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EXTRACT TEETH FROM TAX LAW

Corporation Returns Not Available To Public

President Believes Failure To Vote Funds For Indexing Reports An Oversight On Part Of Congress—Original Intention Was To Give Publicity To Returns, But Until Money Is Voted They Must Be Treated As Ordinary Revenue Documents

Washington, Feb. 17.—By what President Taft considers an oversight on the part of congress, the teeth have been drawn from his corporation tax law, at least until remedial action has been taken. The president and his advisers have discovered that congress has appropriated no money with which to index and display the returns from the corporations. Congress, it is true, did appropriate \$100,000 "for the expenses of collecting the corporation tax," but the president has discovered a law passed by congress back in 1882 which he construes as prohibiting the use of any of the money for promoting the publicity clause of the corporation tax. The president intends, until this condition of affairs can be rectified, to treat the returns from corporations merely as internal revenue returns, and thus the business secrets extracted from concerns all over the country will be accessible only to the taxpayer or his attorney or to such persons as are authorized by the president.

The president puts the entire subject squarely up to congress. The acting secretary of the treasury has written a letter to Speaker Cannon, urging the necessity of the passage of a bill providing a \$50,000 appropriation for carrying out the publicity feature of the law. The president holds that the intention of congress when it

passed the corporation tax was to make the returns accessible to the public. He regards the failure of congress to provide specifically for this as an oversight.

HELD UP AND ROBBED

Columbus, O., Feb. 17.—Frank H. Williams, grocer, was knocked insensible by two negro hold-up men, who robbed him and left him for dead. His recovery is doubtful.

Bees of Brazil.
The bees of Brazil hang their honeycombs at the end of the slenderest twig, at the very summit of a tree, to be beyond the reach of monkeys.

Japanese as Sailors.
The excellence of the Japanese as sailors is accounted for by the fact that most of Japan's coasting vessels are small, but there are a great many of them. Almost any man taken from a fishing village has had enough experience to enable him to become an efficient sailor in a short time.

COMMITTEE GETS LIGHT FROM SAGINAW FISHERMEN

Washington, Feb. 17.—Three fishermen from the Saginaw bay region of Michigan walked into the room of the senate committee on foreign relations armed with nets, bait and a few live lake herring in pails of water. They appeared before the committee in opposition to the ratification of the Great Lakes fishery agreement between Canada and the United States recently negotiated by David Starr Jordan, president of Leland Stanford university, and Commissioner G. W. Prince of the Dominion. After the fisher folk had given a little exhibition to illustrate their point, the committee by a unanimous vote decided not to report favorably on the agreement.

INDIANAPOLIS MUSICIANS KILLED IN PISTOL DUEL

Indianapolis, Feb. 17.—Fatally wounded by two bullets from the pistol of Adolph Cassau, second violinist at the Empire theater, Louis Ostendorf, manager of the orchestra and famous as a musician, overpowered his assailant and, wresting the revolver from his hand, fired three bullets through Cassau's head, killing him instantly at the rear entrance of the theater. Ostendorf died at the De-

fect hospital an hour later. The cause of the shooting is said to have been personal, Ostendorf having discharged the violinist a few days ago.

Norway's Sardines.
Norway has forty sardine factories. During a good season 50,000,000 tins of twenty to twenty-four fish each are packed, equivalent to 500,000 cases of a hundred tins each.

Earrings.
The immortal Shakespeare is said to have worn earrings, and Charles I. is reputed to have been the owner of a magnificent pair of pearl earrings, which he bequeathed to his daughter the day before he was executed.

THIS AND THAT
Tattoo marks on his arm caused the death of Arthur Biala at Danville, Ill. Ed Geers, famous turfman, broke his leg at Memphis, Tenn., when he was thrown from a horse.

SCENE IN THE FAMOUS CHICAGO UNION STOCKYARDS.



The eyes of the country have been centered recently on the Union stockyards in Chicago owing to the federal probe of the meat business. The stockyards are one of the great show places of Chicago. They are situated about five miles south of the city's center and occupy a space of about a square mile. Here are brought the millions of cattle, sheep and hogs that are consumed in the city itself and are prepared for shipment elsewhere, principally as dressed meat and byproducts. The stockyards are controlled by the Armour, Swift, Cudahy and other big packing interests.

PENNSYLVANIA EMPLOYEES MUST NOT USE TOBACCO

Pittsburg, Feb. 17.—Employees of the Pennsylvania railroad at Pittsburg have been ordered to refrain from the use of tobacco while on duty at least and also have been requested to break themselves completely of the habit if they can possibly do so. Applicants for positions with the road are now being questioned very closely regarding tobacco, and within the past few days scores who admitted themselves confined tobacco users were refused positions. As yet the order has been applied only to office forces and to those handling passen-

ger trains. It is claimed that tobacco chewing is hurtful to good performance of duty on the passenger trains and that too much smoking hurts those who work in the offices.
John F. Stott, an important witness in the Pennsylvania graft cases, was found dead in his home at Harrisburg. On March 15 John D. Rockefeller will receive \$4,050,000 as quarterly dividends on his Standard Oil stock. Americans are promised a peep at Lady Constance Richardson's aristocratic toes when she comes to this country on a dancing tour.

