

ELEVENTH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TAXATION

Piedmont Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia

November 13-16, 1917



HAMILTONIAN PHILOSOPHY

"The moment we launch into conjectures about the usurpations of the federal government, we get into an unfathomable abyss, and fairly put ourselves out of the reach of all reasoning. I repeat that all observations founded upon the danger of usurpation ought to be referred to the composition and structure of the government, not to the nature or extent of its powers. The State governments, by their original constitutions, are invested with complete sovereignty. In what does our security consist against usurpation from that quarter? Doubtless in the manner of their formation, and in a due dependence of those who are to administer them upon the people. If the proposed construction of the federal government be found, upon an impartial examination of it, to be such as to afford, to a proper extent, the same species of security, all apprehensions on the score of usurpation ought to be discarded."

HAMILTON in the *Federalist*, 1788.

Announcements

HEADQUARTERS

The business sessions of the conference will be held in the convention hall on the ninth floor of the Piedmont Hotel. On this floor also the officers of the National Tax Association will be located as well as rooms for meetings of committees. These quarters have been kindly furnished through the courtesy of the hotel management.

REGISTRATION

The registration bureau will be found in the lounging room on the office floor of the hotel. Delegates are requested to register immediately upon arrival. Cards should be signed *legibly*, as it is planned to issue as soon as possible a list of those in attendance.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The members of the Executive Committee of the National Tax Association are requested to meet on Monday evening to pass upon the usual final details. The time and place of meeting may be obtained at the registration bureau.

GENERAL INVITATION

It should be thoroughly understood that the sessions and meetings are open to all, whether delegates or visitors, and it is earnestly hoped that there may be active discussion by as many persons as time will permit, of the questions raised by the speakers on the program. The only limitation is that only delegates officially appointed by States or Provinces, by Universities and by State Associations of chartered public accountants may vote upon formal resolutions presented by the resolutions committee of the conference.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The officers in charge of the arrangements wish to express and to have the members know of their deep appreciation of the constant and helpful advice and assistance rendered by those who have interested themselves in this conference on behalf of the State of Georgia and the City of Atlanta. Active and prompt co-operation has been afforded by all who have been engaged in the preparations.

It is particularly desired to express cordial thanks to Governor Dorsey, State Tax Commissioner Hart, Mr. James E. Hickey, Proprietor of the Piedmont Hotel, and to Mr. Fred Houser, Secretary of the Atlanta Convention Bureau, who as Secretary of the Reception Committee, has given generously of his time to perfecting the arrangements.

PROGRAM OF ELEVENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ON

TAXATION

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

November 13-16, 1917

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
THE NATIONAL TAX ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

SAMUEL T. HOWE, Chairman State Tax Commission, Topeka, Kansas.

VICE-PRESIDENT

CHARLES J. BULLOCK, Professor of Economics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

SECRETARY

FRED R. FAIRCHILD, Professor of Political Economy, Yale University, New Haven, Ct.

TREASURER

ALFRED E. HOLCOMB, Assistant Secretary American Telephone and Telegraph Co.,
195 Broadway, New York City.

RECEPTION COMMITTEE

FREDERIC J. PAXSON, President, Atlanta Convention Bureau, *Chairman*.

Hon. HUGH M. DORSEY, Governor of the State.

Hon. ASA G. CANDLER, Mayor of Atlanta.

Judge JOHN C. HART, State Tax Commissioner.

Hon. WILLIAM A. WRIGHT, Comptroller General.

IVAN E. ALLEN, President Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

A. S. ADAMS, A. S. Adams-B. M. Grant Co.

JESSE N. COUCH, Manager Georgian Terrace Hotel.

W. H. GLENN, Vice-Pres. and Gen'l Mgr. Georgia Railway and Power Co.

J. E. HICKEY, Proprietor Piedmont Hotel.

J. OSCAR MILLS, Chairman, Commissioners of Fulton County.

FRANK H. REYNOLDS, Frank H. Reynolds & Co., Insurance.

