

War Taxation.

Washington, April 16.—The Republican members of the ways and means committee of the house have practically concluded the preparation of a revenue measure, which will be passed to raise revenue sufficient to prosecute war. The members propose that the present generation shall bear the burdens of the war, and proceeding upon that theory they have prepared a bill that will raise between \$100,000,000 or \$120,000,000 additional revenue per annum. The bill will provide for an additional tax of \$1 per barrel on beer, from which \$30,000,000 will be raised. On manufactured tobacco and snuff the internal revenue tax will be increased from six to twelve cents. This is expected to raise \$15,000,000 of revenue. The increase on cigars and cigarettes has not been absolutely fixed, but it probably will be one dollar on all classes; from this \$5,000,000 is expected. The proposition which the senate placed in the tariff bill, but which was defeated, to tax all stocks and transfers of corporations, is embodied in the measure, together with practically all the schemes of internal revenue taxation of the act of 1896, which includes a stamp tax on all checks, drafts and all instruments of business—mortgage, loans and bonds—a tax on patent and proprietary medicines, and a tax on telegrams and express packages, is also incorporated in the bill. This scheme of taxation is estimated to release \$35,000,000. The tax on proprietary and patent medicines will be two cents on bottles retailing at fifteen cents or under, and four cents on those retailing above that price. The tax on telegraph messages will be one cent on all messages which cost twenty-five cents or less, and two cents on all above twenty-five cents. A duty of ten cents per pound is placed on tea, and three cents per pound upon coffee with a countervailing international revenue tax on stocks on hand. This latter will be in the form of a tax on the sale of stocks on hand, to avoid the constitutional inhibition against a direct tax. From tea and coffee \$28,000,000 are estimated. Bottled waters are to bear a similar tax to patent medicines. For the pressing needs of the government the secretary of the treasury is given the power to issue certificates of indebtedness payable in one year, and to bear not to exceed three per cent interest. The secretary is also authorized to borrow on the credit of government by popular subscription a loan of \$500,000,000. This loan is to be placed through the postoffices of the country, the sub-treasuries and government depositories in low rate bonds, which are to be sold at par. They are to bear three per cent interest and to be redeemable after five years at the option of the government, and to be due in twenty years. The principal and interest are to be payable in coin. The measure will be presented to the full committee on Monday and it will be brought into the house as soon as the war resolutions are signed by the president.

British Columbia Items.

Thos. H. Milne, builder, Vernon, is dead.
Wm. Murphy, butcher, Vernon, is dead.
P. Moran, plumber, is starting business at Revelstoke.
E. Stuckey, saw mill, is again starting business at Nelson.

J. & T. Martin, hotel, Sleamou, are succeeded by J. E. Hooper.

Dykes & Temple, are opening a general store at Arrowhead.

The B. C. Pulp & Paper Mills, Ltd., has been incorporated in Scotland. Wilson & Co., feed, etc., Victoria, have dissolved; John Wilson continues.

W. G. Burney, painter and wall paper, has opened business at Revelstoke.

Martin Bros., hardware, Rossland, contemplate opening a branch at Greenwood.

Atkins & Smith, publishers, Revelstoke, have dissolved; Atkins & Campbell continue.

The Hudson's Bay Co. has purchased a property at Nelson and will erect a business block thereon.

Stimpson's wharf at Vancouver was burned on April 21, also part of the buildings of the New England Fish company, of Boston, and several C. P. R. cars filled with valuable freight; also 200 tons of hay, wagons and contractors outfit for Mackenzie and Mann, the Yukon railway contractors. A quantity of tin and cannery supplies were burned. The loss is very heavy.

The following items are reported from Vancouver: R. D. Patterson is opening in groceries; Wilson Bros., of Victoria, wholesale grocers, are opening a branch; J. Johnston, harness, has started business; J. D. Foreman & Co., feed and commission, are giving up business; the Burrard Inlet Packing Co. is dissolved; G. Carson is opening in furniture; A. R. Matt, cigars, fruit, etc., has opened business; P. H. Alder, has opened in provisions; Geo. Cassidy Co., Ltd., in liquidation, saw mill, application made for a winding-up order; The People's Supply Co. is opening business; Scott, Mine Co., manufacturer's agents, have dissolved, M. McDonald retiring.

