

BUSINESS MEN HIT TAX AMENDMENT

75 PER CENT VOTE "NO"

Three-Fourths of Members of State Chamber of Commerce against the Proposal

Seventy-five per cent of the members of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce in 114 cities in Illinois voting on the referendum on the proposed tax amendment to the constitution of Illinois are against it.

A year ago the state legislature voted to lay before the people at the coming election in November a plan to revise the method of levying and collecting taxes in Illinois. Among other things, the amendment, if adopted by the people, will give the legislature the power to provide a tax upon incomes as well as upon persons and property if it so chooses and to divide incomes, persons and property into classes and to levy a tax uniform as to each class. All real estate is to be in one class except that mineral land and land devoted to reforestation may be in different classes. Numerous other changes the proposed. A two-thirds vote of the members elected to each house will be required to make any legislation effective.

At present all property under the law is placed in one class for valuation and is required to pay the same rate of tax. Income taxes are not specifically mentioned in the present constitution.

Adds Section
The proposed amendment as submitted to the people by the state legislature adds Section 14 to Article 9 of the present constitution. Under the present constitution adopted in 1870 the general assembly provides methods by which the money to pay the expenses of state and local governments is raised. A general tax is levied upon the property of persons and corporations in proportion to the value of the property. All property is placed in one class for valuation and is required to pay the same rate of tax. In addition to the property tax, taxes may be imposed upon other "subjects or objects."

The Board of Directors of the Illinois chamber voted several months ago to place the proposition before the members by its usual method of

MUSIC PUPILS ARE EXCELLENT STUDENTS

Report Says Statistics Show They Are Twenty-Five Per Cent More Efficient

Students of music are 25 per cent more efficient in their school work than children who have never taken any music lessons. It is shown in an exhaustive analysis of school grades of Springfield, Mo., high school pupils made by the Conn Music Center at Elkhart, Ind. Music study was found not only to improve the grades, but also to rank high as a mental stimulant in other ways.

More than 20 per cent of the 3,478 students in the high and junior high schools of Springfield have studied music for six months or more. The general average of the grades of the Springfield high schools was found to be 82 per cent, while the average grade for those studying music was three points higher. Since 70 is the minimum grade and 82 the general average, there is a differential of only 12 points, and the actual superiority of the three points on the part of the music students in their general school work indicates an approximate increase in efficiency of 25 per cent.

Of the pupils studying music, by far the largest number take piano. Violin is next in favor, and cornet, clarinet, saxophone and trombone follow in the order named.

The relation of wealth to music was brought out as an interesting sidelight of the analysis. The Reed junior high school, located in the poorer section of Springfield, had three per cent more pupils taking music than the Jarrett junior high which is located in the more wealthy section of the city.

SUMMER SHOWS AT THE ART INSTITUTE

Many Interesting Ones Remain until September 15th; Some Features

Summer shows now at the Art Institute, and which will remain on view until September 15, include a number of remarkable one-man exhibitions, as follows: Paintings by Elmer A. Forsberg, Irving K. Manoir, William S. Schwartz, Birger Sandzen, Frances C. Greenman, Flora Schoenfeld, and Glen Mitchell. There is also a group of American paintings in Gallery G 258 from the brushes of Wayman Adams, John E. Costigan, Herbert Meyer, Edmund Greacen, Sigurd Skou, George Pearce Ennis and George Elmer Brown. In Gallery G 252, the first large gallery in the East Wing, rare old masters from the collections of Mr. and Mrs. Max Einstein and Mr. and Mrs. Francis Neilsen may be found. Gallery G 253 contains the valuable Cyrus H. McCormick collection, and the Ryerson collection of water colors may be found in Gallery G 260. The sculpture by John David Brein, which is greatly admired and which has been universally praised by the critics, has been installed in Gallery G 253.

WATER COLORS OF NORTHERN SCENES

Lakes and Rivers Depicted in Work of Winslow Homer at Art Institute

Those who love the northern pines and the rugged lake and river scenery of the hunting and fishing grounds far to the north, and who cannot reach them, may still be carried in spirit into this happy land through the magic brush of Winslow Homer. All that is necessary is to stand in the gallery of Homer's water colors now hanging in the east wing galleries of the Art Institute, and give yourself up to the thrill of his art. There we see the grizzled old trapper paddling swiftly down a woodland stream; another painting shows him beside the campfire built beneath the roots of a fallen giant; over there is a marvelous stretch of pine-clad country with a deer or two looking curiously at you; again we look into the cool shadows of the woods as we stand on the banks of a rushing trout stream and note the deep blue pool under the opposite bank. It is almost like being present with Homer—and there are no mosquitos.

INTELLIGENCE MAY BE BRED OUT OF MAN

Lothrop Stoddard Points Out a Possibility in New Book; Is Interesting

Surely, never was high intelligence so needed as in our complex modern civilization. Yet the weight of scientific evidence apparently reveals the alarming fact that this most vital quality is today on the decline. All over the civilized world the conditions of modern life seem to handicap the most intelligent elements, whose numbers are stationary or diminishing; whereas the low-grade and mentally defective elements of the population are rapidly increasing. The problem of human degeneration is literally a life-and-death question, involving not merely the fate of modern civilization but possibly the entire future of mankind, says Lothrop Stoddard in "Scientific Humanism," published by Charles Scribner's Sons. This melancholy anti-climax to the brilliant drama of modern life is a specter which today haunts many observers of our time. Indeed, some go so far as to predict that the downfall of our civilization would be but the prelude to the extinction of the entire human race.

