

vice versa, but it has this effect, that no one escapes, and all contribute more or less to the burden of taxation. If a comparison is made with the former assessment of personalty, there will be found less inequalities than will be shown under the old methods. No one ever contended that personal property was or could be successfully assessed; much of it could not be seen. Debts due on account of personalty were to be deducted, and the statement is ventured that not one tenth of the personal property liable to assessment was assessed. The assessor could not cope with the artifices employed, and besides, as has already been stated, very imperfect machinery was provided under the Act to assist him in the discharge of his duties.

The business men as a whole have welcomed the change in the Assessment Act: they now know that the assessor cannot go beyond the rating fixed by the Act. Formerly, because of their under-assessments, which had been handed down as heir-looms to succeeding assessors, they could not say where the assessment was to stop, as they were liable to an increase year after year, so long as the amount assessed did not exceed the actual assets of the business; all this depending upon the activity of the assessor. This is now done away with, and as "new brooms sweep clean," it is now proven that the business assessment shows a vast improvement upon the attempt for the past thirty or forty years to assess personal property as defined under the former Act.

INCOME.

The change here is great, and as a revenue producer is far ahead of any legislation heretofore granted sanctioning the assessment of income. If we read Subsection 19 of Section 5 (which contains the exemption clauses), we find:

First, the annual income derived from personal earnings or from any pension, gratuity or retiring allowance, in respect of personal services, in a city or town having a population of