Congress May Impose a Gasoline Tax

universal throughout the country. In- District of Columbia. formation assembled by the bureau of

District of Columbia had gasoline taxes in effect during 1924. Of the thirteen states without this form of tax, two have enacted new laws since the beginning of the present year and three of the others have increased

In view of the effort of the federal government to abolish wartime taxamarked state tendency toward inconsidered entirely within the realms 769 with a 1-cent tax. of possibility, although members of

before congress during consideration posal pending in the legislature.

TASHINGTON.—Taxation of | of the last revenue law and is certain gasoline by the states is to be put forward again in the forthspreading so rapidly as to coming revision. Congress last year threaten to become almost enacted a gasoline levy law for the

roads show that the gross receipts riculture shows that 35 states and the from state gasoline taxes in 1924 corner of that huge country," says a amounted to \$79,784,490. Of this \$48,- bulletin from the Washington, D. C. 711,792 was applied to highway construction, the balance to other pur- graphic society.

The largest amount collected by any state was \$11,993,222 by California with an impost of 2 cents per gallon. Next came Pennsylvania with \$9,-089,541, also from a 2 cent tax. Intion as rapidly as possible, treasury diana collected \$4,925,372 with a 2officials are closely observing this cent tax; North Carolina took in \$4,-529,048 at the rate of 3 cents per galcreased taxation. That a federal tax lon; Georgia collected \$4,527,471 with on gasoline also may be imposed is a 3-cent tax, and Texas raised \$3,892,-

Among the eleven states which are congress from states where gasoline still holding out against the plan are taxes are already in effect are inclined some of those with larger industrial to oppose any additional burden of this cities, including New York, Illinois, character by the national government. Massachusetts and Ohio. The others A suggestion for a gasoline tax as a are New Jersey, Iowa, Minnesota, Missubstitute for some of the taxes which souri, Nebraska, Wisconsin and Rhode have been considered obnoxious was Island. Some of them have the pro-

Why Sea Food Has Become Expensive

the governors of all the mariforthcoming exploration and survey of the Gulf and the Caribbean, and perorder to study the problem of conserving and cultivating the food reis significant.

Indeed, there is need of prompt and vigorous action, if sea food is not almost to vanish from our markets. It is easy to say, of course, that the Atlantic ocean is too big for man to excostly objects of luxury.

CECRETARY HOOVER invited | In 30 years the catch of shad along our Atlantic coast has decreased to time states from Maine to only a quarter of what it was, and the Texas to send representatives to price to the consumer has increased a conference last week to consider the fivefold. The catch of sturgeon in conservation of food fish in Atlantic rivers and lakes has fallen to little and Gulf coastal waters. Simultane- more than one-eighth of what it was, ously the Navy department announced and the price in the markets has correspondingly increased to eight times what it was. The catch of lobsters is haps of much of the Atlantic ocean, in about one-third of that of former years, while the price is nine times as great. These are facts, officially sources of the sea. The coincidence obtained by Secretary Hoover, and referred to the governors of the seaboard states for their consideration.

The causes are obvious to all. They are chiefly two: Wasteful and destructive methods of taking the fish, and pollution of rivers, bays and haust, and that its supply of edible coastal waters generally with sewage, fish is illimitable. But every one who sludge, oil and other matter stupidly has looked into the matter knows that called "waste." Of course, it has that is sheer nonsense. The cold fact seemed to short-sighted persons "the is that our supply of sea food is al- easiest way" to get rid of such stuff, ready sorely depleted, so that some, simply to pour it into the nearest waof the choicest varieties, once abun- ter. But the easiest way is sometimes dant and cheap, are now scarce and the worst way, in economics as well as in morals.

Changes in Departments at the Capital

the transfer of the patent office Department of Commerce. The transfer affected 1,246 employees.

The patent-office transfer carried out one of the two recommendations with regard to changes in the lineup of the Interior department bureaus recommended by the joint congressional committee on reorganization of the executive departments. The other recommendation involved transfer of the bureau of mines to the Commerce department

Secretary of the Interior Work and Secretary of Commerce Hoover, who are represented to be in complete accord with the recommendations of the joint committee, discussed the transfer for several months before it was ion from the attorney general as to gether. whether the act of 1903 authorizing | Change in the procedure, with rethe President to transfer bureaus spect to protection of rights of Amerifrom one department to another with- can patentees in foreign countries is out specific authorization of congress forecast by Mr. Hoover.

