

TAX ON SAVINGS BANKLY UNJUST.

Commissioners Barker and Sutro Favor a Change in the Law.

IT WORKS HARDSHIPS. In One Case the Money Taken Left the Owner with Nothing to Meet the Mortgage.

MANY OTHERS LIKE THAT.

The State Board of Assessors Has No New York Members to Speak for Her.

COUNTRYMEN IN CONTROL.

They Fix the Taxation Laws, Says Commissioner Sutro, Without Considering the Metropolis's Needs.

To tax the bank savings of the frugal and industrious has always been considered a repulsive duty by the Tax Commissioners of this city. Yet it has been done for a quarter of a century.

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Another form in which the law inflicts hardship is where a husband dies, leaving a widow and from three to five children, and his only estate a little money in savings bank.

"Why," continued Mr. Barker, "it is enough to tear one's heart strings to sit here and listen to the sorrowful tales and witness the tears of just such people."

"The law is very clear, and we have to carry it out. But it is all wrong, and ought to be changed."

"Yes, chimed in the bankers, and it is not exactly just to the savings banks. They carry our city bonds at a low rate, and then we come along and tax their depositors, who have practically been investing in those bonds.

"The compilers of tax laws never consult the Tax Department of New York City. They are usually men from country districts, where the mortgage and savings bank are known only to the few, and they make their calculations on a basis of the few, which have no possible force as applied to us.

"The condition of Mrs. Dr. McAlpin, the daughter of William Rockefeller, who has been seriously ill for the past three weeks, was greatly improved yesterday. Her baby boy also bids fair to grow healthful.

Dr. Constant, the attending physician, said yesterday that Mrs. McAlpin would, without doubt, recover eventually. Dr. McAlpin and his wife's father were in the city yesterday for the first time in many months.

Secretary Horn of the Brotherhood of Tailors said yesterday that the strike was as good as won, and that reports industriously circulated by the contractors that the men were on the verge of determined non-union men would take the place of the striking force this week were absolutely without foundation.

District Assembly No. 49, of the Knights of Labor, yesterday received an application for a charter for a local assembly from a number of lay members and drivers employed on the North River. The application was referred to District Master Workman Gosney.

MANY WEAR THE GREEN.

Irish Societies Parade and the Colors of Erin Fly from Many House Tops.

The parade of Irish and Catholic societies yesterday afternoon in honor of St. Columbkille, the missionary apostle and bard of Erin, and which had been postponed from Wednesday on account of the rain, was a fitting close to the celebration of the week. The parade consisted of seven divisions, and started from the Church of St. Columba, in West Twenty-fifth street, near Eighth avenue, at 4 o'clock.

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PAN AMERICANS WANT LESS FUN.

Say They Came Here to Study, Not to Banquet and Junket.

THIRSTY FOR KNOWLEDGE.

Some of them Will Remain After the Tour to Accomplish Their Mission.

An interesting fact leaked out yesterday in connection with the visit of the Pan-American delegates to New York. They are far from satisfied with the opportunities presented to them for visiting our factories, and assert that they have been kept on the go too much.

The delegates came here to learn something about our industries. Instead of that, they say, they have been treated to a series of junkets and banquets without being offered an opportunity to study anything seriously.

This sort of thing, they feel, has not at all served the purpose of their mission, and they were not backward in expressing themselves to that effect yesterday. Several of the delegates said that they intended to remain in the United States after the tour was over and make a careful inspection of the industries in which they had their countries were interested.

Brooklyn entertained them yesterday, and they agreed that they had spent at least one profitable day. Long before 10 o'clock a delegation, headed by Bridge Trustee William Berri, arrived at the Waldorf to escort them through the various manufacturing plants.

The party then returned to the steamer, where a luncheon was served and addresses were made by Mayor Wurster and several of the Pan-Americans, expressing the hope that the trade relations between the United States and the Latin-American republics would be strengthened year by year.

The party spent some time in the works of the United States Projectile Company. This interested the visitors greatly, as many of them are to make reports to their governments concerning the methods of warfare. Other places visited were Greenwood Cemetery and Prospect Park.

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CONSTABLE'S PULL IS LOST.

Comptroller Fitch Says He Will Cut the Wires of His Doorbell to Stop it at Night.

Stevenson Constable has lost his pull with Comptroller Fitch. It was only a bell pull, and the constable officer will take away. The fact and the constable were revealed during a talk yesterday between the Mayor, Comptroller and Recorder. Mr. Fitch was relating some of the horrors of the Criminal Courts building, the manner in which he had to dodge the rain as it poured through the leaky roof was becoming interesting, when Mr. Fitch exclaimed:

"Don't talk to me of leaking roofs. Every time there is a leak or a break in a public building the Superintendent of the Building Department rushes to me, and says to me, 'As most of the trouble seems to come at midnight, after I have gone to bed, the messengers come and get the door bell of my house, until everybody is aroused. It has become so bad that I cannot take on the bell wires. I remonstrated. The messengers don't seem to mind that. They say, 'Mr. Constable orders, and that settles it. I contemplate retaliation.' I have to write about sixty letters a week to Constable. I can send all these to his house after midnight."

