ZVENING PUBLIC LEDGER-PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1921

MORE REVENUE BY NEW TAXES URGED BY SPROUL IN MESSAGE TO JOINT SESSION OF ASSEMBLY

14

enterprise, public and private, as well one of only two states which levy no di-as every household, have brought about rect tax upon property for state puras situation in the state institutions— penal, custodian, charitable and odu-really not a state tax at all, the pro-ducational facilities for the 1.750.000 attention.

The estimates made two years ago by county purposes, the appropriations committees, the State Board of Charities and the management of the institutions have been greatly exceeded, maintenance rates have advanced and, as the state can-not "shut down" its schoole, hospitals and asylums, there has been no alter-

ago, although these various plants have of the State.

portion of our revenues depend up the gross receipts and cupital sto

of the commonwealth. Pennsylvania i

This is a happy situathe tion and should not be disturbed.

If our present revenue could be in native but to authorize the carrying of creased twenty per cent. or say, by istering it upon sound professional and deficits either through local barrowings \$10,000,000, great things could be done business principles, of providing as-or by advances made through the co- in line with the progressive ideas which sistance and stimulus to every educaor by advances made through the co- in line with the progressive ideas which operation of the fiscal officers of the are now strongly impressed upon the commonwealth. The average main- minds of our people. There are some fenance in the custodial institutions of ways in which this could be done withthe state have advanced from 25 to 40 out hardship to anyone and without dis-per cent over the estimates of two years arranging the general taxation plans. The state's plan of administra-area although these various planes have

been managed by enretal and pairs, been managed by enretal and pairs, taking trustees and unusually enpable local executives. Not only will these deficits have to be promitive precided for, but provision must be made for a

and above the rash balance in the gen-eral fund. These old appropriations, through the activity of our various de-partments in cleaning up and com-pleting the work in batid, have new been reduced to less than \$2,500,000, and the total of unsymmetric damages of the printiens, including the balances of the months of the appropriations year yet

Education

Revenue Suggestions

tional agency and institution in the state as well as to each community, and of giving leadership and interpretation

The state's plan of administration and the essential minimum standards which it exacts in education should be expressed in sound legislative enactexpressed

ing to note that at the beginning of our first appropriation. June 1, 1919, we had, according to figures given by the unit was later declared unconstitu-the shape of overlaphing appropriations and then un-made in provides spars and then unmade in previous years and then un-paid, of approximately \$20,000,000 ever only one kind of coal should be subject every boy and girl in the common- and bring it into close and above the cash balance in the gent to taxation. It will, therefore, he need wealth. The least which the **east** opinion of the times.

ized by autoropriations made between beenic of the commonwealth; 20 per new and June 1, and assuming that our cent should be returned to the counties auring the last year, we should rome trate as from which it originates to relieve local during the last year, we should rome trate as this total of \$32,000,000 by the end of ments, and for permanent improve-the appropriation period to about \$10. -\$1000,000, or a sum of \$20,000,000 by the end of ments, and the remaining 20 per cent the appropriation period to about \$10. -\$1000,000, or a sum of \$20,000,000 by the end of ments of possible. This duty was neglected iterates can share in only a limited out constituency, the Congressional interview way in either the opportunities or the districts have been grossly unequal in the appropriation period to about \$10. should go into a fund to be administered literates can share in only a limited 000,000, or a gain of \$10,000,000 in the by a reparations commission or possibly way in either the opportunities or the by a forced in the Department of Public obligations which citizenship in this

membered that while the salaries and the period of the costs of collection t_{i} is equivable for the salar end the salar end the salar end the period of the costs of collection t_{i} is equivable for the salar end the sa The will prevent aux goinging of the state in building birth on such a state in a state and here with the state in building birth on such a state in a state and here with the state in building birth on such a state in building birth on such a state in a state and here with the state in building birth on such a failure to remedy the existing injus-tice and inequality in the congressional, senatorial and legislative apportionment in the accomplishment of the ultimate of the state would be a blow at the very fundamentals of representative

shopkeeper in the state could sell them of Public Welfare, we might be guided not as the control and prevention of guestion is still a serious one in many places.

