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TAX VALUATION OF THE RAILROADS

FROM REPORT OF CORPORATION COMMISSION TAX VALUATION GREATLY INCREASED.

AN INCREASE ON EACH ROAD

The Value of Railroad Property as Assessed For Taxation is Over One Hundred and Fifteen Million Dollars—Forty-Nine Miscellaneous Roads.

Raleigh.—The tax valuation of railroad property in North Carolina is raised by the corporation commission through the quadrennial reassessment just completed from \$86,780,115 to \$115,229,684. The total mileage is 4,424 included in the previous assessment.

The Atlantic Coast Line assessment is raised from \$28,434,900 to \$32,995,567, the assessment per mile being \$34,821 whereas it was formerly \$30,000 per mile. The mileage is 947.57. The Seaboard Air Line assessment is raised from \$12,500,000 to \$17,500,000, this being \$29,075.56 per mile on 601.88 miles. The former assessment was \$20,268.84.

The Southern Railway assessment on owned and leased lines is advanced from \$34,073,201 to \$46,641,696, the mileage being 1,333.08. The Southern owns 590 miles on which the assessment is raised from \$17,701,890 to \$23,602,400, the assessment per mile being increased from \$30,000 to \$40,004.06. The Southern operates 743.08 miles of leased lines and the assessments of these are raised from \$16,371,401 to \$23,039,296. Especially notable among these lines are the North Carolina Railroad, assessment raised from \$10,573,762 to \$15,336,703; Atlantic & Yadkin increased from \$1,610,800 to \$1,800,000; Atlantic & Charlotte Air Line increased from \$1,443,737 to \$2,000,000; North Carolina Midland from \$883,080 to \$1,100,000; Asheville & Craggy Mountain, and Asheville & Southern, Tallulah Falls and Yadkin railroads retain former assessments unadvanced; State University road increased from \$25,049 to \$30,420. Forty-nine miscellaneous railroads having 1,694 miles of road are advanced in assessment from \$11,772,014 to \$18,092,421.

North Carolina the Poultry State.

North Carolina is making rapid advancement along the line of poultry culture. Fifteen years ago last December the first poultry show was held in this state. This show was held in Shelby, about 1,000 birds being on exhibition. Since this show was held interest in poultry culture has grown rapidly. Today there are twelve wide-awake poultry associations in North Carolina. Every county in the state ought to have a poultry association.

Ten shows will be held in the state the coming season, besides the poultry exhibits at the numerous fairs. These shows have fixed their dates in rotation so as to not conflict with each other which makes it possible for one to exhibit at each show.

The dates are as follows: Morganton, November 22-24; C. D. Forney, secretary.

Lincolnton, November 28-30; Miss Lena Reinhardt, secretary.

Gastonia, December 5-8; H. Rutter, secretary.

Asheville, December 12-14; Paul P. Brown, secretary.

Rockingham, December 12-15; H. L. Guthrie, secretary.

Shelby, December 14-16; J. W. Suttle, secretary.

Greensboro, December 19-21; W. M. Montgomery, secretary.

Winston-Salem, December 27-29; R. C. Taylor, secretary.

Hendetta, January 11-13, 1912; O. R. Coffield, secretary.

Charlotte, January 16-19, 1912; O. T. Hallman, secretary.

Spencer.—The second day of the state meeting of the Farmers' Union, which convened in Salisbury was given over to routine business.

Greensboro's Water Supply Low.

Greensboro's water supply continues to be sufficient for present needs, but the amount in Reedy Fork and Horsepen creeks gets lower every day. When the city's pumps are running they take up every bit of the water from the two streams. If the dry weather continues for a few more days, trouble will be experienced here in getting a sufficient amount to meet the present consumption. The local papers are suggesting that the use of lawn sprinklers be discontinued for a while.

MR. DUNCAN GETS FRANCHISE

Secures Option on Franchise of Road Provided He Furnishes Pledge of Road Being Constructed.

Greensboro.—The incorporators of the Raleigh, Charlotte and Southern and Southern Railway, in session here unanimously agreed to give to Hon. E. Carl Duncan, banker and former receiver of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad of Raleigh, an option for the purchase of the franchise, with satisfactory pledge that the road would be constructed, upon acquiring the charter.

