OPINION OF AMERICAN PROFESSORS OF PUBLIC FINANCE ON IMPORTANT TAX QUESTIONS AS OF JANUARY 1, 1935

[Compiled by Mabel L. Walker, Executive Secretary, Tax Policy League, 309 East 34th Street, New York City.]

In order that America may have a concise picture of matured, responsible and independent tax opinion, this table is presented showing the attitude of the senior professor in public finance in 52 of our 100 largest colleges or universities on some of the most important tax questions of the day. Whatever is lost by condensation is perhaps, for the busy man, more than made up by the instantaneousness with which he can get the picture.

The questions were designed, so far as possible, to permit each respondent to answer categorically Yes or No with a minimum of reservations and qualifications. In those cases where respondent feels that a categorical Yes or No was not a satisfactory statement of his opinions he was asked to insert a star (*) indicating that he had too many doubts to care to answer Yes or No or that he would prefer to make so many reservations and qualifications as would expand the table beyond the space limitations contemplated. Every responsible tax administrator or legislator desires to know the opinions of such matured students of taxation, and particularly how unanimous are the opinions of such authorities on live questions. Also every professor is anxious to have this same information and to know how far he comes to agreeing with prevailing opinion. This table has been compiled to furnish such information at a glance. It is assumed throughout that our Federal, state and local tax bill is to approximate $10,000,000,000 a year.

	Yes	No	Non-committal or modified answers
TARIFF			
In general, high protective tariff on agricultural products?	1	47	4
Ditto, manufactured products?	..	48	4
Tariff to equalize difference in cost of production at home and abroad?	8	38	6
Tariff at uniform rate on all imports?	..	47	5
In general, tariff for revenue only?	28	17	7
In general, free trade with only incidental tariffs?	29	16	7
If Constitution were changed, various export duties by U. S.?	11	37	4
PROPERTY TAXATION			
Retention of property tax as major source of local revenue?	42	7	3
Should general property tax include intangibles?	4	45	3
Should it include tangible personalty?	21	24	7
Should it be restricted to realty?	27	20	5
Should improvements be taxed at a lower rate than land?	25	21	6
Should improvements be exempted?	1	47	4
Special tax on unearned increment of land values?	26	16	10
What percentage of unearned increment should such tax take?	[1]	..	..
Tax classification of tangible personalty?	27	15	10
Classified property tax for intangibles?	19	22	11
Classified property tax for real estate?	29	19	4
Special yield tax in place of property tax for forest properties?	41	4	7
Should there be homestead exemptions?	8	30	14
INHERITANCE AND ESTATE TAXES			
Should inheritances be taxed by the Federal government?	45	4	3
What percentage of the inheritance should be taken by the Federal government by taxation from a $100,000 estate? A $500,000 estate? A $10,000,000 estate?	[2]	..	..
Should inheritances be taxed by the states?	35	9	8
What percentage of the inheritance should be taken by the state government by taxation from a $100,000 estate? A $500,000 estate? A $10,000,000 estate?	[3]	..	..
Should gifts, whether or not in contemplation of death, be taxed in order to avoid evasion of the inheritance tax?	38	4	10
PERSONAL INCOME TAXES			
Graduated personal income tax?	42	..	10
What should be personal exemptions in Federal law? Single? Married? Dependent?	[4]	..	..
What should be personal exemptions in state law? Single? Married? Dependent?	[5]	..	..
How much should rates increase per step in Federal law?	[6]	..	..
How much should rates increase per step in state law?	[7]	..	..
How wide should steps be in Federal law?	[8]	..	..
In state law?	[9]	..	..
How many steps in Federal law? In state law?	[10]	..	..
Minimum filing fee for personal income in Federal law?	19	18	15
In state law?	23	14	15
Could a poll tax be so fitted into our general tax scheme (under the income tax) as to make it a desirable element thereof?	14	28	10
Personal income tax to include capital gains and losses provision?	16	27	9
Ditto only at moderate rate?	13	24	15
Immediate abolition of capital gains and losses provision?	12	6	34
Or abolition when stock market next reaches peak?	2	16	34
Higher income tax rates for unearned income?	29	15	8
All future Federal, state and local government securities to be issued fully taxable as to income?	46	2	4
Should cash dividends be taxed to the stockholder if there is a corporate income tax?	27	13	12
Should stock dividends be taxed?	14	26	12
BUSINESS TAXES			
Net income tax on corporations?	47	1	4
Graduated or flat rate?	Flat 36	Grad. 11	5
Gross tax on business incomes?	4	29	19
Higher annual rates on incorporated than unincorporated business?	13	37	2
Such occupational business taxes as those in the Southern States?	4	36	12
Banking business taxed in different way than general incorporated business?	22	19	11
Insurance business taxed in different way than general incorporated business?	35	13	4
Railway and public utility business ditto?	25	19	8
Special taxes to discourage chain store?	1	45	6