"I will never forget Constable to his dying day," said the Mayor, who was sitting next Mr. Fitch's eyes glinted and he "rubbed it into" the Comptroller by remarking: "Mr. Fitch, you have announced yourself as the great leak stopper, and Constable has taken you literally."

Major Strong—But Fitch can never stop Constable.

His Three Medals. She-Major Pommelwell wears three medals. I wonder why they were given him? He got the third because he had the other two, the second because he had the first, and the first because he had none at all—T.H.H.H.

From the Orient to Vantine's. Price reductions in Japanese bamboo furniture. BAMBOO FURNITURE FOR SUMMER HOMES. Our bamboo furniture is growing in popularity every day. Specials for this week's sale of Summer home furnishings:

BAMBOO TEA TABLES, with inlaid bamboo or matting covered tops; in odd and fancy shapes; some with side shelves; \$2.25, 2.50, 4.50; formerly \$4.50, 5.00 and 7.50.

BAMBOO CHAIRS; seats inlaid with bamboo or covered with matting; in fancy designs; rootend finish; \$2.75, 3.50, 4.50; formerly \$5.50, 6.00 and 7.50.

BAMBOO JARDINIERE STANDS; round top, inlaid with bamboo; top 14 inches in diameter; height 17 inches; \$1.50, formerly \$2.25.

BAMBOO ROCKERS. Good, solid chairs; with large rockers; rootend finish; \$2.75, formerly \$5.50.

BAMBOO CORNER CABINETS; handsomely finished; lacquer and hand-painted panels; \$3.75 and 5.00, formerly \$7.50 and 10.00.

BAMBOO FLOOR CABINETS; for books or bric-a-brac; with irregular wood shelves; \$3.50 and 4.50, formerly \$5.00 and 7.50.

BAMBOO CORNER CHAIRS; seats covered with matting in fancy designs; strong and well made; \$3.50, formerly \$6.00.

Have you seen our new Green Bamboo Furniture yet? Special sale of slightly damaged antique rugs.

There are nearly 500 of them, on the fourth floor. They were slightly damaged in transportation and in other ways. Money-saving housewives will be much interested in this lot. Among them are fine Shirvan, Carabagh, Guendjec, Missouk, Anatolian, Kitshier, Samarkand and Iran Rugs. If they were perfect goods prices would be two or three times as much.

Sample sizes and prices: 3 by 4 feet to 34 by 5 feet, \$3.00 to 6.00; 34 by 54 feet to 4 by 7 feet, \$8.00 to 10.00; 44 by 74 feet to 5 by 9 feet, \$12.00, 15.00, 18.00 and 20.00.

Japanese curtains and cushions for Summer homes. Hundreds of patterns and designs to select from.

BLUE AND WHITE CURTAINS; made of Japanese Crepe cloth; washable; 34 yards long; \$3.00 a pair.

SNEEZING PENANCE FOR HIS IMPIETY.

Whitehead Broke Up a Religious Meeting and Retribution Came.

DEACON'S MALEDICTION.

He Asked of Providence That the Offender Be Plagued Until He Repent.

Julius Whitehead's neighbors believe that he will not stop sneezing till he repents of his sins. They believe that his affliction is a manifestation of Divine wrath aroused by his impious breaking up of an edifying revival meeting by a series of mock sneezes. They believe that Deacon Markham was endowed with all the inspiration of a prophet when he commanded Whitehead to continue to sneeze until his eyes should be opened by the grace of God.

Whitehead's companions were awed, but it would never have done for the prime joker of the village to weaken. He sneezed again. The meeting broke up in dismay. Men and women crowded round the young storekeeper and entreated him to see the error of his ways ere it should be too late. Daisy McNicol clung to his sleeve, her gray eyes streaming with tears, and tried to pull him toward the now deserted pentagon. But he laughed, told her not to be a little more and went home.

That very night—again the influence of tract literature asserts itself—the deified mocker began to sneeze. And he has not stopped since. Wisecracks from leagues around have told him of remedies, each one infallible, and he has tried them all. He has swallowed pounds of salt, alum, sugar, soap bark, asafoetida and gunpowder, and sipped gallons of water.

He has jammed his forefinger against his upper lip at the base of his nose until the spot is bruised and swollen. He has held his hand over the veins in his forehead, seemed about to burst.

He has repeated the alphabet backward and benched at the end of a cord up and down his back until he developed chills and fever.

He has eaten a raw onion every half hour for two days, at the end of which period his very relatives have shunned him, and even his dog has avoided his presence.

He has used a snuff of herbs compounded at full moon by the seventh son of a seventh son, and it made him nearly sneeze.

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THE DEACON'S MALEDICTION.

As for the old deacon, he pointed a lean, trembling forefinger at the young soffer and exclaimed, with what seemed like prophetic wrath flashing from his eyes:

THE LAND OF THE BIGAMIST.

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