Some of the incorporators, after the meeting, expressed themselves as dissatisfied with the granting of an option to Duncan, although the resolution was adopted without dissent. This objection was based on the expressed opinion that Duncan's object was to block the building of the road either in the interest of the Southern or the Seaboard or both. This objection was promptly met, by referring to the pledge that if the option was accepted the road should be built, and the other statement that Mr. Duncan was a man of too high business honor to thus trifle with a big enterprise backed by the best men of so large a territory.

One of the last acts passed by the General Assembly of 1911, was one granting a charter for a railroad to be known as the Raleigh, Charlotte and Southern Railway, it being given the right to traverse the territory via Pittsboro, Albemarle, Asheboro, to Charlotte with branch termini at Durham and Greensboro.

In the auditorium of the Chamber of Commerce the incorporators of this road held an important meeting looking towards securing the necessary financing of the road and the organization of the company, so that actual work can be begun.

Mayor Appoints a Fire Patrol.

Taking immediate steps in conformity with his vested rights and following a resolution by the board of aldermen, Mayor Charles A. Bland appointed the first squad of men to constitute the emergency fire patrol to keep watch over Charlotte for fires during the existing water famine. The board's action in passing the resolution calling upon the mayor to exercise his right to name such under the head of "special policemen," following the offering of this suggestion by many citizens and indirectly from insurance people, who are keeping a close watch over the local condition resulting from the partial cutting off of the city water supply.

The squad of fire patrolmen appointed will probably be increased by the addition of more men, as the situation calls for them, until about 25 or 30 men will be engaged in this work. The quickness with which the mayor has acted will meet with general approbation, as everybody is agreed that concerted and immediate action shall be taken.

Commissioners to Meet in Asheville.

Mr. C. F. Foy, of this city, the president, announces that the State Association of County Commissioners of North Carolina will hold their fourth annual convention at Asheville, N. C., on August 16, 1911. The indications are that this will be the largest meeting ever held. Practically all the counties in North Carolina will be represented. The State Association was organized at the Atlantic Hotel, Morehead City, in August, 1908. It was authorized by the Legislature at its session of 1909. The second meeting was held at Wrightsville Beach, in August, 1909; the third meeting at Charlotte, in August, 1910.

Governor Honors Requisition.

Governor Kitchin has honored a requisition from the Governor of Nebraska for W. H. Aldrich, who is wanted in Merrick county, on the charge of forgery. The prisoner is under arrest in Wayneville. Sheriff M. R. Her, of Merrick county, who came in with the requisition papers, was seen and told how Aldrich was located. He said it was learned in his county that he corresponded with a certain person in Wayneville, North Carolina. The Wayneville authorities were then asked to keep on the lookout for him. On the 22d word was received from Wayneville that he had been arrested. Sheriff Her will leave for Wayneville to get the prisoner and take him back to Nebraska.

Change Grades in Fremont Schools.

After a thorough investigation and a careful examination of the detailed report of our efficient superintendent, the trustees agreed that, in consideration of the large number attending the High School who will not have an opportunity to go to college, the school will now give seven full grades to the elementary school, and four years of nine months each to the High School. The Board also added another teacher to the elementary school and placed the first grade alone under the tuition of one teacher.

TARIFF DELAYS PUT UP TO TAFT

PRESIDENT AS DETERMINED AS EVER TO AWAIT ACTION OF THE TARIFF BOARD.

SITUATION IS REMARKABLE

General Revision So As to Leave Responsibility Squarely Up to President Taft.

Washington.—General tariff legislation at this session of congress, so as to leave the responsibility for any delay in tariff revision squarely upon the president, is the slogan of the Democratic-Progressive coalition in the senate and the Democrats in the house.

The president is accredited with being as determined as ever to veto any tariff bill passed by congress prior to the submission of the report of the tariff board to congress at the regular session in December.

Meantime the Democrats, continuing to press their revision measures, are wondering what the president will do when the wool bill, emerging from conference with lower duties than the LaFollette final compromise, goes to the white house for approval or veto.

It is the most remarkable situation with respect to tariff legislation that has arisen in a long period. Despite the apparently authoritative declarations that the president will refuse to place his approval on the tariff bills, some of the Democrats, even Speaker Clark, still express the opinion that the president may yet approve revision legislation. The Democratic leaders, encouraged by the effective results of the combination of their party with the insurgent Republicans in the senate, are becoming more confident that the tariff schedules passed by the house will go through the senate in some form.