	Yes	No	Non-committal or modified answers
GASOLINE AND MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES			
Motor vehicle fees approximately equal to cost of police regulation of motor traffic?	23	20	9
Tax on motor vehicles as such with exemption from general property tax?	31	15	6
Gasoline tax to pay for all highway construction (Federal, state and local)?	20	22	10
Gasoline tax to pay for all highway construction and maintenance?	18	22	12
Should any highway cost be paid by levies on property?	25	13	14
Should it be mandatory that all proceeds from gasoline and motor vehicle taxes be devoted to highways? (including streets and bridges)	26	18	8
Entire highway system financed, constructed and maintained by states instead of left under jurisdiction of local governments?	25	16	11
SALES TAXES			
General retail sales tax: Federal?	5	34	13
State?	5	38	9
Local?	..	46	6
Producers sales tax: Federal?	4	38	10
State?	..	42	10
Local?	..	41	11
LUXURY TAXES			
Tobacco tax?	41	2	9
High tax on tobacco?	32	14	6
Such luxury taxes as can be practically administered?	41	5	6
LIQUOR TAXES			
Should all taxation of liquor imports and manufacturing be by Federal Government?	38	9	5
If so, what percentage should be distributed to states?	[11]	..	..
On what basis should distribution be made?	[12]	..	..
Should all retail distribution be under a state authority plan?	29	6	17
What rates do you suggest for Federal gallonage taxes on whiskey; beer; sparkling wines; still wines?	[13]	..	..
OTHER TAXES			
Tax on billboards?	42	6	4
Special tax on oleomargarine?	5	41	6
In general, severance taxes on various commodities, such as oil, coal, ore and timber?	44	3	5
RELATIONSHIP OF FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL JURISDICTIONS			
What governmental unit should assess real estate?	[14]	..	..
Should the state supervise local assessment?	46	2	4
Should state constitutions contain tax limit provisions?	3	45	4
Should state statutes contain tax limit provisions?	10	30	12
Should constitutional uniformity clauses be abolished?	41	4	7
Should education be a part of and subject to the fiscal control of the regular local government?	16	18	18
Should education be independent of the regular local government?	16	25	11
Should state raise all taxes for and administer entire system of public education?	16	31	5
What proportion of the cost of education, if any, should be borne by local governments? By the State? By the Federal government?	[15]	..	..
Should state and federal aids be distributed on the basis of need?	29	7	16
If not, then on what basis?	[16]	..	..
Should states limit debt incurring powers of local governments?	42	2	8
Should utility earnings be used for tax reduction?	18	21	13
Abolition of towns with transfer of functions to county or state?	26	13	13
1926 80% abatement principle in case of death taxes?	35	4	13
Abolishing all except Federal personal income taxes with distribution of part of proceeds to states?	18	22	12
Ditto Federal corporate income taxes?	20	19	13
Ditto Federal gasoline taxes?	20	20	12
WAR COSTS			
Entire cost of next war financed by current taxation?	15	21	16
Entire cost of next war financed largely by bonds?	4	31	17
Cost of next war financed largely by tax on profits of munition makers?	23	6	23

[1] Non-committal (32); others suggest rates of from 10% to 100% as follows—10% (1); 25% (2); 30% (1); graduated (3); 50% (6); over 50% (1); 100% (3). Others answered "substantial amount," "probably high," "nearly all."

[2] From $100,000 estate: Non-committal (23); 0 (4); 1% (1); 2% (1); 3% on excess over $50,000 (1); 5% (5); 10% (6); 15% (1); 20% (4); 25% (4); 30% (1); 40% (1). From $500,000 estate: Non-committal (23); 3% (2); 5% (2); 6% (1); 10% (5); 15% (1); 20% (2); 25% (5); 30% (3); 40% (1); 45% (1); 50% (6). From $10,000,000 estate: Non-committal (23); 5% to 30% above $500,000 (1); 10% (3); 20% (1); 25% (1); 30% (1); 40% (3); 45% (1); 50% (8); 60% (1); 75% (5); 80% (1); 95% (1); 100% (1).

[3] From $100,000 estate: Non-committal (27); 0 (1); 2% (2); 4% (1); 5% (7); 8% (1); 10% (4); 15% (1); 16% (1) 20% (1); 25% (1); 45% (2); 80% of Federal (1). From $500,000 estate: Non-committal (27); 4% (1); 9% (1); 10% (5); 12% (2); 15% (2); 20% (4); 25% (4); 35% (1); 45% (1); 50% (1); 80% of Federal (1). From $10,000,000 estate: Non-committal (27); 10% (2); 15% (3); 20% (5); 25% (4); 30% (1); 40% (1); 45% (1); 50% (2); 60% (1); 75% (1); 80% of Federal (1).

