

INHERITANCE WILL BE TAXED

Additional Revenue Is to Be Raised by New Measure

All direct inheritances in Pennsylvania, those handed down from parents to children or from husband to wife, will pay a tax of \$2 on the \$100 of value to furnish additional revenue to the Commonwealth. Governor Brumbaugh last evening announced that he had signed the Woodward bill establishing the tax and accompanied it with a long statement in which he sharply criticized the Legislature again.

The Governor has several times taken the lawmakers to task for failing to provide the revenue necessary to conduct the state government and in his statement in which he says he signed the bill because it was the only revenue raiser passed he reveals for the first time that he tried to get the legislative leaders to pass other taxation bills, notably those taxing manufacturing capital, coal, gas and oil. The Governor says that to reconvene the Legislature would be too costly a procedure.

As the direct inheritance bill will raise over \$5,000,000 a year the Governor will be able to approve appropriations up to \$2,000,000.

In his statement the Governor says:

The Governor's View

"This bill is approved with the greatest reluctance. I am constrained to do so solely because the necessities of the Commonwealth require the raising of additional revenue.

"The Assembly of 1917, which concluded its lengthy session on June 28, appropriated a total of \$87,184,436.73. The responsible fiscal officers of the Commonwealth on December 28, 1916, advised me that the sum available for appropriation

at this session was \$70,081,178.22, and on January 2, 1917, I so advised the General Assembly. I am now advised by the responsible fiscal officers of the Commonwealth that exclusive of unexpended balances the predictable available sum for appropriation is \$72,558,054.71, and much less if these balances were all drawn from the treasury.

"I repeatedly urged the responsible leaders in charge of the legislative program that it was imperative to provide additional revenue if the business of the state were to be adequately cared for. We had revenue bills prepared imposing a small and entirely reasonable tax upon coal, oil and natural gas. These natural commodities, the gift of Providence to our people, are being rapidly depleted. They are consumed more largely without than within the state and our people are denied any revenue from these disappearing sources of wealth. We also had a bill prepared placing a tax of one mill upon the capital stock of manufacturing corporations. This tax would in no important way have affected the state's well-known policy of fostering industry and manufacture. This was not opposed by many leading manufacturers. We had reason to believe that these measures would pass. Had they passed this unjustly drastic tax on direct inheritance would have been unnecessary and would not have been approved.

"The bills above named were passed by a large vote in the House and met an untimely death in the committees of the Senate.

"The same influences that clamored for large appropriations steadily opposed these taxes upon natural resources and upon the capital stock of manufacturing corporations. The Senate committee thus chose deliberately to tax the estates of poor and rich alike rather than to tax these natural resources which today are selling at such an advanced price as to make the owners abnormally rich in dividends and in profits, and rather than to tax manufacturing corporations now extraordinarily prosperous and abundantly able to pay the proposed tax. The whole procedure was most unfair and against the welfare of all the people.

"Some of the increased expenditures authorized by the Assembly are in this national crisis necessary. They cannot be refused or withheld. To reconvene the Assembly to enact revenue producing laws is a costly procedure and might not result in any substantial service to the people since the same potential influences that so carefully guarded certain special interests would again, doubtless, assert itself. But it may well be that a lesson of this sort is necessary to teach the people the truth.

"This direct inheritance tax applies to all property of decedents going to direct heirs. It covers estates of every size, even to the smallest. There are no exemptions. In some states there is a graded tax with exemptions to the small estates. Under our constitution this is forbidden, and the approval of this bill is in its last analysis based upon the fact that this Assembly has passed a resolution providing for an amendment to the constitution which will correct the injustices of this measure. This can be and should be adopted by the people in 1919 and the Assembly should then so amend this act as to bring the relief that all fair-minded and unselfish men will approve.

Nine More Vetoes

Governor Brumbaugh added nine to his record of ninety-six bills last night, vetoing six Senate and three House bills. The measure providing for a commission of five persons to codify the juncal laws of Pennsylvania was vetoed for the reason that the Legislature failed to make any appropriation to carry out this work. Usually in such cases there follows in the course of time a bill in a subsequent assembly to reimburse the commission. This is not wise. It is not fair to the commission or to the Commonwealth," says the Governor.