LAURIER FAVORS THE TREATY

Leader of Canadian Liberal Party Speaks for Reciprocity.

Ottawa, Ont.—The opening guns in the campaign which will determine the fate of the reciprocity pact between the United States and Canada were fired by the Liberal leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier. It was in the form of an open address to the Canadian people and in it is set forth very clearly the issues involved in the present campaign.

The question at issue is not a new one, Sir Wilfrid asserts, reciprocal relations with the United States having been sought by both parties for over half a century. The present conservative party, he declared, is seeking to reverse this life-long policy of its leaders of the past. The enactment of the agreement, the premier predicts, would further improve the friendly relations existing between Great Britain, Canada and the United States, and would be an important factor in bringing about a general treaty of arbitration.

Sir Wilfrid then referred to the reciprocity agreement of 1854, entered into between Canada and the United States, which terminated in 1866.

Standard Oil Gets More Time.

St. Louis.—A decision superseding a previous decree and allowing the Standard Oil company six months in which to reorganize, as was ordered by the United States Supreme court, was handed down in the United States circuit court here. The six months term went into effect June 21. The original mandate of the court ordered the Standard to dissolve in thirty days and forbade it the privileges of dealing interstate commerce. This last decision modifies the first, allowing the corporation interstate commerce privileges during the period of reorganization.

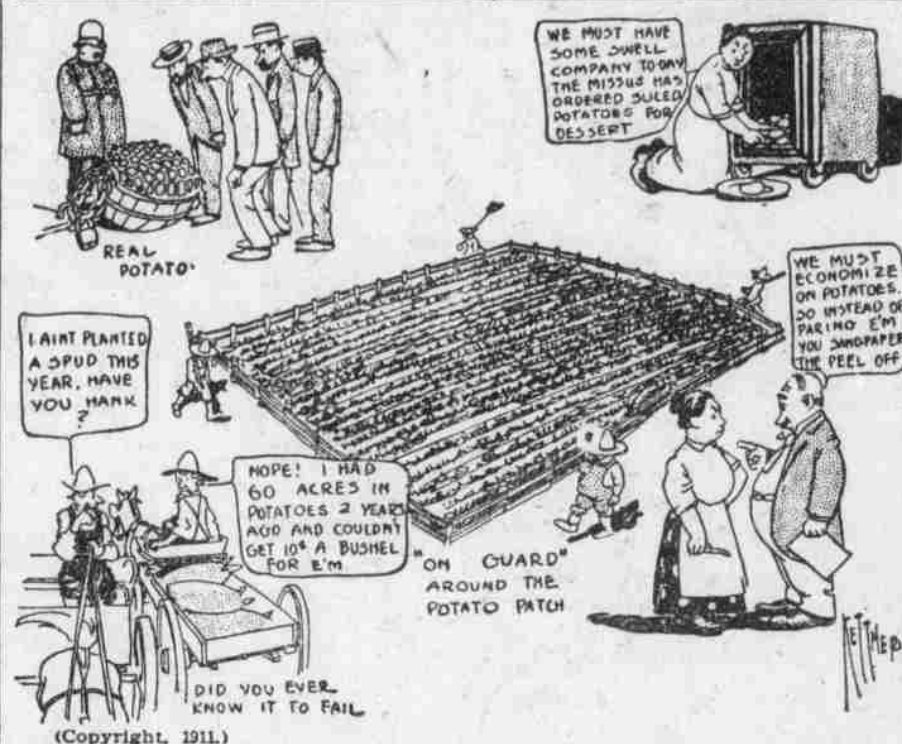
Girl Slept 105 Days.

Vandalia, Ill.—After sleeping almost continuously for 105 days, Miss Schmidt, the 18-year-old girl, whose strange case has puzzled physicians for weeks, awoke and ate three meals. She said she felt no ill-effects from her slumber. Attending physicians say the girl's trance is broken and that she soon will be herself again.

Morgan Must Testify.

New York.—It was made known here at the headquarters of the house of representatives committee inquiring into the United States Steel corporation that the committee is now very desirous of hearing personally from J. Pierpont Morgan with regard to the absorption of the Tennessee Coal and Iron company by the steel corporation in 1907. That a subpoena will be issued within a few days for Charles M. Schwab, as also announced by the committee.