URTHER changes in the organi- | was a continuing act. He was inzation of the government depart-ments are looked for following tific bureaus, and it was then left to few scratches, when this plane of the the President to decide whether the from the Interior department to the patent office was to be classified as a

The present intention of governcuse, N. Y. ment heads with regard to the bureau of mines has not been stated, although officials gave it as their opinion that the transfer of the bureau from the Interior department to the Commerce department would need specific authorization from congress, inasmuch as the bureau was placed in the Interior department by congress.

Extensive changes in the personnel of the patent office are not contemplated, Secretary Hoover said, adding that better organization of the government, to secure economy and efficiency, requires that functions of simimade. Doctor Work secured an opin- lar major purpose shall be grouped to-

Three Major Problems of Next Congress

said, is tax reduction; the second, such amendment of the rules as will facilitate public business and still preserve the right of legitimate debate, and the third, the world court.

The most important of these three questions, the Buckeye senator believes, is tax reduction.

"Lightening of the tax burdens of the people is made possible by the very satisfactory returns from the tax laws now in force and by the substantial economies that have been effected." Senator Willis said. "The \$100,-000,000 surplus this year and the estimated surplus next year of \$800,000,tion. 'A million a day of tax cut away,' will be the slogan of the next

the house will begin preparation of dent Coolidge.

HREE major problems will oc- | the new tax bill early in October, so cupy the attention of the next that the measure will be ready for congress, in the opinion of Sena- prompt action when congress meets. tor Frank B. Willis of Ohio. The This plan will make unnecessary any first of these problems, Senator Willis special session of congress. General revision of the tariff is not desirable and will not be undertaken.

> "Vice President Dawes is not proposing any specific change in the rules, as I understand," Senator Willis said, "but he is calling the attention of the country to the need of revision to eliminate filibusters and prevent abuse of power by individual members. In so doing, General Dawes is rendering valuable public service."

The world court problem is to be taken up early in December for final decision, and Senator Willis said he will press for consideration of a resolution he introduced in the last regu-000 make certain important tax reduc- lar session of congress and reintroduced at the special session of the senate in March, which embodies the reservations proposed by President "The ways and means committee of Harding, Secretary Hughes and Presi-

Postal Service and the Obscene Mail ECENT increase in the flood of in endeavoring to dispose of their

has led to further tightening tercepted at custom houses. of the routine safeguards employed in the postal service for keeping it out the federal statutes in that regard.

to the office of the postmaster general from parents and associations asking that the department augment its ef- ing those attempting to import such forts to protect children from obscene literature and pictures.

The close surveillance exercised provisions of the laws. over the character of matter passing through the mails, officials believe, has effected a material decrease in the number of dealers in pornographic matter. Federal courts have discouraged the efforts of such dealers by upeach instance where rulings excluding been challenged.

Miers from Europe, have been active other channels.

questionable matter offered for products in this country. In many intransmission through the mails stances foreign consignments are in-

The trade of these offenders has been crippled by the postal authorities and for prosecution of those violating returning to senders letters addressed to all known dealers in obscene mat-Thousands of complaints have come ter, by confiscating great quantities of unmailable advertising circulars and the materials as well, and by acquaintmatter with their responsibility and liability to prosecution under the penal

The numerous small magazines, depending for their popularity on the pornographic material in them, are the source of continual complaint, and the exclusion of many of them from the mails curtails to a considerable extent holding the Post Office department in their widespread, circulation. These publications have been responsible for obscene matter from the mails has increasing the work of the Post Office department's legal forces. The maga-Foreign dealers, especially since the sines when excluded from the mails war and the return of American sol- find their way to news stands through

IS BEAU

Tali-fu, Scene of Latest Chinese Earthquake, Is Little Known.

Washington .- "Tall-ful, latest Chi-The figures of the bureau of public ness city to suffer from earthquake, lies almost at the southwest headquarters of the National Geo-

"Tali-fu, next to Yunnan-fu, is the most important city in Yunnan, the remote border province that adjoins Burma on the west and French Indo-China on the south. A railroad, built by the French, reaches Yunnan-fu, but Tali, nearly 200 miles farther west. can be reached only by horse and mule caravan over execrable roads. Progress is slow and the journey from the rail-head normally requires a month of more. The latitude of Tall is approximately that of the southern tip of Texas, but it lies nearly 7,000 feet high and has a pleasant climate with warm days and cool nights.