Other bills vetoed were:

Senate bill authorizing commissioners to make appropriations from dog license revenue to humane societies, which the Governor says is so vaguely drawn as to affect other laws.

Senate bill relative to merger of corporations, which is declared "carelessly drawn." The Governor says some of its provisions are "absurd" and declares "The whole procedure is such a mess of impossible and impracticable features as to make it useless."

Senate bill regulating stock companies with shares without nominal value, which the Governor says would have an "injurious effect upon taxes."

Senate bill exempting from taxation playgrounds whose income is used for betterment of such grounds on the ground that "its crudity and involved provisions make it unfair and impracticable." The Governor particularly objects to the provision that county commissioners should decide whether cities or boroughs should tax the grounds.

House bill providing for deputy prothonotaries in counties having between 150,000 and 250,000 population, the Governor saying that it is a matter for the prothonotaries and that the state should either leave it to them or make a general act.

House bill authorizing Cambria county to use the state for recovery of bounty money, the Governor declaring that it is unnecessary as a previously approved act takes care of such matters.

Senate bill repealing part of 1845 poor act so far as it relates to York county on which the Governor says: "To regulate the affairs of York county by extending the act of 1845 is so manifestly unconstitutional that the bill can not be approved."

House bill providing increased pay for persons investigating killing of dogs, the Governor saying it is unnecessary because of the new dog license law.

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304
Market Street



Harrisburg,
Pa.

Another Increase in Wages For Hershey Co. Employees

Hershey, Pa., July 13.—Beginning July 8, the wages of all of the male employees of the Hershey Chocolate Company, sixteen years of age and over, were increased ten per cent. This affects about 3,000 employees. Several other increases in pay have been made at the works in the past year.

NOT WORTH THE DIFFERENCE

A negro servant, wishing to get married, asked his master to buy him a license in the neighboring town. The master, being in haste, did not ask the name of the happy woman, but as he drove along he reflected on the many tender attentions that he had seen John lavish upon Euphemia Wilson, the cook, and concluding that there could be no mistake, had the license made out in her name.

"There's your license to marry Euphemia," he said to the servant that night. "You're as good as married already, and you owe me only \$2."

The darky's face fell.

"But, Mass' Tim, Euphemia Wilson ain't de lady Ise gwine to marry. Dat wa'n't nothin' mo' a little flirtation. Georgiana Thompson, de la'ndress, is de one Ise gwine to marry."

"Oh, well, John," said the master, amused and irritated at the same time, "there's no great harm done. I'll get you another license to-morrow, but it will cost you \$2 more, of course."

The next morning the darky came out to the carriage as it was starting for town and leaning confidently over the wheel, said:

"Mass' Tom, you need't git me no udder license; I'll use de one Ise got. Ise been tinkin' it over in de night, an' to ell you de troof, Mass' Tom, de conclusion o' my judgment is dat dar ain't \$2 worth o' difference between dem two ladies."—Tit-Bits.

NAME SOCIAL AT CHURCH

Lemoyne, Pa., July 13.—Members of the Men's Bible class of the Calvary United Brethren Sunday school held a Name Social in the church auditorium last night. Almost \$50 was realized by the class. After the program the guests went to the social, where refreshments were served. The following program was in charge of J. C. Firestone, president of the class; audience, Miss Stella Bentz; solo, the Rev. Paul R. Koontz; duet, Mrs. H. L. Wagner and Mrs. Wilma Rapp; solo, Miss Helen Leichter; reading, Miss Bentz; piano duet, the Rev. Mr. Koontz and Mrs. Wagner; solo, H. L. Wagner; address, the Rev. Mr. Koontz.

AN UNKIND BROTHER

Vexation and grief struggled for mastery in Gertrude's soul.

"Mother, do come out and speak to Freddy," she said. "He's treadin' on all the ants in the garden."

"How very unkind!" said the mother.

"Yes, that's what I've told him," said Gertrude, "but he won't let me tread on a single one."—Chicago Herald.

STORY & CLARK

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Keep their stomachs toned up with cooling drinks—lemonade, fruit juice, or just plain ice water. They won't nag you for pennies to buy sticky candy, half-ripe or over-ripe fruit, etc. They will escape colic and other summer complaints—and you will escape much worry.

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