[4] Personal exemptions in Federal law. Single: Non-committal (13); $400 (1); $500 (2); $750 (3); $800 (2); $900 (1); $1,000 (21); $1,500 (5); $2,000 (3); $15 deduction from tax (1). Married: Non-committal (12); $800 (1); $1,000 (1); $1,200 (1); $1,500 (6); $1,600 (1); $2,000 (14); $2,500 (11); $3,000 (3); $4,000 (1); $37.50 deduction from tax (1). For dependent: Non-committal (13); $200 (8); $250 (3); $300 (2); $350 (1); $400 (14); $500 (9); $2,000 (1); $6 deduction from tax (1).

[5] Personal exemptions in State law. Single: Non-committal (14); $400 (1); $500 (4); $600 (1); $750 (3); $800 (4); $900 (1); $1,000 (18); $1,500 (1); $1,500 (1); $15 deduction from tax (1); one-half of Federal (2); lower than Federal (1). Married: Non-committal (17); $800 (1); $1,000 (2); $1,200 (1); $1,500 (10); $1,600 (2); $2,000 (9); $2,500 (6); $3,000 (2); $37.50 deduction from tax (1). For dependent: Non-committal (17); $200 (12); $250 (2); $300 (4); $350 (1); 400 (8); $500 (6); $2,000 (1); $6 deduction from tax (1).

[6] Non-committal (26); 1% (8); 1-2% (1); 1% up (2); 1% surtax (1); 2% (5); 2-4% (1); 4-5% (1); 5% with surtax (1); 5 to 70% (1); 10% (2); copy English law (1); 1926 law (1); as at present (1).

[7] Non-committal (29); ½% (1); ½ to 2% (1); 1% (11); 1% up (1); 2% (1); 1-3-5% (1); 1% surtax (1); 5% (1); 10% (1); 2-30% (1); 1-70% (1); copy English law (1); model law of National Tax Association (1).

[8] Non-committal (31); $1,000 (5); $1,000 up to $5,800 (1); $2,000 (2); $2,000-$5,000 (1); $3,000 (2); $5,000 (2); $10,000 (1); $10,000 to $100,000 above $100,000 (1); $100,000 (1); $2,000-$5,000, $25,000-$100,000, $100,000-$500,000 (1); variable (1); 1926 law (1).

[9] Non-committal (35); $1,000 (5); $1,000 up to $5,800 (1); $2,000 (5); $2,000-$5,000 (1); $10,000 (1); first $10,000, next $40,000 (1); model law of National Tax Association (1); variable (1).

[10] Federal. Non-committal (37); 5 (1); 10-15 (1); 15 (1); 20 (3); 30 (1); 35 (1); 50 (1); 60 (1); 65 (2); 100 (1); as many as necessary (1); 1926 law (1). State. Non-committal (39); 3 (1); 5 (3); 6 (1); 10 (1); 10-15 (1); 15 (2); 20 (1); 20-30 (1); 70 (1); model law National Tax Association (1).

[11] Non-committal (31); none (1); 25% (1); 33⅓% (1); 40% (1); 50% (10); 60-70% including local (1); 75% (1); 90% (1); 100% (1); bulk (1).

[12] Non-committal (30); population (7); liquor sales (7); for education in proportion to population under 21 years of age at last preceding census; contribution to Federal income tax; school census; some measure of need; per capita basis and proportion of national liquor sales within state; population one-half and gross sales one-half; amount produced and imported; in inverse percentage to drunkenness (state consuming least getting most revenue).

[13] Whiskey: Non-committal (40); $1 (2); $1.50 (1); $2 (4); $3 (2); $3-5 (1); $5 (1); ad valorem 50% (1). Beer: Non-committal (42); 5¢ (1); 10¢ (3); 25¢ (2); 20-40¢ (1); 50¢ (1); $5 bbl. (1); ad valorem 25% (1). Sparkling wines: Non-committal (43); 15¢ (1); 50¢ (1); $1 (2); $2 (2); $3 (1); $5-10 (1); ad valorem 25% (1). Still wines: Non-committal (44); 25¢ (1); 40¢ (1); 50¢ (1); 60¢ (1); $1-3 (1); $2 (2); ad valorem 25% (1).

[14] Non-committal (2); local (16); county (14); state (17); municipality (1); state and local (2).

[15] By local government: Non-committal (27); none (2); 10% or less (1); 25% (2); 40% (1); 50% (13); optional 50% to 66⅔% (1); 66⅔% (2); 75% (1); major part (1); all, if possible (1). By state government: Non-committal (27); minor part (1); 25% (5); 30% (1); 33⅓% (3); 33⅓% to 50% (1); 35% (1); 40% (3); 50% (7); 50% or more (1); 60% (1); 100% to equalize opportunity and such special features as may be locally desired (1). By Federal government: Non-committal (29); none (8); 10% (4); 15% (2); 25% (5); 30% (1); 40% (1); 50% (1); substantial aid (1).