City Has Ideal Setting. "The setting of Tall is almost ideal. t lies on the west shore of a beautiful blue lake about 30 miles long, while to the west and north tower high, snow-capped mountains. Among the foothills to the north are fertile little plains and hillsides where rice, wheat and beans are grown. More and more, too, the opium poppy is coming back into cultivation. Yunnan province was the best poppy country in China in the past, but about 15 years ago an anti-poppy edict went forth, and its sudden enforcement nearly ruined the Yunnanese farmers. Enforcement of the edict has grown lax lately and poppy fields are now to be seen along the main roads.

"The city of Tall is situated about eight miles north of the foot of Tall lake. At the foot is the town of Hsia-Kuan. The relation between the two communities is very roughly that between Gary, Indiana, and Chicago, if industrialism. Hsia-Kuan is the mercantile town, while Tall is the official and residence city. Between the two. along the lake shore, is a road paved with cobblestones that, through long use, have become polished to glasslike slowest of paces. Turbulent Times in Yunnan

"Revolutions, local uprisings, and A local candy manufacturer at Au-

The two passengers were seriously

into a swamp on the Indian reserva-

tion eight miles south of Syra-

Task Started 27 Years Ago in

Manila, P. I.—The United States

oast and geodetic survey expects to

omplete within a few years the work

of surveying all the coasts and adja-

cent waters of the Philippine islands

and bring to a close a task that has

been under way since American occu-

pation nearly 27 years ago. Com-

mander W. E. Parker, chief of the di-

vision of hydrography and topography.

declared recently upon his arrival

Commander Parker comes as the

ester Jones, director of the United

"It is the desire of the government

personal representative of Colonel E.

expects to remain in the Philippines

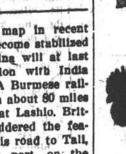
from Washington.

several months.

Few More Years.

bulent places on the map in recent years. If conditions become stabilized it is probable that China will at last have rallroad, connection with India via Tali and Burma. A Burmese railway now runs to within about 80 miles of the Yunnan border at Lashlo. British interests have considered the feasibility of extending this road to Tall, Yunnan-fu and some port on the

Yangtze river. "The mountains and hills near Tall are covered with a profusion of rhododendrons which give the country an aspect of loveliness in spring and summer. An expedition of the National Geographic society led by Joseph F. Rock recently brought into the United States from Yunnan an extensive collection of these beautiful flowering shrubs, many of which will be intro-



Thomas Blackburn of Los Angeles holding an odd kind of fowl-a cross between a chicken and a turkey. It has been named the turken.

HERE'S AN ODD FOWL

Jses of Weather Forecast Varied

Apparently No Limit to Useful Application of Official Prognostications.

Washington.-There is apparently no limit to the practical uses that may be made of forecasts and weather data generally. The Corpus Christi station of the weather bureau of the United States Department of Agriculture reports two unusual instances:

A teacher of expression planned an open-air recital. As her pupils were small children whose voices were weak. she ascertained from the weather bureau office the probable wind direction during the evening of the recital and mercantile activity is substituted for placed the audience to leeward of the performers, who were heard without difficulty.

Trainers of fox hounds frequently call on this station to learn the probability of fog or dew in the early hours of the next morning. As hounds work smoothness. Over them the caravan best on still, damp mornings, such horses pick their way gingerly at the times are selected for sending them out in quest of coyotes.

Helps Candy Maker.

bandit raids have combined to make gusta, Ga., found that on certain days Yunnan province one of the most tur- the hard candies, that are very popu-

Airplane Makes Nose Dive in Swamp

lar at this time, would "sweat" and lose their luster when laid out on the trays to harden. On the advice of the weather bureau official the candy company purchased a sling psychrometer and is making practical experiments in insuring humidity in its factories. While it is likely that the company will eventually install air-conditioning apparatus, it is now producing these candies satisfactorily and with little added expense by making them only on days when the humidity is low.

Watched by Ministers.

Ministers keep an anxious eye on the weather, as it frequently influences the size of their congregation. The pastor of one of the largest churches in Canton, N. Y., consults the forecasts for another reason-to save coal. In arranging for heating his church for Sunday service, he calls the local office of the weather bureau for the forecast made Saturday morning and probable temperature during the night and Sunday morning. He then instructs the janitor as to time of starting fires and amount of heat required. In this way a more satisfactory temperature is provided and fuel is saved.

- elecome

Longfellow All Wrong: Hesperus Never Did Sink!