HUGHES WILL ENLARGE THE GRAFT INQUIRY

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 17.—Governor Hughes is to investigate the state's purchases of Adirondack forest lands since this policy was inaugurated a dozen years ago. In preparing for the trial of Senator Allds on the Conger bribery charges, counsel for Senator Conger investigated different things in which Senator Allds was interested, including forest land purchases by the state. Senator Allds has been employed by the state in passing upon the titles to this land. During the Allds trial counsel for Senator Conger have intimated that they were sorry they could not introduce in the evidence facts discovered in connection with these land purchases, intimating further that prominent Republican politicians would be involved. These

suggestions of unearthed scandals finally reached Governor Hughes' eyes and he named a committee to investigate.

Belgium.
That Belgium is perhaps the most prosperous state in Europe as well as the most thickly settled is being noted at this time with some interest. The late king's reign was at least marked by an enormous advance in wealth and social reform. One of the country's special advantages is that its international neutralization permits it to dispense with a navy, while the Belgian army is maintained on a very small and inexpensive basis.—Argonaut.

IS A HEN A BIRD?

Washington, Feb. 17.—The duty on hens' eggs is 5 cents a dozen and birds' eggs come into American ports duty free. A letter passed through the hands of R. O. Bailey, secretary to Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh, asking the question, "Is a hen a bird?" Bailey is thinking about it.

Ho Beat It.
"Where did you steal that mat from?" demanded the policeman as he seized the tramp.
"I didn't steal it," said the tramp.
"A body up the street gave it me and told me to beat it!"—Judge's Library.

INSANITY IS PLEA

Coshocton, O., Feb. 17.—In outlining his case the defense in the William Jacob Davis first degree murder case declared that the young man was possessed of a dementia when he slew his father, and that there was an entire lack of malice prompting the crime. His ailment is ascribed to injury which he received in a coal mine several years ago, when rock fell and hit him in the head. The defense also insists that the mental weakness of the young man was due to heredity, there having been a weak-minded person in each of the last three generations in his mother's line.

CANDY GOES UP IN SMOKE

Columbus, O., Feb. 17.—Fire, which is thought to have originated in the chocolate melting room, destroyed the manufacturing plant, warehouse and salesrooms of the Sims-Jeffries company, candy manufacturers. The loss to the building and contents as estimated was \$50,000. Insurance on the stock was \$30,000; on the building, \$4,000.

INGALLS IMPROVES

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 17.—Melville T. Ingalls, former president of the Big Four railroad and also ex-president of the Merchants' National bank, is recuperating from a stroke of paralysis, which affected his left side. Ingalls had not been in good health and the gigantic shortage of C. L. Warriner, defaulting treasurer of the Big Four, worried him to a great degree.

LESLIE ACQUITTED

Pittsburg, Feb. 17.—District Attorney Blakeley failed to secure a conviction in the first trial of the latest series of graft cases here, when a jury returned a verdict of not guilty in favor of Max G. Leslie, charged with perjury in testifying before a recent grand jury.

WHEELER FIGHTS BILL

Columbus, O., Feb. 17.—Superintendent Wayne B. Wheeler of the Anti-Saloon league is making a fierce fight on the Gebhardt bill, which would keep all the revenue from saloons within the counties where they pay the tax. The claim for the bill is that now counties which have voted dry are benefiting by that part of the Alkin tax which goes from the wet counties to the state funds. Wheeler secured delay before the committee that he may submit statistics to show that the wet counties furnish the greater portion of the state's income to the state institutions and should contribute most heavily.

ACCUSE BOY OF BURGLARY

Fremont, O., Feb. 17.—Milton Kray, 13, who says his home is in Cleveland, was arrested in Elyria and brought to Fremont on a charge of burglarizing the gun store of Stine & Parks here two weeks ago.

Radical.
"Radical," says an English paper, was originally a term of reproach, but was soon enthusiastically adopted by a section of the Liberal party. They even went the length of wearing habitually a white hat, nicknamed a "radical." Worn in the house of commons the white hat is now considered a sign of Toryism.

A Fearful Earthquake.
One of the most destructive earthquakes in the world's history was that which occurred in Tokyo in the year 1703, when 100,000 people were killed.

Iceland.
Iceland exports sulphur, Iceland moss, wool, dried fish, seal skins and oil, whale oil and balteen, elderdown, birdskins and ponies. Its manufactures are entirely domestic.

DEAN BILL GOES TO ITS FRIENDS

Is Referred To Committee On Municipal Affairs

Secretary Sandles Tells Food Probers High Prices Due In Large Measure To Failure Of Ohio Farmers To Mix Brains With Crop Raising—What Orchard Owners Lose Annually Through Lax Methods—Harmon's Tax Measures Reach House

Columbus, O., Feb. 17.—By a vote of 18 to 14 the senate referred Senator Dean's bill permitting cities that vote wet at elections in which the county goes dry to remain wet, to the committee on municipal affairs, which is construed as a victory for the saloon forces, as the drys wanted the amendment referred to the regular temperance committee.

