

ALUMNI PAGE

Editor W. C. Wilson, Alumni Secretary
Assistant Editor, Helen J. Osborne

CALENDAR

Buffalo, February 13—(Second Saturday—Regular) luncheon at 1:15—Chamber of Commerce, corner Main and Seneca street.
Chicago, February 13—(Third Monday—Regular) luncheon at 12:15—Marshall Field Men's Store (Grill Room).
Louisville, March 6—(First Saturday—Regular) luncheon at 1:15 Elk Club.
Philadelphia, March 6—(First Saturday—Regular) luncheon at 1:15 Engineer's Club, 1317 Spruce street.

TAXATION AND EDUCATION

The following is an extract from the Message of Governor W. J. Fields to the General Assembly of Kentucky.

"Fulfilling my pledge to the taxpayers of the Commonwealth, I made definite recommendations to the 1924 session of the General Assembly which were enacted into laws. The purpose of this legislation was to equalize the burden of the support of the State Government, to reach all property subject to taxation, to give definite relief to the agriculture interests of the Commonwealth, and at the same time maintain sufficient revenues to meet the increasing needs of the State.

The enacted provisions intended to achieve the desired results were contained principally in two acts known as the Nelson act and the Porter act. By the provisions of the Nelson Tax Law the State tax rate upon real estate was lowered from forty cents to thirty cents per \$100.00 or 25% of assessed value. The assessment of agricultural lands for 1923 taxes next before the enactment of the Nelson Tax Law was \$718,276,114.00. The first assessment made and equalized after the enactment of the Nelson Tax Law was for 1925 taxes and amounted to \$703,242,475.00, or a decrease in the assessment of agricultural lands for taxation of \$15,033,739.00. Under the provisions of the Nelson Tax Law the State taxes of those engaged in farming in this State have been materially decreased. Agricultural lands have received a direct assessment of 2%, making a total decrease of 27% in the burden of taxation borne by that class of property.

In addition to the lowering of the State tax upon real estate and the decrease in the assessment of the same, live stock, under the provision of the Nelson Tax Law, was relieved from local taxation and made subject to a State rate for State, county and District purposes upon the assessed value of live stock previous to the enactment of the Nelson Tax Law was \$1.16 per \$100.00 of assessed value hereby reducing the tax burden of that class of property 66 cents on the \$100.00.

In addition to the lowering of the tax rate upon the assessed value of live stock, the assessed value thereof for 1925 taxes was materially less than for 1923 taxes. From the above it is conclusively shown that by the enactment of the provisions of the Nelson Tax Law affecting agricultural interests, those engaged in farming have been directly benefited, not only by the lowering of the tax rates upon their properties, but also by decreased assessments.

The deficit in the State revenue caused by the decrease in the revenue derived from agricultural interests has more than been supplied by the increase in the revenue derived from tangible and intangible personal property and mineral interests. The assessed value of tangible personal property was increased from \$272,826,652.00 for 1923 taxes to \$352,747,808 for 1925 taxes of an increase of \$79,919,156.00. It has been common knowledge that the assessment of tangible personal property as a class for a number of years has been materially lower, based upon its actual value, than real estate; and by reason of the meritorious provisions of the Porter act the taxing authorities have been enabled to equalize the assessment of tangible personal property and cause it to bear its just proportion of the burden of Government.

As conclusive evidence of the wisdom of the taxing authorities in equalizing the assessment of tangible personal property in 1924, some time after the State Tax Commission had made its equalization and increased the assessment of tangible personal property in a certain County of the Commonwealth its action was contested by the county officials. In the preparation of this suit for trial and after considerable proof had been taken, the County officials ascertained from the testimony that was given by the citizens affected that they were in error; that the equalization made thereon by the State Tax Commission was correct and the action was dismissed on motion of the County authorities upon the payment of the cost by them.

The assessment of intangible personal property for 1923 taxes was \$395,093,911.00 and for 1925 taxes \$501,403,120.00 or an increase of \$106,309,209.00. The records disclose that the increased assessment of this class of property was occasioned by a provision of the Nelson Tax Law, which brought from its hiding the greater part of this increase and placed it upon the assessment books for taxation, which had theretofore escaped by reason of the inability of the taxing authorities to locate it. Contrary to the prophesy of those opposing this provision of the Nelson Tax Law (that by increasing the State tax rate upon intangibles from forty cents to fifty cents per \$100.00 it would cause intangibles to go in hiding and reinvestment of the proceeds thereof in other non-taxable property) the records clearly demonstrate that there has been no disposition upon the part of any taxpayer to change his investments on this account or to conceal its ownership. The soundness of the judgment of the General Assembly in enacting this law has been fully verified by the results obtained, by reason of the fact that intangible personal property is only subject to a State rate and the tax rate in Kentucky compares quite favorably with that of other States upon the assessed value of this class of property. By decreasing the tax rate upon real estate and increasing the rate on other tangibles and intangibles and bringing from hiding millions of dollars of the later class, we have more equitably distributed the burden of financing the maintenance of the State government. In 1925 real estate only bore 45% and all tangible and intangible personal property bore 55%.

