

From a perusal of said statement, it would appear that the increase in some counties is entirely out of proportion to that of others. Allowing a reasonable difference for the fact that property values have increased more rapidly in some sections of the State than in others, nevertheless the lack of such increase where the same might reasonably be expected is remarkable. It is manifest that a State basis to be founded in equity should of all things be uniform. It matters little to the property holder if his assessment is 100 per cent. of its true value, provided, however, all other property is assessed in the same ratio. But if his assessment is very much higher than those of others, he not only has to pay more than he should, but also has to make good the under-assessment of those more favored. To a certain extent inequalities in assessments will occur as long as human agencies are invoked in levying taxes, but it should be the care of those in authority to see that some system be inaugurated whereby those inequalities are reduced to a minimum.

Under our present system, making a State basis by local authorities without any State supervision is an anomaly. I think it a fair inference that by such system you will have just as many different units of value as there are taxing authorities in the State. In my judgment, this condition should no longer exist, and I would respectfully recommend the creation of a State Board with sufficient powers to correct, as far as possible, these inequalities, as well as others under our present system.

The State tax, in my opinion, should be levied and collected uniformly. Under our present laws the city of Baltimore levies the local and State taxes in December, beginning the collection thereunder in January following for that calendar year—one county will levy in April or prior thereto, beginning the collection thereof in May, and so on, nearly every county in the State having a different date for its levy and collection. How difficult, therefore, it becomes to estimate with any degree of accuracy the revenue of the State from direct taxes!

TAX ON FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

Under the present law foreign corporations, except certain companies therein exempted, "shall at the time of filing its