⁰ children in this commonwealth. Penn-so complete and comprehensive that it will meet the modern demands of our complex American life. The State De-partment of Public Instruction has been reorganized for the purpose of develop-ing such a system of education, of maksive enforcement machinery would be necessary. The provisions of the fednecessary. The provisions eral enactments would be the law of the state as well, and every peace officer of the commonwealth would be Through its engineering and labora-ory divisions, the Department of charged with the duty of enforcing ory

Constitutional Revision

of the state-in regard to their im-mediate adequacy and wholesomeness, Under the authority given by the 1919 and to the insuring of conditions which conter the authority given by the 1919 provide against a probable or possime failure in these directions. This has pointed a commission of twenty-five required, in some instances) the full citizens of the state to study the constirecommendations in relation to educa-

Public Health

licalth has exercised an efficient super-vision over the public water supplies

deficits due to be provided grade to be provided grade to the provided grade grade grade to the provided grade grade grade grade gra

into closer accord with

Legislative Reapportionment

be possible. This duty was neglected be very large, even at the minimum after the last preceding census, with figures which are now under discussion. ty of the state. This vast army of il-literates can share in only a limited way in either the opportunities or the obligations which citizenship in this

Employment of **Prisoners**

Chir Prison Labor Commission, with the means at its command, has been able to accomplish much good in the employment of a small proportion of indicate the properties of the small proportion of the small the second to be a small proportion of the small properties of the small prope desirable homes. our prisoners, but the work should be greatly extended. In order to do this,

forbidding the sale of prison-made products. Under the restrictive provisions of the present law the courts of the various counties are compelled to sen-tence prisoners definitely to one or the other of the state penitentiaries. The result is that the Eastern Penitentiary is greatly overcrowded, while there are empty cells and abundant room in the other Vestern Penitentiary. If a transfer of prisoners could be

arranged much good would be accom-plished and a ridiculous situation would be corrected

reorganization of the National Guard, and too nuch credit cannot be given to the officers and men who have done so much to re-establish and develop our

will be considerably greater than vergenting to greater than vergening to greater than ve

than four years or long before the space they occupy is likely to be needed for further extensions in the Capitol plan. During the rental stringency other ac-commodations had to be secured for the commodations had to be secured for the necessary work of the state government and the new buildings will greatly re-lieve this situation and enable most of the state's employes to be grouped near to the Capitol, thus saving time and

sion of suitable office buildings and the beautifying of Capitol Park.

Efficient Hospitals

state aid to hospitals and other charitable and philanthropic institutions has

. In some states laws have been passed which have not aided materially except to the general confusion, but some enactments would seem to be necessary instead all over the world in an increase of criminal tendencies. In this

ity in the enforcement of the law at the detection and punishment of crim During the last year, there has been greatly extended. In order to do this. Buring the last year, there has num-it will be necessary to amend the laws a truly remarkable increase in the num-the advent of the automobile has great

s greatly overcrowded, while there are mpty cells and abundant room in the might be some broadening of the powers of these useful corporations, so that

their assistance, in a very necessary public work, might be more readily public available.

For years some of our well-inten-tioned people have had a tendency to lessen the severity of our prisons, and to mitigate the sentences of the courts Paro'es and other methods of assisting criminals have been worked to the limit The whole question, however, is one which will require careful study, and possibly the creation of a commission, to look into all questions relating to the These things seem to go in cycles an These things seem to go in cycles and when conditions return to normal, there will probably again be organized efforts to "reform" conditions and minimize the terror which the law should have for evil-doers. Careful revision of some of the provisions of the penal laws might disclose some rather startling income for action at the present gession, might be desirable. A study of recent legisdisclose some rather startling inequal ties. However, an immediate and ef might lead to some suggestions which would be helpful. fective deterrent influence is in the hands of our courts, in the imposition of

City Legislation

The new charter of the city of Philabe a real menace. There is no baser criminal than the individual who, for delphia, which was provided by the last session, has been in operation for the sake of the illicit profit he may may is willing to provide means for make struction of his neighbor. The laws go erning the drug traffic should he strengthened, their penalties increased and their provisions rigidly enforced.

assessing and collecting the taxes of the counties and municipalities. population of cities of the second class to 125,000, would not disturb the sit-

have been taken by you upon this ques-tion, I shall regard it as my duty to issue a proclamation placing the cities of Reading and Erie in the second class, immediately upon the adjournment of immediately upon the adjournment of this session.

The third class city laws have worked The third class city laws have worked well, and there should be no return to the confusion and irresponsibility which marked the old plan of miscellaneous The Pennsylvania plan of extending marked the old plan of miscellaneous city chartering.

Under the provisions of the constitution counties which shall have at-tained a population of 150,000 are enti-tled to have separate Orphans' Courts. created by proper enactment by the General Assembly. Five counties of the state come into this class as a result of the last census. I am advised

duties of their positions and keep abreast of their work, and that there is no need of the creation of additional

The commission to revise the banking laws has also many important recom-mendations to make in the time of simplifying and strengthening the status-governing the banking business in the the state's employes to be grouped near to the Capitol, thus saving time and inconvenience. I feel that we should take advantage of any decline in the cost of construcpointed.

Crime Wave

For years some of our well-inten-

The greatly increased use of drage a declared by students of the matter is

Commissions to Report Several commissions, entrusted with the duty of reporting upon many in portant subjects, have been at wor since the last session of the General Assembly. The Commission for the Revision of the Tax Laws has prepared a most comprehensive report, and its recom-

mendations, if enacted into law, would indoubtedly save the taxpayers a very large proportion of the present cost e

by our courts.

wholesome sentences.