SHORTAGE IN THE POTATO CROP



NEW COTTON GOODS TARIFF

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS APPROVES BILL SUBMITTED BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE.

Measure Reduces the Duties on Cotton Goods About One-Half.

Washington.—Democrats of the house of representatives, after a prolonged caucus, ratified by more than a two-thirds majority the cotton tariff revision bill, drafted by the Democratic members of the ways and means committee, reducing by nearly one-half the schedules of the Payne-Aldrich law on manufactures of cotton. The bill will be introduced in the house and its passage expedited.

Cotton clothing duties are reduced from 40 to 30 and 25 per cent.; cotton cloth, not mercerized or bleached, cut to 15, 20 and 25 per cent. in various grades; and cloth, composed of silk or mercerized cut from 42.46 to 25 per cent.

Some of the proposed new duties follow:

Cotton thread, carded yarn, warps, etc., 10 to 15 per cent. ad valorem; Payne rate 32.17.

Spool thread, crochets, darning and embroidery cottons on spools, 15 per cent.; Payne rate 23.63.

Cotton cloth, not bleached or colored average rate of 24.51; Payne rate 42.46.

Handkerchiefs or muffers, 30 per cent.; Payne rate 59.05.

Clothing ready made and articles of wearing apparel of every description composed of cotton or vegetable fiber, 30 per cent.; Payne rate 50.02.

Sheets, 25 per cent.; Payne rate 50.02.

Plushes, velvets, velveteens, corduroys, 30 per cent.; Payne rate 54.33.

Curtains, table covers, tapestries, upholstery goods, 35 per cent.; Payne rate 50.

Stockings and socks, machine made 20 per cent.; Payne rate 30.

Stockings and socks, hand made, 40 per cent.; Payne rate 71.57.

Men's and boys' cotton gloves, knitted or woven, 35 per cent.; Payne rate 71.57.

WAR CLOUDS IN EUROPE

Morocco Causes Trouble Between England and Germany.

London.—That the Moroccan difficulty has become acute is indicated in the sudden order issued by the admiralty cancelling the projected visit of the Atlantic fleet to Norway. The battleship squadron under Rear Admiral Sir John R. Jellicoe, should have left Cromarty for Norwegian waters. Instead, it has been ordered to remain there a short time and proceed to Portsmouth.

Premier Asquith has promised a statement in parliament on the Moroccan situation. According to voices from Berlin, negotiations between France and Germany were proceeding smoothly until Chancellor Lloyd-George's speech which was interpreted as a warning to German in the present Moroccan controversy.

Nebraska Democrats Forget Bryan.

Fremont, Neb.—The Nebraska Democratic convention, which had been expected to place Democrats of Nebraska on record, so far as concerned their preference for a presidential candidate a year hence, failed to express itself on candidates or offer commendations for its own leaders. For the most part it was a peaceful gathering. This result was not accomplished without much preliminary canvassing, but the result was satisfactory to everybody.

FIGHTING THE BOLL WEEVIL

Millions Are Being Spent in Fight Against the Cotton Pest.

Washington.—The department of agriculture has spent more than a million dollars in studying and fighting the boll weevil, and the cotton states have added to this sum until it greatly exceeds this figure.

Any effective methods of combating the boll weevil must be based on accurate knowledge of its life history and habits. It will feed or breed only on the cotton plant. Clean farming methods attack the weevil by removing its food, prolonging the period of starvation, and destroying the material in which it spends the winter. It has been found advisable to remove stalks and carefully screen in any seed houses which may be in or near cotton fields.

The most important step, however, is the destruction of the cotton plants by October 10, or as soon after that date as possible. It is readily seen that if its only food is removed from the three to five weeks before the first killing frost causes it to go into winter quarters, the number of weevils present during the following summer and spring will be greatly reduced. This measure is especially important along the line of advance of the weevil in territory not yet infested. After making long flights late in the season, the presence of growing cotton gives the weevil a good opportunity to feed before going into winter quarters. If the plants have been destroyed early, however, the long flight followed by starvation, greatly decreases the probability of the weevil appearing the following season in this new territory.