Assiniboia.

S. Shannon, Regina, has sold out.

W. R. Hare, tinsmith, Grenfell, has sold out to J. Franks.

F. Gibrard, lumber, Wapella, is selling out to Geo. Nugent.

W. A. Heubach, of Touchwood Hills, is having his store enlarged.

D. Woodward, grocer, Regina, is moving to Fort Steele, B. C.

J. J. McLean contemplates opening a grocery store at Moose Jaw.

W. R. Campbell, general storekeeper, Moose Jaw, has given up business.

John McCracken, of Elkhorn, Man., will open a merchant tailor business at Moosomin, Assa.

The Regina Trading Co., to do a general store business at Regina, is being organized.

Chas. Willoughby, lumber dealer, has added hardware to his business, and contemplates admitting W. M. Duncan as partner.

Alberta.

C. Gallagher is calling for tenders for the erection of a two-storey brick building at Edmonton.

Stewart & McMaster, butchers, Macleod, have sold out to Maunsell Bros., butchers of the same place.

McIntosh & Whitelaw contemplate opening in furniture at Edmonton. They will build for the purpose.

The Hudson's Bay Co., are offering their three river steamers, which have plied on the North Saskatchewan, namely the Northwest, Northcote and Marquis, for sale by tender.

Burdett & Dyson, cigars, Calgary, have dissolved partnership. Dyson continues alone. Burdette has opened a new cigar store.

Northwest Ontario.

Mr. Bell contemplates opening a general store at Mines Centre.

Fire in Oddfellow's hall, Rat Portage, did about \$3,000 damage; partly insured.

A. Carmichael, formerly in the store business at Rat Portage, will in future devote himself to mining brokerage.

The contract for the construction of the waterworks at Fort William, has been awarded to Hill & Gowanlock, of Toronto, at \$32,133.

Movements of Business Men

John W. Peck went west this week.

D. C. Cameron, of Rat Portage, left Thursday for the west.

J. Y. Griffin left Thursday evening on a trip to the Pacific coast.

George Galt has returned from a trip to Europe.

R. E. Mills, representative of Mackenzie & Mills, Winnipeg, returned yesterday from an extended western trip.

F. H. Mathewson, manager of the Bank of Commerce, Winnipeg, is expected home from his European tour in a few days.

Gordon Rickert, representing Jas. Coristine & Co., Montreal, wholesale furs, who has been in the city recently, has left on a western trip.

Charles Matthews, of the firm of Matthews, Towers & Co., of Montreal, has been making a hurried trip through the west. E. I. Smith will represent the firm in the west hereafter.

H. S. White, editor of the Colonist, Winnipeg, left for the Pacific coast on Thursday, en route to Dawson City. Mr. White goes to Yukon as special correspondent for Reuter's News Agency, of London, England. He will also contribute to the Colonist.

A. C. Beach, who has been representing the John L. Cassidy Co., of Montreal, in the west, has returned east from a trip as far as the coast. Mr. Beach has opened a sample room at No. 312 McDermott street, Winnipeg, where a full line will be shown. He reported business good in the west.

Mr. Trester, representing M. Trester, general commission merchant and shipping agent, of Hamburg, Germany, was in Winnipeg this week, on a business trip. Mr. Trester handles American products on a large scale, including wool, hides, furs and various other commodities, on a commission basis.

The budget debate at Ottawa, has been concluded and the tariff resolutions have been adopted.

The general stock and book debts of the estate of A. McQueen, Gladstone, will be offered for sale by auction on April 30, at the office of Bertrand, Newton & Davidson, Winnipeg. Stock amounts to \$3,112. Book accounts, etc., \$5,024.