[16] Non-committal (41); school census, mileage, etc. (1); percentage of population in public schools (1); need, qualified by effort (1); general economic welfare (1); local support (1); according to school load (1); some smaller portion on per capita (1); depends on purpose of aid (1); need and financial ability (1); enrollment with state approval of standards (1); each government should finance itself (1).

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	Yes	No	Non-committal or modified answers
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Ditto, manufactured products?	..	48	4
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Should general property tax include intangibles?	4	45	3
Should it include tangible personalty?	21	24	7
Should it be restricted to realty?	27	20	5
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Should improvements be exempted?	1	47	4
Special tax on unearned increment of land values?	26	16	10
What percentage of unearned increment should such tax take?	[1]		
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Classified property tax for intangibles?	19	22	11
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What percentage of the inheritance should be taken by the Federal government by taxation from a $100,000 estate? A $500,000 estate? A $10,000,000 estate?	[2]		
Should inheritances be taxed by the states?	35	..	8
What percentage of the inheritance should be taken by the state government by taxation from a $100,000 estate? A $500,000 estate? A $10,000,000 estate?	[3]	..	
Should gifts, whether or not in contemplation of death, be taxed in order to avoid evasion of the inheritance tax?	38	4	10
PERSONAL INCOME TAXES			
Graduated personal income tax?	42	..	10
What should be personal exemptions in Federal law? Single? Married? Dependent?	[4]	..	..
What should be personal exemptions in state law? Single? Married? Dependent?	[5]	..	..
How much should rates increase per step in Federal law?	[6]	..	..
How much should rates increase per step in state law?	[7]	..	..
How wide should steps be in Federal law?	[8]	..	..
In state law?	[9]	..	..
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Minimum filing fee for personal income in Federal law?	19	18	15
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	Yes	No	Non-committal or modified answers
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Should it be mandatory that all proceeds from gasoline and motor vehicle taxes be devoted to highways? (including streets and bridges)	26	18	8
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SALES TAXES			
General retail sales tax: Federal?	5	34	13
State?	5	38	9
Local?	..	46	6
Producers sales tax: Federal?	4	38	10
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Local?	..	41	11
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If so, what percentage should be distributed to states?	[11]	..	..
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What rates do you suggest for Federal gallonage taxes on whiskey; beer; sparkling wines; still wines?	[13]	..	..
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What governmental unit should assess real estate?	[14]	..	..
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Should education be independent of the regular local government?	16	25	11
Should state raise all taxes for and administer entire system of public education?	16	31	5
What proportion of the cost of education, if any, should be borne by local governments? By the State? By the Federal government?	[15]	..	
Should state and federal aids be distributed on the basis of need?	29	7	16
If not, then on what basis?	[16]	..	..
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Abolition of towns with transfer of functions to county or state?	26	13	13
1926 80% abatement principle in case of death taxes?	35	4	13
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Ditto Federal corporate income taxes?	20	19	13
Ditto Federal gasoline taxes?	20	20	12
WAR COSTS			
Entire cost of next war financed by current taxation?	15	21	16
Entire cost of next war financed largely by bonds?	4	31	17
Cost of next war financed largely by tax on profits of munition makers?	23	6	23

[1] Non-committal (32); others suggest rates of from 10% to 100% as follows—10% (1); 25% (2); 30% (1); graduated (2); 50% (6); over 50% (1); 100% (3). Others answered "substantial amount," "probably high," "nearly all."

[2] *From $100,000 estate:* Non-committal (23); 0 (4); 1% (1); 2% (1); 3% on excess over $50,000 (1); 5% (5); 10% (6); 15% (1); 20% (4); 25% (4); 30% (1); 40% (1).
From $500,000 estate: Non-committal (23); 3% (2); 5% (2); 6% (1); 10% (5); 15% (1); 20% (2); 25% (5); 30% (3); 40% (1); 45% (1); 50% (6).
From $10,000,000 estate: Non-committal (23); 7½% to 30% above $500,000 (1); 10% (3); 20% (2); 25% (3); 30% (1); 40% (3); 45% (1); 50% (8); 60% (1); 75% (5); 80% (1); 95% (1); 100% (1).

[3] *From $100,000 estate:* Non-committal (27); 0 (1); 2% (2); 4% (1); 5% (7); 8% (1); 10% (4); 15% (3); 16% (1); 20% (1); 25% (1); 45% (2); 80% of Federal (1).
From $500,000 estate: Non-committal (27); 4% (1); 9% (1); 10% (5); 12% (2); 15% (2); 20% (4); 25% (4); 35% (1); 45% (1); 50% (1); 80% of Federal (1).
From $10,000,000 estate: Non-committal (27); 10% (2); 15% (3); 20% (5); 25% (4); 30% (1); 40% (2); 45% (1); 50% (2); 60% (1); 75% (1); 80% of Federal (1).