By reason of the provisions of the Porter act the assessing authorities of the State have been enabled to make uniform and equitable assessment of the different classes of property of this State and relieve the County treasuries of a great expense that had necessarily been borne by them. One County of the State has recently contested the equalization of the assessment of the property of that County, contending that the property therein was assessed at a higher valuation than similar property and all other properties in the other Counties of the State.

After the action had been thoroughly prepared on behalf of the County and on behalf of the Commonwealth this case was submitted to the Franklin Circuit Court and the judgment thereof sustained the equalized assessment as made by the State authorities. An appeal was prosecuted to the Court of Appeals and in a decision recently rendered the Court of Appeals said: "We are convinced that as far as could humanly and practically be done, these Counties were assessed on an equal basis with the other Counties of the State, considering their differences in kind and character."

As a rule of the legislation, heretofore referred to and the administration thereof, I can confidently advise you that great advancement has been made in the equality of the assessment of property in this State for taxation and the burden of financing the State Government has been made more equitable and more uniform and at the same time the State's revenues have been maintained.

Furthermore, the State Government for the last fiscal year, for the first time since 1899, held its expenditures within the State's revenue.

Under the provisions of the Nelson Tax Law the distribution of the State revenue is so made that all revenue received from the assessment of real estate, intangibles, franchises, and one-half of the inheritance tax is expended for the support of education, the building of highways and maintenance of the singing fund. All the remaining revenue received is credited to the general fund except the motor vehicle and gasoline taxes which are credited directly to the road fund. Under this distribution, the common school fund and the maintenance fund of the State Educational Institutions

have been materially increased. With the exception of the one year that we had the benefit of the Bingham inheritance tax, more money is now being expended for education than ever before in the history of the State. While the amendments to our revenue laws enacted at the preceding session of the Legislature have resulted in great improvement in our system of taxation, there are still other needed improvements, to which I invite your attention.

In my opinion State and County taxes should be entirely separated just at State and municipal taxes are separated. By such separation the taxpayers would thoroughly understand what amount of taxes they pay for the support of the State Government and how much they pay for the support of their County Government. With this information they would know where to go for relief in case either the State or County taxes should be made exorbitant or should be improperly or extravagantly expended, while under the present system it would be difficult for them to determine whether an undue burden was chargeable to the State or to the County.

It is also my opinion that real estate should be relieved by the burden of taxation for State purposes, thereby subjecting it to local taxation only. But before this should be accomplished it would be necessary to find other sources from which to supply the deficit in the State's revenues which follow as a result of the suggested relief to real estate. But whether you deem it advisable at this time to relieve real estate from taxation for State purposes, it is absolutely imperative that we find additional revenues to meet and correct the appalling conditions that obtain in the Charitable and Corrective Institutions of the State.

The people of Kentucky cannot in common decency close their eyes to these conditions, but should correct them with the least possible delay. I, therefore, recommend that you immediately set yourselves to the task of supplying additional revenues by the imposition of a tax on luxuries.

A tax on manufactured tobacco and tobacco products, including smoking tobacco, cigars, cigarettes and cigarette wrappers, would be both a proper and productive source of revenue.

If I am correctly informed some twenty States including our neighboring State of Tennessee, have imposed a similar tax from which they derive splendid results. It is also my information that several foreign countries derive enormous revenues from a tax on manufactured tobacco and tobacco products. There is, therefore, not a single valid reason why Kentucky should not impose a like tax.

Theatre tickets and bottled soft drinks are also proper subjects for consideration. There are many other luxuries, too numerous to mention here, that might properly be taxed.

It is very essential that revenue measures receive early consideration in order that you may know how to frame other legislation that must necessarily depend upon the amount of revenue to be supplied.

I therefore trust that the revenue bills may be considered with all possible haste.

Education

As stated in my reference to revenue and taxation, under the revenue laws enacted at the preceding session of the General Assembly the Common School fund and the Maintenance Fund of the State Educational Institutions have been materially increased, making these funds apparently adequate to properly maintain the schools of the State. School buildings, however, cannot be reconstructed from these funds as they are set apart by statute for maintenance only.

