 3/4 acres to the Masons of the State for a home for the aged and infirm. The ladies of the Eastern Star of the order, have joined in the movement and a handsome building costing probably \$15,000 to \$20,000 will be erected on the site donated.

Briefly Told.

January term of Forsyth criminal court was postponed on account of smallpox.

Five inches of snow fell at Winston-Salem last Saturday.

Monroe citizens are planning for a new and commodious hotel.

The Eagle Furniture Co., at High Point, has failed. Liabilities between \$30,000 and \$110,000; assets \$25,000 to \$85,000.

Wilmington is to have a Commercial Club.

The Raleigh & Southport railroad will build to Clarkton and may be extended to Whiteville.

Some time in March Senator Cummins, of Iowa, will deliver an address before the Manufacturers' Club of High Point. Among the other speakers will be Gov. Mann, of Va.; Gov. Ansel, of South Carolina, and President Alderman of the University of Virginia.

At Goldsboro highwaymen sand-bagged and robbed three citizens separately and in different sections of the town. One was relieved of \$500.

AROUND NORTH CAROLINA

IMPROVE STATE HOSPITALS.

Nearly \$500,000 Spent in Enlarging Asylums to Meet Demands.

The North Carolina State Hospital Commission reports to Governor Kithin of operations of the commission under provisions of the act of the General Assembly for expending \$500,000 in enlarging the capacity and improving equipment of the State hospitals at Raleigh, Morganton and Goldsboro, that \$447,528 has been expended, with \$30,045 remaining on hand. The report shows \$317,511 expended on the Central Hospital at Raleigh; \$65,599.52 on the Western Hospital at Morganton; \$60,928 on the Eastern Hospital at Goldsboro.

The item of \$3,489.23 is reported as the total cost of the administration by the commission. The commission has provided for 828 white insane, and white insane epileptics and 84 colored. There is now room in the hospital at Raleigh for at least 400 more patients than are there, and the hospital at Morganton is now capable of accommodating the present demands upon the institution, the two being of equal capacity.

The commission insists that there is now any valid reason why every white insane person in the State and white insane epileptic cannot be cared for by the State.

Big Meeting for Greensboro.

The North Carolina Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis meets in Greensboro March 15-16, and promises to be the largest public health gathering that has ever assembled in the South. Men from every section of North Carolina, have been selected by the association to speak on every phase of tuberculosis; the national association has directed its highest officers to be present and speak on the national crusade against this disease, and other States are sending delegates and representative men. Gov. Kithin will open the meeting and make the welcome address.

All Primaries on One Day.

Democratic State Chairman A. H. Eller announced last week that he and his special committee from the State Democratic Executive Committee have decided to recommend to the full committee that it be called together in about thirty days; that there be a common day for all the counties throughout the State to hold their primaries, and also their subsequent county convention. There are other minor changes to be proposed, the report not being perfected. Later conferences are to be held to perfect the work of the special committee, and then the State chairman will call the State committee together to take action.

Arranged Program.

Members of the cabinet of the North Carolina Epworth League gathered in Greensboro last Saturday and held its annual session. The work of the league for the year was thoroughly discussed and plans were laid for advance along all lines of league work. Among other things the cabinet arranged the program for the Epworth League conference which meets this year at Hertford.

Death Chair to be Ready.

The State's prison authorities, at Raleigh, announce that the missing parts of the electric death chair have been shipped from Fort Wayne, Ind., and that the date now set for the first electrocutions is March 26, when Walter Morrison, of Robeson county, and John Atkinson, a first-degree murderer, will pay the death penalty.

Widow Receives \$10,000.

The Southern Railway has paid to Mrs. Virgil E. Holcomb, of Mt. Airy, \$10,000 for the death of her husband, who was one of the dozen persons killed in the wreck near Brown Summit, December 15.

Foods Must be Stamped.

Commissioner of Agriculture Graham calls attention to the fact that the weight must be stamped on all packages of buckwheat flour and other foods so customers can be sure of weights being correct. This is under the pure food law. He has held up foods at Asheville which were not stamped with the weight.

Briefly Noted.

Hertford is to have a new \$20,000 hotel in place of the old Eagle tavern.

The people of Jonesboro township, Lee county, at an election last Saturday, voted for a bond issue of \$15,000 for good roads.

The latest enterprise for Lumberton is a building and Loan association which has just been incorporated.

Congressman Thomas of the third congressional district has appointed Carl P. Bartling of Newbern to the vacancy now existing at the Annapolis naval academy for this district.

The 2-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Collins, of Wisbart's township, Robeson county, was burned to death last Saturday.

Beginning Sunday, February 13th, the Virginia & Carolina Southern will operate a Sunday train from Lumberton to Fayetteville.

Rev. Alvin Betts, who some years ago retired from active work in the Baptist ministry died very suddenly at his home, in Raleigh, last Monday, aged 82.