[4] Personal exemptions in Federal law.
Single: Non-committal (13); $400 (1); $500 (2); $750 (3); $800 (2); $900 (1); $1,000 (21); $1,500 (5); $2,000 (3); $15 deduction from tax (1).
Married: Non-committal (12); $800 (1); $1,000 (1); $1,500 (6); $1,600 (1); $2,000 (14); $2,500 (11); $3,000 (3); $4,000 (1); $37.50 deduction from tax (1).
For dependent: Non-committal (17); $200 (8); $250 (3); $300 (2); $350 (1); $400 (14); $500 (9); $2,000 (1); $6 deduction from tax (1).

[5] Personal exemptions in State law.
Single: Non-committal (14); $400 (1); $500 (4); $600 (1); $750 (3); $800 (4); $900 (1); $1,000 (18); $1,200 (1); $1,500 (1); $15 deduction from tax (1); one-half of Federal (2); lower than Federal (1).
Married: Non-committal (17); $800 (1); $1,000 (2); $1,200 (2); $1,500 (10); $1,600 (1); $2,000 (9); $2,500 (6); $3,000 (2); $37.50 deduction from tax (1).
For dependent: Non-committal (17); $200 (12); $250 (2); $300 (4); $350 (1); 400 (8); $500 (6); $2,000 (1); $6 deduction from tax (1).

[6] Non-committal (26); 1% (8); 1-2% (1); 1% up (2); 1% surtax (1); 2% (5); 2-4% (1); 4-5% (1); 5% with surtax (1); 5 to 70% (1); 10% (2); copy English law (1); 1926 law (1); as at present (1).

[7] Non-committal (29); ½% (1); ½ to 2% (1); 1% (1); 1% (11); 1% up (1); 2% (5); 1-3-5% (1); 1% surtax (1); 5% (1); 1% (1); 2-30% (1); 1-70% (1); copy English law (1); model law of National Tax Association (1).

[8] Non-committal (31); $1,000 (5); $1,000 up to $5,800 (1); $2,000 (4); $2,000-$5,000 (1); $3,000 (2); $5,000 (2); $10,000 (1); $10,000 to $100,000 above $100,000 (1); $100,000 (1); $2,000-$5,000, $25,000-$100,000, $100,000-$500,000 (1); variable (1); 1926 law (1).

[9] Non-committal (35); $1,000 (5); $1,000 up to $5,800 (1); $2,000 (5); $2,000-$5,000 (1); $10,000 (1); $500,000 (1); first $10,000, next $40,000 (1); model law of National Tax Association (1); variable (1).

[10] *Federal.* Non-committal (37); 5 (1); 10-15 (1); 15 (1); 20 (3); 30 (1); 35 (1); 50 (1); 60 (1); 65 (2); 100 (1); as many as necessary (1); 1926 law (1).
State. Non-committal (39); 3 (1); 5 (3); 6 (1); 10 (1); 10-15 (1); 15 (2); 20 (1); 20-30 (1); 70 (1); model law National Tax Association (1).

[11] Non-committal (31); none (1); 25% (1); 33⅓% (1); 40% (1); 50% (10); 60-70% including local (1); 75% (3); 90% (1); 100% (1); bulk (1).

[12] Non-committal (30); population (7); liquor sales (7); for education in proportion to population under 21 years of age at last preceding census; contribution to Federal income tax; school census; some measure of need; per capita basis and proportion of national liquor sales within state; population one-half and gross sales one-half; amount produced and imported; in inverse percentage to drunkenness (state consuming least getting most revenue).

[13] *Whiskey:* Non-committal (40); $1 (2); $1.50 (1); $2 (4); $3 (2); $3-5 (1); $5 (1); ad valorem 50% (1).
Beer: Non-committal (42); 5¢ (1); 10¢ (3); 25¢ (2); 20-40¢ (1); 50¢ (1); $5 bbl. (1); ad valorem 25% (1).
Sparkling wines: Non-committal (43); 15¢ (1); 50¢ (1); $1 (2); $2 (2); $3 (1); $5-10 (1); ad valorem 25% (1).
Still wines: Non-committal (44); 25¢ (1); 40¢ (1); 50¢ (1); 60¢ (1); $1-3 (1); $2 (2); ad valorem 25% (1).

[14] Non-committal (2); local (16); county (14); state (17); municipality (1); state and local (2).

[15] By local government: Non-committal (27); none (2); 10% or less (1); 25% (2); 40% (1); 50% (13); optional 50% to 66⅔% (1); 66⅔% (2); 75% (1); major part (1); all, if possible (1).
By state government: Non-committal (27); minor part (1); 25% (5); 30% (1); 33⅓% (3); 33⅓% to 50% (1); 35% (1); 40% (3); 50% (7); 50% or more (1); 60% (1); 100% to equalize opportunity and such special features as may be locally desired (1).
By Federal government: Non-committal (29); none (8); 10% (4); 15% (2); 25% (5); 30% (1); 40% (1); 50% (1); substantial aid (1).