W. O. STAMPS, Britt & Stamps.

W. T. PERKERSON, Asst. Cashier, Fourth National Bank.

J. M. B. HOXSEY, Treasurer, Southern Bell Tel. and Tel. Co.

MOULTRIE HITT, Tax Agent, Atlanta and West Point Ry.

MELL E. WILKINSON, Ashcraft-Wilkinson Co.

JOHN W. GRANT, Banker and Real Estate.

J. EPPS BROWN, First Vice-President, Southern Bell Tel. and Tel. Co.

E. S. BURGESS, Tax Agent, Seaboard Air Line Railway.

Judge E. C. KONTZ, Attorney-at-Law.

FRED HOUSER, Secretary, Atlanta Convention Bureau.

JOEL HUNTER, President Georgia Society of Chartered Public Accountants.

Wives of above gentlemen will compose the LADIES' RECEPTION COMMITTEE

FIRST SESSION

Tuesday Morning, November 13, at 10 o'clock

ORGANIZATION OF CONFERENCE

Addresses of Welcome: HUGH M. DORSEY, Governor of Georgia;
ASA G. CANDLER, Mayor of Atlanta.

GEORGIA PROBLEMS

1. JOHN C. HART, State Tax Commissioner.
2. EDGAR H. JOHNSON, Professor of Political Economy, Emory College.

SECOND SESSION

Tuesday Afternoon, November 13, at 2 o'clock

PROBLEMS OF SOUTHERN STATES

1. LOUISIANA — THOMAS M. MILLING, Member Board of State Affairs.
2. MISSISSIPPI — ALFRED H. STONE, Member of Special Legislative Committee on Taxation.
3. FLORIDA — JOHN NEEL, Chairman State Tax Commission.
4. NORTH CAROLINA — A. J. MAXWELL, Clerk to State Tax Commission.

Governor Dorsey kindly extends an invitation to the delegates and others to attend an informal reception to be held at the Mansion, Tuesday evening.

THIRD SESSION

Wednesday Morning, November 14, at 10 o'clock

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Covering points suggested by previous papers.

C. B. GARNETT, Chairman Virginia Corporation Commission, formerly Counsel State Tax Board,
Presiding.

FOURTH SESSION

Wednesday Afternoon, November 14, at 2 o'clock

1. Comparative Analysis of Existing Income Tax Laws.
GEORGE E. HOLMES, of New York City, formerly Editor of "Income Tax Service."
2. One Year's Experience with the Massachusetts Income Tax.
HENRY H. BOND, Income Tax Deputy in the office of the State Tax Commissioner of Massachusetts.
3. The Possibility of the Restrictive Application of the Income Tax Principles to a Municipal Business Tax.
L. W. DONLEY, Assessment Commissioner of Winnipeg, Manitoba.
4. Progress Report of Committee on Public Expenditures of National Tax Association.
HERBERT J. HAGERMAN, President New Mexico Taxpayers' Association, *Chairman.*
5. Taxation in Oklahoma.
CAMPBELL RUSSELL, Member Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

FIFTH SESSION

To be held in the Hall of the House of Representatives in the State Capitol Building.

Wednesday Evening, November 14, at 8 o'clock

NATIONAL PROBLEMS

1. Address on War Finance.
EDWIN R. A. SELIGMAN of Columbia University, New York City.
2. Report of the Committee of the National Tax Association on the Federal Inheritance Tax.
JOHN S. CHAMBERS, State Comptroller of California, *Chairman.*
3. American Ideals of Liberty and Democracy as tested by the present War.
REVEREND M. ASHBY JONES, representing the National Security League.

SIXTH SESSION

Thursday Morning, November 15, at 10 o'clock

1. The Farmers Movement in North Dakota and Taxation.
FRANK E. PACKARD, Member State Tax Commission of North Dakota.
2. Recent Events in Taxation in Kentucky.
HITE H. HUFFAKER, State Senator and Chairman of the Kentucky Special Tax Commission.
3. Progress Report of the Committee of the National Tax Association on a Model System of Taxation.
CHARLES J. BULLOCK, Professor of Economics, Harvard University, *Chairman*.
4. The Taxation of Business.
THOMAS S. ADAMS, Professor of Political Economy, Yale University, formerly Secretary of the National Tax Association.