The Louisiana state crop pest commission found that when cotton plants were destroyed before October 15, only 3 per cent. of the weevils survive. The necessity for prompt and early destruction of the plants is indicated by the survival of 15 per cent. of the weevils where plants remained until the period between October 15 and 27, when the plants were destroyed between November 1 and 25 about twenty-two per cent. of the weevils survived and when the plants were destroyed between November 25 and December 7, 28 per cent. of the weevils lived through the winter. Allowing the plants to stand until Christmas permitted 43 per cent. of the weevils to survive and attack the next cotton crop. Starvation of the weevil before it entered winter quarters "was more effective in causing death than cold or wet weather during the winter." If the cotton plants are not removed the weevil is not deprived of food for more than about ninety-four days. If they are destroyed October 10, the average weevil must starve unless it can go 180 days without any food. The average time that weevils remain in winter quarters is 150 days. The fact that one weevil lived 255 days or eight and one-half months without food indicates that even the possible six months' starvation does not entirely eradicate it, but it prepares the way for much more effective use of other cultural methods and spraying.

Campaign for Better Agriculture.

Chicago.—The beginning of a nation-wide campaign for better agriculture to double and treble the crops of staples from the same acreage within ten years, while at the same time reclaiming millions of acres on abandoned farms is to be launched with the incorporation at Springfield of the National Soil Fertility League. Behind the project, which is described as "the most important economic movement in the world," are many men of prominence.

WOOL REVISION THROUGH SENATE

UNDERWOOD BILL BEATEN; DEMOCRATS JOIN G. O. P. INSURGENTS IN PASSING BILL.

PREDICTED TAFT WILL VETO

House Democrats Will Not Accept the Bill as Passed the Senate.

Washington.—The fight of the Democratic condition in the senate, therefor broader tariff revision gained ground and it was confidently predicted in both houses that a conference-created compromise wool bill, the farmers' free list bill and possibly the cotton bill, with steel, sugar and other schedules, would be passed. Meantime the indications are stronger than ever that President Taft will exercise his veto power on tariff legislation prior to the submission of the tariff board report in December.

Out of what had appeared to be a Democratic Progressive Republican coalition suddenly arose coalition of Democrats and insurgent Republicans which bowed over the regular organization and passed a compromise bill for the revision of the woolen tariff by 48 to 32.

This new force in the senate united on a material reduction of tariff duties all down the line, and, flushed with victory, is threatening not only to enact the so-called house farmers' free list bill into law, but to put through a cotton bill as well. The insurgents want the sugar and steel schedules included in the program.

The House Democratic leaders are not willing to accept the compromise bill as it passed the senate, but they are more than willing to meet the senate conferees. Chairman Underwood of the house ways and means committee declared that although he would not agree to the bill as it passed the senate, that he did not think the house would agree to it, he expressed the belief that a bill satisfactory to both houses was more than likely to be agreed upon.

This would put the wool issue up to President Taft, and there is much speculation as to what his course would be. Mr. Taft would make no comment on the situation. While the president in the past has denounced the present woolen schedule of the Payne-Aldrich law as indefensible, there have been strong intimations from the whole house within the past few weeks that he would not hesitate to use the veto on any tariff schedules passed in advance of reports from the tariff board.

WATER FAMINE IN CHARLOTTE

North Carolina City is in Desperate Straits.

Charlotte, N. C.—Forty thousand inhabitants of Charlotte are experiencing a water famine with its attendant discomforts and dangers. The last drop was drained from the pond which has furnished the supply for years, and only 400,000 gallons, much less than a day's supply, remain in the reservoir. This has been cut off from users indefinitely, and in the meantime the people are dependent upon the meager supply of various mineral water agencies.

Recently a bond issue of \$300,000 was voted to bring the water supply from the river, but it will require a year to complete this project. The insurance companies announce a refusal to renew fire policies.

The city is employing squads of men to patrol each ward as watchmen.

The ministers have issued a call for the people to gather hourly and pray for rain.

Reciprocity With Mexico.

Washington.—Reciprocity with Mexico similar to Canadian reciprocity is proposed in a resolution introduced by Representative Burleson of Texas calling on President Taft immediately to start negotiations with Mexico "looking to freer commerce between the two countries."

May Parole Walsh.

Fort Leavenworth, Kan.—The only obstacle which would prevent John R. Walsh, the former Chicago banker, from being released on parole from Leavenworth penitentiary in September was removed when word came from Chicago that the remaining indictment against him had been quashed at the request of United States Attorney Sims. Walsh's application for release will be taken up by the board when it meets September 12.