

The Independent.

Vol. XV.

LINCOLN NEB., MAY 5, 1904.

No. 50.

THE TAX LEVY OF 1904.

How large a levy for state taxes will the state board make this year? This is a question many persons are asking because under the

New Revenue Law

assessments of farm property, etc., are much higher than last year. Higher valuation does not necessarily mean higher taxes—if the rate of levy is lowered. But can it be lowered?

It will be remembered that the state levy of 1903 was 34.7 per cent higher than the levy of 1902. It was 31.1 per cent heavier on the railroads and 35.3 per cent heavier on the farmers and business men. This is an average for the state. In many counties the injustice was still more marked.

Let us examine the records. Independent readers know that the

Railroad Ridden "Redeemers."

in the legislature of 1903 appropriated \$3,740,280.70 to carry on state government two years, ending March 31, 1905. This is a nearly a million dollars more than the legislature of 1901 appropriated. It is nearly a million and a half more than the populist legislature of 1897 appropriated.

Well, the tax levies of 1903 and 1904 ought to cover this 3½ millions.

The levy of 1903 was as follows:

For general fund.....	\$1,135,721.69
For university fund.....	188,458.23
For school fund.....	199,136.46
Total.....	\$1,523,316.38

Now, only the general and university count against the 3½ millions of appropriations, because the school tax is distributed or apportioned under a general law enacted years ago. Here is the problem:

Appropriations of 1903.....	\$3,740,280.70
Tax Levy of 1903 (net).....	1,324,179.92
Leaving for 1904 Levy.....	\$2,416,100.78

Hence it would seem that the levy of 1904 must be nearly 2½ millions, or nearly double what it was last year, to cover the enormous appropriations of 1903. However, we must consider that about \$167,000 of the appropriations run against funds supplied by the United States and certain fees at the State University and Normal School; and that probably \$180,000 of the temporary university fund will be raised by interest on bonds, and interest and rentals of college lands. This would leave \$2,069,100.78 to be raised this year by the tax levy. But this is not all. The new revenue law contemplates a

Reduction of the State Debt

and provides that the board may add to the levy not exceeding one-fifth of the existing debt when levy is made. Now the debt on November 30, 1903, was \$2,263,177.21. It may be somewhat less now, but suppose we call it an even TWO MILLIONS when the levy of 1904 is made. If so, the board could add \$400,000 to the levy, making a total of

\$2,469,100.78 State Taxes for 1904.

This is a presidential year and the board may not add much to cut down the debt, but The Independent cannot see how the state levy for 1904 can go below the TWO MILLION MARK. That would mean an

Increase of 50 Percent in State Taxes.

GREAT IS "REDEMPTION!" "STAND PAT." "VOTE 'ER STRAIGHT."

Indiana Populists

Elect a Full Delegation to Springfield.

Indianapolis, Ind., April 28, 1904.—(Special Correspondence.)—The populists of Indiana met in state conference at the Hotel English at 11 o'clock today and held an all-day session. F. J. S. Robinson of Cloverland, presided, and J. C. Smith of Monticello acted as secretary, with several assistant secretaries.

The following delegates and alternates were elected to the people's party national convention, to be held at Springfield, Ill., July 4, 1904:

DELEGATES FOR STATE AT LARGE—
Samuel W. Williams Vincennes.
Fred J. S. Robinson, Cloverland.
Adam P. Hanna, Waveland.
Flavius J. Van Vorhis, Indianapolis.
A. G. Burkhart, Tipton.
John W. George, Frankfort.
H. J. Osborn, Veedersburg.
Parker T. Brown, Whiteland.
Robert Todd, Miami.
Thomas Wadsworth, Raglesville.
ALTERNATES AT LARGE—
John Kiggin, Tipton.
Frank Yerkes, Veedersburg.

Thomas Marshall, Selma.
William Harriott, Monticello.
Thomas B. East, Anderson.
J. C. Stewart, West Baden.
David Anderson, Mason.
William Lee, Roll.
J. W. Swan, Wadena.
Allen Jennings, Indianapolis.
DISTRICT DELEGATES.
S. M. Holcomb, Fort Branch.
W. B. Wolfe, Oaktown.
T. C. Zinkhans, Washington.
D. M. Litchlyter, Huntingburg.
W. T. Carmichel, Walesboro.
Dr. H. T. Knightley, Greencastle.
D. F. Boger, Shelbyville.
John Medert, Indianapolis.
W. E. Hurley, Anderson.
W. B. Gill, Ladoga.
J. C. Smith, Monticello.
William Smith, Logansport.
Hiram Mains.
John Maugherman.
DISTRICT ALTERNATES.
Milton Fox, Bignell.
Walter Summers, Loogootee.
Richard Bonewitz, Wheatland.
John Kirk, Otisco.

T. J. Lindley, Foltz.
L. L. Johnson, Clay City.
William Shoup, Waldron.
F. D. Craig, Indianapolis.
O. L. Ross, Selma.
Geo. M. Thompson, Pickard.
J. D. Tucker, Valparaiso.
T. B. Rogers, Logansport.
Carl Gerner.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we most cordially indorse the selection, by the joint action of the national committees, of Hon. A. G. Burkhart of Indiana for temporary chairman of the Springfield convention.

Be it resolved, That the people's party of Indiana hereby indorse the validity and force of the St. Louis joint call for the national convention, to be held at Springfield, Ill., July 4, 1904, to nominate people's party candidates for president and vice president on a people's party platform.

Be it resolved, That the Indiana delegation to Springfield are requested to present and commend to that convention, as our first choice, for the high office of president of the United States, the name of Samuel W. Williams of Indiana and are instructed to

use all honorable means to secure his nomination by that convention. It is ordered that the delegates present at Springfield have power to fill vacancies in the delegation and to cast the entire 24 votes of Indiana in the convention.

On motion the conference adjourned.
F. J. S. ROBINSON,
Chairman.
J. C. SMITH,
Secretary.

(Six of the ten delegates at large and six of the 14 district delegates are enrolled members of the Old Guard of Populism. Ten of the 24 alternates are also enrolled. Practically all of the other delegates and alternates were long ago sent the invitation to enroll, but through negligence or indifference failed to respond. It's a good guess that more of the enrolled Old Guards will be present at Springfield than of those who were not sufficiently interested in populism to answer a letter.—De France.)

The state convention of the people's party called by State Chairman Adam P. Hanna, convened at Craig's hotel, 323 East Washington st., today, pursuant to call, and selected the following delegates to the national conven-