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FAVORING FARM AND LABOR "TRUSTS."

Even though President Wilson has apparently done just what it was expected he would do in signing the sundry civil appropriations bill, which Mr. Taft vetoed because of an exemption clause affecting the farming and labor interests, yet it was what many editorial onlookers, up to the last moment, were hoping he would not do, remarks the Literary Digest and then it reviews the matter and gives press comment as follows:

The new law provides, the press reports, for an appropriation of \$300,000 to be expended in trust prosecutions by the department of justice in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, but contains this proviso:

"That no part of this money shall be spent in the prosecution of any organization for entering into any combination or agreement having in view the securing of wages, shortening of hours or any act done in furtherance thereof, or in itself unlawful: Provided, That no part of this appropriation shall be expended for the prosecution of producers of farm products and associations of farmers who cooperate and organize in an effort to and for the purpose to obtain and maintain a fair and reasonable price for their products."

This exemption clause was characterized by Mr. Taft as "vicious class legislation," and President Wilson received protests against it, say Washington correspondents, from "business and professional men, organizations and many individuals having an interest in the welfare of the government." It is suggested also by these writers that before the presentation of the bill to the house, President Wilson had disclosed no objection to the exemption clause, but that later, when he sought to have this clause eliminated, he found the house majority in favor of it too heavy, and was informed, moreover, that to attempt to persuade it might imperil the passage of the whole bill. Just what this risk would involve is shown by the Washington correspondent of the New York Evening Post, who says that unless the bill had been passed, practically every department of the government would suffer for lack of funds for important work, almost every committee of the house of representatives would have to be appointed again for consideration of budgets, congress would have to stay in session two or three months after the passage of the tariff and

last session, would be resumed with results problematical." Consequently the question of the veto or approval was not such a simple matter as it looked, this writer concludes; and that the president himself judged it one for explanation may be gathered from his personal statement attached with his signature to the bill:

"I have signed this bill because I can do so without, in fact, limiting the opportunity or the power of the department of justice to prosecute violations of the law, by whomsoever committed.

"If I could have separated from the rest of the bill the item which authorized the expenditure by the department of justice of a special sum of \$300,000 for the prosecution of violations of the anti-trust law, I would have vetoed that item, because it places upon the expenditure a limitation which is, in my opinion, unjustifiable in character and principle. But I could not separate it. I do not understand that the limitation was intended either as an amendment or interpretation of the anti-trust law, but merely as an expression of the opinion of congress—a very emphatic opinion, backed by an overwhelming majority of the house of representatives and a large majority of the senate, but not intended to touch anything but the expenditure of a single small additional fund.

"I can assure the country that this item will neither limit nor in any way embarrass the actions of the department of justice. Other appropriations supply the department with abundant funds to enforce the law. The law will be interpreted, in the determination of what the department should do, by independent, and I hope impartial judgments as to the true and just meaning of substantive statutes of the United States."

The campaign to have the president veto the bill on account of the labor and farming proviso was based on representation, the New York (Republican), maintains, and that many business men were led into signing a veto petition without having examined the latter for themselves. The sole question raised by the proviso is "whether or not labor unions and co-operative farmers are per se illegal." The Globe continues:

"No issue relating to boycotting or intimidating or the like is involved by the proviso. These are just as illegal as before. The only exemption sought is one that, in fact, has always existed—namely, that men should not be prosecuted for associating themselves in organizations 'having in view' to use the precise language of the proviso, 'the increasing of wages, shortening of hours, or bettering the conditions of labor, or for any act done in furtherance thereof not in itself unlawful.'"

Very little is gained by labor in the passage of the bill, according to the Socialist Milwaukee Leader, for it "prohibits prosecutions the government has rarely instituted, while permitting suits which have aroused the enmity of the workers against the anti-trust law." Even the little merit the exemption clause may have, the Leader believes, will cease to have effect once the life of the appropriation has ended.