The vote by which the amendment was referred follows: Ayes—Ainsford, Cetone, Cory, Dean, Gillette, Gotshall, Huffman, McKee, Shaffer, Thompson, Yount, Bader, Baker, Johnson, Keller, Kuhl, Matthews and Mendelson; total, 18. Nays—Beatty, Cameron, Cleveland, Crawford, Deaton, Duval, Lawyer, Mather, Patterson, Phare, Rathburn, Tod, Tuttle and Williams; total, 14.

Six of the nine members of the municipal affairs committee are classed as wet. A favorable report on the bill is certain. However, Wayne B. Wheeler, superintendent of the Ohio Anti-Saloon league, predicts that the bill will be easily defeated on the floor of the senate.

Sandles Explains High Prices.
Failure of Ohio farmers to properly use their brains is largely responsible for the high cost of living in this state, according to the testimony of A. P. Sandles, Secretary of the state board of agriculture, in his testimony before the joint food probe committee. Mr. Sandles said that if Ohio farmers would mix brains with their other qualities in farming, food would be cheaper in Ohio and the state would be exporting rather than importing cereals, live stock and fruit. Ohio is producing less than it did 20 years ago, and the production is decreasing as rapidly as the population is increasing.

Five dollars a year invested in apple orchards will bring a return of \$100 an acre, according to M. E. Shaw, head of the nursery department of the department of agriculture. Ohio today is getting only 15 per cent of what it should get from its 250,000 acres of apple orchards.

With proper care an acre of apple orchard will produce more than \$500 a year, Shaw said. He told the committee that Ohio farmers should make \$75,000,000 a year on their orchards and should export to all parts of the world. Instead, he said, Ohio is compelled to import its apples and most of its other fruit. The average orchard has a life of 50 years.

Railroad reports submitted by Sandles showed that 10 years ago the hill counties in southern Ohio shipped thousands of carloads of fruit annually. Now the business is practically dead.

The food probers further learned from Sandles that two former officials of the department held stock in fertilizing companies. The men named were former inspector of the board, W. W. Miller, and former inspector Edward Lower. Both have been dead more than two years. Under a rigid examination by Chairman Williams, Sandles said he had no knowledge that any present officials of the department held stock in companies manufacturing fertilizer or cattle foods. "But I have heard any number of rumors to that effect," added Sandles.

Farmers Lose Thousands.
The hearing brought out that farmers in Ohio lose hundreds of thousands of dollars annually by being cheated in the quality of fertilizer. John H. Alburn, assistant attorney general, is preparing amendments to the law that will provide a penalty for all deficiency in fertilizer and out-

let foods. Foodstuffs fed to cattle, it was revealed, are doctored with wood pulp, corn cobs, sweepings from flour mills, etc. Such foods are injurious to cattle and lower the quality of the milk.

Governor Harmon's state tax commission bill was introduced by Representative Elson, Democrat, of Tuscarawas county. The governor's proposed law to limit taxation to 15 mills of the tax valuation was introduced by Representative Smith, Democrat, of Marion county.

These bills were introduced in the house because the Republican taxation commission bill by Langdon of Lebanon is already pending before the taxation committee of the house. The measures will be referred to the taxation committee on second reading Tuesday.

Braun's Three Bills.
Representative Braun of Franklin county introduced two bills in the house. One bill enables the city to pay the county auditor his fees due under the law for collection of taxes. Under the present law the auditor collects the taxes, deducts his fees and pays what remains to the city. The bill also requires an itemized statement from the county auditor of his transactions with the city in tax collections.

Braun's other bill enables sinking fund trustees to buy notes of the municipal corporation in which the trustees are established. The bill enables sinking fund trustees to advertise their funds for interest once in three years.

A third bill submitted to Mr. Braun for introduction is to enable municipalities to draw in advance of tax settlements. Under the law as it stands the city "may" do so.

More Evidence Against Slater.

Columbus, O., Feb. 17.—It is believed that Representative Riddle of the graft probe committee unearthed further evidence of frauds practiced by former State Printer Mark Slater, in a hurried visit to Cincinnati, where he investigated large purchases of paper by Slater through the Dayton representative of a large Cincinnati paper house. County Detective McGannon is hard at work trying to get a line on Slater's present whereabouts, so that in case the grand jury, which is considering the Bradford evidence, returns an indictment, he can be arrested and returned to Ohio to face the music.

Mark Slater Disappears.

Columbus, O., Feb. 17.—Mark Slater, former state supervisor of public printing, has not been in the employ of the Fairmont Coal company of Detroit since Feb. 1. This fact was learned in connection with the search for Slater which has been undertaken since the filing of an affidavit in police court against him, charging the falsification of bills. His present location has not been established.

TO SPEND MILLIONS

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 17.—William Cotter, president of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton railroad, announced that his company had closed contracts for spending \$8,000,000 in improvements in 1910.