[16] Non-committal (41); school census, mileage, etc. (1); percentage of population in public schools (1); need, qualified by effort (1); general economic welfare (1); local support (1); according to school load (1); some smaller portion on per capita basis (1); depends on purpose of aid (1); need and financial ability (1); enrollment with state approval of standards (1); each government should finance itself (1).

OPINION OF AMERICAN PROFESSORS OF PUBLIC FINANCE ON IMPORTANT TAX QUESTIONS AS OF JANUARY 1, 1935

[Compiled by Mabel L. Walker, Executive Secretary, Tax Policy League, 309 East 34th Street, New York City.]

In order that America may have a concise picture of matured, responsible and independent tax opinion, this table is presented showing the attitude of the senior professor in public finance in 52 of our 100 largest colleges or universities on some of the most important tax questions of the day. Whatever 's lost by condensation is perhaps, for the busy man, more than made up y the instantaneousness with which he can get the picture.

The questions were designed, so far as possible, to permit each respondent to answer categorically Yes or No with a minimum of reservations and qualifications. In those cases where respondent feels that a categorical Yes or No was not a satisfactory statement of his opinions he was asked to insert a star (*) indicating that he had too many doubts to care to answer Yes or No or that he would prefer to make so many reservations and qualifications as would expand the table beyond the space limitations contemplated. Every responsible tax administrator or legislator desires to know the opinions of such matured students of taxation, and particularly how unanimous are the opinions of such authorities on live questions. Also every professor is anxious to have this same information and to know how far he comes to agreeing with prevailing opinion. This table has been compiled to furnish such information at a glance. It is assumed throughout that our Federal, state and local tax bill is to approximate $10,000,000,000 a year.

	Yes	No	Non-committal or modified answers
TARIFF			
In general, high protective tariff on agricultural products?	1	47	4
Ditto, manufactured products?	..	48	4
Tariff to equalize difference in cost of production at home and abroad?	8	38	6
Tariff at uniform rate on all imports?	..	47	5
In general, tariff for revenue only?	28	17	7
In general, free trade with only incidental tariffs?	29	16	7
If Constitution were changed, various export duties by U. S.?	11	37	4
PROPERTY TAXATION			
Retention of property tax as major source of local revenue?	42	7	3
Should general property tax include intangibles?	4	45	3
Should it include tangible personalty?	21	24	7
Should it be restricted to realty?	27	20	5
Should improvements be taxed at a lower rate than land?	25	21	6
Should improvements be exempted?	1	47	4
Special tax on unearned increment of land values?	26	16	10
What percentage of unearned increment should such tax take?[1]			
Tax classification of tangible personalty?	27	15	10
Classified property tax for intangibles?	19	22	11
Classified property tax for real estate?	29	19	4
Special yield tax in place of property tax for forest properties?	41	4	7
Should there be homestead exemptions?	8	30	14
INHERITANCE AND ESTATE TAXES			
Should inheritances be taxed by the Federal government?	45	4	3
What percentage of the inheritance should be taken by the Federal government by taxation from a $100,000 estate? A $500,000 estate? A $10,000,000 estate?[2]			
Should inheritances be taxed by the states?	35	9	8
What percentage of the inheritance should be taken by the state government by taxation from a $100,000 estate? A $500,000 estate? A $10,000,000 estate?[3]			
Should gifts, whether or not in contemplation of death, be taxed in order to avoid evasion of the inheritance tax?	38	4	10
PERSONAL INCOME TAXES			
Graduated personal income tax?	42	..	10
What should be personal exemptions in Federal law? Single? Married? Dependent?[4]			
What should be personal exemptions in state law? Single? Married? Dependent?[5]			
How much should rates increase per step in Federal law?[6]			
How much should rates increase per step in state law?[7]			
How wide should steps be in Federal law?[8]			
In state law?[9]			
How many steps in Federal law? In state law?[10]			
Minimum filing fee for personal income in Federal law?	19	18	15
In state law?	23	14	15
Could a poll tax be so fitted into our general tax scheme (under the income tax) as to make it a desirable element thereof?	14	28	10
Personal income tax to include capital gains and losses provision?	16	27	9
Ditto only at moderate rate?	13	24	15
Immediate abolition of capital gains and losses provision?	12	6	34
Or abolition when stock market next reaches peak?	2	16	34
Higher income tax rates for unearned income?	29	15	8
All future Federal, state and local government securities to be issued fully taxable as to income?	46	2	..
Should cash dividends be taxed to the stockholder if there is a corporate income tax?	27	13	12
Should stock dividends be taxed?	14	26	12
BUSINESS TAXES			
Net income tax on corporations?	47	1	4
Graduated or flat rate?	Flat 36	Grad. 11	5
Gross tax on business incomes?	4	29	19
Higher annual rates on incorporated than unincorporated business?	13	37	2
Such occupational business taxes as those in the Southern States?	4	36	12
Banking business taxed in different way than general incorporated business?	22	19	11
Insurance business taxed in different way than general incorporated business?	35	13	4
Railway and public utility business ditto?	25	19	8
Special taxes to discourage chain store?	1	45	6