The charge of "vicious class legislation," brought against the exemption clause is riddled by the Saturday Evening Post, which remarks that the railroads have "violated the Sherman law every day since it was passed for

"Their exactly uniform rates be-

cause it dare not do otherwise—knowing that unbridled competition in railroad rates would be ruinous. Why is not exempting the railroads, in this respect, from the Sherman law class executive action of the most vicious sort?"

Turning now to the critics of the measure, whose name is legion, we find the Detroit Free Press, (Ind.) finding most fault with the action of congress and going on to say that charitable people will defend the president because he has been frightened by "outries of the bogey man," in congress. Similar uncomplimentary references to the president's courage and wisdom appear in papers like the New York Herald, New York Journal of Commerce, New York Times and Pittsburg Dispatch, John Kirby, Jr., president of the National Association of Manufacturers, takes occasion in his annual report, to protest against the "free and unmolested manner" in which the labor trust violates the Sherman law, exclaiming that he gazes upon this act of congress with "horrid amazement."

THEIR OBLIGATION TO THE PUBLIC.

Law firms that prosecute and defend suits from a sense of public duty and not for the fees involved are rare enough in this country to make the example set by the firm of Bowers & Sands of New York worthy of notice. After the suit brought by Colonel Roosevelt against Editor Newett of Marquette was ended he wrote and asked for his bill. He was told by William H. Van Benschoten, the firm member, who went from Marquette to handle the case, that there was no bill, the firm regarding its labors as part of its obligations to the public.

What at first will seem strange to the reader is the fact that this same firm gratuitously defended the New York World when it was sued for libel by the colonel when he was president. Yet it was eminently consistent.

Roosevelt was wrong in the World libel suit. The United States as a government was not libeled and it would be dangerous to admit for a moment that a government could collect damages for charges made against its instruments. If there was any libel in connection with the Panama canal charges the remedy rested with the individuals upon whom these accusations reflected. In the Newett case Roosevelt was right. The principle at stake was the right of public men to run for office and be protected from the slander that so often has followed those who venture to play a prominent part in public life. What seems paradox in the conduct of the firm thus becomes simple.

It would be good for this country if we had more firms like this of Bowers & Sands. Eminent lawyers who are financially prosperous could well afford to set an example in public spirit to the rest of the profession by appearing in cases in which fundamental principles important to all of us are involved.

WHAT WE OWE TO THE BIRDS.

As framed in the house, the new tariff bill doesn't permit the importation of the plumage of wild birds. The purpose of the prohibition is two-fold—to protect bird life and to discourage fashions based on cruelty to animals.

But certain importing interests are trying to get the senate to change this provision, which perhaps justifies a little talk on birds.

The bugologists reckon that insects in the United States eat up each year \$800,000,000 of property in the way of damage to vegetables, fruits, flowers and trees. Those figures don't mean much as they stand; but if the house you live in is worth \$2,000—and we guess that the value of the average house throughout the country taking the shacks and the palaces both into account, isn't much, if any, above that—you can get a better realization of what they mean by imagining 400,000 homes, or as many buildings as there are in the city of Chicago, going up in smoke.

Now it wouldn't be fair to claim that if we fully protected the birds all of this insect damage would be saved. Besides in saving it the birds would take some toll of the salvaged fruit and grain. For, of course, the laborer is worthy of his hire—when he can get it. And the birds have this advantage over human workers; they can fix their own wages and collect it as they toil.

Yet it isn't conceivable that they could do as much damage to plant life as the insects do upon which the birds feed. So that on a property basis alone it is a mighty bad investment to

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Carpenters and brickmasons are now at work on the extensive remodeling which will necessitate the moving of every department: Now is your opportunity to save on everything you need for months to come.

Our Stocks Must Be Reduced at Once Watch for prices and details in tomorrow's ad. West's Remodeling Sale

slaughter these pretty creatures of the air.

We like, though, to think of a better argument than that. We like to think of the addition they make to human happiness by their beauty, grace and song. You can't measure this in dollars, but it's very real.

So many cabinets are resigning in Europe that it seems as though it would be a good plan just to trade them around from one country to another.

The price of shaves have driven many to the safety razor and now the soaring lemon seems bound to compel us to resort to the crab apple.

