

same is true of more than half the states in the union, because of the ancient provisions in the revenue sections of the constitution. The first step to these or any other reforms lies in freeing the hands of the legislature so that it can use its common-sense in matters of taxation. The next great need is a knowledge of how our tax system works. At present it is no one's business to gather such knowledge and it isn't gathered. If we want to know the yield of railroad taxes in the state we have to write to the

railroad companies; if we want to know the yield of the inheritance law we have to write to each county treasurer in the state. No one can tell so simple a thing as the average rate of taxation in the state. Who knows what the poll tax yields; or how much is raised for the various governments in the state; or for the highways? We are much concerned, and properly so, over publicity of campaign expenses; but we need publicity in matters of revenue and taxation as well. No part of the affairs of state needs more accurate and constant care than the tax system and its operation; hardly any receives so little attention. Till this is changed we can hardly expect to develop a well rounded system of taxation.

G. O. VIRTUE.

The cabinet official held that Mylius' offense was a crime involving moral turpitude, which barred his admission to the shores of this country. He denied the contention that it was a purely political crime excepted by the statutes. Only appeal to the courts can now stay Mylius' deportation.

"I can not assume," said Secretary Nagel in his decision, "that a law which excludes anarchists and persons who advocate the overthrow of the government or the assassination of public officials was intended to admit the publisher of a false charge of bigamy simply because he advances a political purpose or motive for the act, or because the false charge was directed against a king, among others, or because the court in which the trial was held regarded the political aspect of the case as an aggravation of the offense."

President Taft will spend the first month after his retirement as president on March 4 as the guest of the city of Augusta, Ga., after which he will take up his residence at New Haven, Conn.

The house of representatives in committee adopted an amendment to the postoffice bill vacating the recent executive order placing fourth-class postoffices on the civil service list and also the order of 1910 placing clerks and assistant postmasters in first and second-class offices under civil service rules.

A dispatch to the Louisville Courier-Journal says: By the ruling of Speaker Champ Clark that the amendment was out of order, a second effort to deny liquor advertisements the privileges of the mail in dry districts was defeated. The house also defeated the amendment taking fourth-class postmasters and second-class assistants off the civil service list.

A bill introduced by Senator Root amending the canal act by eliminating the provision exempting American vessels from tolls will reopen the entire question now at issue with Great Britain.

A conference of western senators, held at Washington, resulted in the decision to write a letter asking President-elect Wilson to appoint a far-western man secretary of the interior.

A bill providing for the increase of the United States supreme court from nine to eleven members was introduced in the senate by Senator Gore, of Oklahoma.

A dispatch to the Washington Herald says: After being advised by its own medical expert that William Rockefeller's condition will permit his examination "for an hour or two," the Pujo committee decided to take his testimony regarding the organization of Amalgamated Copper in 1901 and other financial episodes. This resolution was adopted by the committee by a vote of seven to one, Representative Pujo taking the view that Mr. Rockefeller's condition would not safely permit his examination. Upon considering the testimony of Dr. C. W. Richardson the committee did not require Mr. Rockefeller to appear before the full committee in Washington, but the chairman and counsel were directed to notify counsel for Mr. Rockefeller that they had been empowered to arrange for such examination at such time and place as may be agreed upon by the committee.

Women favorable to woman suffrage from all parts of New York will march "on to Washington" February 10.

Washington News

Doctor C. W. Richardson, appointed by the money trust committee to examine William Rockefeller, met the oil trust magnate at Miami, Florida. He reported that Mr. Rockefeller was afflicted as his physicians had certified.

Judge Holt, in the federal court at New York, dismissed the writ of habeas corpus asked by Castro, former president of Venezuela. Secretary Nagel will personally examine into Castro's right to enter this country.

Mrs. Taft entertained the widows of two presidents, Mrs. Benjamin Harrison and Mrs. Grover Cleveland.

Representative Henry George, jr., of New York, is ill, and upon recommendation of his physician, will go to Sicily for a rest.

Gen. P. H. Barry of Greeley, Neb., has been appointed governor of the national soldiers' home at Sawtelle, Cal. He is a democrat.

An Associated Press dispatch says: Edward Holton James, an American citizen and editor of the Paris Liberator, pleaded before Secretary Nagel for Edward F. Mylius, a journalist, who is threatened with deportation from Ellis Island because he was convicted in London of libeling King George V.

In defense of his friend Mr. James told the secretary of commerce and labor that Mylius had been convicted of a political offense and not a crime involving moral turpitude.

A special immigration board of inquiry at New York held that the criminal libel of a king was a crime involving moral turpitude, which, under the immigration laws, bars an alien from entry to America.

Mr. James contended that if there was any offense it was sedition, to which the immigration laws offer no bar.

Mr. Nagel promised to give a prompt decision.

The libelous story was that King George contracted a morganatic marriage with a daughter of Admiral Seymour in Malta.

"I wrote it, and I now affirm it," said Mr. James. "I have spent months in investigating it and I am satisfied of its truth."

Mylius' offense consisted merely of distributing in London the magazine containing the story.

Secretary Nagel has ordered the deportation of Edward F. Mylius, the newspaper man, who was convicted in London of libeling King George. Referring to this decision, an Associated Press dispatch says:

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