	Yes	No	Non-committal or modified answers
GASOLINE AND MOTOR VEHICLE TAXES			
Motor vehicle fees approximately equal to cost of police regulation of motor traffic?	23	20	9
Tax on motor vehicles as such with exemption from general property tax?	31	15	6
Gasoline tax to pay for all highway construction (Federal, state and local)?	20	22	10
Gasoline tax to pay for all highway construction and maintenance?	18	22	12
Should any highway cost be paid by levies on property?	25	13	14
Should it be mandatory that all proceeds from gasoline and motor vehicle taxes be devoted to highways? (including streets and bridges)	26	18	8
Entire highway system financed, constructed and maintained by states instead of left under jurisdiction of local governments?	25	16	11
SALES TAXES			
General retail sales tax: Federal?	5	34	13
State?	5	38	9
Local?	..	46	6
Producers sales tax: Federal?	4	38	10
State?	..	42	10
Local?	..	41	11
LUXURY TAXES			
Tobacco tax?	41	2	9
High tax on tobacco?	32	14	6
Such luxury taxes as can be practically administered?	41	5	6
LIQUOR TAXES			
Should all taxation of liquor imports and manufacturing be by Federal Government?	38	9	5
If so, what percentage should be distributed to states?[11]			
On what basis should distribution be made?[12]			
Should all retail distribution be under a state authority plan?	29	6	17
What rates do you suggest for Federal gallonage taxes on whiskey; beer; sparkling wines; still wines?[13]			
OTHER TAXES			
Tax on billboards?	42	6	4
Special tax on oleomargarine?	5	41	6
In general, severance taxes on various commodities, such as oil, coal, ore and timber?	44	3	5
RELATIONSHIP OF FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL JURISDICTIONS			
What governmental unit should assess real estate?[14]			
Should the state supervise local assessment?	46	2	4
Should state constitutions contain tax limit provisions?	3	45	4
Should state statutes contain tax limit provisions?	10	30	12
Should constitutional uniformity clauses be abolished?	41	4	7
Should education be a part of and subject to the fiscal control of the regular local government?	16	18	18
Should education be independent of the regular local government?	16	25	11
Should state raise all taxes for and administer entire system of public education?	16	31	5
What proportion of the cost of education, if any, should be borne by local governments? By the State? By the Federal government?[15]			
Should state and federal aids be distributed on the basis of need?	29	7	16
If not, then on what basis?[16]			
Should states limit debt incurring powers of local governments?	42	2	8
Should utility earnings be used for tax reduction?	18	21	13
Abolition of towns with transfer of functions to county or state?	26	13	13
1926 80% abatement principle in case of death taxes?	35	4	13
Abolishing all except Federal personal income taxes with distribution of part of proceeds to states?	18	22	12
Ditto Federal corporate income taxes?	20	19	13
Ditto Federal gasoline taxes?	20	20	12
WAR COSTS			
Entire cost of next war financed by current taxation?	15	21	16
Entire cost of next war financed largely by bonds?	4	31	17
Cost of next war financed largely by tax on profits of munition makers?	23	6	23

[1] Non-committal (32); others suggest rates of from 10% to 100% as follows—10% (1); 25% (2); 30% (1); graduated (3); 50% (6); over 50% (1); 100% (3). Others answered "substantial amount," "probably high," "nearly all."

[2] From $100,000 estate: Non-committal (23); 0 (4); 1% (1); 2% (1); 3% on excess over $50,000 (1); 5% (5); 10% (6); 15% (1); 20% (4); 25% (4); 30% (1); 40% (1). From $500,000 estate: Non-committal (23); 3% (2); 5% (2); 6% (1); 10% (5); 15% (1); 20% (2); 25% (5); 30% (3); 40% (1); 45% (1); 50% (6). From $10,000,000 estate: Non-committal (23); 7½ to 30% above $500,000 (1); 10% (3); 20% (1); 25% (1); 30% (1); 40% (3); 45% (3); 50% (8); 60% (1); 75% (5); 80% (1); 95% (1); 100% (1).

[3] From $100,000 estate: Non-committal (27); 0 (1); 2% (2); 4% (1); 5% (7); 8% (1); 10% (4); 15% (3); 16% (1); 20% (1); 25% (1); 45% (2); 80% of Federal (1). From $500,000 estate: Non-committal (27); 4% (1); 9% (1); 10% (5); 12% (2); 15% (2); 20% (4); 25% (4); 35% (1); 45% (1); 50% (1); 80% of Federal (1). From $10,000,000 estate: Non-committal (27); 10% (2); 15% (1); 20% (5); 25% (4); 30% (1); 40% (4); 45% (1); 50% (2); 60% (1); 75% (1); 80% of Federal (1).