A bold subway thief in New York is making a fat living, it is said, stealing women's headgear. With some of those long hatpins we do not see how he manages it without getting caught.

And sometimes we wonder if it has been omitted from the curriculum of the various colleges that it is good form for girls to give up their seats in street cars to aged men.

The supreme court of Mississippi has held that a razor is not a weapon but an "implement of the toilet." In the hands of some barbers it's an implement of torture.

From the manner in which the International Harvester company is advertising it would appear that alfalfa is the salvation of the country—outside of Senator William Alden Smith.

Pistol pockets for women is the latest art of the dressmaker. It would seem by this that the fishpole hat pins are about to go out of fashion.

Chicago pastor says what this country needs is wholesome amusement. Well, golf is at least wholesome amusement, isn't it?

Dancing masters could learn much from the prize ring rules. There should be clean breaks in the bunny hug.

And when we see the demonstration of some men at a table with the knife and fork we do not wonder at the divorce statistics.

President Wilson has shut off the cooling plant under the executive offices. When he wants to get cooled off he calls on Champ Clark.

One thing which is spoiling an otherwise pleasant summer is that every man must make the bluff that he understands the tariff when he doesn't.

The United States chemists tell us not to exert ourselves. Sure, we wouldn't if we had one of those fat federal jobs.

A one-legged man was arrested in Chicago for kicking a policeman. We are a bit curious to know how he did it.

If the suffragettes stop all of the horse races in England they will lose the baakmaker and jockey vote.

The sugar interests are planning a revenge on President Wilson. Well, revenge was always sweet.

President Wilson is not going to take a vacation. That man must have

got his early training on a newspaper. To be beloved as a newspaper reporter, it is always necessary to boost some other person's game.

The strike of tombstone makers in New York presents a grave situation.

NEW LAW OPERATES.

St. Paul, Minn., July 10.—Seven railroads operating in Minnesota today had completed the new schedule of rates thus abiding the terms of the recent decision of the United States supreme court. Minnesota rate carule man's office for his after

FOR EIGHT HO

Cal., July 10.—The eight hour statute today in every county of the state under the initiative law. More than 50,000 signatures to the petitions were secured by the Socialist party.

Every lobbyist

anxious to admit honest man in the Chronicle.

Judging from the way Huerta talks sometimes, the mint bed at the Mexican white house is liberally patronized.—Columbia State.

Now that Secretary Bryan's peace plans have been approved by a number of the nations, all that remains to be done is to see who can build the biggest navy.—Wall-Street Journal.

College professors being notoriously underpaid ought to know what they are talking about when they say that there is no connection between poverty and crime.—Boston Transcript.

As a result of the Illinois suffrage victory, they are already talking in serious vein of Jane Addams for mayor of Chicago. They might go farther and fare worse—and they probably will.—Boston Herald.

Mrs. Pankhurst's impression that the woman who met death in interfering with a horse race will everywhere be looked on as a martyr will be accepted with reservation in Kentucky.—Louisville Times.

According to the Minnesota rate de-

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Whatever your aim in wearing a corset, you can attain it by wearing a Gossard. Whether you seek style or comfort, or an attractive figure, with

THE Gossard CORSETS "They Less In Front"

you can realize your desire. The Gossard gives you perfect ease of body movement in any position, and shows off perfectly the natural lines of beauty that are at the bottom of every fashion in dress and the secret of attractiveness.

A trial fitting will surprise you. I have had six years of experience in fitting Gossard Corsets, and I know what model is best suited to your form.

A complete line of new models, also lace front brassieres, neck pads, sanitary belts and aprons.

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This bank has been in business twenty-six years.

It has grown steadily until it has become one of the strongest and most prosperous financial institutions in the West.

The soundness of its policies is attested by the long list of conservative business men who transact their business here; also by an earned surplus of \$1,300,000.00, the work of time and the result of conservative management.

This bank has facilities for taking care of more high grade business and offers its services to those who appreciate the best in banking.

La Grande National Bank

La Grande, Oregon

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