SEVENTH SESSION

Thursday Afternoon, November 15, at 2 o'clock

CORPORATION SESSION

1. Description and Discussion of the Recent Decisions of the United States Supreme Court in the Kentucky Franchise Tax Cases.
W. L. TARBET, Land and Tax Commissioner, Illinois Central Railroad Company.
2. The Taxation of Machinery and Fixtures.
J. F. ZOLLER, Tax Attorney, General Electric Company.
3. The Franchise Tax as a Supplementary Method of Taxation, with especial reference to Indiana.
CARL H. MOTE, Secretary, Public Service Commission of Indiana.
To be discussed by Judge DAN M. LINK of the Circuit Court of Indiana.
4. Tendencies in the Taxation of the Capital Stock of Corporations.
GEORGE VAUGHAN, Little Rock, Arkansas, Special Attorney for the State in Tax Cases.

EIGHTH SESSION

Thursday Evening, November 15, at 8 o'clock

ROUND TABLE SESSION

1. How may Reassessment Statutes be administered without causing a political upheaval.
Opened by NILS P. HAUGEN, Chairman of the Wisconsin Tax Commission, *Presiding*.
Followed by ORLANDO F. BARNES, Chairman of the Michigan State Board of Assessors.
SAMUEL LORD, Chairman of the Minnesota Tax Commission and WILLIAM B. FELLOWS, Secretary of the New Hampshire Tax Commission.
2. General Discussion of Reassessment Statutes and of points raised by previous papers.

NINTH SESSION

Friday Morning, November 16, at 10 o'clock

1. Annual Address by the President of the National Tax Association.
SAMUEL T. HOWE, Chairman Kansas Tax Commission.
2. Some Results of a Survey of the Operation of the General Property Tax in Austin, Texas.
E. T. MILLER, Professor of Economics, University of Texas.
3. The "Single Tax Limited" in War time—An account of the operation of the Land Tax experiments in the cities of Western Canada under conditions of stress.
Professor ROBERT M. HAIG of Columbia University, Special Advisor of the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan.
4. Annual Review of Legislative and Constitutional Changes.
C. C. WILLIAMSON, Librarian, Municipal Reference Library of New York City.

TENTH SESSION

Friday Afternoon, November 16, at 2 o'clock

Business Session and Annual Meeting of the National Tax Association.

ADJOURNMENT

Committees Reporting at this Conference

COMMITTEE OF MODEL TAX SYSTEM

- CHARLES J. BULLOCK, *Chairman*, Professor of Economics, Harvard University.
CHARLES V. GALLOWAY, Member of Oregon State Tax Commission.
CELSUS P. LINK, Chairman Colorado Tax Commission.
SAMUEL LORD, Chairman Minnesota Tax Commission.
OGDEN L. MILLS, Former Chairman Special Tax Commission of New York.
THOMAS S. ADAMS, Professor of Political Economy, Yale University.
THOMAS W. PAGE, Professor of Economics, University of Virginia.
A. C. REARICK, Attorney-at-Law, New York.
W. L. TARBET, Land and Tax Commissioner, Illinois Central Railroad Company.
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COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL INHERITANCE TAX

- JOHN S. CHAMBERS, *Chairman*, State Comptroller of California.
NILS P. HAUGEN, Chairman Wisconsin Tax Commission.
JOHN E. BRINDLEY, Professor of Economics, Iowa State College.
JOSEPH S. MATTHEWS, Assistant Attorney General of New Hampshire.
THOMAS W. SIMS, Chairman Alabama State Board of Equalization.
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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC EXPENDITURES

- HERBERT J. HAGERMAN, *Chairman*, Former President New Mexico Taxpayers' Association.
THOMAS S. ADAMS, Professor of Political Economy, Yale University.
E. B. HOWARD, State Auditor of Oklahoma.
ADAM SHORTT, Member Civil Service Commission of Canada.
E. H. WOLCOTT, Former Member Indiana State Board of Tax Commissioners.