Our State University and some of our Normal Schools have insufficient room and inadequate facilities to meet the demands upon them. It is therefore imperative that sufficient funds be supplied to enable them to meet these needs if Kentucky is to give her youth the educational advantages that are enjoyed by the youth of our neighboring States.

This demand upon the general fund of the State therefore adds to the necessity for additional revenue, to which I have heretofore referred.

The Budget Commission composed of Governor Fields, Judge J. B. Lewis of the tax commission and Hon. W. H. Shanks, state auditor have all expressed themselves as being in favor of the University's request for appropriations and will recommend that this request be incorporated in the budget, provided bills which will grant additional revenue are passed.

Regardless of whether such measures are enacted we trust that these gentlemen will grant the University as near all of its request as is possible.

J. W. Snyder '23 Elected School Superintendent In Daviess County

Daviess County Board of Education Selects Snyder to Succeed John L. Graham.

J. W. Snyder '23 of Owensboro was elected superintendent of the schools of Daviess county by the Daviess county board of education last Monday, to succeed John L. Graham, whose term will expire July 1. Mr. Snyder is principal of the Daviess County High School.

E. T. Dowling '04 Dies In Cleveland Hospital

Funeral Services Were Held in Lexington Wednesday Morning.

E. T. Dowling '04 of Lexington, died at 4 o'clock Sunday morning at St. John's hospital at Cleveland, Ohio. Death came as the result of burns received when a bed on which he was lying caught fire from a lighted pipe. The funeral services were held Wednesday morning at St. Paul's Catholic church, Lexington.

ALUMNI LOST LIST

The Alumni office would appreciate it if you would send addresses of any of the graduates listed below.

- James Saffell Watson, '08
- George Francis Browning, '09
- Cecil Byrne Ellis, '09
- Albert Marion Mathers, '09
- Royalston Haywood Cram, '10
- Alvin Clarence Elliott, '10
- Charles McCarroll, '10
- Ralph Detweiler Quickel, '10
- Squire Webber Salyers, '10
- Katherine Margaret Schoene (Mrs. Patrick Henry), '10
- Louis Litsey Adams, '11
- James Alfred Boyd, '11
- William Edward Hudson, '11
- Grover Cleveland Mills, '11
- Joseph Bishop Sanders, '11

MAJOR GRAHAM, '16, IS KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Former Alumni Secretary Dies Instantly When His Car Is Struck By Long Island Express Train

WAS NEW YORK EDITOR

New Buildings at U. of K. Are Result of Deceased' Work Here

Lynbrook, N. Y., Feb. 8.—Major Herbert Graham '16, editor of the Lloyd C. Griscom publications of New York, and owner and editor of the Scottish American, was killed instantly Sunday night at 11 o'clock when his closed car was struck by an electric express train at a crossing one block from his offices in Lynbrook. The automobile was thrown against some freight cars on a siding and broken into bits. Major Graham was thrown clear of the wreck and landed in a snowdrift about 150 feet from where the machine was struck. Death resulted immediately from a fractured skull, while his right shoulder and left knee were also fractured, in addition to severe cuts and bruises.

The crossing where the wreck occurred is not protected by safety gates and the watchman leaves at 10 o'clock. A bell and signal light are supposed to warn motorists of approaching trains, but it is thought that Major Graham failed to hear the bell, if it was ringing, on account of the rough travel caused by the frozen remains of a 10-inch snow.

Major Graham was president and editor-in-chief of the Huntover Press Co., which publishes the New Era in Lynbrook, the Enterprise at Oyster Bay, and the North Hempstead Record. The editor was founding a fourth newspaper at Port Washington, Long Island. He was associated with Col. Lloyd C. Griscom, former United States ambassador to Italy. Major Graham came to Long Island last February.

News of his death traveled swiftly and his office at Lynbrook was visited Monday by many prominent persons from New York and Long Island villages. Major Graham was widely known and very popular on Long Island.

Memorial services were held Monday night at the Masonic club of Lynbrook and the American Legion, members of several Scottish clans in New York, including Capt. G. Duncan MacLeod, president of the Skye and Lewis societies.

The body was taken Tuesday morning to Frankfort, Ky., arriving at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning accompanied by W. K. Dorman.

Was Alumni Secretary

When Major Graham graduated from the University of Kentucky in 1916 he finished a four-year course at the University crowded with honors and achievements. He was one of the founders of the Alpha Delta Sigma, national Journalism fraternity, of which he was Grand Secretary at the time of his death. He was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity and of the Lamp and Cross, senior honorary fraternity. He was editor-in-chief of the Kentuckian, president of the Strollers, secretary of the athletic committee, served as a lieutenant in the student battalion besides having many scholastic honors conferred upon him.