Humanity's watch-words must be: "No surrender!" and "Carry on!" Only by fresh defiance of nature; only in greater mastery over natural forces and a more perfect artificial environment, can man find safety and assure his future. And he can do this only by using to the full the brains he has inherited and the knowledge he has acquired.

JARDINE GIVES GOOD VIEW OF FARM STATE

His Work Explains Many Points Which Have Been Obscure in Controversy

Secretary Jardine of the Department of Agriculture, has done a real service for the nation in the study of farm incomes for 1925 and 1926. One of the serious handicaps in procuring adequate remedies for farm conditions has been the disposition on the part of the industrialist to say that the farmers were well off, and on the part of the farmers to deny completely any advantage and to picture their condition as even more depressing. In this particular report just issued, however, the secretary sets forth that while farm incomes have improved, so that the average farm family has earned \$24.00 more than the previous year, that the earnings are still 30 per cent lower than in 1919 and 1920, while factory wage-earners for the last three years have only been earning what they have earned in 1919 and 1920, they have been able to buy more. In other words, farmers had an investment return of only 3.5 per cent, while the industrial workmen have had a return of 4 per cent. The one thing to do now is to see that farmers and industrialists get together in a common acceptance and agreement on these figures.

The trend of the people from the farms to the cities contains now a serious element of danger. The fact again that virgin land in the United States is virtually eliminated is also worthy of note.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ABOUT THIS STATE

Between six and seven thousand freight cars are handled daily over the 160 miles of switching track at Galesburg.

Puring the 75 years Chicago has had gas at its disposal, service has never been suspended, not even during the great Chicago fire.

More than 50,000 persons annually visit the dome of the State Capitol at Springfield, making the 100-foot climb up the circular staircases.

Illinois' electric customers, standing hand to hand, would form a line from Chicago to El Paso, Texas.

Illinois was populated by approximately 20,000 Indians when the French first entered the land. The Illini were the original dwellers and Checaugua was their most famous chief.

A new world' record for hoisting and loading coal was recently set at

Commonwealth Edison company's mine Number 6, located at Sherman, when 5,137 tons were hoisted and loaded into 126 railroad cars in eight hours.

With less than 6 per cent of the country's population, Illinois' investment in public utilities represents 8 per cent of the total for the country. One of the first papers established in the state was the Spectator, at Edwardsville, in 1819. It is not now in existence.

NINE MILLION CARS TOUR THIS SEASON

IS MOTOR CLUB ESTIMATE

Believed That Approximately Three Billion Dollars Will Be Spent by Auto Tourists

Nine million automobiles carrying approximately thirty-six million people will trek the gasoline trail on long distance tours during this season, according to an announcement made by the touring bureau of the Chicago Motor club. This figure was computed after checking the report of the touring board of the American Automobile association and the reports of the touring bureaus of the 815 clubs affiliated with the American Automobile association.

Of this total of nine million cars, three million will carry camping equipment and extend their outing to 33 days. Two-thirds of the caravan have not yielded to the canvas lure and will depend on hotels for accommodations. The latter class will spend an average of ten days en tour.

Spend Huge Sum
Although it is impossible to determine exactly how much money the motor tourists will spend, the A. A. A. touring board and the Chicago Motor club touring bureau assert that three billion dollars is a conservative estimate, this being nearly half a billion dollars more than was spent during the 1925 touring season.

Ten dollars per day per car is a fair estimate for the canvas brigade. Three million of them out for 33 days will mean 99 million day tours at a cost of \$10 a day or approximately one billion dollars. It is safe to assume that the other group, while on the road for only about one-third as long as the campers, will have about three times the per diem expenses, so that two billion dollars for the six million cars is a conservative estimate. This would allow only \$7.50 a day for each occupant of a car carrying four passengers, which is the average number carried while touring.

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the resorts, hotels, garages, filling stations and other agencies catering to motor travel will benefit to the extent of three billion dollars for this year's crop of motor vacationists.

Increase Everywhere
Every touring area in the country is reporting very substantial increases. These reports are fully borne out by the counts made by A. A. A. clubs and the demands for touring information made on them, all of this indicating that the cult of the open road is growing in favor and that the motorists are using their cars to better advantage and getting more out of their investment.

ILLINOIS ELECTRIC RAILWAYS' TRAFFIC

Carry Five Times as Many Passengers Daily Than Autos in State

The number of passengers carried daily by electric railways in Illinois is five times the number of automobiles in the state, according to a recent survey of the state's transportation facilities.

During 1925 Illinois electric railway companies carried nearly 2 billion passengers—about 18 times the population of the United States or more than 5,250,000 passengers daily, the report shows.

The increase is accounted for by the low cost of electric railway transportation, and by the fact that lack of parking space lessens the usefulness of automobiles as a transportation agency, experts state.



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QUEEN VICTORIA TELLS OF 'PHONE

The following passage from Queen Victoria's diary dated January 14, 1878, is an interesting sidelight on Dr. Bell's early attempt to interest British capital in his invention. "After dinner we went into the council room and saw the telephone. Dr. Bell (Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor) explained the whole process, which is most extraordinary. It has been put in communication with Osborne Cottage, and we talked with Sir Thomas and Mary Biddulph; also heard singing quite plainly."

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