Boston. - The schooner Hesperus, made forever famous by Longfelow's ballad. "The Wreck of the Hesperus," was not wrecked at all. Instead of going to its doom on the reef of Norman's Woe, the vessel lay in safety in Boston harbor and saffered only the breaking of a bowsprit when buffeted by the gusts which

The historical mistake is revealed in a study of newspaper files of the period of the great gale which inspired the poet.

On December 17, 1879, the news papers printed an account of a sad disaster, telling how 17 bodies were washed ashore. In the same column was a paragraph telling how a gust drove the Hesperus from its moorings in Boston harbor against the ship William Badger, carrying away its bowsprit. A triffing misfortune like this won the schooner Hesperus undying fame. Perusal of Longfellow's diary for the 17th shows that he must have read both items and confused

of them is to be made by airplane When the actual work begins the survey party will be accompanied by air forces of the army, who will prepare for photographing the entire coast by airplane.

Marksman Wastes Shots.

charted are the west coast of Palawan, the southern half of the Sulu sea to Borneo, the Sulu archipelago, south Mindanao, northern Luzon to Bashi channel, almost to Formosa, and the west coast of Luzon from Cape Engano to Casiguran bay. The most important of these areas, judging from a commercial standpoint, will be sur-"As to the importance of the task we are about to undertake, it cannot be overestimated. It is likely to result in the change of steamer routes." he had killed one seal. will make navigation safer in these

waters, and will change the status of The United States army has devel-States coast and geodetic survey, and the areas from one of unknown waters oped a .75-mm. gun which shoots nearto one well charted and entirely safe ly three miles farther than the famous French .75-mm. gun used in the These waters not only will be chartto complete the surveys of the Philip- ed, but a complete photographic record World war, but weighs the same,

but Fails to Shoot Seals

Dublin.-A Bisley marksman may be good at shooting at targets, but pretty poor when it comes to shooting seals, The minister for fisheries disclosed in the Dall, when dealing with complaints of the destruction of fish by seals, that the ministry had engaged a Bisley marksman to shoot seals and kept him at work for three months in the estuary of the Suir. He expended 1,000 pounds of ammunition, but was honest enough to say he was not sure whether

3,325 PH. D. DEGREES CONFERRED IN DECADE IN UNITED STATES

SURVEY OF PHILIPPINE COASTS

United States Expects to Complete pine coasts and waters," said Com

AND WATERS IS BEING PUSHED

mander Parker.

veyed first.

to navigation."

"The areas which have not yet been

riod from 1912 to 1921, there were printed in the United States a total pared by candidates for the degree of doctor of philosophy in the various colleges and universities throughout the country.

Although the conferring of the degree does not always occur in the same year as the publication of thesia. either preceding or following it by a few years in many cases, the average of degrees conferred would be about the same as the number of dissertations printed in any one year or longer period.

It follows, therefore, that in the ten years from 1912 to 1921 there were reated in this country, 3,825 new docors of philosophy to join the nation's swelling ranks of learned doctors, at an average rate of 332 per year.

This figure of 8,325 is undoubtedly an understatement, however, according to Justus Falckner, said to be the arst chines,

New York .- During the ten-year pe | the librarian who compiled it from reports issued by the Library of Congress. It takes into consideration only of 3,325 doctoral dissertations pre those dissertations which are recorded annually in the list drawn up in the catalogue division of the Library of

Finds Historic Church

Papers in Unused Desk New York.-In a drawer of an old desk, among discarded Christmas tree ornaments, at St. James' Lutheran church, historic records, some of them declared to be priceless, have been found by the pastor of the church, Rev. Mr. William F. Sunday. He has

The authenticity of the find is guaranteed by the National Lutheran council. Most valued of the papers is the original ordination certificate of Rev. clergyman regularly ordained in the western world.

The ordination took place on November 24; 1703, at the Swedish Lutheran Gloria Dei church, in Wicaco, Pa., now part of Philadelphia.

Other documents discovered placed in a vault by Doctor Sunday include a petition of the Lutheran church to Thomas Dongan, governor of the colony prior to 1668, in which the congregation asks for immunity from taxation, on the ground that "those of the Calvinist opinion are exempted." There also is a letter duted October 27, 1704, certifying to the character of Rev. Mr. Falckner and asking aid from the Church of England for his support.