In conclusion I may say that, portance and we must give them busi-nesslike attention. I trust that the pro-ceedings of the session may be expedited and that, as a beginning in our plan of economy and efficiency, we may plan of economy and charactery, we may be able to make this session as brief as may be possible in view of the work to be done. Everything can be di-posed of in three active months, and we should be able to adjourn in the month of April."



charged soldiers, sailors and marines from Pennsylvania who served in the great war. Aside from the desire upon the part of every good citizen to suitably recognize the services of our gal-lant defenders, the question is a most

important one and in case a way can be found to make possible an enactment of the kind, it will be the largest financial

There seems to be some doubt as to the right of the Legislature to appro-

 $\frac{1}{1000,000,000} \text{ or a rain of $10,000,000 \text{ in the}}{\text{two-year period.}}$ The receives for the general function of adult lifterage which are available to restantions, repairs, that an effective state-wide program for the general purposes of the state government, and which are to state adult are suggest to a purposing to the state of the angle of the align and or the quancies accumulations from this government of Public government of Public government of Public government of public and remedying generally the being of our people by providing facilities of our people by providing facilities of the angle of the align and or the state of the constitution. The state of New Jersey and the city is an or yet passed legislation providing facilities of the align and or the state of the st

M Plantes to the test struction up VETENES AND IT with the Dought offdelphin, st ! WI WINE OF for your wounded soldiers we plan to estend or universities and so leges to four their to find means to relative to the total of multions. Points on a hors and girls who could not be taken in last a finish one states in which they were chartered states shull have concurrent power to schools use for any finish which they were chartered states shull have concurrent power to

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If do not instruction and long contained period of backness are the solution and the decision of the maximum and the decision of the decision

to applying term with various stack in receive taxes and making a direct ensurity has against their real estate. - dittat NUMBER OF THE INFORMATION OF THE advantigendual's office: responsitions of inents regarding the questions involved a the eighteenth anondment to the construction of the United States, we sum-sum lienn-vivanin value their arout stock at about \$3,500,000,000,000 come the emotid employed by outconstitution of the United States, we cannot, as patriotic efficients of the re-public, view with unconcern the fact that this State, under the laws as they now exist, is actually lossning its citi-zens to violate the federal constitution and gratates. porntions which operate in this A tax of one mill upon this capitalization would yield about \$3, 500,000, and two udits, which should be its satisfie trave considering all and stated to the laws of any states, have when have almost are interested to be the laws of any states.
any states, have when have almost ontine property in Pennsylvania of any the three to be the laws of any state.

states shall have concurrent power to and contribute nothing directly to the islation. The Congress as you know, has complied with this direction, by the means of the conductive of the means of the second Vietnet Vietnet and among our citizens in any make islation." The Congress as you know, has complied with this direction, by the passage of the so-called Volstend act,

Prohibition Enforcement

Whatever may be our individual sea

government, and a confession upon our part of unthinkable incapacity to meet the responsibilities of our positions.

Women in Public Affairs

itself in and support the work of solv-ing the agricultural problems that ar

Following the adoption by the re-quired number of states of the Nine-teenth Amendment to the Fdral Con-stitution, the women of Pennsylvania were given the full rights and privi-leges of citizenship.

were given the full rights and privi-leges of citizenship. The advent of women into public positions will require some changes in the laws governing certain of our official affairs. The counties of the common-wealth will be obliged to make ade-quate provision for the comfort and privacy, for example, of women jurors, These matters will work out gradually, but it may be necessary to have some legislation, giving broader authority to county commissioners, and, in some in-stances, requiring action by them where a dilatory disposition is indicated.

dilatory disposition is indicated. Undoubtedly, there will be demands culture and industry warrants. ment of a state fair such as our agri for mandatory provision for the elec-tion or appointment of women to cer-

Forestry

Agriculture

no distinction as to sex should be made Within the last year the Department among our citizens in any public ca-pacity, and that these matters be al-Forestry has been reorganized roughout. With the assistance and

worked out most successfully under the management of the Department of Labor and Industry. Pennsylvania

The question of proper homes for the sequencies speculators to extort unities already overcrowded, and this set of additional judges in Pennsel in Point to the instruction was seized upon by communities already overcrowded, and this state brought many workers to communities already overcrowded, and this state brought many workers to extort unressonable rentals from families where sequences speculators to extort unressonable rentals from families where sequences to the cessation of many abnormal industrial activities, but the Agriculture is still the greatest single adustry in our commonwealth. It is important that the state interest

JUBBINGA SPECIALI

23 **Trust Your Complexion**

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