

misstatements concerning the property they hold subject to taxation. Every community in the United States suffers because many of its citizens have fallen into the bad habit of making a deliberate misrepresentation to the tax assessor. Two remedies suggest themselves for this evil: One is the persistent cultivation of a public sentiment that will frown upon misrepresentations of this character that will condemn the tax dodger to a discreditable position. The other is the election to the office of tax assessor of a man who will make no discrimination between individuals but who will use every effort to have all property listed for taxation, and to expose any man, high or low, who adopts the roll of the tax-dodger. Both remedies ought to be employed.

### Children Not Burdensome.

Alderman Wentz and Mrs. Wentz of Brooklyn, have given their names to fame and have set an admirable example to those people who are inclined to regard children as burdens.

Alderman and Mrs. Wentz are the parents of seventeen children. It was like the leaving of an emigrant train when the Wentz family went on a trip to the Buffalo fair, and the newspaper reporters were attracted to the spectacle. The reporters appeared to be surprised that this father and mother were really enjoying life while at the same time having the responsibility for seventeen children. But some of the things that the Alderman said are worthy of preservation. Among other things Mr. Wentz said:

"It's a great thing to go home at night and find nineteen or twenty pairs of shoes waiting in the hallway to be cleaned. You can't come home feeling lively with the danger of waking up twenty-three people.

"I think if people knew the satisfaction of having babies about the house they would not want small families. I don't feel old as the little ones multiply. I feel younger and younger, and think I'll become a child again myself some day."

And when Mrs. Wentz was approached for an opinion as to her manifold responsibilities, that good woman had this to say.

"It's a great time getting the children off to school. I line them up like an inspector of rifle practice.

"I don't think our family could get along on one of those dollar dinners provided for in the evening papers.

"We let the babies have lots of fresh air, and when they come in at evening they are anxious to go to bed. Every one helps here or it would be a task beyond my powers.

"I'm very happy with the little ones about. The work doesn't seem to tire me. I love every one of them and they love me, and there is something in that.

"We don't spoil our children by pampering. We expect them to be little men and women, and they are. They are placed upon their honor to behave, and they do so without much rod."

The large family is not common in this country today. It has come to be the exception, although it is true that nowhere do general content and happiness appear to rest more securely than in the centers of these large families. A few years ago the large family was not the exception. Fifty years ago, the sight

of a family of seventeen children would not have provoked extraordinary comment, while that of twelve or thirteen children would hardly have attracted attention.

It is worthy of comment that one may find more nervousness, more care, more anxiety and more weariness in the home graced by a single child, than in the household to which a large number of children have come. Where poverty does not prevail in such a home, happiness, contentment and health are generally noticeable.

In the city of South Omaha, Nebraska, lives one of the best physicians in the west. There are in his home thirteen children. The mother would readily pass for a woman of twenty-eight or thirty, while the father would not be suspected of being far above the age of thirty-five. This home is famous, not only for its hospitality to the stranger, but for the peace, love, contentment and happiness that abound in its every day life. The father and mother are among the most jovial and companionable people of the city and although the professional cares of the father and the household duties of the mother are large, they both find some time to devote to the social pastimes of their neighborhood.

If it was desired to establish the claim that children are burdensome, neither this South Omaha family, nor the Wentz family of Brooklyn, nor any other family that may properly claim a place in the list of large ones, could be used as witnesses in the affirmative.

### Money Problem in Philippines.

In his annual report recently made public, General MacArthur recommends for the Philippine Islands a monetary system described as follows:

"First—The American gold standard to be established by authorizing the coinage of a peso containing twelve and nine-tenths grains, nine-tenths fine, to be represented in the circulation by coins containing such multiple of the standard peso as may be regarded as most convenient of mintage.

"Second—A table of equivalents, to be declared by law, between Philippine gold money and United States money in all its various forms, including national bank notes, on the basis of 2 to 1; that is to say, one United States gold is equivalent to two Philippine gold pesos, as herein prescribed.

"Third—A subsidiary Philippine coinage, embracing such subdivisions of the peso as are most convenient, conforming as much as possible to the subsidiary coin of the United States, and with an established rate of equivalents as in the case of gold; that is to say, one United States coin is equivalent to two Philippine coins of the same denomination.

"Fourth—The establishment of Filipino national banks, precisely the same in all respects as now authorized in the United States, including United States bonds as a basis of circulation.

"Fifth—All currency issued under the foregoing systems to have full legal tender function in the Philippine islands for all public duties and private debts; and the equivalent United States currency and subsidiary coinage, as authorized in the foregoing section 2 and 3, to have legal tender qualities in the Philippines to the same extent and precisely the same as in the United States."

### A Budget From France.

The national financial outlook grows steadily worse. Never before has there been such an enormous shrinkage in revenue, and never before has there been such an increase in expenditures. The candle is burning at both ends. On Thursday, the official announcement was made that the receipts from indirect taxation during June fell \$2,900,000 below the budget estimates from that source for that month, and were \$5,400,000 less than the actual receipts from the same source for June, 1900. This seemed bad enough, but it is now revealed that the real deficiency falls below the budget estimates for the month of June by no less than \$4,077,000, while the deficiency during the last six months is \$10,700,000 below the estimates. If there is added to this the supplementary credits voted by parliament since January 1, 1901, it will be seen that the actual deficit for the half year which has just elapsed is more than \$16,000,000; and this does not include extra credits before the chamber, favored by the budget committee, nor the \$16,000,000 already spent on the China expedition. The cause of this unprecedented discrepancy between estimates and actual receipts is largely due to the diminution of the wine tax, for which compensation was expected from the increased tax on spirits and alcohol. The result, however, proved exactly contrary to what was hoped for. Moreover, there has been a vast amount of unscientific experimenting with the taxation laws. This chaotic condition of the budget presents no cause of serious alarm for the welfare of the country, but will furnish a powerful weapon during the coming elections for those who are striving to upset the present regime.—Paris Correspondent New York Tribune.

### Viscogen, a New Milk Adulterant.

Housekeepers and pure food commissioners have a new foe to fight. It is viscogen as a milk adulterant. It has been found by inspectors of the dairy department in Minnesota, and, so far as known, its use is yet confined to that state. When its properties become generally known, however, it may confidently be looked for elsewhere. It is a syrup composed of sugar, lime and water, about the color of water, and is used chiefly to make the milk appear richer than it really is. When viscogen is placed in milk or cream the lactic acid turns the lime in the fluid into a white, thick substance, which, assimilating with the milk, gives it an appearance and taste of great richness. It is possible through its use to palm off upon customers milk and cream which is far below standard. Fortunately, the adulterant, according to Minnesota authorities, is not injurious to health.—New York Evening Post.

### An Appendix.

Senator Foraker wants Secretary Long to kick Historian Maclay out of the navy department. It would doubtless be a popular way of adding a footnote to history—Denver Republican.

Little four-year-old Mabel, coming into the room one day and finding the baby with one end of a door-key in his mouth, exclaimed: "Baby, take that key right out of your mouth or the first thing you know you will have the lockjaw!"—Chicago News.

"They have a new coachman at the Rippenbangers."

What's the matter with the old one?"

"He let the horses run away."

"Did they run far?"

"Clear out into the suburbs."

"Anybody with him?"

"Yes, Mamie Rippenbanger. She and the coachman haven't got back yet."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.