More than one hundred establishments in the United States are now engaged in the manufacture of washbeen unable to explain their presence ing machines and their combined output has a value of more than \$40, 000,000 a year. Something like 10,-000,000 pounds of copper is annually consumed in the manufacture of the tanks or tubs of the washing ma-

IMPORTANT NEWS

IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS OF THIS AND OTHER NATIONS FOR SEVEN DAYS GIVEN

What is Taking Place in The Southland Will Be Found In Brief Paragraphs

Foreign-

Five hundred troops entrained at Halifax, N. S., fully equipped and steel helmeted, for duty in the Cape Breton coal fields, where clashes between striking coal miners and corporation police resulted in the death of one miner, the serious wounding of another, injuries to two score and the repulse of the police.

Striking mine workers are in undisputed possession of the streets of New Waterford, N. S., after a struggle of several hours, in which one of their number was killed by gunfire, a second was shot and seriously injured and a large number of miners and police employed by the British Empire Steel corporation injured, some of them severely

The necessity of settling the problem of inter-allied debts was the point on which M. Caillaux, minister of finance, insisted when he appeared before the finance committee of the French chamber of deputies recently

The condition of Gabriele D'Annunzio, the poet-soldier, is reported at Gardone, Italy, as considerably improved. He has been suffering from influenza. Americans have been included in

the denunciations contained in hand bills distributed by Chinese strike leaders endeavoring to carry on a general strike at Shanghai. For the first time in history, re-

cently, a French chief of government accompanied by a retinue of aides, has flown to a war zone, trailed through the air by a corps of international newspaper correspondents.

The subject of a security took a new angle at Geneva when Italy went on record as favoring the Franco-British - Belgian pact with Germany. Italy is temporarily excluded from this, but her spokesman voiced the hope that she would be permitted to participate in a pact if intended and applied to all German frontiers. In search of adventure and treas-

ure, the 26-foot yacht Stingaree left Toronto island bound for the Spanish main, with Cocas island as its more or less immediate objective. The crew, leaving Toronto, Canada, comprised William John Beach, his wife and five-year-old son.

The Nicaraguan cabinet has resigned in order, it is announced, to give President Solorzano a free hand in reorganization.

Washington-

The forty-eight States of the Union paid out \$1,310,332,793 for general operating expenses in 1923, a per capita expenditure of 11.95 and received in revenues 1,247,304,821, or \$11.38 per

During the first four months of this year, the bureau of mines reported 737 employees of coal mines had been killed by accidents which is a fatality rate of 3.85 per million tons compared with 5.11 for the same month last

Applications under which the Seaboard Air Line proposes to extend its railroad from Fort Myers in Florida south and west to Naples on the west coast of the same state have been filed with the interstate coinmerce commission.

The airship Shenandoah, during its flight to Portland, Maine, July 4, for the governors' convention, will go as far north as Bar Harbor and moor to the tender Patoka there, it is announced at the navy department.

Tax revision at the coming session of congress is predicted by Senator Smoot of Utah, chairman of the senate finance committee, who, at the time, declared his opposition to any attempt at tariff revision.

Production of milk, butter and cheese in north central states may be somewhat reduced this year in the opinion of department of agriculture officials by the poor condition of pastures. These states produce the bulk of the country's creamery butter and

The postoffice department announces that beginning August 1 mailers of parcels must guarantee return postage in event of non-delivery, or renounce all claims to the parcel.

The MacMillan expedition when it departs for the Arctic June 17, Secretary Wilbur says, will carry no special instructions concerning the course it should pursue in claiming B H any lands which may be discovered camp or in flying over disputed territory.

The capital has gone mad over the baseball pools and is betting \$30,000 a jury week on tickets costing 60 cents each which are secretly sold through agents working in practicaly all government departments and in many office buildings, according to an unofficial investigation made here.

The old earth is slowing down, unable to keep up the terrific pace which it set in its youth eons ago. It is slowing down one-thousandth of a second at Reidsville N per century, according to Prof. A. S. which they " Eddington of Cambridge university, in them. a report published by the Smithsonian institution. This means a pace that Rotary Intern loses one minute each six million members years. Once the earth's day was three changing or four hours. It was during that pe- dress from riod that the moon probably was be presented to thrown off, says Professor Eddington. tors, meeting at It may have come out of the Pacific liminary to the annual

the president's My

heen taken under My Charles D. Walcon The condition of b

Domestic-

The Standard Ou to ana has ordered a large. senger and freight-un for the purpose of de utility of aerial transpo

will accompany (ome B MacMillan's Arctic en ing from Wiscasset Mr rived at the naval re-Squantum, Mass, after Philadelphia

Thirty-two men and at Clinton, Mass, as the riot after an outdoor w

First formal steps le

a blazing construction

ture which has cons