NATIONAL TAX ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EX-OFFICIO

PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER, AND
ALLEN R. FOOTE, Columbus, Ohio.

PROFESSOR E. R. A. SELIGMAN, Columbia University, ex-President.

ELECTIVE

Term Expiring 1917

JOHN E. BRINDLEY, Professor of Economics, Iowa State College.

JOHN S. EDWARDS, Member State Commission of Florida.

JAMES A. HOUCK, Member Indiana State Board of Tax Commissioners.

Term Expiring 1918

WILLIAM BAILEY, Secretary State Board of Equalization of Utah.

ZENAS W. BLISS, Chairman Board of Tax Commissioners of Rhode Island.

OSCAR LESER, Member State Tax Commission of Maryland.

Term Expiring 1919

J. W. BRISLAWN, Member State Board of Tax Commissions of Washington.

THOMAS W. SIMS, Chairman State Board of Equalization of Alabama.

GEORGE G. TUNELL, Tax Commissioner Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway.

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

The Issue. The one question of immediate and pressing importance to the nation, the states, and local governments and to all citizens, is how to equitably and promptly secure abundant means for meeting the necessary public expenditures. The National Tax Association constitutes an important factor towards the correct solution of this question. The all-important need is of a largely increased membership in order that the influence of the Association may be most fully developed. The first consideration for members is to see that their own dues are paid, the next is to aid in securing new members. This occasion furnishes members a ready means for easily doing these two things. We should secure a substantial addition to our membership at this time.

The Bulletin. The official organ of the Association is issued monthly except in July, August and September. It is intended for circulation among the members to keep them advised on topics of current interest. It is planned to make this BULLETIN a real and substantial help to those wishing to keep up-to-date in tax matters and to make it a medium for the intercommunication of ideas and suggestions by members and readers.

Subscription price to members is \$1.00 and is included in annual membership dues. Subscription price to non-members, \$2.00 per annum.

Volumes of Proceedings. The volumes of Proceedings, covering conferences held annually beginning in the year 1907, contain a large amount of practical up-to-date comprehensive information on all phases of taxation. The contributions are by experienced and expert administrators, well-qualified economists, students and investigators, and by practical business men. The volumes are cloth-bound, fully indexed, and contain approximately 500 pages each.

The recognized value of these volumes is indicated by the fact that they are regularly obtained as part of the equipment of a large number of state, university and local libraries in the United States and the Canadian provinces. They are also in use by state and local tax officials, attorneys, corporation officials, economists, and others interested in governmental finance throughout this country and abroad.

PRICES: Annual membership dues in the Association, including the current volume of proceedings \$5.00, \$1.00 of which is for one year's subscription to the BULLETIN. Back volumes to members, \$1.00. The current volume to non-members, \$3.00. Back volumes, \$2 00. Address orders and inquiries to

A. E. HOLCOMB, Treasurer,
195 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

A. E. HOLCOMB, Treasurer, 195 Broadway, New York City.

You may enroll me as a member of the **National Tax Association**.
I enclose check, \$5.00, covering dues for the current year, \$1.00 of which is
for one year's subscription to the monthly Bulletin.

Name.....

Official Title or Business.....

Address.....

If back volumes are desired, specify volumes and add necessary amount :
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FORM FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Treasurer, **National Tax Association**, 195 Broadway, New York.

As a member of the **National Tax Association**, I enclose check
\$5.00, covering dues for the current year 1917-1918, \$1.00 of which is for one
year's subscription to the Bulletin.

Name.....

Official Title or Business.....

Address

SUGGESTION FOR INCREASING MEMBERSHIP

Treasurer, **National Tax Association**, 195 Broadway, New York.

I suggest the following persons for membership:

NAMES

ADDRESSES

Signed.....

Address.....