

Sales Taxes Have Been Adopted By Numerous States Once Opposed By Tax Experts, Scheme Is Becoming Popular

CHICAGO, Jan. 23.—(AP)—Sales taxes adopted by many states in the past few years as a way out of depression difficulties are in effect in 23 states, and it is expected that more states will adopt them in the next few months, reports the National Tax Administration through the Public Administration Commission House here.

Seven of the nine states which have regular legislative sessions this year are still without sales taxes, according to the authority. Massachusetts and New Jersey, two of this number are reported as considering them. New Jersey is one of six states that have had sales taxes and have either repealed them or had them invalidated.

Kentucky, one of the states the legislature of which is now at work, is also in this group. Other states with recently convoked legislatures which are without sales taxes are New York, which approved its tax to take effect in March, South Carolina, and Virginia. Mississippi and Louisiana are the only states with sales taxes in the group of nine which have legislative sessions this year.

Experts estimate that the sales tax is a productive one, ranking second only to the gasoline tax in revenue production. The objection raised against it is that it falls on all alike, without consideration of ability to pay, and cannot be graduated according to means or the income tax.

States which now have sales taxes are: Arizona, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Missouri, Louisiana, Illinois, Mississippi, Alabama, North Carolina, West Virginia, Indiana, California, Washington, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Arkansas, Michigan, Oklahoma, and Ohio.

Not all of these are quickly recognizable by the retail customer. In Indiana, for instance, the levy takes the form of a gross income as well as business receipts. In other states the sales levy is

WHEN DEER ARE NOT DEAR



In Pisgah National Park in North Carolina, deer have multiplied so rapidly that it has become a problem for the government. Recently an open season was declared during designated periods for 2,000 hunters who were allowed one deer each. Here are some of the large number of fawns feeding at a special trough of "baby food."

known as a gross receipts tax, an occupational tax or a consumers' tax. Other states like Connecticut, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Virginia, although having a moratorium on them, keep it so small that they are generally excluded from the sales tax classification.

States which have had sales taxes and have either repealed them or which have had them repealed are: Massachusetts, Georgia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Idaho, Kentucky, Maine, New Jersey, Oregon, and Vermont.

Nine states this year are putting constitutional amendments on a variety of subjects before their voters, and only one of these states is included in the group having regular legislative sessions. For the most part, citizens are expressing themselves on matters put before them by previous legislatures. This information is relayed from a report issued jointly by the National Association of Secretaries of State and the Council of State Governments.

No two states are voting on the same issue. In Alabama it's a question as to whether motor vehicle taxes shall be used exclusively for construction and maintenance of state highways. Florida is considering \$5,000 homestead exemption law, and is also asking the voters to decide whether the

state shall give greater support to public schools. Illinois is putting before its citizens a proposal to repeal a law imposing double liability upon bank stock owners. Maine's referendum is a proposal to lengthen the residency requirement for voters.

In Michigan it is salary increases for elective state executive officials which are being asked of the electorate, by way of a constitutional amendment. Oklahoma has several issues—provision for retirement allowances for state and school employees and proposals to alter membership of house and senate and to fix an annual salary for members of the Legislature.

South Dakota voters will decide whether the state shall get new apportionment for state legislature, while Wyoming ballot-casters will write yes or no on the question of paying interest on public money at the rate paid on private deposits. In New Jersey, the Constitutional issue is whether horse-racing and pari-mutual betting shall be legalized, and voters will be given an opportunity to decide if the legislature re-adopts a resolution to put this matter to the electorate.

Last year was a lean one for direct state legislation by the people, the Association found. Voters of only eight states were asked to submit their wishes on a total

Grand Jury Of Fall Session Is Dismissed

Continued from Page One
TRUE BILL.

"In this our final report we desire to express our thanks and appreciation to the law enforcement officers of Sanford and Seminole County, in the Sanford Herald, and to all law-abiding citizens, who by their untiring efforts, publicly and public opinion, have earnestly cooperated with us in our determination to rid Sanford and Seminole County of the Cuba and Bolivia racket, which in the past has taken such a toll from our people and from legitimate business channels.

"We earnestly and respectfully recommend to the members of the next Grand Jury that they continue where we leave off and use all the law enforcement facilities to ascertain and obtain evidence against all persons who, in open defiance of our laws, continue to operate, or take part in, such gambling schemes.

"We wish to express our appreciation to the Honorable Arthur H. Smith, Judge of the Circuit Court, and the Court Officials for the courteous cooperation extended to us in the performance of our duties.

"And now, having finished our labor, we respectfully ask the Court to discharge us."

Respectfully submitted,
(Signed) J. H. COLCLOUGH,
Foreman of the Grand Jury.

(Signed) J. M. STINECIPHER,
Clerk.

Cards Are Stacked Against Farmers In The Dust Bowl

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(AP)—Midwest farmers in the grain belt as well as the Dust Bowl—face the 1936 crop growing season with the weather cards stacked against them.

The soil, particularly the subsoil, in large areas of the middle west is unusually dry this winter, due largely to insufficient rains in the last four months of 1935. And the rainfall for the entire year was inadequate to restore the seriously depleted soil moisture.

J. B. Kinser, crop-weather expert of the United States weather bureau, says the present dryness does not necessarily mean dryness next spring or drought next summer. But he points out that "it seems likely crops this year must depend largely on spring and early summer rains."

Moisture has been scanty, Kinser says, in the western states where rainfall has been deficient for a long time. South Dakota had only 54 percent normal precipitation in the last four months of 1935; Kansas had only 65 percent and Nebraska, 67 percent.

Corn-growing Iowa, Missouri and Illinois, as well as Minnesota, were short on fall rains, the Iowa precipitation being only 56 percent of normal. Another adverse factor cited by Kinser is that winter precipitation in the middle west, notably in the Great Plains, seldom is sufficient to restore normal moisture to a dry subsoil.

Measure L, below normal in most of the dust bowl which government agencies say constitutes a \$6,500,000 acre expense in parts of Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico and Texas. While Texas had 111 percent normal precipitation in the last four months of 1935, the rainfall for the entire year was only 87 percent.

On the other hand, precipitation was unusually abundant nearly everywhere east of the Mississippi river. The Pacific coast states also had much more than normal rainfall.

Women Don't Respect Our Customs

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Travel abroad all you like, young lady, but don't try to outsmart the customs bureau when you come back. The men aren't much trouble, one customs official here says. But the women he contends, "seem naturally disposed toward petty smuggling." To back up this opinion he points to bureau seizures of \$60,327 worth of wearing apparel in 1935—most of it, he says,

Whether William F. Grise is a divorcee or not depends on the answers to the following questions: "Which side of the bed did she sleep on?" "Who were the hangers on in our shop?" "Where did we keep our receipts?" "What kind of shirt did you wear habitually?"

The queries were prepared by Mrs. Clara Grise, who is trying to collect \$5,025 insurance on the ground her missing husband, William, is dead.

Now a hospital attendant working under a different name and in the missing William Grise. Denying the identity, Mrs. Grise made out the quiz for use in the trial of the case.

Wife Prepares Quiz To Test 'Dead Man'

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