[4] Personal exemptions in Federal law. Single: Non-committal (13); $400 (1); $500 (2); $750 (1); $800 (2); $900 (1); $1,000 (21); $1,500 (5); $2,000 (3); $15 deduction from tax (1). Married: Non-committal (12); $800 (1); $1,000 (1); $1,200 (1); $1,500 (6); $1,600 (1); $2,000 (24); $2,500 (1); $3,000 (3); $4,000 (1); $37.50 deduction from tax (1). For dependent: Non-committal (13); $200 (8); $250 (3); $300 (2); $350 (1); $400 (14); $500 (9); $2,000 (1); $6 deduction from tax (1).

[5] Personal exemptions in State law. Single: Non-committal (14); $400 (1); $500 (4); $600 (1); $750 (3); $800 (4); $900 (1); $1,000 (18); $1,200 (1); $1,500 (1); $15 deduction from tax (1); one-half of Federal (2); lower than Federal (1). Married: Non-committal (17); $800 (1); $1,000 (2); $1,200 (2); $1,500 (10); $1,600 (1); $2,000 (9); $2,500 (6); $3,000 (1); $37.50 deduction from tax (1). For dependent: Non-committal (17); $200 (12); $250 (2); $300 (4); $350 (1); 400 (8); $500 (6); $2,000 (1); $6 deduction from tax (1).

[6] Non-committal (26); 1% (8); 1-2% (1); 1% up (2); 1% surtax (1); 2% (5); 2-4% (1); 4-5% (1); 5% with surtax (1); 5 to 70% (1); 10% (2); copy English law (1); 1926 law (1); as at present (2).

[7] Non-committal (29); ¼% (1); ½ to 2% (1); 1% (11); 1% up (1); 2% (1); 1-3-5% (1); 1% surtax (1); 5% (1); 10% (1); 2-30% (1); 1.70% (1); copy English law (1); model law of National Tax Association (1).

[8] Non-committal (31); $1,000 (5); $1,000 up to $5,800 (1); $2,000 (4); $2,000-$5,000 (1); $3,000 (2); $5,000 (2); $10,000 (1); $10,000 to $100,000 above $100,000 (1); $100,000 (1); $2,000-$5,000, $25,000-$100,000, $100,000-$500,000 (1); variable (1); 1926 law (1).

[9] Non-committal (35); $1,000 (5); $1,000 up to $5,800 (1); $2,000 (5); $2,000-$5,000 (1); $10,000 (1); $500,000 (1); first $10,000, next $40,000 (1); model law of National Tax Association (1); variable (1).

[10] Federal. Non-committal (37); 5 (1); 10-15 (1); 15 (1); 20 (3); 30 (1); 35 (1); 50 (1); 60 (1); 65 (2); 100 (1); as many as necessary (1); 1926 law (1). State. Non-committal (39); 3 (1); 5 (3); 6 (1); 10 (1); 10-15 (1); 15 (2); 20 (1); 20-30 (1); 70 (1); model law National Tax Association (1).

[11] Non-committal (31); none (1); 25% (1); 33⅓% (1); 40% (1); 50% (10); 60-70% including local (1); 75% (3); 90% (1); 100% (1); bulk (1).

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[13] Whiskey: Non-committal (40); $1 (2); $1.50 (1); $2 (4); $3 (2); $3-5 (1); $5 (1); ad valorem 50% (1). Beer: Non-committal (42); 5¢ (1); 10¢ (3); 25¢ (2); 20-40¢ (1); 50¢ (1); $5 bbl. (1); ad valorem 25% (1). Sparkling wines: Non-committal (43); 15¢ (1); 50¢ (1); $1 (2); $2 (2); $3 (1); $5-10 (1); ad valorem 25% (1). Still wines: Non-committal (44); 25¢ (1); 40¢ (1); 50¢ (1); 60¢ (1); $1-3 (1); $2 (2); ad valorem 25% (1).

[14] Non-committal (2); local (16); county (14); state (17); municipality (1); state and local (2).

[15] By local government: Non-committal (27); none (2); 10% or less (1); 25% (2); 40% (1); 50% (13); optional 50% to 66⅔% (1); 66⅔% (2); 75% (1); major part (1); all, if possible (1). By state government: Non-committal (27); minor part (1); 25% (5); 30% (1); 33⅓% (3); 33⅓% to 50% (1); 35% (1); 40% (3); 50% or more (1); 60% (1); 100% to equalize opportunity and such special features as may be locally desired (1). By Federal government: Non-committal (29); none (8); 10% (4); 15% (2); 25% (5); 30% (1); 40% (1); 50% (1); substantial aid (1).

[16] Non-committal (41); school census, mileage, etc. (1); percentage of population in public schools (1); need, qualified by effort (1); general economic welfare (1); local support (1); according to school load (1); some smaller portion on per capita (1); depends on purpose of aid (1); need and financial ability (1); enrollment with state approval of standards (1); each government should finance itself (1).

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