In 1916-17 he held a fellowship in the department of journalism at the University. He entered the first training camp at Fort Benjamin Harrison and received the commission of first lieutenant on August 15, 1917 and on August 29, 1917, was assigned as intelligence officer of the 366th Infantry, 84th Division, Camp Taylor, Ky. He was soon afterward promoted to a captaincy and held that commission until his regiment was broken up in France after the war. He was recently advanced to the rank of major in the Reserve Officers. He was the secretary of the State Reserve Officers Association, and took an active part in securing the passage of the National Defense Act of 1920. Herbert Graham was elected secretary of the Alumni Association in June, 1920 and held this position until November, 1923, at which time he resigned to become publisher of the Scottish-American magazine in New

Alumni Club Entertains Su-Ky Circle Members

Su-Ky Members Are Given Sweaters and Miss McLaughlin Is Honored

Members of the Su-Ky circle, student pep organization of the University of Kentucky were guests of the Lexington Alumni club of the University at Luncheon given Saturday in the ball room of the Lafayette hotel and at which all new members of the circle were presented with Su-Ky sweaters by the Alumni Club.

Miss Marguerite McLaughlin '03, president of the Lexington Alumni club presided at the luncheon and made the presentation of the sweaters. Miss McLaughlin praised the members of the circle for their faithful work in aiding the University on every possible occasion and in promoting increased interest among the students themselves.

Sweaters were presented to the following new Su-Ky members: Misses Katherin Dishman, Mary Giles Thorn, Virginia Kelley, LaVergne Lester and Caroline Bascom; James Augustus, Harry McCheaney, Robert McGary, John Bullock, William Upham, Oscar Stoesser and William Gess. John Dabney, president of the circle, introduced each of the new members. The presentation of sweaters to new Su-Ky members has become an annual custom with the Lexington Alumni club.

Other Members Present

Other members of the Su-Ky circle present at the luncheon were: John Dabney, Guthrie Yeager, Jack Warren, J. A. Estes, Ted McDowell, Frank Brown, Emmett Milward, Hunter Green, Arthur Nutting, Guthrie Bright and Robert Creech, Misses King, Louise Atkins and Misses Louise Connelly, '23, Irene McNamara '23 and Marguerite McLaughlin, '03.

John Dabney, on behalf of the Su-Ky circle, presented Miss McLaughlin with a gold star as an emblem of life membership in the circle and in appreciation of her help and interest in the circle's work and every activity in the interest of the University. Each member of the circle was given a blue star to wear upon their sweater for each year of membership, but Miss McLaughlin is the first to whom a gold star has been presented.

Short talks were made at the luncheon by W. C. Wilson '13, secretary of the Alumni Association, and by Col. John Skain ex-98, members of the Alumni club. Other members of the club present were: White Guyn ex-04, Mrs. W. C. Wilson '13, Irene McNamara '23, Nancy Innes '17, Marie Barkley '20, Mrs. Nannie G. Faulkner and Miss Margaret Semmes.

As a result of the growing resentment against compulsory drill at Ohio State University a faculty committee will investigate the matter. The investigation, instituted by the acting president of the university, will inquire into the value of military training from the educational point of view.

A preliminary announcement of the faculty contains this statement: "Most people think it is necessary to make military training compulsory in all land grant colleges. The Morrill Act of 1862 however, merely requires that military training be offered in the curriculum. Several universities have already abolished compulsory military training. Results at these universities will be studied. "The faculty itself is powerless but can merely make recommendations to the Board of Trustees."

The Liberal club is fostering student discussion of the subject.

York City. He was the first and only full-time secretary of the Association and during his term of office, the alumni records were compiled and the membership in the Association built up to more than eleven hundred members. He conceived the idea of taking an alumni page in the Kentucky Kernel, and sending the paper to all paid-up members of the Association. To the writer's knowledge this is the only combined student and alumni weekly publication in the country, and this idea has brought pleasure and profit to hundreds of our alumni. While he was in office the campaign for the Memorial Building fund was completed, and the Greater Kentucky Fund, of which he was the chief instigator, was started. As a result of this idea we now have our basketball building, the greater part of our stadium, an increased student loan fund, and Patterson memorial fund.

FILL OUT AND MAIL TO ALUMNI OFFICE

Please reserve plates for me at U. of K. banquet to be held at Brown Hotel, at 6 p. m., April 22, 1926.